

Museum and Cultural Advisory Board – Meeting Minutes

The Museum and Cultural Advisory Board met in a regular hybrid meeting via Zoom and at Mesa Arts Center's Conference Room on Thursday November 21, 2024.

Members Present:

Nick Willis
Katelyn Armbruster
Angela Buer
Claudia Bloom
Karen Rolston
Colleen Byron
Melvin Van Vorst
Brad Peterson

Members Absent:

Annalisa Alvrus
Todd Hanle
Greg DeSimone

Staff Present:

Illya Riske
Mandy Tripoli
Jarrad Bittner
Sarah Goedicke

Nick Willis called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

Items from citizens present: There were no citizens present.

Approval of minutes from the regular July 25, 2024 Meeting:

Sarah Goedicke stated that due to an administrative error on her part, she did not update the Agenda item to September's date so the Board will need to vote on the September minutes in January's meeting. The Board approved July's minutes in the September meeting.

Hear a Presentation on Mesa Arts Center 20th Anniversary Mural – Mandy Tripoli, Executive Director of Mesa Arts Center:

Mandy Tripoli gave a brief presentation on the concept ideas for the Mesa Arts Center 20th Anniversary mural from artist Shepard Fairey (**Exhibit A**). She asked the Board if they recommended moving forward with the mural selection from this artist and if they had preferences for each wall. After discussion, the Board agreed that they were supportive of the staff recommendations to put murals on both walls on MAC's west side and their image recommendations. Staff will present options to Council in a December Council meeting.

Hear a Presentation on idea Museum Construction Update – Jarrad Bittner, Museum Administrator:

Jarrad Bittner, Museum Administrator at idea Museum, gave an update on construction and shared photos of the spaces (**Exhibit B**). He shared what exhibits and activities will go in the new spaces when the museum reopens on December 12, 2024. He also shared an in-progress mural and upcoming mural that will go in the museum.

Upcoming Events – Volunteer or Participation Opportunities:

Sarah Goedicke stated that there are no current volunteer or participation opportunities in the department, but planning for MAC's new ALT Festival (Art, Light, Technology Festival) is ongoing and she would share any opportunities that she learns about.

Discuss projects or presenters of interest and report on events attended:

Nick Willis congratulated staff on a fantastic Dia de Los Muertos Festival in October. Angela Buer stated that she unfortunately had a frustrating experience as a stage host at the event. Sarah Goedicke explained that there has been some restructuring and extra planning to ensure a better experience for stage hosts moving forward. Melvin Van Vorst was at the opening ceremony for Scedagı Mu:val Va'aki (pronounced CHUH-dag MOO-vahl VAH-kee), formerly known as Mesa Grande, and found it very

moving. Karen asked what the “Thrive” exhibit at Arizona Museum of Natural History was about and staff recommended that AZMNH staff provide a presentation at the next MCAB meeting. This exhibit has been created in collaboration with the local tribes. It will open on Friday, January 24, 2025.

The next scheduled meeting date is January 23, 2025 and will be a hybrid meeting on zoom and at the Arizona Museum of Natural History Auditorium.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Illya Riske
Acting Director of Arts and Culture

EXHIBIT A

20
YEARS



MESA ARTS CENTER

mesa·az

20th Anniversary Mural

November 21, 2024
Museum and Culture Advisory Board
Mandy Tripoli, Mesa Arts Center - Executive Director

20
YEARS



MESA ARTS CENTER

mesa·az

The Mesa Arts Center's mission:
To create meaningful arts
experiences in Mesa **for everyone**

20
YEARS



MESA
ARTS
CENTER

mesa·az

Goals:

- Celebrating our 20th Anniversary.
- Opportunity to create a welcoming entryway to the Mesa Art Center's Campus from Center Street.
- Continue to respond to interest and energy about adding public art to our Mesa environments.
- Create a beacon to viewers, communicating that Mesa is an innovative, welcoming community.
- Authentically enhance the sense of place.



**MCA
Loading
Dock**

**Painting
Drawing
Printmaking
Studio**

Box Office

CENTER STREET

**Glass
Studio**

**Ceramics
Studio**

20
YEARS



MESA ARTS CENTER

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"Welcome Home" Mural by Shepard Fairey Painted on Baker Block
Costa Mesa, CA Completed in 2018

Shepard Fairey

20
YEARS



MESA ARTS CENTER

mesa-az

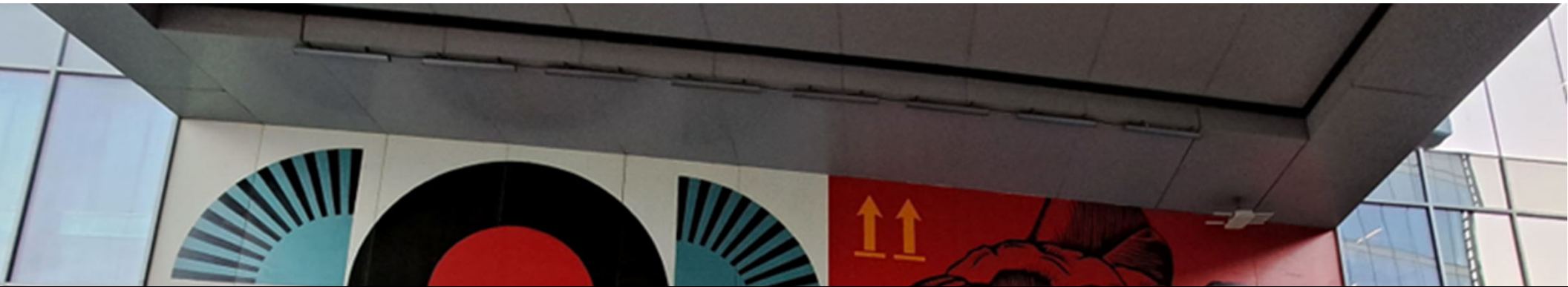
Current Process:

- Artist submitted three (3) options of artwork responding to the Mesa Climate Action Plan to be considered by City Council for selection.
 - Three (3) additional options may be provided if none are selected.
 - May select for one or both walls.
 - If none are selected, option to terminate artist contract and/or move to Request For Proposal (RFP) process if none are selected.
- If an Option is selected:
 - Mural installation to remain on the site for at least two (2) years.
 - The City will maintain the mural unless it becomes damaged and repair would not be appropriate, feasible, or cost-effective.
 - Mural installation anticipated for Spring 2025 to conclude the 20th Anniversary celebrations.



- The mural to take approx. 3 days to complete, with 3-5 artist team members.
- Up to \$30,000 reimbursement stipend funded by the Mesa Arts Center Foundation to cover the costs of materials/supplies and travel.
- Artists fees for design and mural art to be donated by Shepard Fairey.





Art Selection Consideration & Recommendation





A



B



C

OPTIONS: Wall 1



A



B



C

OPTIONS: Wall 2

Staff Recommendation:

Both options for 'C' to be removed from consideration as they did not meet request to reflect Mesa community and/or City priorities.

- Wall 1: “Desert Today Ocean Tomorrow” and “Ocean Today Desert Tomorrow”
 - Represents the New Mexico desert and ocean, lacks Mesa connection
- Wall 2: Arts Vote
 - Request for emphasis on a Mesa City Council Strategic priority not reflected
 - Includes text





A



B

OPTIONS: Wall 1



A



B

OPTIONS: Wall 2



Example to Scale



Example to Scale

20
YEARS



MESA
ARTS
CENTER



MCAB Recommendations:

1. Do you recommend proceeding with the mural selection?
2. Do you recommend a mural for one or both walls?
3. Majority selection for mural recommendation:

WALL 1: A or B

WALL 2: A, B or no mural (mural on one wall only)



Thank you
Questions or Comments?

SHEPARD FAIREY ICONOGRAPHY

RED BIRD | "I was invited to be part of The Birdsong Project by Randall Poster, the music supervisor for a bunch of my favorite movies. Randall is collaborating with musicians, artists, and the Audubon Society to raise awareness and funds to protect birds and their habitats from the impacts of climate change. I'm concerned about the health of our planet, and I'm very aware that declining bird populations are an early indication of serious ecological problems on the horizon. I also love birds and don't want to see Rachel Carson's warning from "Silent Spring" of a future without birds come to pass. My print The Birdsong Project (Another Day In the Coal Mine) is a scene of sun, flowers, and a Summer Tanager, a beautiful red bird that was once extremely common but has seen a concerning decline in its population. My print is a vision of what we almost all find beautiful but can no longer take for granted. I don't want this print to be a nostalgic picture of a romantic time that once was. Let's protect the birds for our time and the future of the planet!"

FLOWER SCALES JUSTICE | My work primarily revolves around concepts of and aspirations for justice. Whether it be environmental justice, racial justice, economic justice, gender equality, etc., the themes in my art often address injustices in a number of areas. Justice is a subjective, and in some ways, an abstract concept, but I think we all know in our conscience when something is wrong, unfair, immoral, or unjust. I witness convoluted logic every day from people attempting to defend (or ironically justify) injustice. These "Cultivate Justice" prints are a direct reminder to consciously nurture justice and minimize injustice. A portion of proceeds from this print will benefit the Equal Justice Initiative to support their important work.

FACTORY STACKS | "These "Factory Stacks" images combine the austere, angular power of factory architecture with graphic elements commenting on what we promote and embrace as a society even when those things are destructive. The fossil fuel industries have tremendous power economically, but we now know that not only are fossil fuel sources finite but that using them is terrible for climate change and, therefore, the eco-systems that sustain life on our planet. Unfortunately, due to the political power of these industries and public apathy about climate change, the government subsidizes the fossil fuel industries for billions even as they damage the environment. The government works for the citizens, so the choice is ours. Do we support endless power for wealthy fossil fuel corporations? Or policies that put the earth first with the planet before profits? Please read Naomi Klein's *THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING* to better understand the conflict between economic interests and climate change. A portion of the original proceeds from the release of this artwork went to Greenpeace to fight climate change."

DOORWAY TO OCEAN | These "Desert Today Ocean Tomorrow" and "Ocean Today Desert Tomorrow" prints are inspired by the tranquil view and angled shadows looking from the courtyard of Georgia O'Keeffe's studio through to the surrounding New Mexico desert. However, I replaced the desert with a flood on the horizon in these prints. There is beauty in the ways people adapt to live in demanding terrain, whether it be in proximity to oceans or deserts. Even though people are remarkably adaptive, the unpredictable impacts of climate change mean that many of those adaptive measures are not suited to protect from unexpected droughts, floods, and temperature swings. We have the means to adapt to the use of more renewable energy sources, which will mitigate climate change and be much less costly and chaotic than adapting to rising sea levels and rising temperatures. Let's evolve and embrace the adaptive measures that make the most sense rather than burying our heads in the sand. A portion of the proceeds from this print will benefit Greenpeace to support its work to enhance environmental protections and combat climate change.

FEMALE FACE AND EYE | The Third Eye Open letterpress incorporates the portrait I originally made for my Make Art Not War print back during the Iraq War. This print image also includes a third eye blooming like a flower, I believe that what the third eye represents: a dialogue with one's inner self, higher consciousness, and quest for enlightenment, is essential to achieve peace and harmony. I've often used the phrase "eyes open-mind open" and I think "third eye open" is a similar but slightly weightier idea because it addresses looking not only outward to observe, but inward as well. I'm very happy with how this image translated as a letterpress. The debossed impression in the paper adds a subtle, elegant depth to the print.

BEE | These "Bee Geometric" prints remind us how much our planet depends on bees as pollinators. Bees and other pollinators, such as butterflies, bats, and hummingbirds, are increasingly threatened by human activities. Pollination is, however, a fundamental process for the survival of our ecosystems. Nearly 90% of the world's wild flowering plant species depend entirely, or at least in part, on animal pollination, more than 75% of the world's food crops and 35% of global agricultural land. Not only do pollinators contribute directly to food security, but they are vital to conserving biodiversity. A portion of the proceeds from these prints will support the NRDC and its efforts on behalf of responsible environmental legislation. Thanks for caring!

RISE ABOVE | Rise above references is inspired by the Black Flag song "Rise Above" as well as the philosophy to rise above pettiness and fight against injustice no matter how difficult things may be.

ARTS VOTE – HAND WITH A PAINTBRUSH AND FLOWER | Americans for the Arts Action Fund today presented its ArtsVote "Make Your Vote Count" campaign and pledge with artwork designed by renowned contemporary artist and Americans for the Arts Artists Committee member Shepard Fairey.

EXHIBIT B

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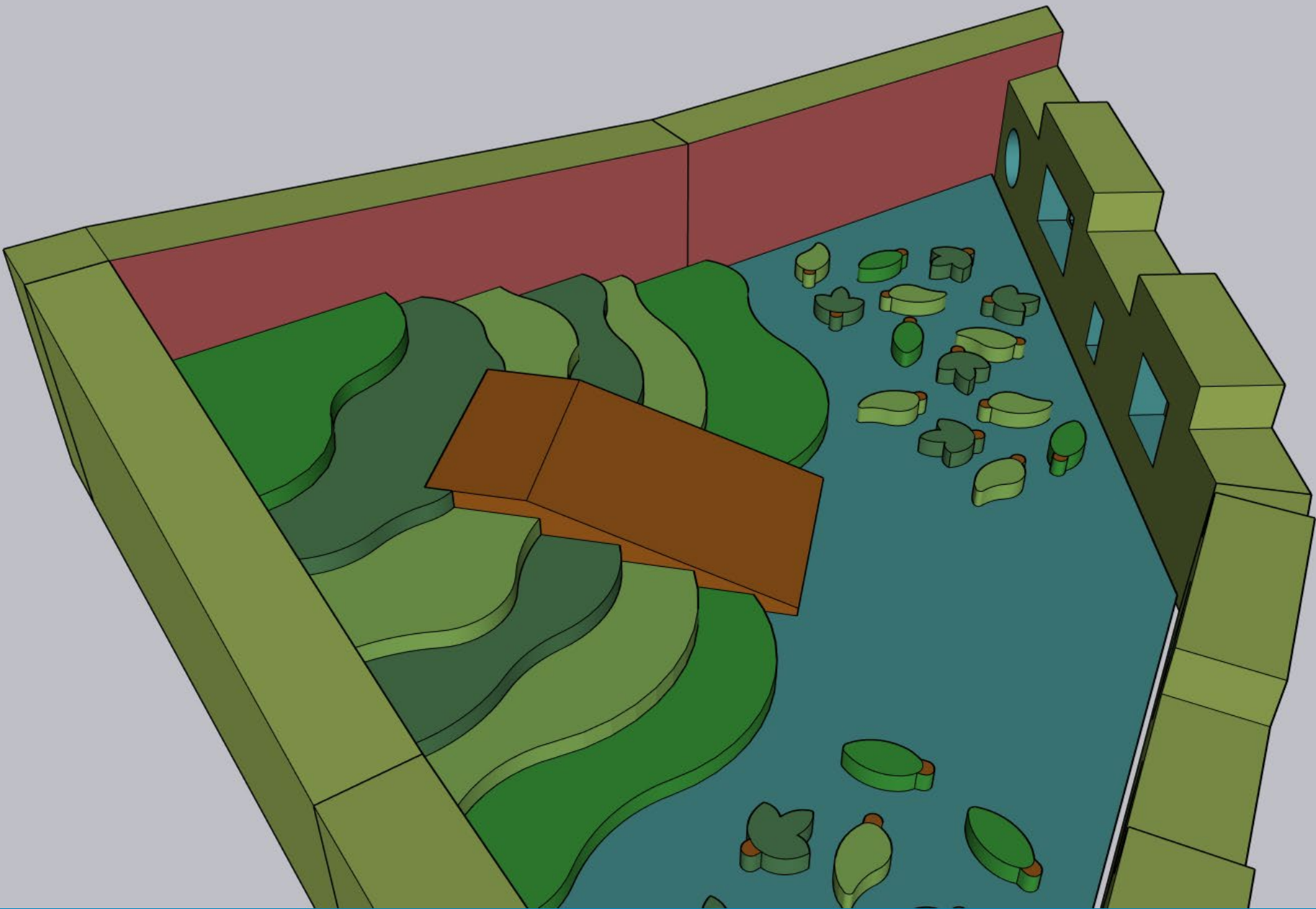


i.d.d.TM
MUSEUM
Imagination · Design · Experience · Art

HOURS
9:00 AM
4:00 PM
7:00 PM
4:00 PM

HOURS
9:00 AM
4:00 PM
7:00 PM
4:00 PM





Lab



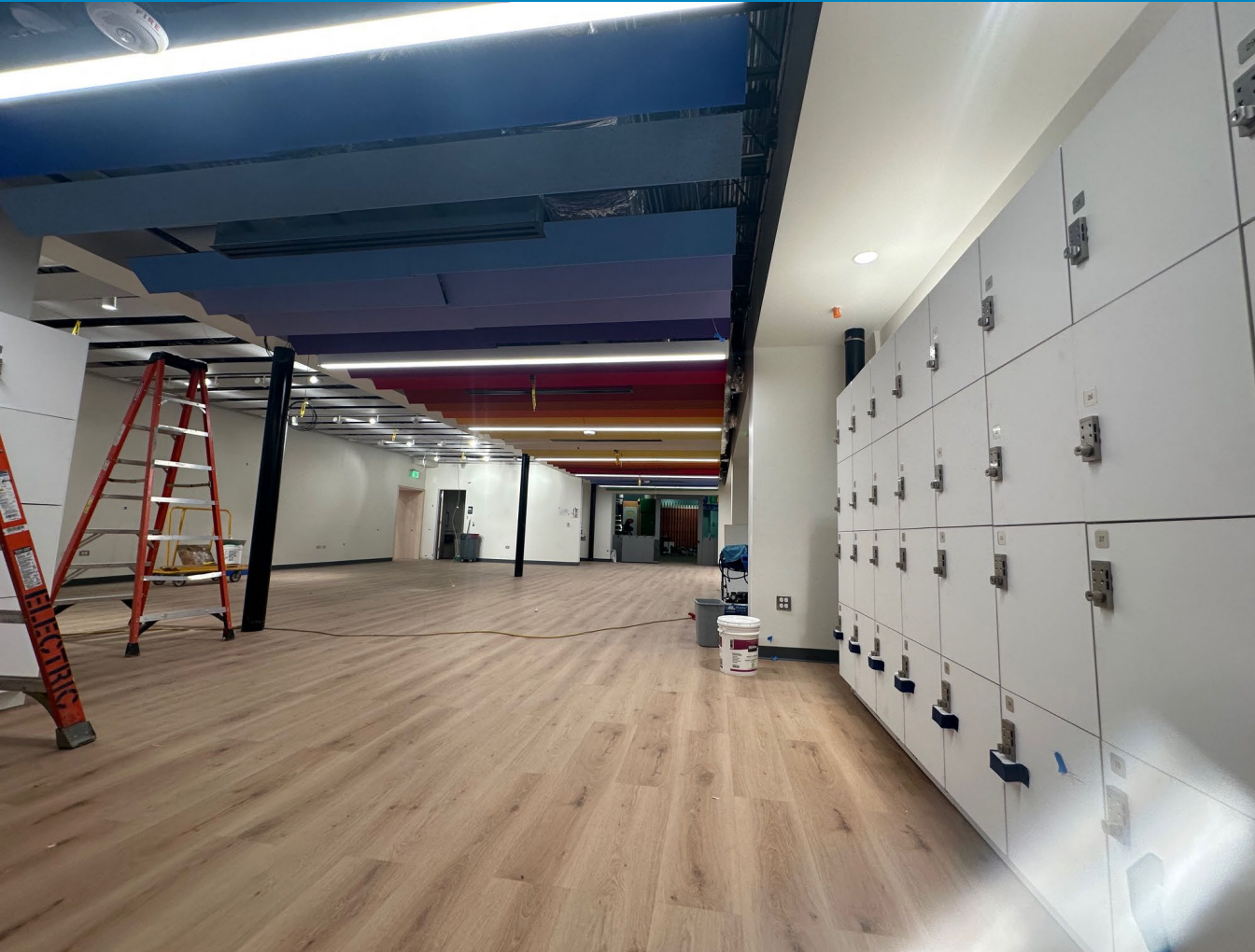
- Former office space
- New flooring
- Exposed trusses
- Additional cabinetry with exhaust for laser cutters and 3d printers
- Space will officially open early 2025

Lab Art

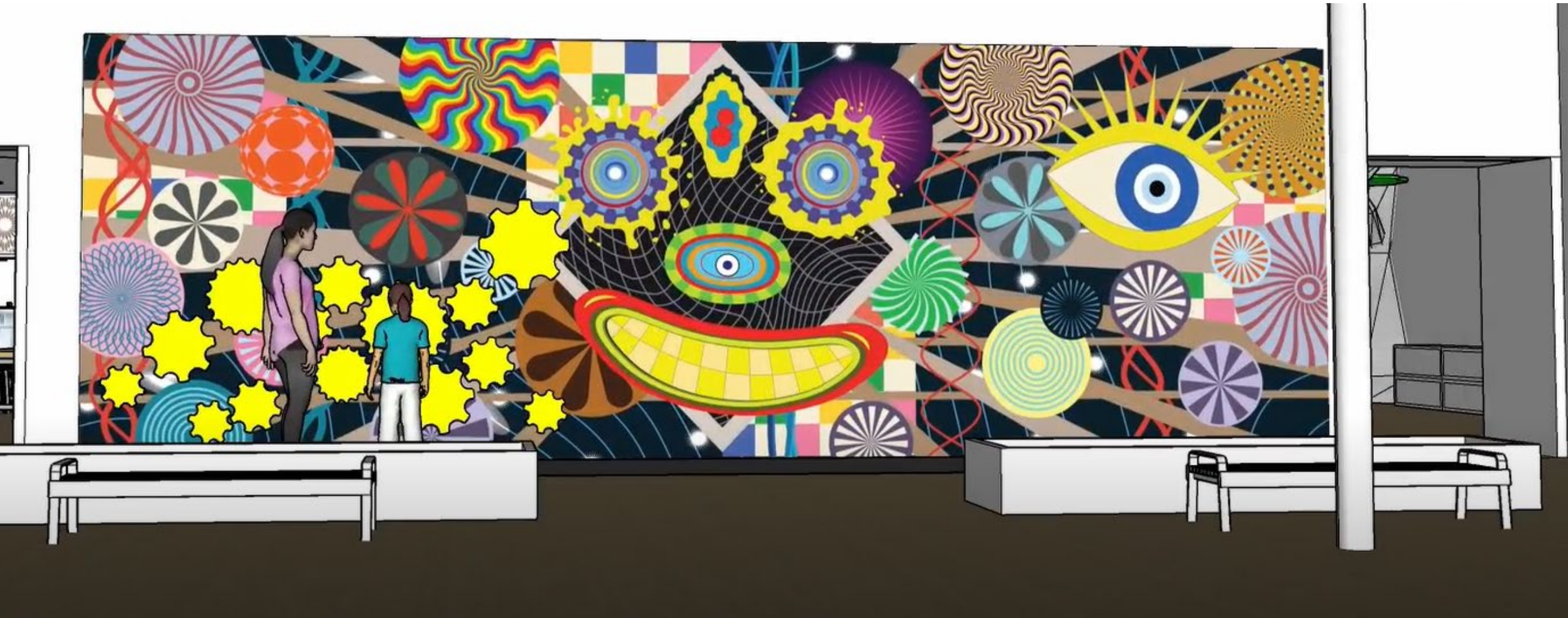


- Upcycled Art Area
- Commissioned artists to create examples of art that can be made from recycled materials
- Additional art will include 1,000 glass cranes hung from the trusses and more!

Walkway



- New Flooring
- Added antimicrobial lockers
- Colored baffling system
- Additional accessible restroom
- Water refill station



Lobby



- New Flooring
- New Desk (11/26)
- Several walls/doors removed
- Window into ArtVille

Office



- Former warehouse space
- Complete remodel including new break area, six offices, one workroom
- Not shown in photos: HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical, which were all substantial investments this phase



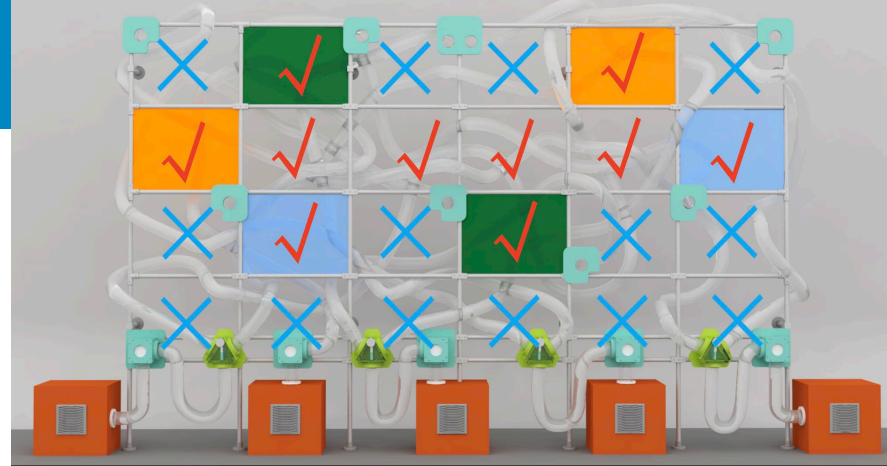
Completed Public Art– Spectacle



Completed Mural – Kyllan Maney



Mural in Progress



- Designed and painted by Kate Bittner as a donation to the museum
- i.d.e.a. Museum Foundation Board members and volunteers helped paint
- A wind energy experience will be placed on top of mural in early 2025

Upcoming Mural – Luster Kaboom (David Quan)

