

Art Commission Review – Submittal Form

(Applicant complete below section)

Project Name: Simons Recreation Center Percent for Art

Project Address: 7200 Woolston Ave **On Public Property?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

Total Budget: \$321,225 **Utilizing City Funds?** ☒ Yes (specify amount): _____ ☐ No

Project Type (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Building – New Construction or Addition | ☐ Encroachment in/over ROW |
| ☐ Building – Renovation or Repair | ☐ Signage (Reconsideration) |
| ☐ Plaza/Park/Playground | ☐ Streetery (Reconsideration) |
| ☒ Public Art | ☐ Other: _____ |

Project Team:

Agency/Org.: Creative Philadelphia/Mural Arts Design Lead (firm): _____

Other: Artists: Emily White, Phillip Adams

Primary Contact for Project Communications:

Name: Marguerite Anglin

Affiliation: Public Art Director, Creative Philadelphia

Email: [REDACTED]

(Art Commission staff complete below section)

Art Commission Meeting Date of Project Review: _____

Level of Review:

☐ Concept Review ☐ Final Review If Final, specify date of preceding Concept Review: _____

☐ Administrative Review (for projects with minimal visual impact on public realm)

Staff Notes (Optional):



August 26, 2026

Katherine Liss
Director
The Philadelphia Art Commission
One Parkway, 1515 Arch Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

SUBJECT: Request for Art Commission Concept Review - Percent for Art at Simons Recreation Center

Dear Katherine:

Creative Philadelphia (Creative PHL) is requesting a concept review for a Percent for Art project at the Simons Recreation Center at the Philadelphia Art Commission meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2026. This Percent for Art project was initiated in collaboration with Capital Program Office, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation and Mural Arts Philadelphia as part of a major construction project that will transform the campus exterior fields, grounds and buildings.

Creative PHL is especially pleased to be partnering with Mural Arts Philadelphia to create murals at four prominent locations across the Simons Recreation Center campus, located at 7200 Woolston Avenue. The artwork celebrates neighborhood history, youth athletics, community pride, and the character of the surrounding West Oak Lane community.

This review in September will include three of the mural sites. A fourth mural site is also planned as part of the broader public art strategy and will be presented separately for review at a future Art Commission meeting.

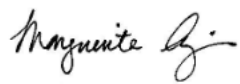
The three mural sites proposed for review are:

- **Site 1:** Community Wall of Fame at the Recreation Center Front Entrance
- **Site 2:** Neighborhood-Inspired Panels along the perimeter Retaining Wall
- **Site 3:** "Home of the Wildcats" Athletics Murals at the Field Entrance

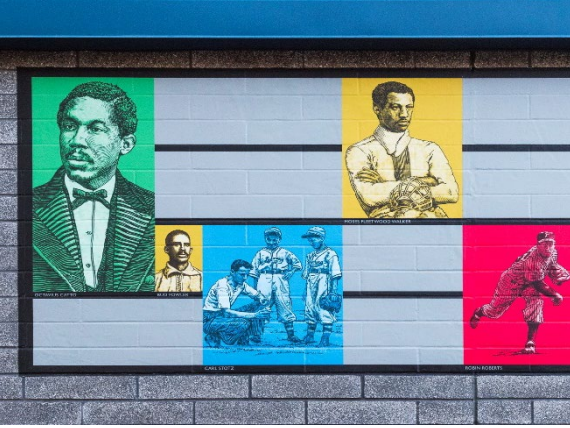
The concepts for these murals reflect themes of importance to the community, including honoring individuals who have made a significant impact on the neighborhood, highlighting the recreational activities and traditions associated with Simons Recreation Center, and drawing inspiration from the character and feel of the surrounding neighborhood.

Creative Philadelphia looks forward to jointly presenting this project with Mural Arts in September and collaborating with the community and our City partners to bring these artworks to life. Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me at 215.686.4596.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marguerite Anglin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a vertical line to its right.

Marguerite Anglin, RA, NOMA
Public Art Director
Creative Philadelphia
City of Philadelphia



**Simons Recreation Center
Percent for Art
Art Commission Presentation 9/9/26**



Collaboration



**This Percent for Art project is a collaboration between
Creative Philadelphia and Mural Arts Philadelphia**

Project Overview

Simons Recreation Center Public Art Concept

The proposed public art plan activates **several key locations** across the Simons Recreation Center campus, creating a cohesive visual identity that celebrates neighborhood history, youth athletics, and community pride.

Project Areas

Site 1: Community Wall of Fame at the Rec Center Entrance

Site 2: Retaining Wall with Alumalite Panels

Site 3: "Home of the Wildcats" Entrance Murals

Community Input

What We Heard / Project Goals

Honor community leaders and founders who have made a lasting impact through their service, leadership, and commitment to Simons.

Celebrate Simons' youth and programming, including the sports, recreation, and activities that bring generations of community members together.

Reflect the surrounding neighborhood, creating artwork that feels connected to the people, history, and identity of the community.

Incorporate nature and the environment, bringing elements of the natural world into the artwork and overall experience of the site.

Mural Site Locations

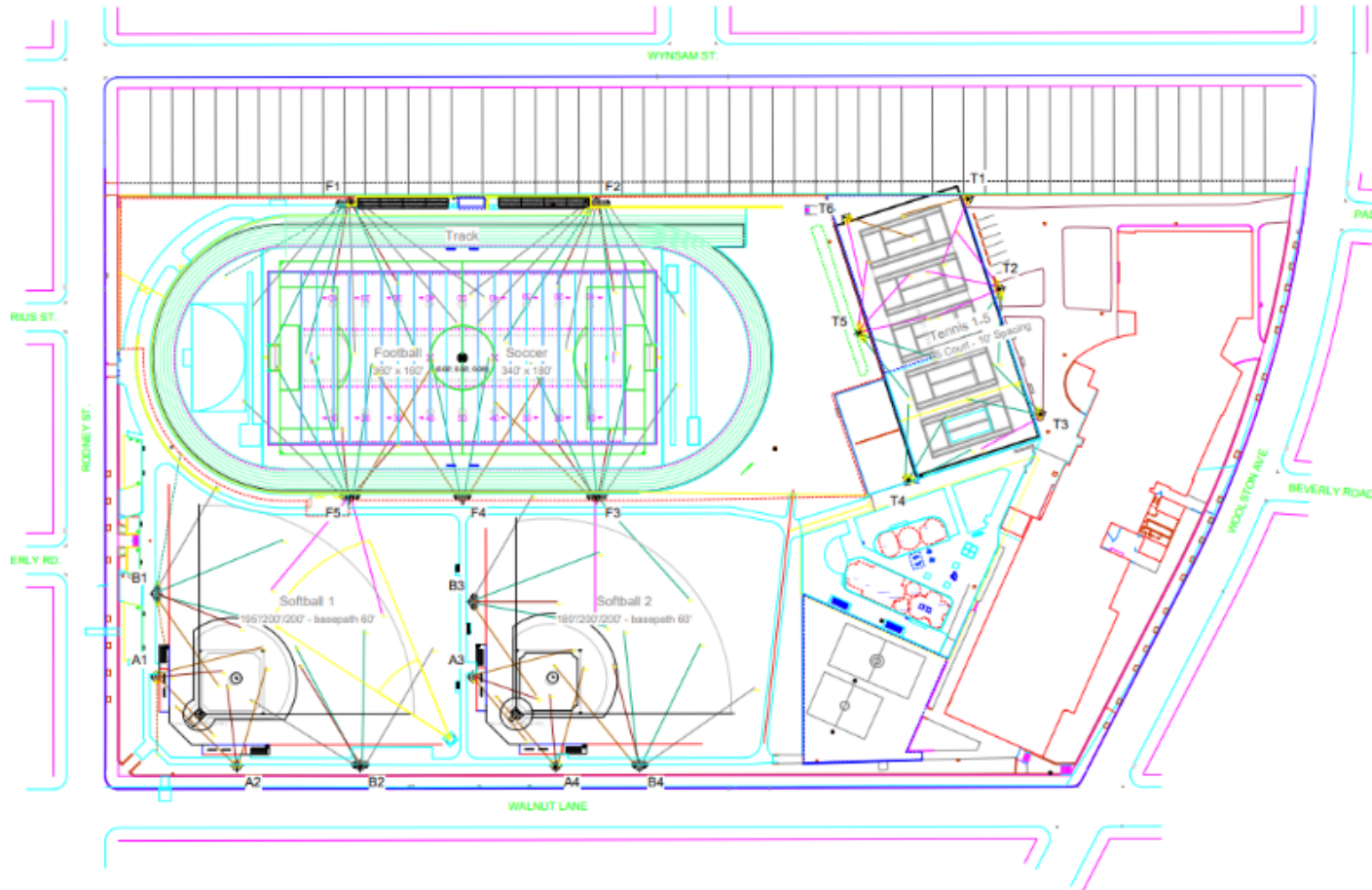


Site 1
Marked
by red
line

Site 2
Marked
by yellow
line

Site 3
Marked
by blue
lines

Site Lighting



Philadelphia, PA

Equipment Layout

INCLUDES:

- Football
- Soccer
- Softball 1
- Softball 2
- Tennis 1-5
- Track

Electrical System Requirements: Refer to Amperage Draw Chart and/or the "Musco Control System Summary" for electrical sizing.

Installation Requirements: Results assume a 3% nominal voltage at line side of the driver and structures located within 3 feet (1m) of design locations.

Equipment List For Areas Shown

QTY	Structure ID	SIZE	GLASS FUNCTION	HEIGHT (GLOBAL LEVEL)	FIXTURE TYPE	SP/POLE
1	A1	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-550	4
1	A2	60'	-	15.5'	TLC-87-575	1
3	A2-A4	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-550	2
1	B1	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-1500	2
1	B1	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-550	2
1	B1	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-900	2
1	B1	60'	-	19'	TLC-87-575	1
3	B2-B4	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-1200	2
1	F1	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-1500	5
1	F1	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-550	1
1	F2	60'	-	15.5'	TLC-87-575	2
1	F2	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-1500	5
1	F2	60'	-	15.5'	TLC-87-575	2
2	F3	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-1200	1/2*
2	F3	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-1500	4
1	F4	60'	-	60'	TLC-87-575	2
1	F4	60'	-	60'	TLC-LED-1500	2
2	T1	30'	-	30'	TLC-LED-550	2
2	T2	30'	-	30'	TLC-LED-550	5
2	T3-T4	30'	-	30'	TLC-LED-550	5
59	Totals					96

*This structure utilizes a back-to-back mounting configuration. Above Global Level is height of fixtures above design (0,0,0).

Single Fixture Amperage Draw Chart

Driver Specifications (40 min power factor)	208 (90)	220 (90)	240 (90)	277 (90)	347 (90)	380 (90)	480 (90)
Line Amperage Per Fixture (line draw)							
TLC-LED-1500	8.4	7.9	7.3	6.3	5.0	4.6	3.6
TLC-LED-1200	6.9	6.5	6.0	5.2	4.2	3.8	3.0
TLC-LED-900	5.2	4.9	4.5	3.9	3.1	2.9	2.3
TLC-87-575	5.5	5.2	4.9	4.2	3.4	3.1	2.5
TLC-LED-550	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.4	1.9	1.8	1.4

Simons Percent for Art Timeline

Site #1: Wall of Fame

Site #2: Retaining Wall

Site #3: Home of the Wildcats

- June 2026, Mural Arts Artist Selection & Contracting
- July 1 – August 14 2026, Artists Research and Design
- August 15 – Sept 8 2026 Mural designs approval/feedback
- Sept 9, 2026 Attend Art Commission for approval
- Sept 10 – Oct 30, Paint artworks in an off-site studio
- Nov 1 – Nov 15, 2026 Install murals on site

Project Budget

Artist/Assistant Fees	\$137,000
<i>Legacy Wall</i>	<i>\$45,000</i>
<i>Retaining Wall</i>	<i>\$63,000</i>
<i>Small Sports Buildings</i>	<i>\$29,000</i>
Materials	\$85,500
<i>parachute cloth</i>	<i>\$16,500</i>
<i>paint</i>	<i>\$34,000</i>
<i>sundries</i>	<i>\$6,000</i>
<i>alumilite panels and tools</i>	<i>\$9,000</i>
<i>gel, varnishes</i>	<i>\$18,000</i>
lift/scaffolding	\$8,500
Project Management	\$45,000
Admin 8%	\$18,090
Matinenance 7%	\$15,829
Contingency 5%	\$11,306
TOTAL	\$321,225



SITE 1

Wall of Fame Recreation Center Entrance

Site 1: Recreation Center Entrance

Location of Mural



Site 1: Recreation Center Entrance

Location of Mural



Site 1: Recreation Center Entrance

Emily White- Artist Design Concept

Concept

This concept presents a portrait montage that celebrates the people of the community while drawing inspiration from the natural landscape surrounding the recreation center. The composition weaves together the provided portraits with stylized illustrations of nearby flowers, including Fragrant Plantain Lilies, Rose of Sharon, Wood Lilies, and Black-Eyed Susans, which were observed during a walk through the surrounding neighborhood.

The flowers have been simplified into clean silhouettes and graphic forms, creating a cohesive visual language that complements the portraiture with an elevated yet approachable aesthetic. A palette of muted and monotones, paired with sepia-toned portraits, gives the mural a timeless quality. The ochre elements will be painted with metallic gold paint.



Site 1: Recreation Center Entrance

Emily White- Production Plan

Substrate: Parachute cloth

Preparation: Parachute cloth will be prepped and printed by Mural Provisions.

Painting: Murals will be painted in studio.

Installation: Installation is targeted for mid-November.

Installation Duration: Approximately two weeks, including a weather contingency.

Site 1: Recreation Center Entrance

Proposed Design - Emily White



LEGACY "Wall of Fame" Community Leaders:

- Clarence Savage
- Patricia Savage
- Phillis Benson
- Roger Walton
- Ruth Butler
- Marcus Whaley
- Brandon Connelly
- Verland Wayns
- Barbara Harris

Site 1: Recreation Center Entrance

Proposed Design - Emily White



Emily White – Prior Artwork Samples



Emily White – Prior Artwork Samples

Portrait Painting Examples





SITE 2

Retaining Wall E Walnut Lane

Site 2: Retaining Wall

Location of Mural along E. Walnut Lane



Site 2: Retaining Wall (Mural Panels)

Overview:

A series of mural panels will be strategically installed along the retaining wall on E. Walnut Lane. and at the Rodney Street/Walnut Lane site entrance. These will be Alupalite panels (heavy-duty, aluminum composite sign material) The panels will not cover the entire wall but will be placed in key locations for maximum visual impact.

The retaining wall will be painted a neutral beige color to compliment the panel colors and help minimize the visual impact of sediment leakage expected along the retaining wall.

Site 2: Retaining Wall (Mural Panels)

The retaining wall will be painted beige, and the mural design will be applied to Aluma-lite panels installed along E Walnut Lane.



Site 2: Retaining Wall- Artist Concept

Phillip Adams

Reflections • E Walnut Lane Retaining Wall

Reflections is a mural composed of a series of interconnected panels that celebrate the natural beauty, movement, and character of the surrounding community. Inspired in part by Mayor Parker's vision for highway beautification, the mural transforms a long corridor into a continuous landscape of grasses, flowers, and architecture drawn from the neighborhood directly across from the wall.

The title *Reflections* speaks to the quiet, pensive quality that nature can inspire. Throughout the mural, familiar elements of the neighborhood are reimaged through a peaceful visual language, creating an opportunity for the community to see aspects of itself reflected back in new and beautiful ways. The silhouettes of plants and flowers create an ever-changing rhythm across the length of the wall, suggesting the way a landscape can shift with light, and movement.

A flock of birds travels throughout the panels, bringing a sense of motion and continuity to the composition. The birds are also a reflection of the community itself—individuals moving together, gathering, dispersing, and making their way through the neighborhood. Their movement leads toward the sports complex, with two panels positioned on either side of the Rodney Street/Walnut Lane entrance, creating a visual threshold and a sense of arrival.

The mural also includes subtle references to the larger history and identity of the community. The flock of birds echoes the imagery in the mural at Martin Luther King High School, one of the first murals I created in Philadelphia, creating a personal and visual connection across time. A pair of cats provides another playful connection, referencing the home of the Oak Lane "Wildcats" and celebrating the pride and spirit of the neighborhood.

The palette is intentionally muted and earthy, allowing the mural to feel calm, clean, and grounded within its surroundings. Rather than competing with the landscape or the activity of the corridor, *Reflections* seeks to complement it and to create moments of beauty and contemplation while giving the long wall a strong sense of identity and place.

Ultimately, *Reflections* is about connection: between nature and the built environment, between past and present, and between the individual and the larger community. Across more than 900 feet, the panels come together as one continuous gesture—a landscape in motion that reflects the beauty, energy, and shared identity of the neighborhood.

Site 3: Retaining Wall Production Plan

Artist- Phillip Adams

Reflections

Substrate & Preparation

- **Substrate:** Alupalite Panels and Parachute cloth.
- **Preparation:** Mural Provisions will prep the cloth, paint the background color, and ghost-print the artwork/design onto the parachute cloth.
- **Painting:** Murals will be painted in studio.
- **Installation:** Parachute cloth will be installed over the prepared Alupalite panels after the panels have been installed.

Retaining Wall Segments

The retaining wall on Walnut Lane consists of 30 natural-break segments, with the following panel configurations:

- 27 segments are approximately 30' wide.
 - Each segment will receive two 4' H x 8' W Alupalite panels, seamed together to create one 4' H x 16' W panel.
- 2 segments are approximately 24'6" wide.
 - Each segment will receive a 4' H x 8' W panel.
- 1 segment is approximately 8'8" wide.
 - This segment will receive one 4' H x 4' W panel.

Panel Installation

- All panels will be installed centered within their respective wall segments, both horizontally and vertically.
- At the Rodney Street/Walnut Lane entrance, there are two wall surfaces approximately 67" wide.
 - One 6' H x 4' W panel will be installed on each side of the entrance.

Parachute Cloth Installation & Finishing

- Once the Alupalite panels are installed, the parachute cloth will be installed over the panels.
- The parachute cloth will conceal the center seam between the two 4' H x 8' W panels on the 16-foot-wide sections.
- The cloth installation will also help create a continuous visual surface across the individual panel sections.
- Following installation, touch-up painting will be completed on panel hardware and other exposed areas as needed to ensure a finished and cohesive appearance.

Site 2: Retaining Wall Panel Designs

Artist- Phillip Adams



Site 2: Retaining Wall Panel Designs

Artist- Phillip Adams



Site 2: Retaining Wall Panel Designs

Artist- Phillip Adams



Site 2: Retaining Wall Panel Designs

Artist- Phillip Adams



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Artist- Phillip Adams



Site 2: Retaining Wall Panel Designs

Artist- Phillip Adams



Site 2: Retaining Wall Panel Designs

Artist- Phillip Adams



Site 2: Retaining Wall Panel Designs

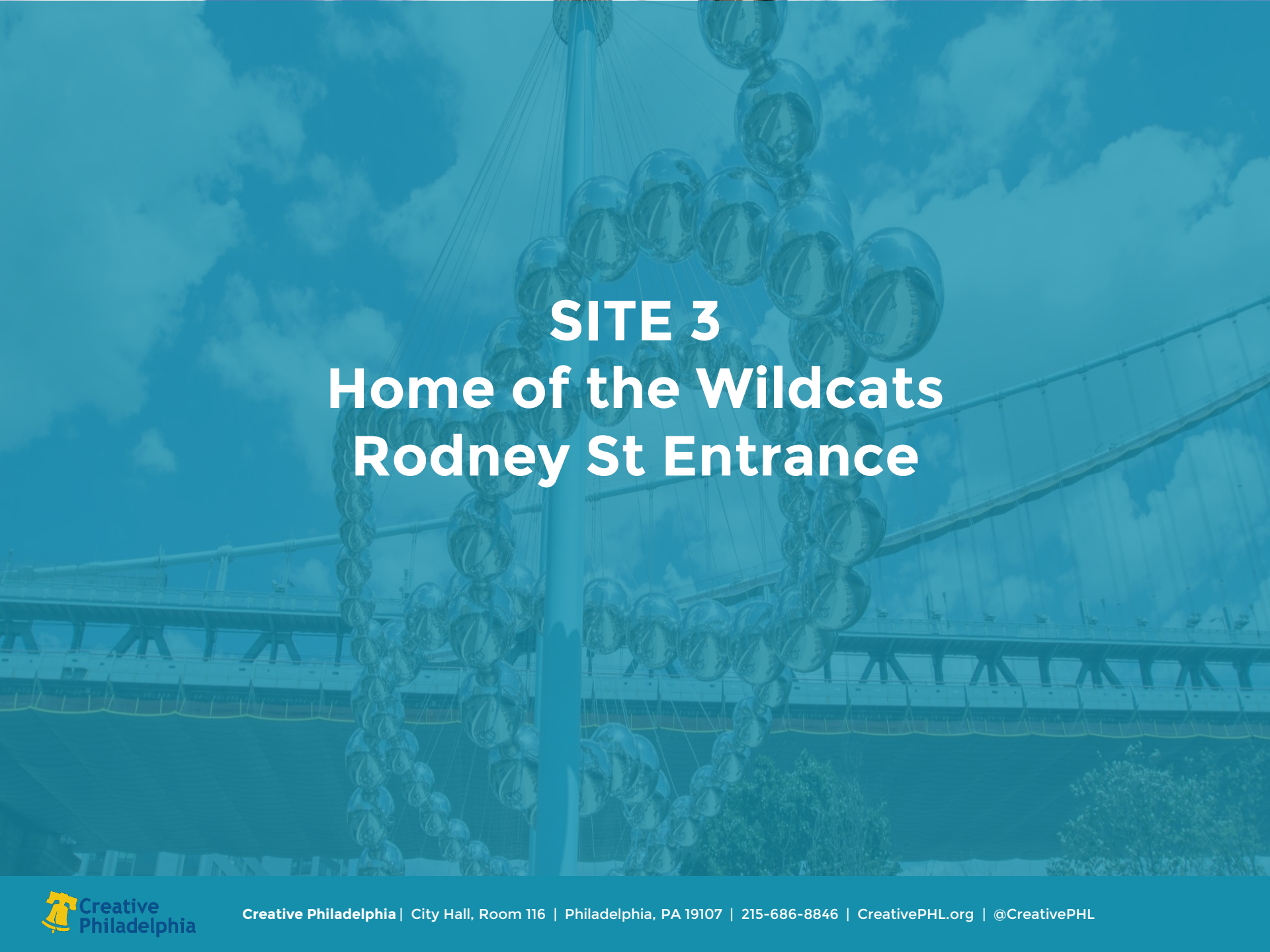
Artist- Phillip Adams



Site 2: Retaining Wall Panel Designs

Artist- Phillip Adams





SITE 3

Home of the Wildcats

Rodney St Entrance

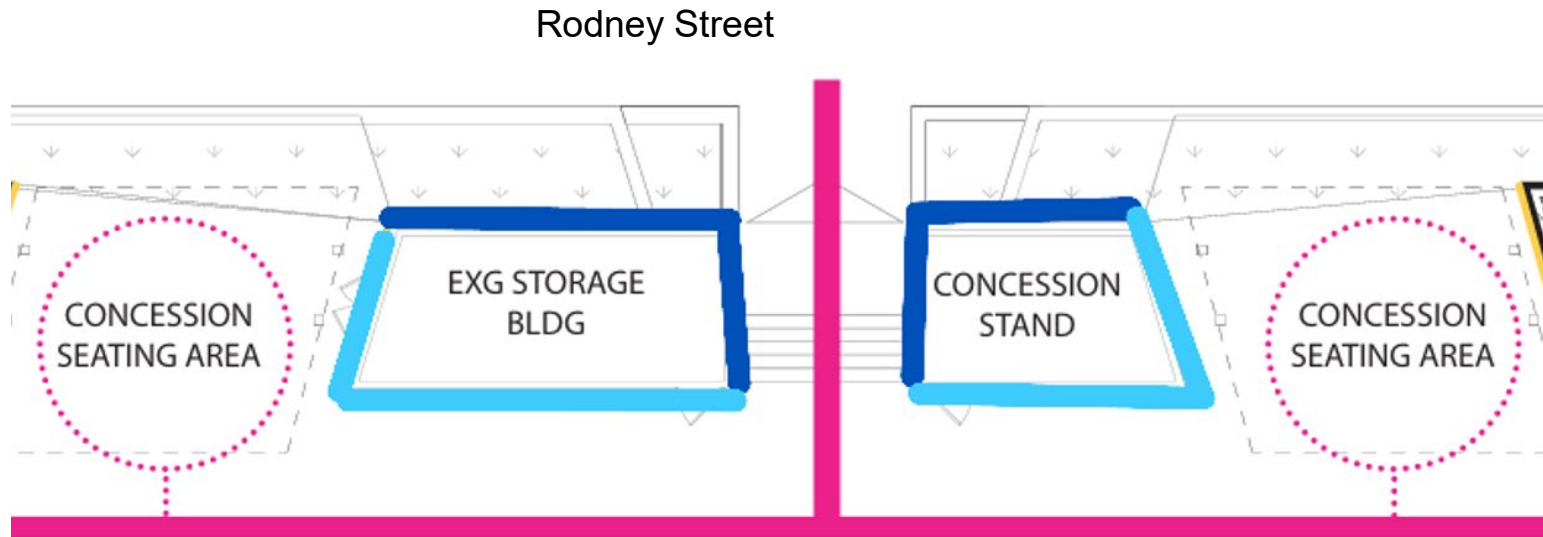
Site 3: Home of the Wildcats Murals

Location of Murals at Entrance to Athletic Fields



Site 3: Home of the Wildcats Murals

Location of Mural



Dark blue lines indicate where the murals will be applied.
Light blue lines indicate where solid colors will be applied.

Site 3: Home of the Wildcats Mural Concept

Artist- Phillip Adams

Artist Statement

The Home of Oak Lane Wildcats • Small buildings

This mural celebrates the energy, pride, movement, and collective spirit of the Oak Lane Wildcats. Centered around the words "The Home of Oak Lane Wildcats," the design transforms the architecture of the sports complex into a visual expression of athletic achievement and community identity.

The mural brings together silhouettes representing the many disciplines that make up the Wildcats community: football, baseball, softball, cheerleading, dance team, and track and field. Each figure is rendered in shades of blue, reflecting the team colors while creating a unified visual language across the walls. Although each athlete represents a different sport, their overlapping forms and shared color palette emphasize that they are part of one team and one community.

The two walls facing the stairwell create a particularly dynamic moment. On one wall, a football player stands with arms extended in a triumphant pose, embodying accomplishment, confidence, and the exhilaration of reaching a touchdown. Opposite him, a cheerleader leaps into a split, capturing athleticism, joy, precision, and movement. Behind each figure, radiating shapes expand outward in a gradient, becoming brightest closest to the athlete before gradually fading outward. This light represents the power and energy generated by the athletes themselves. The idea that their determination, talent, and spirit radiate beyond the individual and into the larger community.

The composition is also designed to change as people move through the space. The words "The Home of Oak Lane Wildcats" are intentionally positioned to be experienced from three different vantage points: from the left wall, from across the street where the two sides of the stairwell can be read together, and from the perspective of someone leaving the sports complex and descending the stairs. In this way, the mural becomes more than a static image; it is an experience that unfolds through movement and perspective.

Ultimately, the mural is about belonging. It celebrates the athletes who train, compete, perform, and grow here while recognizing the coaches, families, friends, and community that surround them. The blue silhouettes become symbols of strength, aspiration, and possibility, which are visual reminders that the Oak Lane Wildcats are not simply a collection of teams, but a community united by pride, perseverance, and the shared pursuit of excellence.

Site 3: Philip Adams Production Plan

The Home of Oak Lane Wildcats

Substrate: Parachute cloth

Preparation: Parachute cloth will be prepped and printed by Mural Provisions.

Painting: Murals will be painted in studio.

Installation: Installation is targeted for mid-November.

Installation Duration: Approximately two weeks, including a weather contingency.

Site 3: Home of the Wildcats Mural Designs

Artist- Phillip Adams



Site 3: Home of the Wildcats Mural Designs

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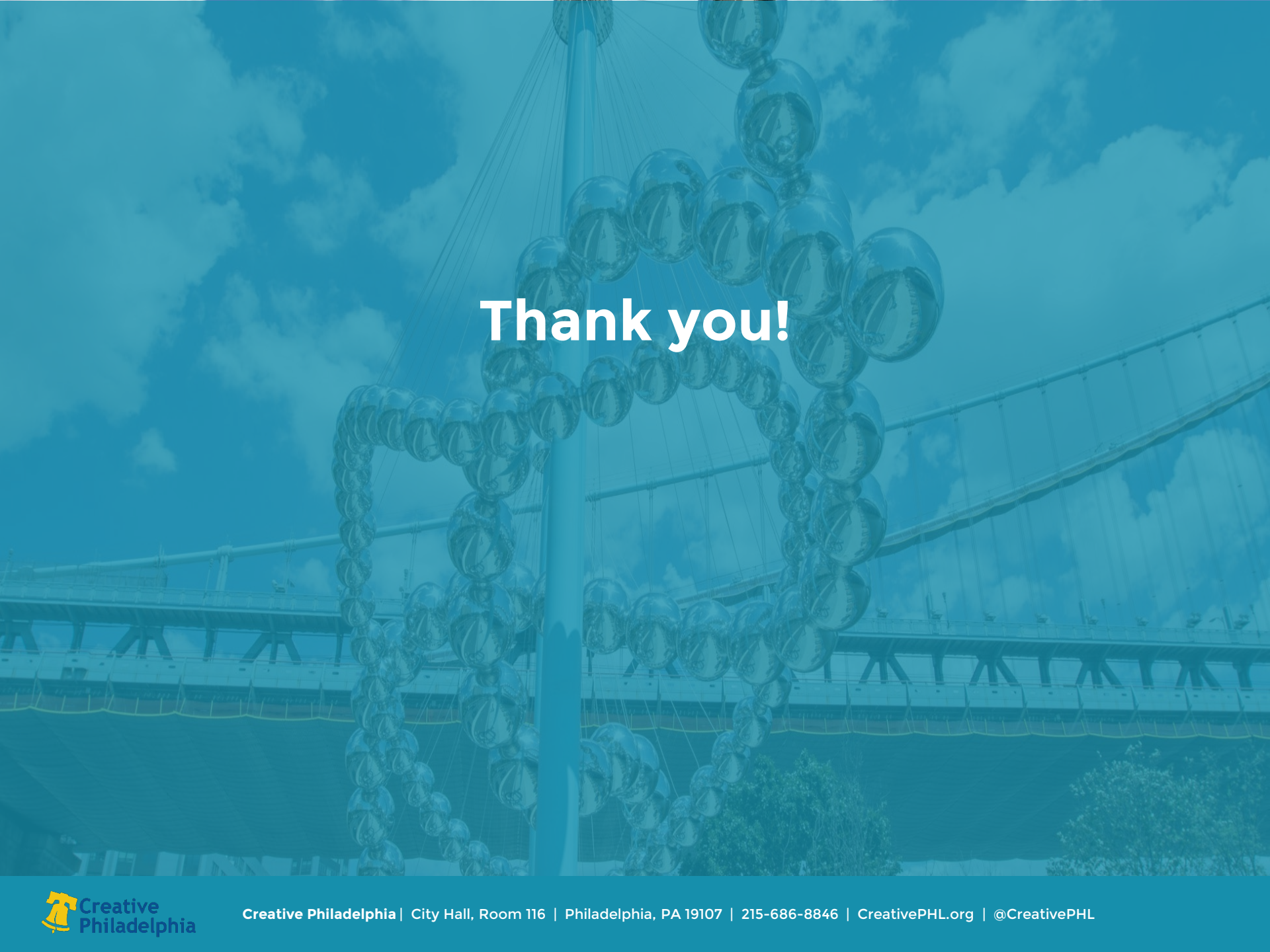


Phillip Adams- Prior Artwork Samples



Phillip Adams- Prior Artwork Samples





Thank you!