monopoly of the hill district

proposed by:
Lauren Yvette she/her
Cynt she/her
Ernest Bay his/him
Fearless she/her
Meet the artists

Cynt
she/her

Project role:
Cynt's role as a visionary and contributor, with her original poem and involvement in the installation process, adds a unique and meaningful element to the project, making her an integral part of the team.

Biography:
Cynt is the Co-Founder Of BLAQK House Collections, An Art Gallery Located Downtown Pittsburgh, Establish In 2020 During The Pandemic. “BHC” Is Not Just A Place But A Spiritual Movement That Has Graced Spaces Thru Curating AND Collaborations With Emerald City, A “Co Working Space In Downtown Pittsburgh, The Mayor’s Office, And Nafasi On Centre Ave In The Hill District Where She Is Currently An Artist In Residence

Lauren Yvette
she/her

Project role:
Lauren Yvette's proposed role in the project is multifaceted, as she serves as a visionary, artist with technical training, and brings project management experience to the team. Her diverse skill set allows her to oversee the overall execution of the project while actively participating in the creation of the woman and sections of the monopoly board.

Biography:
Lauren Yvette, a Pittsburgh-based artist, has always been deeply immersed in the world of arts. From a young age, her passion for creativity was nurtured as she attended Rogers Middle School for the Arts, where she discovered her innate talent and love for visual arts. Continuing her artistic education at the prestigious Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) high school in Pittsburgh, Lauren dedicated herself to honing her skills as a visual artist. With a focus on painting, she explored various techniques, styles, and mediums, allowing her to develop a unique artistic voice. Upon graduating, Lauren was honored with the highest award for visual arts. Fuelled by her passion for both art and education, she embarked on a fulfilling career as an artist educator and teaching artist. For over a decade, Lauren has shared her expertise and creativity with students of all ages, inspiring and guiding them on their own artistic journeys.
Meet the artists

Earnest Bey
he/his

Earnest Bey, a Pittsburgh artist of extraordinary talent and unyielding passion, continues to push the boundaries of artistic expression. His works serve as a testament to the power of art to transcend barriers, provoke thought, and ignite change. As he fearlessly explores new artistic horizons, Earnest leaves an indelible mark on the artistic landscape of Pittsburgh and beyond, inspiring generations to come with his remarkable creativity and unwavering dedication to his craft.

Project role:

Biography:

Earnest's proposed role in the project is as a highly skilled artist with an impressive background of over 35 years of experience in drawing and painting. His extensive expertise and artistic talent make him an invaluable asset in bringing the project concept to life.

Fearless
she/her

Fearless, an artist with an unyielding spirit, was born and raised in the vibrant city of Pittsburgh. From an early age, she discovered her unwavering passion for both art and writing, allowing her creativity to blossom and define her unique artistic voice. Through her remarkable journey, Fearless has not only become a celebrated artist but also an esteemed author. Her visual masterpieces have earned her a well-deserved place in Pittsburgh's rich artistic history. She boldly etched her name in the annals of the city by becoming one of the first black artists to grace the Mayor's office with her awe-inspiring creations.

Project role:

Biography:

Fearless's proposed role in the project is that of a visionary artist who will primarily oversee the execution of the background and sections of the monopoly board. Her expertise and artistic talent make her an invaluable asset in the project.

Fearless
she/her

Fearless's proposed role in the project is that of a visionary and a skilled artist who will primarily oversee the execution of the background and sections of the monopoly board. Her expertise and artistic talent make her an invaluable asset in bringing the project concept to life.
monopoly of the hill district
Proposal Concept

The Monopoly of the Hill District mural will be a tribute to the rich history of the neighborhood, showcasing its cultural, creative, and intellectual significance. The Monopoly board is a symbol of capitalism and the pursuit of wealth, but we will subvert this meaning by using it as a platform to celebrate the Hill District's past, present, and future.

The woman holding the Monopoly board will represent the strength and resilience of the women who created Women of Vision. Her facial expression will convey determination and pride. The Monopoly board will be divided into three sections, each representing a different aspect of the neighborhood.
The historical section of the board will be a reminder of the neighborhood's past. It will feature landmarks that have shaped the neighborhood's history, such as the YMCA building, the Civic Arena, and August Wilson's House. This section will honor the legacy of those who have come before us, reminding us of the importance of preserving the neighborhood's history.

The commerce section of the board will represent the neighborhood's present and future. It will showcase the Ujamaa Collective and other businesses that are driving the neighborhood's economic growth. This section will also feature spaces for future businesses, highlighting the neighborhood's potential for growth and development.
monopoly of the hill district

Execution
The Monopoly of the Hill District mural will grace a Nafasi’s wall within the neighborhood, ensuring its visibility to residents and visitors alike. Accomplished artists (Earnest Bey, Cynt, Fearless and Lauren Yvette), collaborating closely with community members, will bring this vision to life, ensuring the mural accurately represents the neighborhood's history and culture. Cynth, a the local poet and resident of Nafasi, responsible for the poem featured in the background, will be made in collaboration with the community to ensure authenticity and resonance.

Materials
- Mirror pieces
- House Paint
- Adhesive
- Primer
- Paint Rollers
- Boom Lift
LOVE

LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND,
IT DOES NOT ENVY
IT DOES NOT BOAST,
IT IS NOT PROUD.
IT DOES NOT DISHONOR
OTHER, IT IS NOT
SELF SEEKING, IT IS
NOT EASILY ANGERED
IT KEEPS NO RECORD
OF WRONGS.
design concept
design concept

Monopoly board
design concept

Rough digital painting of sun in background