



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

URBANART COMMISSION

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At UAC, we approach public art as a collaborative process that should be responsive to the location, people and communities impacted by it. Last year showed us that we must also be responsive to the moment we are in. There will be many ways to remember 2020 - the tireless efforts of frontline workers, demands for justice, mask fashion and some truly brilliant memes. But the ways the UAC team and our work adapted and rose to challenges of this wild and difficult year will always stand out for me.

As the coronavirus pandemic halted the country and the economic impact was growing, one of the most important things we could do for the creative community was to keep projects moving and continue to pay artists for their work. Nationally, over 90% of artists reported loss of income due to coronavirus, and over 60% are reporting as unemployed. Between March and June alone, UAC dispersed over \$1 million total in 2020. \$58,000 of that total was specifically from COVID-19 responses which included repurposing operating funds for the Bridging the Distance project grant program and fast-tracking purchasing of artwork for the City of Memphis' Movable Collection.

We also recognize that we have to live our values more fully through our work by intentionally aligning public art funding and initiatives with social justice efforts where possible, such as the Art & Environmental Justice program launched this fall. From all of this, UAC funded a wide range of projects including short films, a series of portraits honoring black and brown essential USPS workers, a virtual neighborhood happy hour, experimental talking plants and more. These projects all represent new ways for us to support artists and share art, in addition to over 20 other projects in progress throughout the city. There is still so much more to do. We believe in the power of art to transform and heal, and we need it now more than ever.

Warmly,



Lauren Kennedy





UrbanArt Commission (UAC) is a non-profit organization committed to creating opportunities for artists and neighborhoods to connect and shape spaces through public art.

Since its founding, UAC has commissioned over 120 works of art that have been placed in neighborhoods around Memphis.



Socially Distanced Staff Photo 2021

STAFF

Lauren Kennedy (Executive Director)
 A.M. O'Malley-Miller (Operations & Development Officer)
 Shanette Parks (Senior Program Manager)
 Gabrielle Brooks (Communications & Development Manager)
 Brett Hanover (Program Manager)
 Wendy Young (Program Manager)

BOARD

Amelia Thompson
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 Dr. David Schwartz
 Dr. Russ Wigginton
 Ed Wallis
 Harley Steffens
 Joel Parsons
 Kojo McLennon (Vice Chair)
 Laura Gray McCann
 Mary Haizlip (Chair)
 Natalie Chamoun (Treasurer)
 Nefertiti Orrin

“
 I'm Grateful for public art
 because of its power to lift
 people's spirits and spark
 meaningful connections.
 - Nefertiti Orrin, UAC Board Member
 ”

COVID RESPONSE

As the coronavirus pandemic halted the country and the economic impact was growing, one of the most important things we could do for the creative community was to keep projects moving and continue to pay artists for their work...

\$\$\$

\$58,000

dispersed to artists through COVID-19 response initiatives.



Hello. How are you? Goodbye!
Artist: Karl Erickson
Bridging the Distance



Kendall, Social Distance Photo booth
Artist: Brandon Dill
Bridging the Distance



Project Highlight: Bridging the Distance

In response to current events, UAC issued an open call for small-scale community-focused public art projects beyond traditional mural and sculpture. 31 projects have been funded to date with \$500 project stipends to each artist.

IN 2020 UAC CREATED PUBLIC ART WITH OUR NEIGHBORS IN:

Orange Mound
Mitchell
Colonial Acres
Bickford
Raleigh

Frayser
Uptown
Downtown
Hollywood
Cherokee Heights

Binghampton
Gooch Park
Hickory Hill
Whitehaven
Cordova

Kirby Trace
South City
Bartlett
Cooper Young
Soulsville

“

Im grateful for public art because it gives the opportunity for non/underrepresented people to create an environment that empowers and reflects them.

- Amber George

”

33+

in-progress public art projects across the city.



\$1,000,000+

PAID TO ARTISTS

150+

artists engaged in 2020

99%

of
artists selected are
based in Memphis



**Public art is the connection to
the past, present, and future.**

- Mary Olds UAC Community Stakeholder



ARTISTS COMMISSIONED IN 2020

Renasant

Convention Center

Kong Wee Pang & Jay Crum
Kaleob Elkins & Franklin Wallace
Ben Butler
Jared Small

Bridging the Distance

Aisha Raison
Aliza Moran
Anahis Luna
Brandon Dill
Brittney Boyd Bullock
Danielle Sierra
James M. Dukes
Judith Dierkes
Nikii Berry Richey
Karl Erickson
Maritza Davila
Jon Sparks
Tad Lauritzen Wright
Sara Moseley
Sharday Hawkins
Nubia Yasin
Silvan Laan
Emily C. Thomas
Sophia Mason
Tracy Treadwell
Suzy Hendrix
William Lescheck
Darlene Newman
Eric Echols
Ethan McVay
Jana Wilson
Jasmine Marie
Jeanelle TBJ Jones
Larry Walker
Lurlynn Franklin
Najee Strickland
Spence Bailey & Hope Hudson
Synthia Hogan



Passage

Artists: Kaleob Elkins & Franklin Wallace
Renasant Convention Center

Memphis International Airport

Yancy Villa-Calvo & brg3s
Danny Broadway
Susan Maakestad
Melissa Dunn
Jamond Bullock & Erik Okdeh

LE Brown Park

Arnold Thompson

Thomas Davis YMCA - Whitehaven

Lorenzo Scruggs

Billboard & Tiny Gallery

Ethan McVay
Tracy Treadwell
Paula Kovarik
Nelson Gutierrez

Memphis 3.0

Tony Hawkins

Rachel Briggs

Neighborhood Art Initiative

Amber George & Lawrence

Matthews

Jamond Bullock

Carpenter Art Garden

Movable Collection

Aisha Raison

Amy Hutcheson

Brittney Bullock

Cheryiah Hill

Danielle Sierra

Danny Broadway

Diedria Pigues

Elizabeth Belz

Geoffrey Shrewsbury

Heidi Walter

Jana Wilson & Anthony Massey

Jasmine Watson

Jennalyn Krulish

Jennifer Peete

Joseph Boyd

Kiersten Williams

Lewis Body

Mary Jo Karimnia

Melissa Dunn

Meredith Olinger

Nick Peña

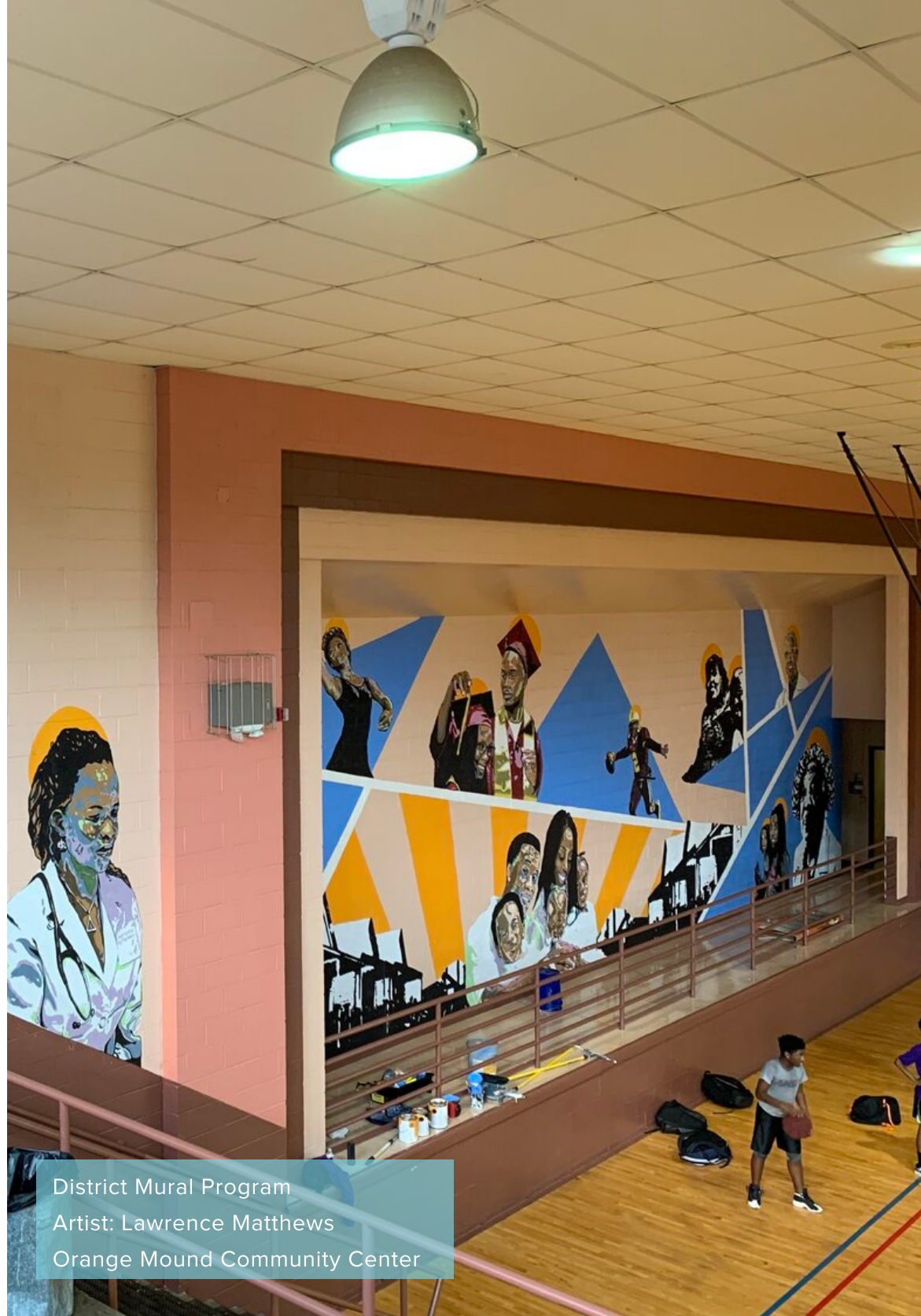
Nubia Yasin

Ryan Steed

Sharday Hawkins

Sharon Havelka

Therrious Davis



District Mural Program
Artist: Lawrence Matthews
Orange Mound Community Center



Buckled Round
Artist: Tracy Treadwell
Tiny Gallery Installation

uac tiny gallery

EVENTS IN THE VIRTUAL SPHERE

WHEN IN PERSON EVENTS WERE NO LONGER AN OPTION, WE ASKED ARTISTS TO HELP BRING COMMUNITY AND FELLOWSHIP TO THE DIGITAL SPHERE

9K+

IN OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FAMILY*

*NUMBER CALCULATED AS TOTAL COMBINATION OF FOLLOWERS FROM OUR TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM

600K+

SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS



Community Happy Hour
Artist: William Lesheck
Bridging the Distance

Hailey kern

Women

GOODS FOR GOOD

WE HOSTED A SOCIALLY DISTANCED POP UP AND LAUNCHED A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER COMMUNITY AND ARTIST SUPPORT

Beginning with our 20th anniversary party in 2017, UAC started commissioning artists' to create limited edition items to help us celebrate and support our work. As we embarked on the 2020 holiday season, we wanted to offer a new way for our community to support our work and the work of our artists. We envision growing this collection of goods and offering further opportunities for artists to create thoughtful, intentional pieces for purchase in response to past, present, and upcoming public art projects. [Click here](#) to learn more and support.

Tea Mug

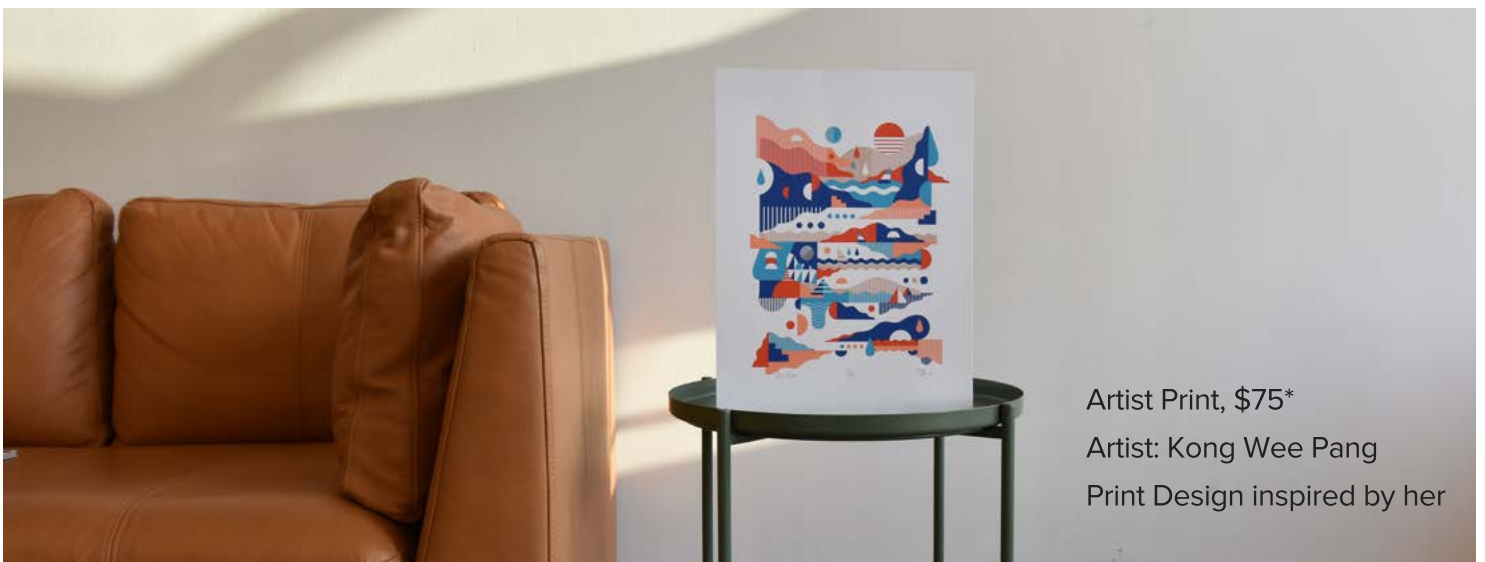
Artist: William Lescheck

Bridging the Distance



UAC Grab Bag

Enamel pins, Magnets, Stickers, \$5



Artist Print, \$75*

Artist: Kong Wee Pang

Print Design inspired by her

V BROTHERS HARDY

PLEASE USE
NEW ENTRANCE
ON HAWK



Student mural team prepares for work on "Bearing Fruit: Historic Orange Mound" --- Artist: Yancy Villa-Calvo



TOP PHOTO

Gentle Reminders
Artist: Brittney Boyd-Bullock
Bridging the Distance

BOTTOM PHOTO

Untitled
Artist: Ethan McVay
Bridging the Distance



Rainbow Spring
Artist: Yvonne Bobo
Raleigh Springs Town Center Sculpture Project

SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Khara Woods
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Britney Thornton
Janet Boscarino
Richard Lou
Suzy Hendrix
Scott Carter
Amanda Willoughby
Carol Crown
Tamika Carwell
Kimberly Jacobs
Andrea Morales
Imani Jasper
John Paul Shaffer
Ashley Cash
Darlene Newman
Nefertiti Orrin
Jeremiah Watson
Jo Ann Street
Christopher Jones
Trey McKnight
Charles Everett
Dr. Christopher Davis
Ethan Skaggs
Mary Olds
Earnestine Jenkins
Laura Gray Teekell
Joel Parsons
Patricia Daigle
Glen Thomas
Pamela Clary
Maggie Russell
James Hay
Richard Lou
Gregory Fletcher

Lucy Woodson
Lindsey Bailey
Cameron Osborne
Jay Humphries
Mike Lemm
Gretchen Wollert McLennon
Rachel Knox
Thomas Midgley
Sally Pace
Lani Glancy
Nicole Seltzer
Frank Ricks
Doug McGowen
Tom Marshall (non-voting)
Martavius Jones
Syd Lerner
Mary Wilder
Anna Carothers
Beth Bazar
Matthew Becker
Cyndy Grivich
Barb Miller
Kendrick Simpson
Rhonnie Brewer
Marcha Allen
Adrienne Pakis-Gillon
Brittney Bullock
James Hay
Brian Bullard
Darrell Thomas
Faith Morris
James Keras
Brenda Duckett
Metcalf Crump
Whitney Hardy

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

ArtsMemphis®



FIRST HORIZON
FOUNDATION

haizlipstudio



HYDE FAMILY FOUNDATION



Mural Arts
Philadelphia



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Bill & Jessica Ganus
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Chick Hill
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Craig Wiener
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Shante Avant
Steven Yates
Susan Maakestad
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Veena Rangaswami
Virginia Solomon





Raleigh
Library

Artist Yvonne Bobo working to install her piece, "Flowing Arch" at Raleigh Springs Town Center Sculpture Project

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

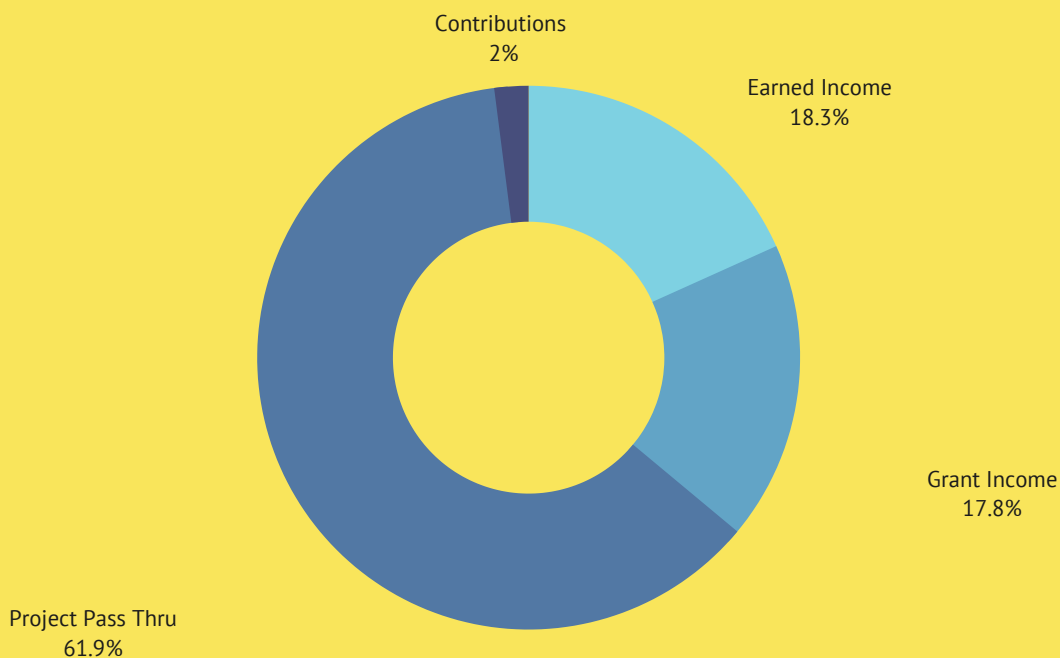
Understand how your contribution impacts Memphis' public art

UAC received \$28,800* in individual donations last year and \$10,530* in donated goods and services. Thank you!

We rely on the support of donors to expand our engagement with neighborhoods and to broaden the scope of what public art looks like in Memphis.

REVENUE

Grants	\$367,150
Earned	\$1,479,483
Donations	\$28,800
Sponsorships/in-kind	\$10,530

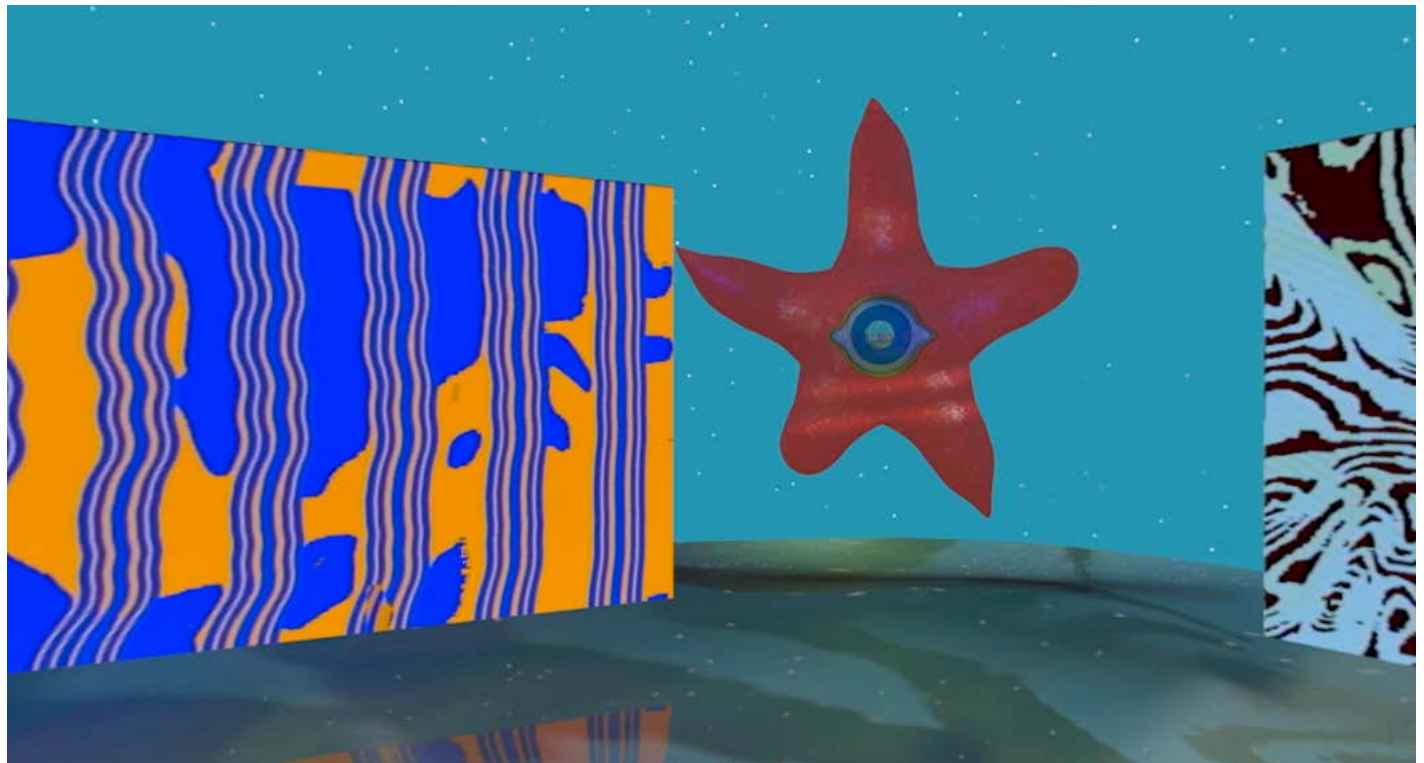


*Financial information presented here for 2020. Note that UAC operates on a July 1 - June 30 fiscal year for annual audit purposes.



TOP PHOTO

Great Wall of Raleigh
Artist: Joseph Boyd
District Mural Training Program



BOTTOM PHOTO

Hello. How are you? Goodbye!
Artist: Karl Erickson
Bridging the Distance