

Leadership Mural Series

Unveiling



Mural Music & Arts Project

Teen Mural Program 2010

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August 27, 2010  
2043 Euclid Ave  
East Palo Alto, California



[www.muralmusicarts.org](http://www.muralmusicarts.org)

# Welcome




*From  
Mural Music & Arts Project*

Thank you for joining us to celebrate the culmination of the 2010 Teen Mural Program! The Teen Mural Program (TMP) engages high school students to research complex issues facing their communities and express themselves artistically while offering summer employment. This summer we had the honor of working with talented teens from East Palo Alto and San Francisco to explore the theme of LEADERSHIP. Over the course of twelve weeks they researched, designed, and installed a set of five vibrant murals, produced five original Hip Hop songs, and choreographed dances. Moreover, they have a better understanding of their roles as leaders that inspires a more hopeful future for themselves, and the world around them.

We hope that you feel inspired by their hard work and talent, and their arts-based message of leadership for strong, healthy communities. All of us at MMAP would like to thank you for supporting our work, our teens, and our community. Your generosity makes it possible for MMAP to continue employing, educating, empowering and inspiring youth!

**Sonya Clark-Herrera**  
Executive Director

**Olatunde Sobomehin**  
Deputy Director

A black banner with white text is set against a background of colorful, abstract brushstrokes in shades of blue, green, yellow, and red. The banner contains the text 'Mural Music & Arts Project' in a white, sans-serif font. To the left of the banner, the text 'Educating, Inspiring, and Empowering Youth through the Arts' is written in a smaller, white, serif font. To the right, the words 'Et and' are visible in a white, serif font.

Educating, Inspiring,  
and Empowering Youth  
through the Arts

## Mural Music & Arts Project

### About The Mural Music & Arts Project

The Mural Music & Arts Project (MMAP) educates, empowers, and inspires at-risk youth through participation in the arts. MMAP offers year-round youth development programs, serving the communities on the Peninsula and in San Francisco. MMAP began in 2001 as the East Palo Alto Mural Art Project, employing local teens to design and create a mural for every school in the local school district. Since then, MMAP's teen artists have researched, planned, and installed a public arts legacy. These murals reflect themes of community, cooperation, equity, justice, environment, and local history. Active and enthusiastic support inspired MMAP to expand and diversify its programs to include arts education, Hip-Hop, music production, and dance. To date, MMAP has served over 900 youth, created 98 murals, and produce original music that was written, recorded, and performed by MMAP youth.

MMAP's current programs include the Teen Mural Program, the Health Education Through Art Program, the History Through Hip-Hop Program, the Public Art Consulting Group, and the Graffiti Art Project. The Teen Mural Program employs local teens during the summer to research, design and install a large, public art mural in their community. The Health Education Through Art Program serves youth during the vulnerable after-school hours and utilizes both visual and performing arts, such as tile mosaics, ceramics, painting, dance, and music production to promote health education for 4th through 8th grade students. History Through Hip-Hop is an after-school program that employs students to write, record and produce original music, and thereby increases literacy and provides students with the tools to become a positive in their community. The Public Art Consulting Group employs teens after-school and during the summer to work with professional artists to fulfill public and private art commissions. The Graffiti Arts Project is in collaboration with the local law enforcement and the Department of Justice to combat youth vandalism and graffiti crimes in Silicon Valley with a curriculum that focuses on skill development, property restoration, and using artistic talent for positive expression.

MMAP's plans to increase programs to middle school students and to new communities expand collaborations with local and international arts organizations, grow current programs, and advance Web and interactive projects like the Virtual Tour Initiative.

Mural Music & Arts Project

2043 Euclid Street, East Palo Alto, CA 94303 | (650) 520-8061 | [www.muralmusicarts.org](http://www.muralmusicarts.org)



## INVOCATION

**David McKneely, Geoffrey Simpson**  
*Teen Lyricists, History through Hip-Hop (HHH)*

## INTRODUCTION OF FEATURED SPEAKER

**Christian Salinas**  
*Teen Mural Assistant, Teen Mural Program*

## WELCOMING REMARKS

**Stephen DeBerry**  
*Past President, Mural Music & Arts Project Board of Directors  
Chief Investment Officer, Bronze Investments*

*Honorable Judge Teri L. Jackson discusses civic and political engagement with Teen Mural Assistants from San Francisco and East Palo Alto.*

## ABOUT THE TEEN MURAL PROGRAM (TMP)

**Remi Sobo**  
*Director, Teen Mural Program*

## ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

**History through Hip-Hop & Critical Mass**

## MURAL DEDICATION

**Kyle Carter, Imelda Rodriguez**  
*Teen Mural Assistants, Teen Mural Program*

## INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Adrian Johnson**  
*Teen Mural Assistant, Teen Mural Program*

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Honorable Judge Teri L. Jackson**  
*Superior Court Judge of California, County of San Francisco*

## MURAL ASSISTANT RECOGNITION

**Teen Mural Program Staff**

## TMP SALUTES

**Olatunde Sobomehin**  
*Deputy Director, Mural Music & Arts Project*

## RECOGNITION AND CLOSING REMARKS

**Doug Overman, Aretoula Arvanitidis Hickson**  
*Board of Directors, Mural Music & Arts Project*

## THE FINALE

**History through Hip-Hop featuring Eldridge Clark-Herrera & Critical Mass**

# Mural Music & Arts Project Salutes



*In Summer 2009, Teen Mural Assistants discuss local and community peace with East Palo Alto Police Chief Ronald L. Davis and Oakland Police Sergeant Ray Petty.*

## Community Leadership Award Recipients

### Ronald L. Davis

Chief of Police, City of East Palo Alto

*The Mural Music & Arts Project honors Chief Ronald L. Davis of the East Palo Alto Police Department for his commitment to the EPA community; for striving to make EPA a safe environment for all.*

### Jeffrey Camarillo

Vice Principal, East Palo Alto Academy High School

*The Mural Music & Arts Project congratulates Jeffrey "Mr. C" Camarillo on his new role as Vice Principal of East Palo Alto Academy High School. We applaud Mr. C for the dedication he has demonstrated to the Teen Mural Program over the past 6 years and we look forward to future collaborations.*

## Teen Mural Program Alumni College Graduates

*The Mural Music & Arts Project salutes the academic achievements of the following graduates of the Class of 2010:*

### Arturo Maldondo

Santa Clara University  
B.S. Cum Laude, Political Science and Philosophy  
Teen Mural Assistant 2002 - 2006

### Remi Sobo

Stanford University  
B.A. Honors in African & African-American Studies  
Teen Mural Assistant 2002 - 2006

## Teen Mural Program High School Graduates

*The Mural Music & Arts Project salutes the academic achievements of the following graduates of the Class of 2010:*

### Monica Gayton

East Palo Alto Academy High School

### Carla Hernandez

East Palo Alto Phoenix Academy

### Adrian Johnson

Woodside High School

### Devert Welch

East Palo Alto Academy High School



*Carla Hernandez (left) and Gabi Capi (right) perform at a History through Hip-Hop concert. In the Fall 2010, Carla begins her freshman year at Wheelock College.*

# We Are The Change: Leading Our Generation

Featured at the entry of MMAP's headquarters, this mural represents leadership in civic engagement and depicts how MMAP teens strive to take individual and collective actions to identify and address issues of public concern. A noble eagle envelops the room, spreading its wings upward across the walls and ceiling, representing the determination of a people to develop and sustain a just society. This enduring American icon also represents MMAP's efforts to develop young people as a powerful, positive force that extends its wings throughout the community. Interwoven with the eagle's feathers are portraits of past and present MMAP students. They demonstrate their leadership and civic engagement through painting, musical production, and performance. Within the eagle's pinions, an amalgamation of MMAP's public art legacy is depicted portraying themes of justice, peace, and collaboration.

"We Are the Change: Leading Our Generation" represents MMAP's collective and sustained endeavors to improve our community. The mural design reflects the youth who have made an impact on their community and continue to do so through the creative arts. The mural welcomes visitors to the MMAP family and to a home where artistic and life aspirations can be achieved.

Mural Meaning  
written by Teen Mural Assistants 2010



*You see the world changing, MMAP made it happen,  
Getting involved daily come on let's make it happen;  
Most of my action revolve around community,  
Just open up your eyes because our lives are what's real to me -  
Music and the arts, painting and making music,  
Studying about leadership and peace, you can use it.  
What people are confused with, this meaning of hip-hop;  
Helping Individuals Prosper, that's what hip got.  
Getting Paid to learn facts, high quality knowledge kid,  
98 murals and they all dope and positive;  
Preparing us for college, failure is abolished,  
mind elevated, all the hatred is demolished;  
we stay awake and we stay involved,  
We stay in tune without the radio on;  
Some looking for the leaders, who they waiting for,  
We are the one's we've been waiting for.*

Mural Verse  
written by Teen Lyricists 2010

# Face The Future: Making Leaders in the Classroom

This mural represents leadership in education. It depicts a future view of our local, statewide and national communities and their roles in fostering a strong education system.

On the left hand side of the wall, a young girl sits on a stack of books and ponders what she will chronicle next. The notebook becomes enlarged before her, a testament to the power of her expression. Scales represent the expected victory in the Robles-Wong v. California litigation, which seeks to bring equitable reform to the state's education funding system. The ladder behind her symbolizes a passage to investigate her history.

In the center of the mural, a young boy reaches out to touch his reflection in a mirror. In his reflection he wears a graduation cap, representing success and his growth as a leader of the future. The mural invites viewers to look into the mosaic mirror centerpiece, reinforcing the idea that we can each strive to become leaders.

On the mural's right, a MMAP youth stands on a sturdy column and kicks down pillars that represent inequities in our current education system, rendering them as rubble. California poppies emerge, symbolizing the state's education vision, and bees pollinate across the state. These mural elements demonstrate the strength of MMAP teens as students and creative learners in the community.

Mural Meaning  
written by Teen Mural Assistants 2010



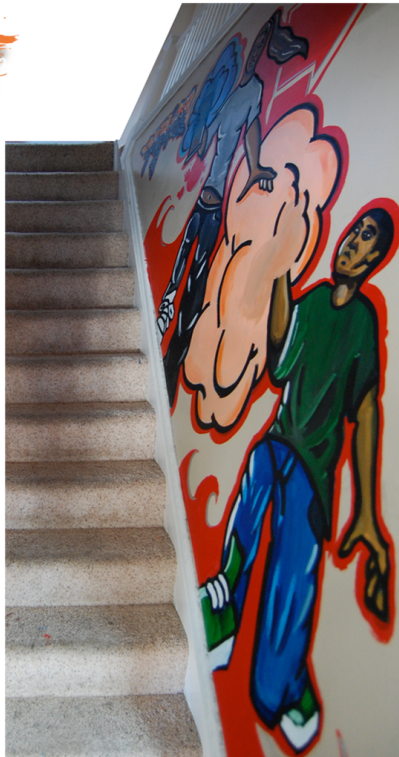
*A young girl sits on a stack of books  
In the middle of a library as she looks  
At the case of Robles-Wong vs. the state of Cali  
Which balance EPA's school system with Paly's;  
The large companies came in an destroyed  
The Ravenswood School for the girls and boys;  
She studies and she ponders,  
She wonders and she wanders,  
Wishing for her school to return from over yonder;  
Climbs the ladder everyday for the knowledge  
As a young boy pictures himself in a college.  
Staring at the mirror, he's dressed for graduation  
An educated leader of the next generation.  
Kicking the pillars down that holds the prisons up  
Holding the children down so much they giving up  
But now the pillars just a pile of debris  
Poppies sprouting from it; here comes California's seeds!*

Mural Verse  
written by Teen Lyricists 2010

# Stepping Up to Leadership

*Stepping Up to Leadership*” presents the self-motivation and self-empowerment of MMAP teens. Rather than waiting for others to fill leadership roles, MMAP youth are actively stepping up and answering a call to action and they are becoming leaders themselves. Using the contemporary art form of graffiti writing, three teens are depicted spraying “Leadership.” The word ascends the staircase and a microphone stands as the word’s “i” to symbolize youth voice. In this mural, teens use their artistic talent and skill to powerfully spread the word that leadership is critical to positive transformation. “Stepping Up to Leadership” further exemplifies the leadership of MMAP teens because – though most MMAP mural installations are guided by professional muralists – the teens installed this mural independently.

Mural Meaning  
written by Teen Mural Assistants 2010



*Step up to leadership, step up to the plate,  
Step up to the ballot box, step up to the gates;  
Step out the audience, step up to mic,  
Step out the darkness, step into the light;  
Stepping to the rhythm and you step into a march,  
Step into graffiti and you step into an art;  
Step by step we step up the hill,  
Step up to leadership, step up to your Self.*

Mural Verse  
written by Teen Lyricists 2010



# Bridging the Gap: Connecting Communities

M MAP's Technology Lab gives community youth access to advanced technology not often available in homes or schools. "Bridging the Gap: Connecting Communities" raises awareness of the lack of access to technology, and urges its audience to level these inequalities.

On the bottom left of the mural, a young Indian girl sits at a desk with an outdated laptop connected to the internet by "dial-up" technology. She happily chats with a peer across the globe about technological issues facing teens today. To her right, we see a mound of obsolete computer hardware. Directly across from her sits the person on the other side of the conversation. A young American boy uses up-to-date desktop and laptop computers, illustrating the contrast in technological access between the two.

At the center of the mural, a steel bridge connects the two teenagers' locations, and the gap between them. The gap separates the "developing" and the "developed" communities of the world; communities oceans away or literally just one bridge apart; and between students in the same classroom.

On the ceiling hovers a single satellite, a vital tool for the transmission of knowledge. It sends signals to the communities of both the Indian girl and the American boy, implying equality in all aspects of technology and enabling a truly global society. The satellite represents the power to join communities together, juxtaposed against the power to divide and exclude. The mural fundamentally represents youth leadership and self-empowerment achieving the vision of technological equity.

Mural Meaning  
written by Teen Mural Assistants 2010



*Welcome to the room where the children of MMAP  
Engage in international video chats;  
The teen across the world shows the little she has  
And reveals the devastation of the digital gap.  
The lack of technology can kill and destroy,  
Leaving kids without hope, stealing the joy.  
But the bridge we construct is filling the void,  
And we'll keep on trucking until it's adjoined.*

Mural Verse  
written by Teen Lyricists 2010

# Follow Our Lead: Blueprint for Success

This mural exemplifies the importance of leadership for economic empowerment. A Forbes magazine cover illustrates two MMAP youth, recognized as accomplished CEOs. This depiction presents the potential of each MMAP youth to achieve leadership in business and commerce.

The map outlines of East Palo Alto and surrounding communities inspire their residents to invest more in their own communities and local businesses. Following footsteps in the mural, the viewer is led to a road on the frame of a Monopoly board. The first houses on the road appear as small Monopoly pieces; however, as the viewer's eyes travel further up the road, the products of local community investment are revealed in the shape of local home businesses.

The ship at the end of the Monopoly board, named the "Leader Ship," is embarking across the ocean towards a globe. This image serves as a metaphor, signifying that with effective leadership, MMAP youth can set their examples and take a successful community business model to other communities across the globe.

Mural Meaning  
written by Teen Mural Assistants 2010



*Got some change in my pocket, here's my two cents:  
We build a road to success, here's the blueprint,  
The block got a mom and pop shop movement;  
The local news said that everybody's doing it.  
And Forbes magazine never had a teen,  
On the cover but discovered that we had the green  
Young CEOs believe it though we had a team.  
Maybe we born with it, maybe it's Maybelline...  
Maybe its cause we know the science of economy,  
The whole town started buying more property;  
We're in the sun not the shade of the poverty,  
Cause now we win at every game of monopoly;  
And we don't stop we just hop on the yacht called "Leadership,"  
Sail round the blocks where we're needing it,  
Until the day the whole globe can feed from it,  
If you see it in the mural, you believe in it.*

Mural Verse  
written by Teen Lyricists 2010

Educating, Inspiring,  
and Empowering Youth  
through the Arts

# Mural Music & Arts Project

## Thank You

### Mural Assistants

Adrian Johnson  
Alex Johnson  
Ashon Hunter  
Brandon Wilkerson  
Christian Salinas  
David McKneely  
Geoffrey Simpson  
Idris Rasheed  
Imelda Rodriguez  
Imoa Tali  
Isaiah Phillips  
Jervon Holland  
Kimberly Fanuatanu  
Kyle Carter  
Leslie Gray  
Monica Magallon  
Monique Tillman  
Ramon Godinez  
Rosa Hernandez  
Ruby Torres  
Tony Salinas  
Troy Davis  
Tywaun Livingston  
Viridiana Magallon  
Zack Lewis  
Zaid Vargas

### Lead Artists

Kelleen Sullivan  
Sarah Woodward  
Rachel McIntire  
Laura Nagle

### Contributing Artists

Sophie Aubrey  
Alana Birmingham  
Jessica Zablah  
Sean Nolan  
Cameron Henry  
Danielle Sabalvaro  
Devin Ruiz  
Legion  
Diana Marquez de la Torre  
Stephanie Wright  
Oladele Sobomehin  
Marilyn Spiegel

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Olatunde Sobomehin  
Patrick Davenport  
Tamara Sobomehin  
Enrique Allen  
Magdalena Gross

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Jeffrey Camarillo  
Remi Sobo  
Jidenna Mobisson  
Maribel Santiago  
Lauren Camarillo

### TMP Interns

Laura Nunez  
Jessica Salinas  
Victoria Asbury  
Jesus Mora

### Unveiling Collaborators

Woodland Park Apartments  
Jerry Polo  
Terecita Alaniz  
Albert Mendoza  
Rick Babich  
Rey Suansing

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Prof. Albert Camarillo  
Stephen DeBerry  
Prof. Pratheepan Gulasekaram  
Matthew Haney  
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Graffiti Arts Program



Public Art Consulting



Teen Mural Program



History through Hip-Hop



Health Education through Art



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