

# **INDEX**

**For**

## **SFAC DESIGN REVIEW OF LANSING TILE STAIRWAY**

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## **1.0 SFAC Information Form**

# Mural Design Information Form

LEAD ARTIST

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

EMAIL

PHONE

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PROJECT  
COORDINATOR

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

EMAIL

PHONE

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SPONSORING  
ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

EMAIL

PHONE

FUNDING SOURCES

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PROPOSED SITE

(address, cross  
street )

DISTRICT

District numbers can be found at <http://sfgov.org/elections/district-citywide-maps>

MURAL TITLE

DIMENSIONS

ESTIMATED  
SCHEDULE (start and  
completion dates)

1. Proposal (describe proposed design, site and theme. Attach a separate document if needed).

2. Materials and processes to be used for wall preparation, mural creation and anti-graffiti treatment.

3. List individuals and groups involved in the mural design, preparation and implementation.

**Attach the following documents to this form:**

1. Lead artist's resume/qualifications and examples of previous work
2. Three (3) letters of community support
3. Letter or resolution approving proposal from city department **or**;
4. Letter of approval from private property owner along with Property Owner Authorization Form
5. Signed Artist Waiver of Property Rights for artwork placed upon city property **or**;
6. Signed Artist Waiver of Proprietary Rights financed in whole or in part by city funds for artwork placed upon private property
7. Maintenance Plan (including parties responsible for maintenance)
8. Color image of design
9. One image of the proposed site and indicate mural dimensions

**\* Please note: all the documents above must be combined into one pdf packet that is under 20mb.**

## Design Proposal

The artist, Wilma Wyss, created two concepts as follows: 'Nature as Transformation,' unveils a vision where the dog leg hosts ladybugs atop grass stems, emblematic of good fortune, resilience, and healing. Teal hues backdrop the design, chosen for both its aesthetic appeal and its representation of revitalization and clarity of thought. The lower run showcases a coffee plant sprouting from an acorn, symbolizing renewal or rebirth and highlighting the neighborhood's rich coffee history. Ascending to the upper run, a captivating night sky adorned with flowers takes form, symbolizing the moon and stars. Notably, a dahlia represents the full moon, San Francisco's official flower, while stars are depicted as poppies. From a distance, this section appears as a celestial night sky, yet upon closer inspection, the flowers come into view, offering a dynamic visual journey. Wilma Wyss and The East Cut CBD have decided on the nature concept because of its attractive colors, connection to the neighborhood, and visibility from the street and freeway exit.

Meanwhile, the 'East Cut Eras' concept, delving into the historical narrative of the site, will be utilized for three diamond shaped medallions that will be placed on the Essex Wall. Each medallion represents a different century in the area now known as the East Cut. For the 1800s, the medallion features a historic ship, the Candace, sailing into San Francisco Bay. The shoreline is not yet filled in, with mud flats and native shoreline plants in the foreground. In the 1850s, the hull of the Candace was one of many abandoned ships used to fill in the San Francisco shoreline. The Candace was rediscovered during the construction of a new high-rise in the East Cut.

The 1900s medallion is inspired by WPA posters from the 1930s. It features a blacksmith, representing one of the oldest businesses in the East Cut. The blacksmith shop, which opened in the 1860s and closed in the 2010s, symbolizes the industrial period of the neighborhood.

For the current century, the medallion showcases the East Cut skyline paired with a soaring peregrine falcon. The skyline represents the significant growth and change of the neighborhood in recent decades, while the peregrine falcon signifies resilience, having recovered from near extinction, and reflects the presence of nesting pairs in the area. This imagery reflects how nature and mankind are interconnected.

## **2.0 Lead Artist's Qualifications and Examples of Previous Work**

## Biography of Wilma Wyss

[Link to Wilma Wyss Portfolio](#)

Wilma was born in Washington, D.C. to Swiss parents. When she was 10 to 13 years old, she lived with her family in West Africa. As a young adult, she studied illustration at the Rhode Island School of Design and received a BFA in graphic design from California College of the Arts.

After working as a freelance print designer for two decades, Wilma began creating abstract sculptures in concrete and mosaic in 2007. She developed her methods through a combination of self-teaching, experimentation, and classes. Wilma's work has been shown in over 50 [shows](#) nationally, and won several [awards](#). She enjoys having visitors to her open studio events which happen once or twice a year. Wilma has taught mosaic art at Esalen Institute in Big Sur, CA, Studio 9 in Oakland, and for groups retreats.

Site-specific mosaic artwork has been commissioned by Kaiser Hospital in Oakland, CA, Esalen Institute, in Big Sur, CA, and The Center for ArtEsteem in Oakland. She has created and installed mosaics in bathrooms, kitchens and gardens in private residences. Wilma has designed, fabricated and installed numerous outdoor mosaics in public parks in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Wilma is a professional level member of the [Society of American Mosaic Artists](#) (SAMA), and a member of Contemporary Mosaic Artists (CMA2)

### **Awards / Residencies / Publications**

2022

Best Local Artist, [Daily Californian](#), Best of Berkeley annual list

2017

Third Place Prize,

"23rd Annual Sculpture in the Garden," Bancroft Garden, Walnut Creek, CA

2016

5-week residency at Grin City Collective, Grinnell, IA to create public art commission for Grinnell Arts Council

2015

6-week residency at Grin City Collective, Grinnell, IA

2015

Second Place Prize,

"21st Annual Sculpture in the Garden," Bancroft Garden, Walnut Creek, CA

2015

Best in Show Prize, "Shape and Edges," Marin Society of Artist, Ross, CA

Juror: Charlie Barboni, Exhibits Director Marin County Fair

2013

Juror's Third Place Prize,

"2-D 3-D Works," San Joaquin Delta College Gallery, Stockton, CA

Juror: Rene de Guzman, Senior Curator, Oakland Museum of California

2013

Honorable Mention, "Glass and Metal," Poudre River Gallery, Ft Collins, CO

Juror: Megan Tilley

2012

Juror's First Place Prize, "Transformations, National Show"

Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts, Fredericksburg, VA

Juror: Rob McAdams

2010

Jurors' Choice Award, "Elements: Multiple Parts/Singular Art,"

Walters Cultural Arts Center, Hillsboro, OR

Juror: Lynn Adamo, mosaic artist and educator

## PUBLICATIONS

*Bringing Nature to City Playgrounds*, Lynn Jones talks to Wilma Wyss about how she expresses her artistic vision through large scale outdoor mosaics. [Mosaic and Glass Magazine](#) (print and online), May 2022 issue

[Artist Brings Mill Valley Sausalito Multi-Use Path to Life](#), Marin Independent Journal (print and online), June 21, 2019

[Video](#) produced by Esalen Institute of the 5-day mosaic workshop I taught in January 2019

[Video](#) for Ruth Bancroft Garden featuring *Ottoman With Pillow*, June 2017

[East Bay Open Studios: Visit Artists Where They Work](#), San Francisco Chronicle, June 4, 2014

[Mosaics by Wilma Wyss, interview by Cindy Marks](#), Artizen Magazine, Nov. 2012 Issue, pgs 56-

63



Mosaic Art Today, 2012 Schiffer Press, My work is featured on the cover and six pages.

*Mosaic Marvels at Olive Hyde*, Tri-City Voice, August 26, 2011 (article about solo show)

*Mosaic Sculptures at Olive Hyde*, Fremont Bulletin, August 12, 2011 (article about solo show)

**Local Shorebirds**  
**Mosaic on curved tree curb**  
**at Sargent John Macaulay Park**

San Francisco, 2022-2023

Designed, fabricated and installed 40 square foot mosaic on a curved tree curb.  
Mosaic depicts local shorebirds that relating to the playground's nautical theme.  
Vivid colors connect with nearby murals and climbing structure.

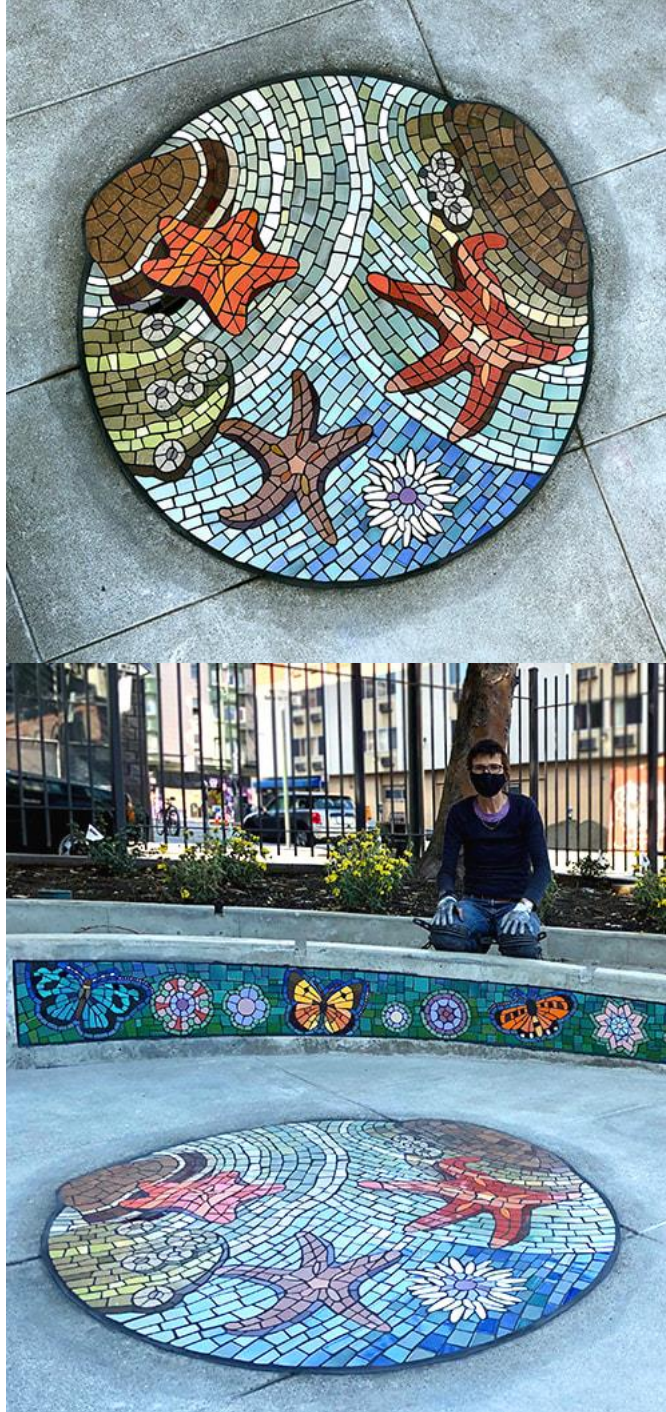


**Medallion at Sargent John Macaulay Park**

San Francisco, CA, 2019-2020

Designed, fabricated and installed a floor medallion mosaic 4 feet in diameter.

Mosaic depicts a Northern California tide pool with sea stars, barnacles, and sea anemones on a rocky shoreline.



## Seatwall at Turk Hyde Park

San Francisco, 2020

Designed, fabricated and installed 68 square foot mosaic on the top and inner side of a curving concrete bench.

Mosaic depicts Bay Area butterflies and the plants they pollinate.  
About 100 different colors of high fire tile were used in this project.

Commissioned by Veritas Investments



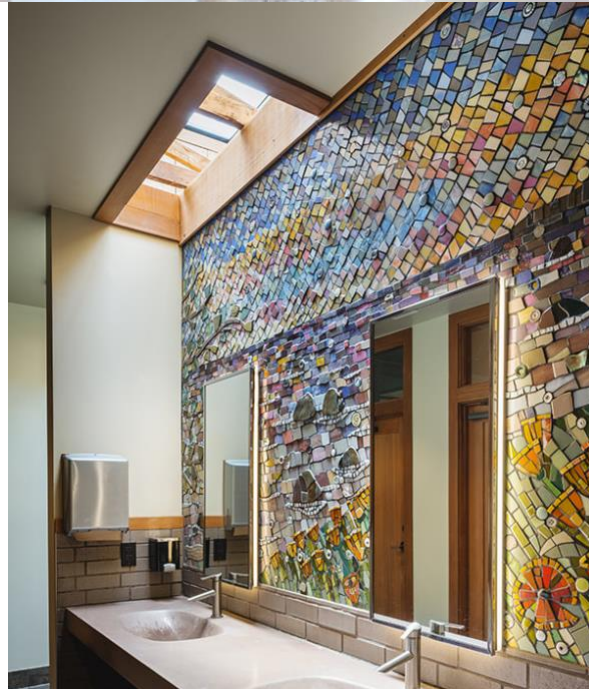
## Mosaic Mural at Esalen Institute

Big Sur, CA, 2016

65 square-foot permanent mosaic mural for [Esalen](#)'s historic lodge.

I designed a mosaic inspired by the magnificent Big Sur coastline.

The large mural incorporates stained glass and ceramic tile with unique found material. It was created in a weeklong workshop setting and then permanently installed on a wall.



### **3.0 Letters of Community of Support**



**Jennifer Cooper, Landscape Architecture Bureau Manager** | Building Design & Construction  
jennifer.cooper@sfdpw.org | T. 628.271.2796 | 49 South Van Ness Ave. Suite 1000, San Francisco, CA 94103

November 30, 2022

Lanita Henriquez, Director  
Community Challenge Grant Program  
Division of the City Administrator's Office City Hall, Room 362  
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mrs. Henriquez,

I am the Landscape Architecture Bureau Manager at San Francisco Public Works. I am writing to voice our support for the Essex Hillside Steps Tile Mosaic project. The East Cut Community Benefit District's proposed project location is a flight of stairs owned by the City, which is Public Works managed right of way.

I sit on The East Cut CBD's Neighborhood Parks and Greenspace Committee, which oversees these projects, and I have discussed The East Cut CBD's plans to enhance the Essex Hillside stairs. We are pleased with their vision for this public space and trust their ability to execute and maintain this public realm improvement. We will continue to partner with them to ensure the proper execution. The tile steps in addition to the other mural and lighting projects planned on Folsom and Essex Streets will greatly improve this part of The East Cut and we applaud the CBD for taking a holistic view of creating a safe and inviting public realm.

On behalf of San Francisco Public Works, I fully endorse this application to the City's Community Challenge Grant program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Cooper".

Jennifer Cooper, RLA

Landscape Architecture Bureau Manager  
San Francisco Public Works  
jennifer.cooper@sfdpw.org



November 28, 2022

Lanita Henriquez, Director  
Community Challenge Grant Program  
Division of the City Administrator's Office City Hall, Room 362  
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mrs. Henriquez,

I am writing to support The East Cut CBD's Folsom Stroll projects and encourage the Community Challenge Grant reviewing panel to consider these projects for funding.

I have lived on Lansing Street for over twenty years and have seen the incredible growth of our neighborhood from parking lots to high-rises. As the lead volunteer at the Rincon Hill Dog Park, I appreciate how much open spaces bring our community together. I am interested in seeing more open space improvements to support the growth of this neighborhood.

Folsom and Essex have a lot of opportunities, and The East Cut CBD is well-positioned to deliver vibrant artistic projects to beautify the places around our homes.

I appreciate your consideration.

With great respect,

Shelley Costantini  
Rincon Hill Dog Park Volunteers President



November 28, 2022

Lanita Henriquez, Director  
Community Challenge Grant Program  
Division of the City Administrator's Office City Hall, Room 362  
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mrs. Henriquez:

I am writing on behalf of HomeRise, representing the Rene Cazenave Apartments at 25 Essex St., to voice our support for the improvement and beautification projects proposed by The East Cut Community Benefit District.

The East Cut CBD is working on projects that will provide valuable cultural assets to the neighborhood and advance the quality of life for the residents of our community. Residents of Rene Cazenave Apartments are formerly unhoused and we are proud to provide services that support their prosperity. We believe that the condition of our streets plays an essential role in making folks feel more at home and that artistic projects create unique opportunities for neighbors to feel closer together.

On behalf of HomeRise, I fully endorse this application to the City's Community Challenge Grant program and encourage your positive review.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerald Turner".

Gerald Turner  
Chief Strategy & Operating Officer  
[gturner@homerisesf.org](mailto:gturner@homerisesf.org)

**4.0 Letter of Approval from City Department**



**Operations** | Community Engagement Division  
T. 415.641.2600 | 2323 Cesar Chavez St. San Francisco, CA 94124

June 20, 2024

San Francisco Arts Commission  
401 Van Ness Avenue, Ste. 325  
San Francisco, CA 94102

San Francisco Arts Commission:

I am writing to express support for the proposed tiled staircase project at the Lansing Street Stairway, connecting the upper intersection of Lansing Street and Guy Place with the lower level of Essex Street.

While we have not seen a final design for the proposed art, Public Works is supportive of the idea of public art on City-owned property as art contributes to the cultural currency of our neighborhoods around the city.

The department pledges to support this project on the portions of the stairs for which they have jurisdiction, providing guidance through permitting processes and helping ensure long-term care and stewardship.

Public Works is always passionate about supporting community development projects and beautifying San Francisco's neighborhoods and green spaces. We look forward to this tiled stairway idea becoming a reality for all to enjoy in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ramses Alvarez".

Ramses Alvarez

Manager, Community Engagement

attachments  
lrh

Lansing Street Stairway (drawn red line connecting Essex St. to Lansing St. and Guy Pl.)

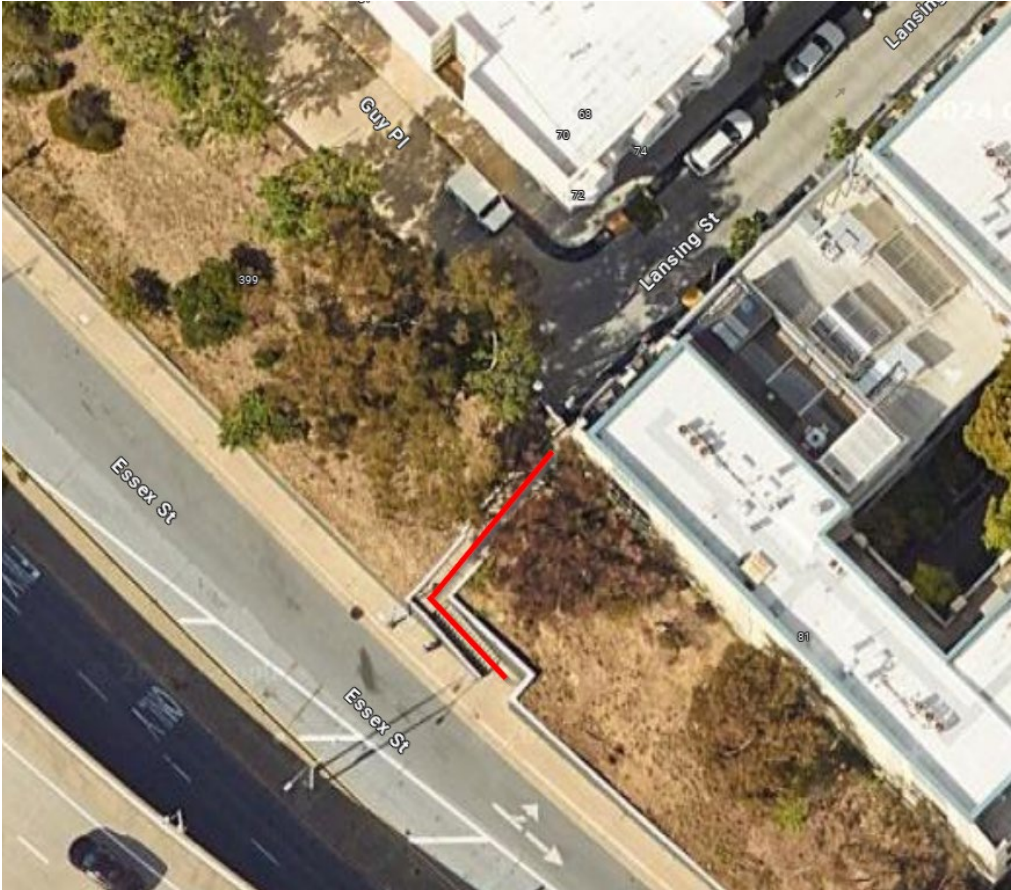


Image of Lansing St. Stairway from Essex St.



## **5.0 Maintenance Plan**



# THE EAST CUT

## The East Cut Lansing Tile Stairway

Project Documents – 5 and 10-Year Maintenance Plan

The East Cut CBD (The East Cut) commits to performing or contracting recurring audits and maintenance work to ensure the Lansing Tile Stairway is clean and that the artistic work is true to its original intent. The East Cut provides services to the neighborhood 24 hours a day, seven days a week – cleaning nine miles of sidewalks, providing a nightly community security program, funding the programming and maintenance of Salesforce Park, and building community through regular neighborhood-based activations.

These existing services will be applied to the Lansing Tile Stairway once it is completed.

It is anticipated that The East Cut Services Team will visit the Lansing Tile Stairway at least once a day and will provide as-needed cleaning to keep up general maintenance. It will also be on call for any issues that arise at any time.

The East Cut will enter into an agreement with the artist and San Francisco Public Works to ensure (i) that the artist will be able to produce any material, design, tile, etc. to repair the mosaic and (ii) that The East Cut continues to fund and coordinate all repairs through 10 years.

528 Folsom Street  
San Francisco  
CA 94105

415 543 8223  
info@theeastcut.org  
theeastcut.org

## **6.0 Dimensions, Color Images of Design, and Renderings**

## Dimensions, Color Images of Design, and Rendering Images

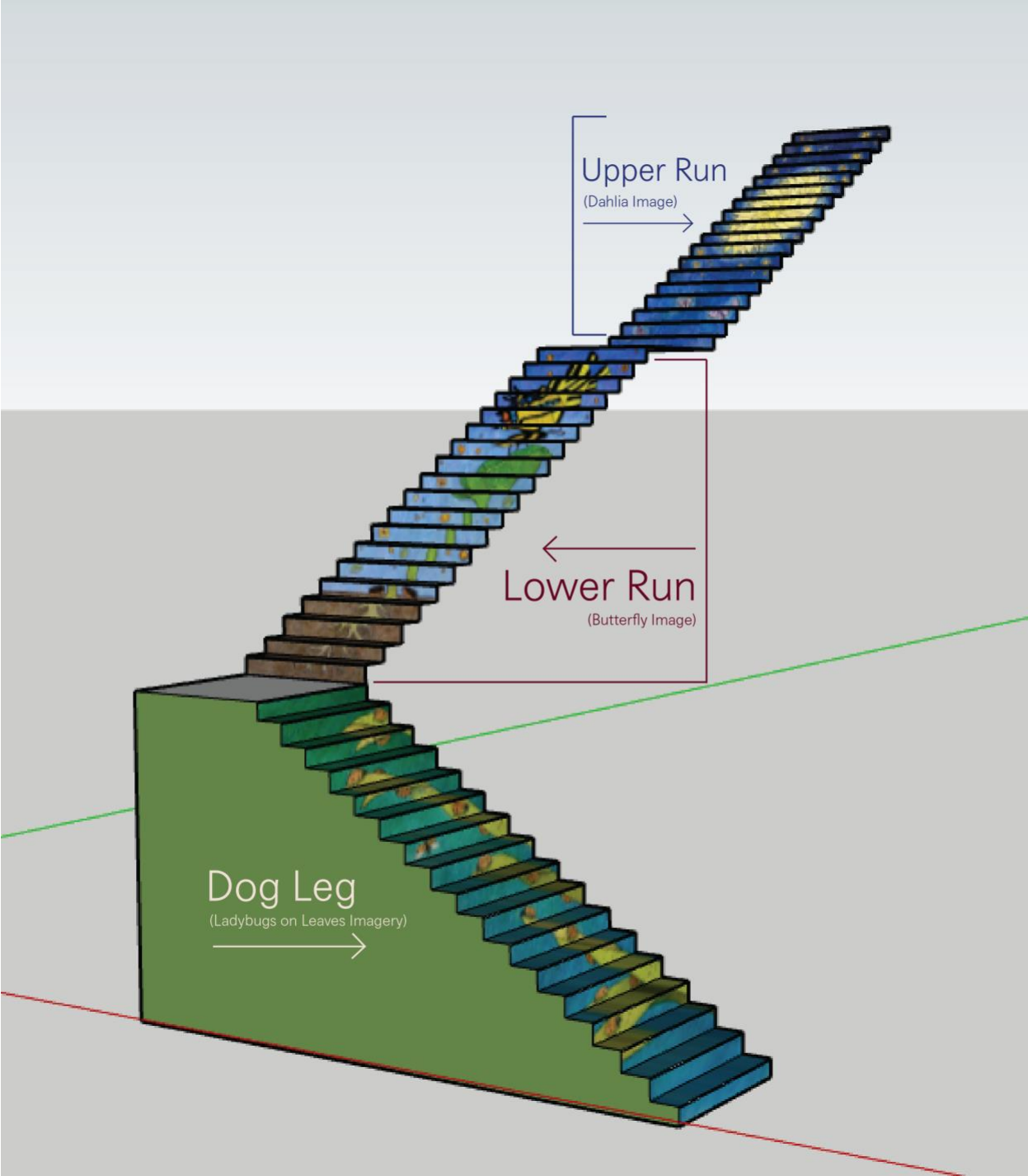
### Dimensions

(54) stair risers, approximately 5'-0" wide and 7" tall, for a total of 158 SF. (3) medallions will be 16 SF each, for a total of 48 sf.

### Image of Location with Rendering

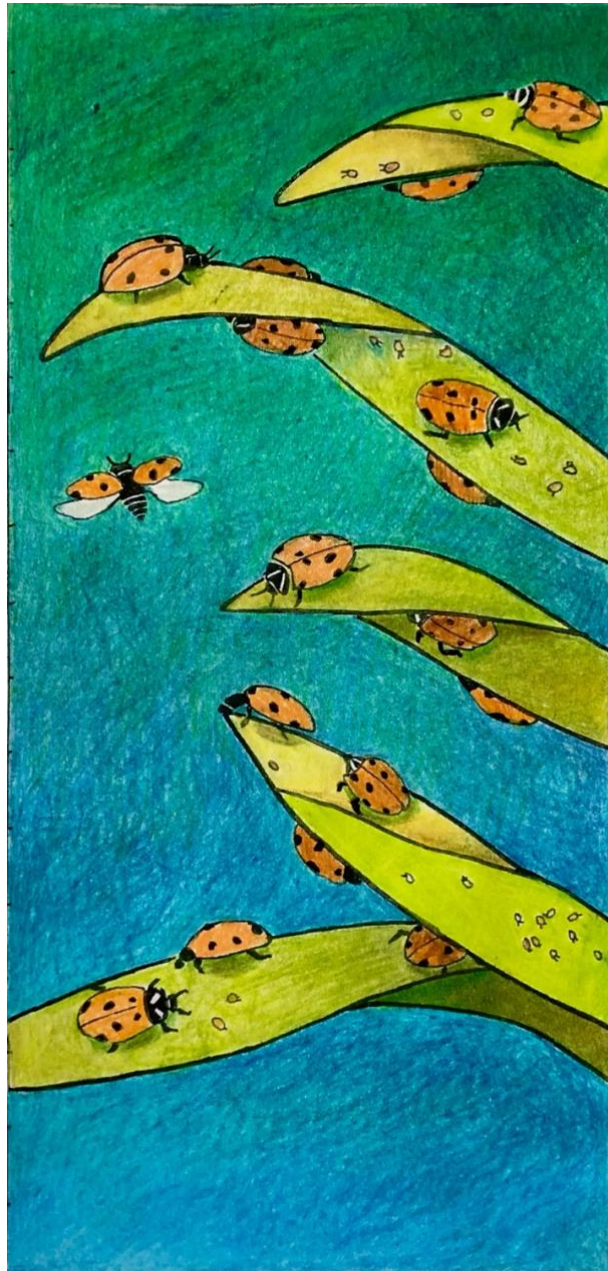


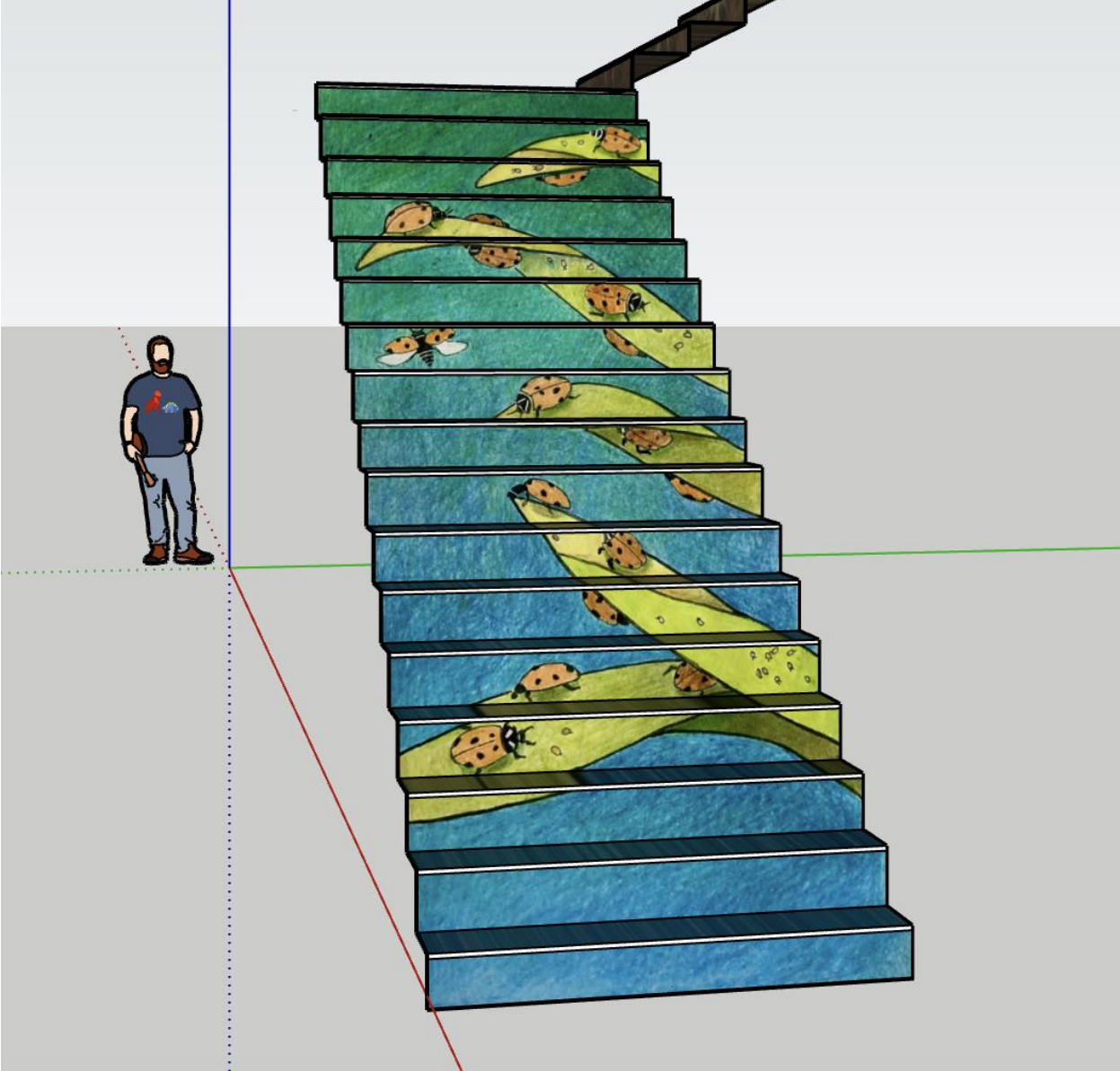




**Color Image of Designs with Rendering Images for Stair Risers**

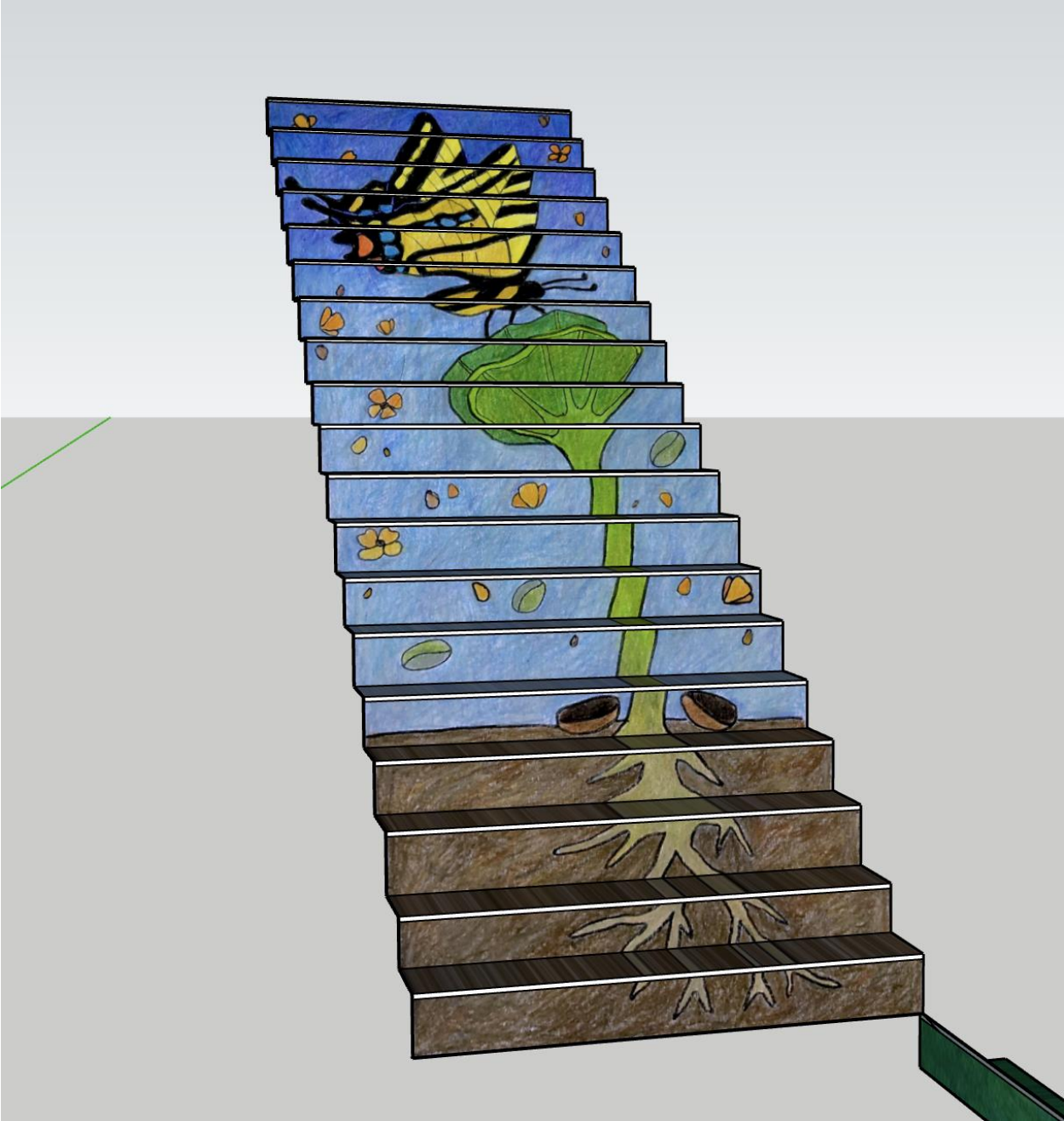
Dog Leg





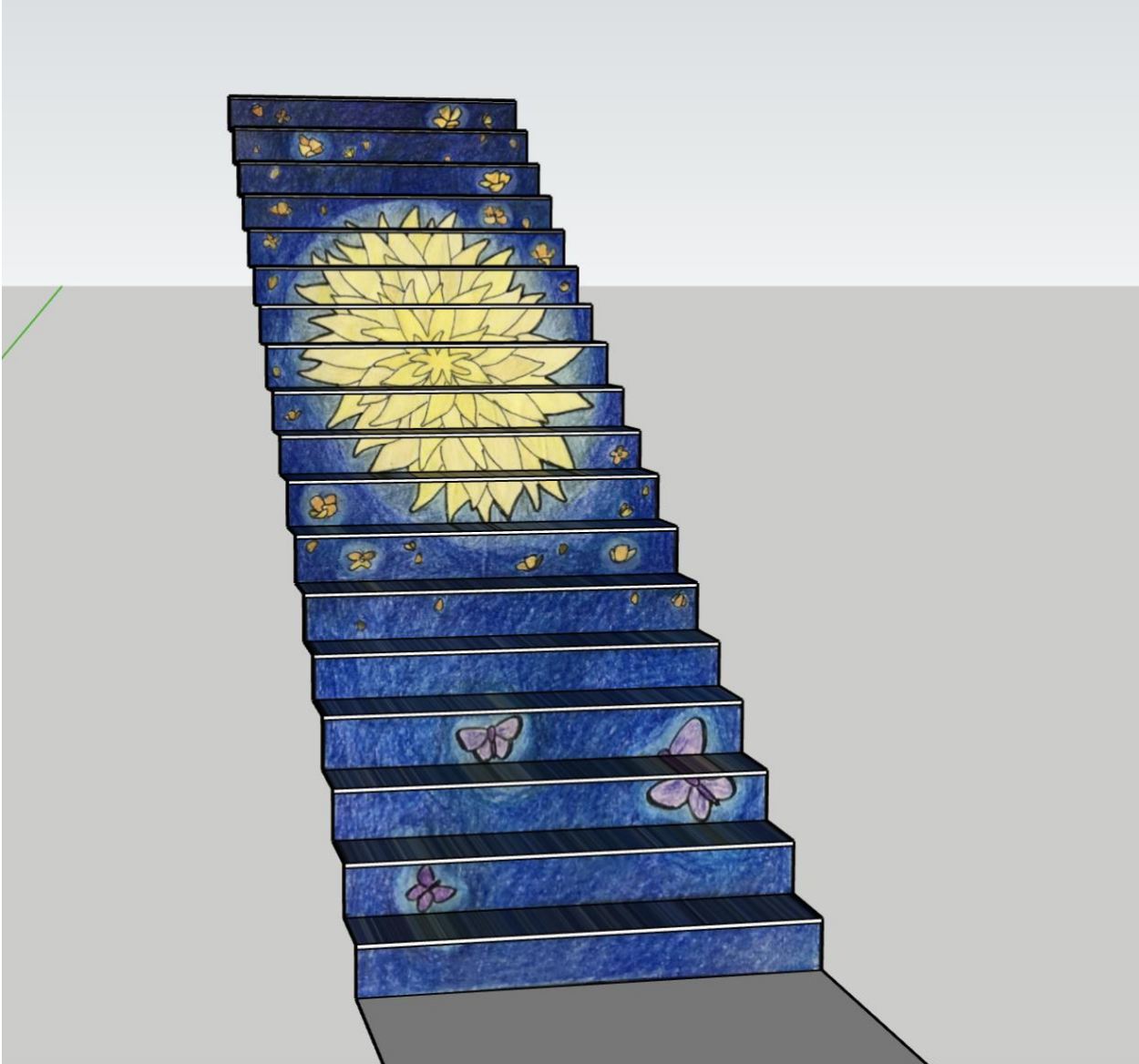
Lower Run





Upper Run





Medallion Designs









### Medallions Mockup on Essex Wall

