

San Rafael Leadership Institute Class Project 2024 Utility Boxes “Art With a Purpose”

Utility Box Painting Program returns to San Rafael!

What: The San Rafael Leadership Institute Class of 2024 “Art with a Purpose” project promotes creating a healthy, sustainable, inclusive, and resilient community.

Why: Install art on existing infrastructure, aiming to inspire residents, job seekers, and employers by promoting chamber values such as sustainability, inclusivity, and equitable opportunities. Specifically, we plan to feature a creative interpretation of these values through Utility boxes designed by local artists. This is a project of the San Rafael Leadership Institute, a program of the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce.

Artists submitted their ideas for additional Utility Box painting to occur during May 2024. This project will focusing on the pillars of:

Community Resources
Disaster Preparedness
Diversity
Equity
Inclusion
Economic Vitality
Sustainability
Equity
Workforce Development

We are seeking to engage the local Artistic Community in capturing the essence of one of these topics per box. Each box will have a QR code incorporated into the design linking agencies that pertain to the topic.

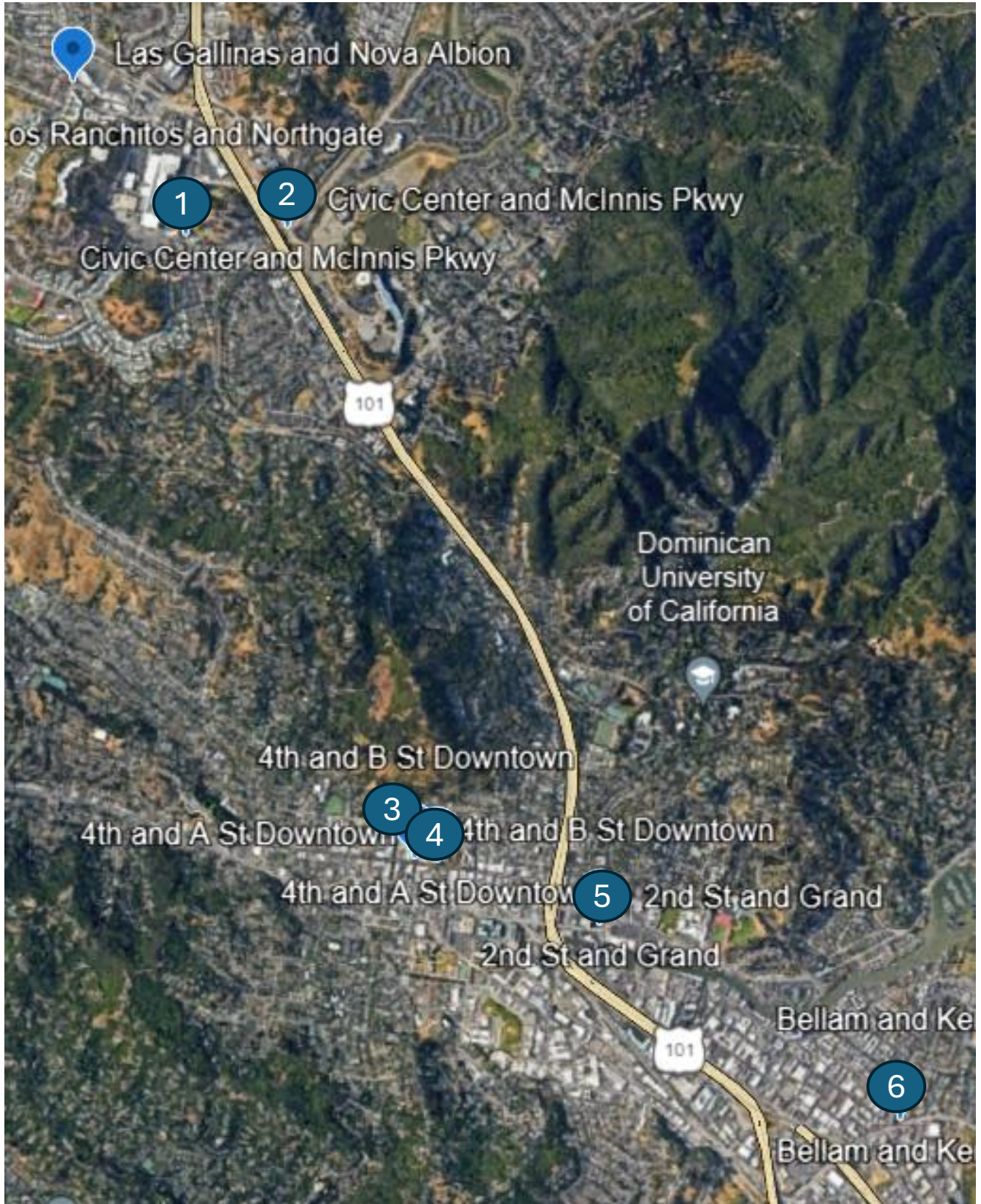
Site Locations: There will be 6 utility boxes throughout the City of San Rafael that will be selected for this project. The locations can be seen [HERE](#).

Art With A Purpose Project

San Rafael Leadership Institute - Class of 2024

Sponsor	Artist	Box Location	PILLAR/THEME	POTENTIAL QR CODE LANDING LOCATION
NO SPONSOR	Travis	#1 Northgate	Community Resources	https://srpubliclibrary.org/community-resources/
City of San Rafael	Devlin	#2 Civic Center	Disaster Preparedness	https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/emergency-management/
Water Components	Yuan Chen	#3 Downtown 4th & B	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion	https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/racial-and-social-equity/
San Rafael Downtown BID	Eyan	#4 Downtown 4th & A	Economic Vitality	https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/departments/economic-development/
Marin Sanitary	Oscar	#5 Grand	Sustainability	https://marinsanitaryservice.com/residential/residential-recycling/
Marin Community Foundation	YIA & Keena	#6 Bellum	Equity, Workforce Development	https://www.marincf.org/

SRLI Utility Box Locations:



Travis Neditch

Box #1 @ Northgate

THEME: COMMUNITY RESOURCES

QR CODE LINK TO:

<https://srpubliclibrary.org/community-resources/>



My piece is entitled "The Tower".... The Piece would wrap the box and appear as a continuous line of people ascending their way to the top of a tower.... Many of the themes in which the city of San Rafael suggested appear in narrative form within the illustrated piece. Health and wellness/Immigration/Employment/Diversity/Family Relations/Transportation... In addition I added my own themes which explore different facets of human nature from greed and self absorbed behavior to empathy and Heroism. My piece ultimately represents the importance of working together in society. My main inspirations for my box was the story of the Tower of Babel and the story of Sisyphus forever pushing the boulder up the hill.

As I said this is still a very rough draft and the colors do not represent my final vision (they are a visual place holder while begin my digital rendering.

Devlin Espeleta

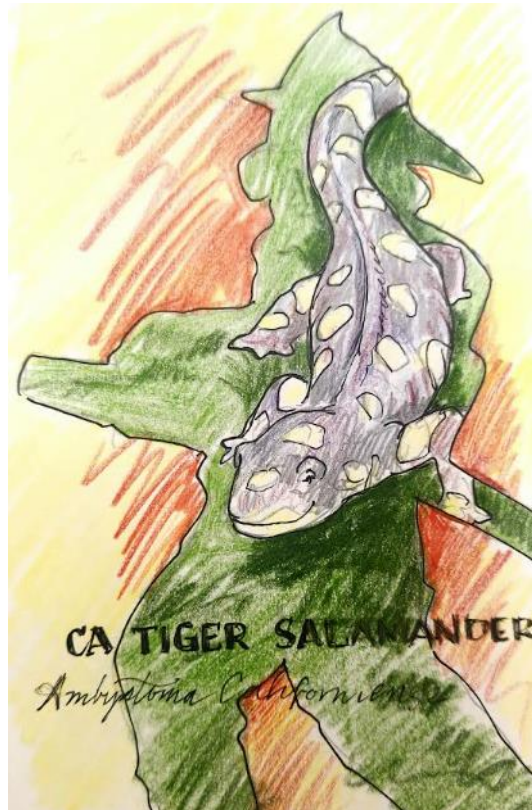
Box #2 Civic Center

THEME: DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Box Sponsored by SRFD

QR CODE LINKING TO:

<https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/emergency-management/>



Fireman silhouettes with bay area endangered species inside. Spotted owl, SF garter, CA red-legged frog, tiger salamander, etc

Eyan Higgins Jones

Box #3 @ 4th & B Street

THEME: ECONOMIC VITALITY

Box Sponsored by San Rafael Business Improvement District

QR CODE LINK TO:

<https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/departments/economic-development/>

OR

<https://downtownsanrafael.org/>



MAY THE 4TH ST. BE WITH YOU – with Mt. Tam in the background

I aim to make fun, approachable, Diverse and professional artistic work for San Rafael. The ideas I submit will always have a story and will join at least two pillars. I believe color and great images on walls can bring about a brighter more positive feeling to the streets of a city. I would really like to produce more mural work for the city of San Rafael as I believe it's power is important for all to see and enjoy.

Yuan Chen

Box #4 @ 4th & A Street

THEME: DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION

Box Sponsored by Water Solutions

QR CODE LINK TO:

<https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/racial-and-social-equity/>



In our diverse community, embracing and celebrating our differences is paramount. My proposed mural, titled "One of Us" or "All Connected," aims to promote the values of diversity and inclusion through art. This mural will depict individuals from various backgrounds, cultures, and identities coming together in harmony, showcasing the beauty of our differences. Through vibrant colors and powerful imagery, the mural will symbolize unity and interconnectedness, emphasizing that despite our unique experiences, we are all part of the same human family. By prominently displaying this mural in a central location, we hope to inspire conversations and foster a greater sense of understanding and acceptance among community members. Let us come together to celebrate diversity and promote inclusivity, ensuring that everyone feels valued and represented in our shared space.

Oscar Morales

Box #5 @ Bellum

THEME: SUSTAINABILITY
Box Sponsored by Marin Sanitary
QR CODE LINKING TO:

<https://marinsanitaryservice.com/residential/residential-recycling/>



FOCUSING ON SUSTAINABILITY AND
RECYCLABILITY!

Food is not garbage, be a part of the
change, you're part of the solution,
earth

Youth in Arts Students with Lead Artist Keena Romano

Box #6 @ Bellum

THEME: EQUITY & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Box Sponsored by Marin Community Foundation

QR CODE LINK TO:

<https://www.marincf.org/>



This design incorporates elements from two Youth in Arts murals that were recently completed - "Universe of Imagination" at Bahia Vista and "Falcons in Bloom" at Venetia Valley K-8 School. These murals were created as part of Youth in Arts I AM (Intensive Arts Mentorship Program) in the summer of 2023. Youth in Arts recruited 20 emerging youth artists, aged 16 - 20, from Marin County's most racially marginalized and underserved neighborhoods to work with professional BIPOC artists, and Mentor Muralists, Fred Alvarado and Keena Azania Romano. The I AM emerging artists interviewed students from Bahia Vista and Venetia Valley's summer programs to ascertain what they would like to see represented at their schools, then based on that feedback, conceptualized and installed the murals. Youth in Arts' I AM program aims to center and amplify youth voice. We offer the emerging artists stipends for their time, providing early onramps to job training as well as furthering their arts education opportunities.