1. Project Description, Objectives, and Goals

A West Avenue Mural initiative will transform two repeatedly tagged fences near Sheppard Elementary and a city bus stop into uplifting murals designed and painted with community involvement. These fences are regularly vandalized with gang graffiti, creating a negative space for children and neighbors. The project's goal is to replace this visual with vibrant, meaningful art that fosters pride, discourages tagging, and celebrates the neighborhood's identity. Led by Roseland-raised artist Daniel Sandoval aka Youngblood, the murals will be co-created with local art students and the two homeowners, both of whom have eagerly agreed to participate and have been waiting for a moment like this.

This project will directly affect more than 500 people daily, including students, residents, and bus riders, and reach over 1,000 in the broader community. Homeowner approvals are secured, and the approval of this grant will help get the process started. Mural planning and prep will begin in 2025, and a public unveiling in August or September.

2. Community Support and Collaboration

This project is backed by strong community support. Daniel Sandoval, a former Roseland student and local artist, will lead the project alongside other volunteers. No nonprofits, just a community based project. The homeowners are actively involved in the design process. The collaborative nature of this effort ensures that the murals reflect the neighborhood's uniqueness.

3. Outreach Plan and Accessibility

Once completed, the local press will be contacted and QR codes will link to stories about the artwork and its creators. Located on a busy street and near a school and bus stop, the murals will be freely accessible to all.

4. Maintenance Plan

The murals will be coated with anti-graffiti sealant to reduce damage and simplify cleaning. If any graffiti occurs, Daniel and participating students will help restore the artwork. The fence owners will monitor the condition of the murals and alert the team if touch-ups are needed.

5. Safety During Implementation

Volunteer safety will be prioritized with the use of gloves and respiratory masks. It will supervise all activities, and any necessary COVID-19 protocols will be followed.

6. Budget and Funding

The project requests \$2,100 in grant funding: \$1,600 for exterior paint, primer, and sealant, \$400 for tools and safety gear, and \$100 for food and refreshments for volunteers. Since it is a

total of three wide by length and width fences, along with a smaller wood fence surrounding one home, it requires much paint use and different types of brushes. Varies of different colors will be used during this project. These estimates are based on past projects and local supplier quotes. Daniel is donating his time and talent to help students, including his own avoid seeing gang taggings and replacing it with art for community members to share and admire as they are walking to school, Bayer Park, or the bus stop.

7. Environmental Considerations

This project uses low-VOC, non-toxic paints and eco-friendly sealants, ensuring safety and environmental responsibility. By revitalizing existing structures, the project avoids material waste. All work will be done manually without gas-powered equipment. Volunteer artists will also learn about sustainability through responsible material use and ongoing mural care.







