



African American Firefighters Museum Art Project

Concept:

Our goal is to create public art that honors the 100 year history of the African American Firefighter in Los Angeles, installed at the African American Firefighters Museum located on historical Central Avenue corridor. The public art project includes a 30"h x 22"w x 20"d bronze bust of Arnett L. Hartsfield, a local black firefighter, on the forefront of integrating Los Angeles fire stations in the 1950's. The bronze installation will be created by Artis Lane, renowned sculptor, known for her ability to capture the essence of historical figures in her work. Additionally, two murals will be created for the eastern and southern exterior wall(s) of the African American Museum. The two murals will highlight the history of the black firefighter from 1892 to 1992.

1st Mural - Entitled "Circa 1912" on the eastern exterior wall on Central Avenue will depict two full uniformed black firefighters from the turn of the 20th Century in Los Angeles. "Circa 1912" can be viewed from the heavily traveled Central Avenue between 15th Street to the south and 14th Street to the north. The 11' x 15' "Circa 1912" mural will be installed on a 16' x 20' section of the southern corner of the east wall. The public has accessibility to the highly visible "Circa 1912" mural.

2nd Mural - Entitled "Los Angeles Stories" will be located on the southern exterior wall, adjacent the courtyard. "Los Angeles Stories" will depict poignant times in the history of Los Angeles and how the distinct history of the Black Fireman from 1892 to 1992 are intertwined. "Los Angeles Stories" will be on the foreground of a grid highlighting city streets of Los Angeles which have a direct correlation of the black firefighter throughout the city. The street grid will span 25' x 60' of the existing 28'x6"x 82'x0" south wall. "Los Angeles Stories" mural will span 16' x 46' within the 25'x60' grid. Sam Haskins, the first African American hired by the City of Los Angeles in 1892 will be one of the elements featured on the mural. The public has accessibility to view the "Los Angeles Stories" mural.

The physical condition of exterior stucco walls are good with no visible cracks or leaks showing on the surface. Museum exterior walls/trim/pocket doors will be painted.

Materials:

Both acrylic murals will be painted using mineral spirits, which is best suited to combat the direct sunlight conditions of the museum. Additionally, the murals will be painted on weather resistant poly mesh applied using Nova Gel adhesive. Varnish will then be applied followed by a final anti-graffiti coating.

Artists:

Artis Lane (Bronze Bust)

Michael Massenburg ("Circa 1912")

Teresa Tolliver ("Los Angeles Stories")