Hollywood Transit Center Tribute Wall Team

Conceptual rendering of ramp walls facing NE Halsey St

SARAH FARAHAT: Lead Artist & Facilitator
Sarah Farahat is an Egyptian American conceptual artist living and working in Portland, Oregon. Her work explores the body’s position within socio-political landscapes, closely monitoring current events in the United States and abroad. Many of Farahat’s projects are informed by learning about and participating in grassroots struggles for liberation and self-determination. Her works, which largely explore grief, connection, identity, storytelling and community engagement, exist in traditional and nontraditional spaces throughout the world. She holds an M.F.A. from California College of the Arts. www.sarahfarahat.com

NICKY KRIARA: Lead Mural Assistant
Portland-born artist Nicky Kriara is a painter and sculptor. Her work is large, abstract, and experimental. She has completed a number of murals, temporary installations, and public art pieces throughout the city. She studied in Los Angeles, CA and Amherst, MA before earning her Bachelor of Fine Arts from The University of Oregon. Her background includes working in stop-motion animation films as a scenic painter and test animator, and owning an art gallery in NW Portland called Epitome. She now runs a ceramic design and production company called Niko Far West. www.nickykriara.com
JAMAALI ROBERTS: Mural Assistant & Designer
Jamaali is a multi-disciplinary artist in Portland who uses different mediums to rethink how black culture is represented in American society and explore ideas of identity. Jamaali is a frequent rider of the TriMet system, and finds solace in his MAX rides to and from downtown, especially crossing the Willamette River. The incidents at the Hollywood MAX station shocked and reminded him that we all want to be safe while we travel to our destinations. He is honored and grateful to pay tribute to those who stood up on that fateful day. Instagram: @jamjamart

AMEYA OKAMOTO-Mural Assistant & Designer
Ameya Okamoto is a young artist and activist from Portland, OR who focuses on unpacking the social injustices and biased behavior that define our world. In middle school, she was a finalist for the GLSEN student advocate of the year award for her work implementing anti-bullying programs to protect students of difference from targeted language in PPS. In high school, she became an artist in the #BlackLivesMatter movement. Her work has been honored by the National YoungArts Foundation and the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards and featured in the Portland Art Museum and the Williamson Knight Gallery. In college, Ameya plans on deepening her work in art and activism through concentrations in Visual Art and Ethnic Studies.  www.ameyamarie.com

ASA WRIGHT: Mural Assistant
Asa is a Klamath Tribal member and PNCA Alumni from Chiloquin, OR. He lives in Portland with his daughter and pup. Asa blends his backgrounds in public health, art and collaborative design to work on cultural revitalization, decolonization and positive social change. He is the Executive Director of the newly founded nonprofit Sa’aMaqs Studio, a space that inspires, supports, mentors and elevates Indigenous working artists; educates the community on traditional and contemporary Indigenous art practices; and empowers self-determination, social justice awareness and community mobilization through art for activism.  www.thesebraids.com
LINDSAY KING: Facilitator
Lindsay King is a muralist and arts educator currently teaching at Beaumont Middle School in NE Portland. She incorporates community organizing and public art projects into her work with youth, emphasizing not only the design and paint process but also how to develop partnerships, advocate, and work together. Her students are learning to produce art in a diverse classroom and world. They use the Hollywood Transit Center platform and were deeply impacted by the bigotry, violence, and heroism displayed there last year, especially because Muslim girls are an important part of the Beaumont school community.

SULTAN TAMIMI: Calligraphic Educator
Sultan Tamimi is a classically trained Islamic calligrapher and educator from Hebron, Palestine. He studied architecture at Birzeit University in Birzeit, Palestine and worked in the field of interior design and construction. Despite the many obstacles of growing up under occupation by the Israeli military, Sultan has worked hard to create peace and beauty in his life and the lives around him. He is currently a student and volunteer committed to public speaking, Quranic recitation, traditional and contemporary calligraphy, teaching youth and working with the Islamic Center in Eugene.

DEBRA KOLODNY: Facilitator
Rabbi Debra Kolodny is a veteran of several social justice movements, has been bringing a spiritual perspective, an activist passion and an intersectional lens to racial and economic justice, women’s, peace, environmental and LGBTQ causes since 1981. She has taught the class *Interrupting Hate* throughout Oregon to over 450 people since January 2017. She has also taught in hundreds of venues on dozens of topics, organized day-long, weekend and weeklong retreats and produced ground-breaking conferences. She has published on blog sites, in newspapers, magazines and anthologies, editing *Blessed Bi Spirit: Bisexual People of Faith* in 2000, and has been interviewed on radio and television.