

Request to Place Art in Parks
Brittingham Park Nature Nook Bench Mural
Oct. 14, 2020

Name of artist or name of group producing the art: Sonya Sankaran (on behalf of Bayview Community Center youth)

Name of Piece: Love the Lake

Type of art

- Mural on the park bench - painted polytab (mural material) adhered to bench slats with acrylic gel medium.

Time Frame for the Art

- “Permanent Art” is described for this purpose as a piece that is in the park for more than 12 months. This piece will be in the park for the life of the bench or until it becomes damaged or the paint becomes unsightly. Park benches typically have a life span of about 10 years.

What is the Size of the proposed art? The painting will be applied to a Madison Kay Park Bench, made of recycled plastic and installed in 2019.

Please provide a picture of art, or describe theme and general idea the art will project: (see attached)

In the spring and summer of 2019, I worked with a group of youth from Bayview Community Center who spent a great deal of time helping the City design the Nature Nook at Brittingham Park. They weighed in on everything from the location of the NN to the play elements. During that time, I also gathered bench design ideas from those youth. I have incorporated multiple contributions into one design that will cover the slats of the bench. The ideas from the kids all involved loving and enjoying the lake (fishing), taking care of it (the lake = a treasure chest) and gaining wisdom from it (“Be light like the water”). I wish to portray their art by staying true to their designs, thus honoring their role as stakeholders in the park.

Which Park do you wish to place the art? Brittingham Park

What is the specific location in the Park? In the Nature Nook, on an existing bench at the far east section of the park, near Brittingham Boats.

Is there any more information you care to share about your proposed project?

The Brittingham Nature Nook is a project that has taken years to come to fruition. Because of controversy around the original proposed location for natural play elements at Brittingham, the City developed the Racial Justice and Social Equity Initiative (RESJI), which has changed the way that park and other City projects are conceived, designed and implemented. The Nature Nook, which included extensive input from Bayview residents, is a positive outcome from years of

conversation and compromise. This small bench mural commemorates this process and is dedicated to the children who designed the park and now visit Brittingham Boats each summer for programming that was previously unaffordable. All of this is because Bayview and the City have collaborated to ensure that the space around the community center is inclusive and accessible to people of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities.

Information about the artist

1. Is the artist from Madison? Yes.
2. Do they have pieces in Madison Parks already? No.
3. Do they represent an underrepresented community? Yes

Three Concepts from the Children Designers



Concept Design from the Artist

