

Ekberg, Meri Rose

From: James Shulkin [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 2:49 PM
To: Ekberg, Meri Rose
Cc: Keisha Harrison; Wolf, Karin; Nichole Crust; Sujhey C. Beisser
Subject: Re: Conceptual Sketches for Stairwell
Attachments: Public Market Stairwell Wall Proposals.pdf

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Hello Meri Rose,

Thanks for the opportunity to weigh in on the three proposed murals for the stairwell. I shared your email with members of the Arts & Cultural Expression Workgroup. Our feedback was unanimous in choosing the first mural, designed by Tyanna Buie. We would very much like to have this version become a focal point within the Public Market.

Feedback is as follows:

James Shulkin, Director: Preference is for Image #1 by Tyanna Buie - I like how the colors chosen very much align with the Madison Public Market branding color scheme. The images are timeless - clothing, jewelry, flowers and food (apples) reflect the kind of items that will forever be a part of the Market's offerings. The images appropriately fill the space and offer a dramatic complement to an otherwise dull space. Visitors will not tire of the composition as the level of detail begs frequent and persistent study. The image appears as if it was designed intentionally for that space, rather than a larger mural cropped to fit within the space above the handrail. The image also presents a more professional, advanced style of artwork than those in #2 and #3.

Images #2 and #3 are similar in presentation to other pieces already installed at the Market - two that present images of women (Elizah Leonard and Still She Blossoms). Image #1 offers a refreshing variety to the collection of artwork at the Market.

Keisha Harrison, CEO: I like #1 as well. It seems to have texture and depth that fills the space rather than appearing as a flat drawing.

Sujhey Bessier, Director: Tyanna's proposal has a beautiful composition and a more sophisticated design that aligns more with the market's architecture, including the still life. I like the warm palette and the textured abstract geometric. It looks very elegant. Maybe not what I'd think of initially when thinking about a public market, however amongst the options, this is the strongest from a design perspective. It looks very elegant. I would hang this on my wall 😊

The other two options are emotionally and visually engaging, but they both would have a better fit outdoors, I think. The themes are more connected with nature and women in a more personal way than community focus.

Among the three proposals, Tyanna's design appears to be the most cohesive composition, in my opinion.

Nichole Crust, Director: I also like number 1.

Meri Rose,

I hope this information is useful to the voting members of the Madison Arts Commission. We unanimously believe this piece will be an exceptional and comforting addition to the Public Market's beautiful collection of artwork.

Sincerely,

James Shulkin