

## **A.K. Smiley Public Library “Teen Underground” Mural Contest**

Teen artists and graphic designers (ages 13-19) are invited to leave their mark—literally—on the Teen Underground space of the A.K. Smiley Public Library. We have two mural spaces to design and we'd love your help.

### **Creative Brief:**

- We would like this space to feel welcoming, inclusive, and relevant for our diverse teen library visitors.
- The background paint color in the space is a neutral, medium-toned gray.
- The mural may, **but is not required to**, reference teen lit (manga/anime/teen banned books/teen classics/etc.).
- The general theme is “Teen Underground” (the space is located in the basement level of the library building)...we love creative interpretations, let your imagination go wild.

**\*A word on copyright!** Copyright is complicated! It protects creators' works from imitation, which is important. If you plan on including book characters/images/book covers in your design, you may do so as long as the version of the character/image/book cover you use is **your own original creation**. For example, if you are planning to include an illustration of Harry Potter, the version of Harry Potter you include should not be an exact replica of the version that already exists on a book cover. If it sounds hard to invent your own version of Harry Potter, you could just include his iconic glasses or other symbols from the story that would get your point across. Here is the link to a very brief article that addresses this topic in a little more detail if you're interested:

<https://www.slj.com/?detailStory=mural-mural-on-the-wall>.

### **Dimensions of the 2 Mural Spaces:**

- 7' x 10' full wall area
- 5' x 10' full wall area
- These two spaces meet at a right angle in a corner, so you could design them as one space if desired.

### **What's in it for you:**

- The thrill of seeing your artistic work in the teen space of the A.K. Smiley Public Library!
- An impressive community project under your belt to boost your artistic portfolio/college application/resume.
- **Oh, and the selected design, and installation of the design in the library space, will earn the teen designer(s) \$1000. An additional stipend of up to \$500 will be awarded to purchase any necessary supplies.**

## FAQs:

- Can you work in a team?
  - Yes, of course! That would be awesome! The \$1000 would be split evenly among the team members if your design is selected.
- How will the winning design be selected?
  - The Youth Services staff and the Library Director will select the winning design.
- In what format should design entries be submitted?
  - Entries may be submitted digitally or with physical sketches. **Please also include an official application form (found at the end of this packet).**
- How will the mural get up on the wall?
  - Depending on your design, we are open to multiple ways. You may paint it directly on the library teen space walls. You may paint it on another surface to install in the library. If the design is digital, you may have it printed on vinyl or some other material to hang in the mural spaces.

## Submission Details:

- Please submit the **official application and sketches/design plans for the 2 mural spaces** in any the following ways (you don't need to submit multiple ways, just choose the way that makes sense for you):
  - Digitally: Email: [yrr@akspl.org](mailto:yrr@akspl.org)
  - OR In-Person: Call 909-798-7674 to arrange drop off to the Young Readers' Room of the A.K. Smiley Public Library.
- The official application will include a brief artist statement where you very briefly describe your vision. You are also asked to submit detailed sketches, including color choices and accurate fonts if you use any, for the two mural spaces.
- Please include how your design would be installed in the space (painted directly on the wall, painted on another surface to be installed on the wall, digitally printed on some other material, etc.).
- **Designs are due by Friday, April 30, 2021.**
- **The winning design will be selected by May 17, 2021.**
- Execution of the design (getting it up on the wall) will be arranged with the teen artist(s).
- All submissions must be the original work of the teen (ages 13-19) artist(s).

Please reach out if you have any questions! We're so excited to partner with you on this project!

Phone: 909-798-7674

Email: [yrr@akspl.org](mailto:yrr@akspl.org)

**A.K. Smiley Public Library “Teen Underground” Mural Contest Application**

Name(s) of Teen Artists: \_\_\_\_\_

Age(s): \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info (Phone number and/or email of all team members):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Artist Statement (Please briefly describe your vision for the three mural spaces):

How will your design be installed (ie. painted directly on the wall, painted on another surface to be hung on the wall, printed on another material to hang on the wall. If you are planning to use another surface or material, please tell us what surface or material that is.)?:

Please attach detailed sketches, including color choices and accurate fonts, for the two mural spaces.

**Designs must be submitted to the library, either digitally or in person, by  
Friday, April 30, 2021.**

**To submit digitally, please email [yrr@akspl.org](mailto:yrr@akspl.org)**

**To arrange for in-person drop off to the library, please call 909-798-7674.**

I affirm that this design is my (our) original work.

Teen Artist(s) Signatures: