

RAY OF LIGHT

MASTEN PARK, BUFFALO NY



This mural is in honor of all those people whose lives have been affected by domestic violence, bullying and despair. Presented by Buffalo Arts Studio: Mural designed by Augustina Droze, Created by Augustina Droze & Chuck Tingley; Mosaic designed by Augustina Droze & Megan McElf, Created by Megan McElf, McElf GlassWorks.

October 2015

THE MOSAIC PROJECT

The two columns which form the Ray of Light Mosaic are a 114 square feet. In total, the project used over 140 square feet of glass material, 150 pounds of concrete, and more caffeine than could possibly be tracked.

The columns are built from 14 individual panels, put together like a puzzle on site. Almost 20,000 pieces were created and used to create the project. The background alone is comprised of ~8,500 1" tiles, all hand-cut from large sheets of glass.

All said and done, in a little over a month and a half, between September and mid-October 2016, McElf and two assistants put in over 650 hours to build the monumental mosaics. Installation would take another week and a half in early November.

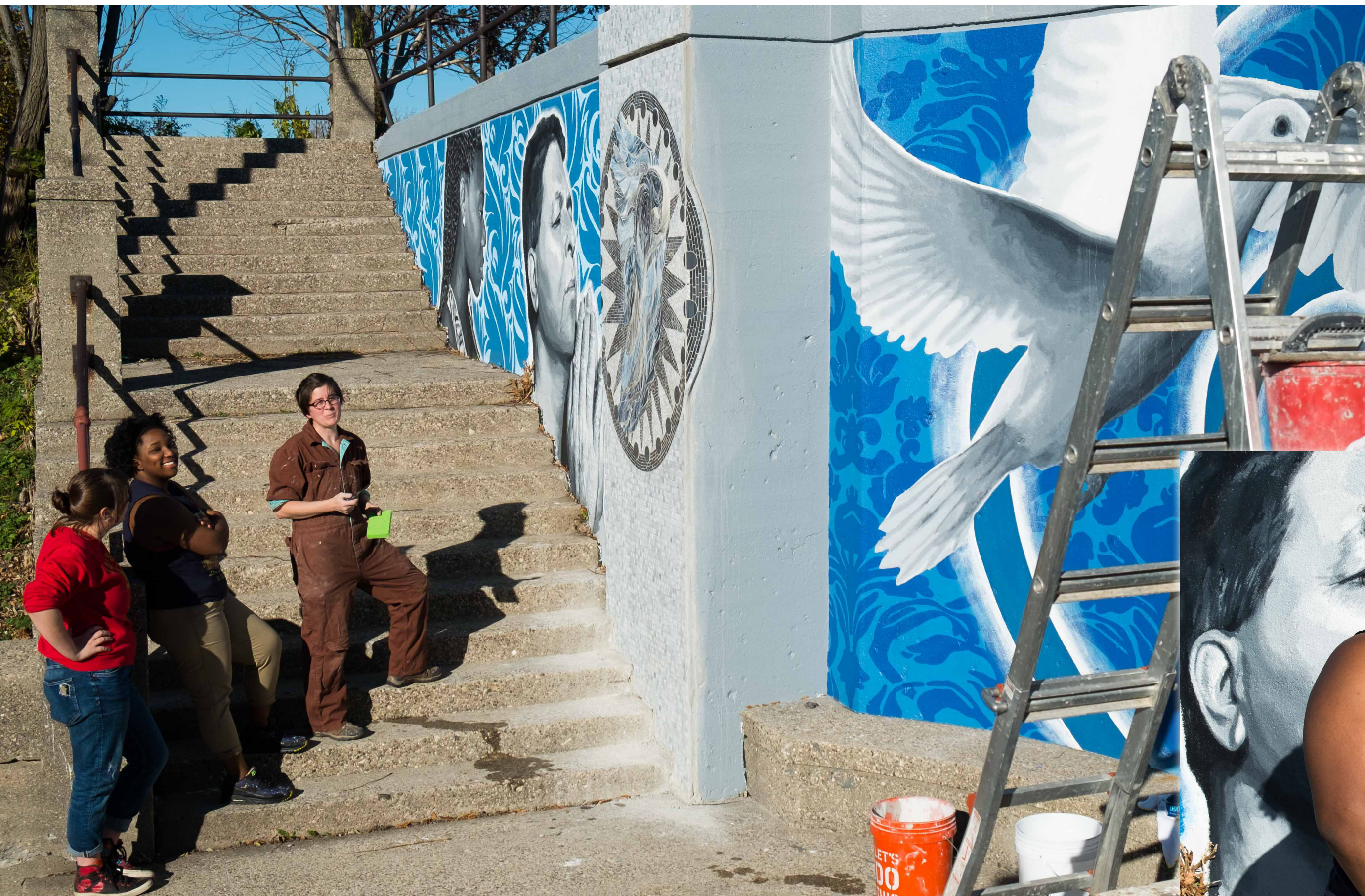
I'm so grateful for the community support and the incredible work done by Buffalo Arts Studio that made this project possible! It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all of us!

Materials for the Mosaic portion of the Ray of Light Mural were generously provided by Sunshine Glassworks, Tiles International, & Home Depot. Assistance with installation was provided by Bison Scaffolding and Pratt Street Storage Co.



BUILDING A MOSAIC

RAY OF LIGHT | MASTEN PARK, BUFFALO NY



Much thanks to David Torke for taking photos of the installation.



JUMP START & MCELF GLASSWORKS

BuffaloArts Studio's Jump Start program visited McElf GlassWorks in the first few days of September where preparation for the Ray of Light Mosaics was already underway.

After learning more about the Studio and what was ahead for the Mosaic construction project, over a dozen of the students applied to assist with the huge task of creating the two columns. It was a difficult decision to choose only two helpers, especially knowing how much work needed to be done! Mikayla and Lee were instrumental to completing the project on time.

After school and on weekends, the two girls put in almost a combined 80 hours themselves toward the project. Initially, there were a lot of sore hands and tired muscles as they learned to use the tools and skills that were required for the job.

In the end, it was an amazing feeling to step back as a group and see what we had just **BUILT**. "Wow!" we would say, "Can you believe what we just **built!**?!?!!" It's a feeling like nothing else in the world to create something that will last for generations with your own hands and Mikayla and Lee both have a lot to be proud of!

We took a lot of photos and even did time lapse videos of the project, all of which can be seen in the Project Room on www.McElfGlassWorks.com

Additional project support provided by Lawley Insurance, Open Buffalo, Hon. Council President and Ellicott District Council Member Darius G. Pridgen, The Goldsmith Family, Buffalo Arts Commission, City Honors/Fosdick-Masten Park Foundation, Mayor Bryon W. Brown Anti-Graffiti and Clean City Program, Andrew R. Rabb, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, Buffalo Division of Parks and Recreation, Buffalo Bills, Home Depot, Hon. Delaware District Council Member Joel P Feroleto, Hon. Niagara District Council Member David A. Rivera, Peace Education Fund, Stone Art Memorial Company, Ray of Light Mural Committee, Family Justice Center, Back to Basics Outreach Ministries, Restorative Justice Center, Mayor Bryon W. Brown.

Be sure to go online and check out the amazing footage we captured during construction on the McElf GlassWorks GoPro! www.mcelfglassworks.com/project-room/



Jump Start Students visited McElf GlassWorks in Fall 2016 to learn about mosaics and architectural glass work.

