

artists for humanity

celebrating 25 years of creative jobs for creative youth

Susan Rodgerson Executive/Artistic Director

Board of Directors
David Walek, Chair
Adele Fleet Bacow
Carlo Lewis
Roopa Parekh
Patrick Planeta
Ronald Robertson
Gwen Robinson
Caroline Taggart
Jason Talbot

Jason Talbot

Board of Advisors

James Batchelor

Max Bazerman

Julie Bowden

Barbara Burgess

John Cannistraro

Ellen Carno
Ronni J. Casty
Ross Chanowski
Susan Culman

Amy d'Ablemont Burnes
Kevin Dennis
Margaret Drain
Laura & Bill Eaton
Howard Elkus
Marla Felcher
Julie Fisher
George Foreman III
Betsy Gibson
Spencer Glendon
Richard Grudzinski
Swanee Hunt
Christopher Jacobs
Rebecca Kellogg
Joseph Kennard
Mel King

Neil Leifer
Natalie & Jake Lemle
Lisa S. Lenon
Neil J. Leonard
Harriet Lewis
Helene Lieb
Syrul & Robert Lurie
Michael Maina
Stefania Mallett
Klaudia Mally
Shirley Marten
Michele May

Timothy McKeown
Meredyth Hyatt Moses
Jenifer Mumford
Alan Newsome
Nina Nicolosi
Whitney Palmedo
Yaro Pan
Maury Peterson
Chris Rifkin
Mark A. Rosen
Robert Sachs
Alex Senchak

Lisa Tung Bobbie & Rusty Tunnard Wat Tyler Clara Walnwright David Walt Deanne Wherry Bob Wiggins August 18, 2016

Anabela Gomes Boston College Neighborhood Center 480 Washington Street Brighton, MA 02135

RE: Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund

Dear Ms. Gomes:

On behalf of Artists For Humanity (AFH), I respectfully submit the enclosed proposal for \$30,798 to the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund for the design and installation of sculptural artworks on the front lawn of Brighton High School. This request directly meets the Fund's philanthropic goal to provide public benefit to the Allston-Brighton neighborhood by enhancing the neighborhood's aesthetic quality and user experience; promoting community collaboration and cultural growth; and showcasing unique qualities of the high school's student body.

As detailed in the proposal, AFH will partner with Brighton High School on the design and development of life-size sculptural silhouettes of teens engaged in typical student activities such as reading, writing, scientific inquiry, sports and the arts. To be installed on the school's sloping front lawn, these sculptures — comprised of painted metal — will be highly visible from Warren Street and will add visual interest to this busy corridor that connects the Allston-Brighton residential and commercial sectors with St. Elizabeth's Hospital. The sculptures will help Brighton High School establish a greater sense of welcoming, inviting the community to see and share in the educational pathways of our future generation.

As you review this proposal, I hope you will consider AFH's long and successful history of designing and installing public art projects that involve community members in planning and execution. More importantly, I hope you will take into account the leadership role Brighton high school students working at AFH — all under-resourced Boston teens — will play in the project, working directly alongside AFH mentoring artists.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like additional information. I would be happy to provide. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Best regards,

Susan Rodgerson

Executive/Artistic Director

Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund

For Brighton and Allston

Application Cover Sheet, 2016

(Note: this form is a fillable .pdf and may be filled out electronically)

Total Amount Requested \$30,798

otal Amount Requested \$
Applicant Organization Name: Artists For Humanity, Inc. (AFH)
Organization Address: 100 West 2nd Street City: Boston Zip: 02127
Contact Person: Patrice Maye
Title: Director of Institutional Giving
Telephone Number: (617) 268-7620
E-Mail Address: PatriceMaye@AFHBoston.org
Is Applicant a 501(C) (3) organization? Yes No No
IF YES:
Federal Employer Identification Number: 04-3138434
Executive Director: Susan Rodgerson Phone Number: (617) 268-7620 Email Address: SRodgerson@AFHBoston.org
Fiscal Agent (if applicable):
oplication submission(s) must be authorized and signed by an authorized signatory of the rganization.

Susan Rodgerson, Executive/Artistic Director

Name and title of Authorized Signatory:

Signature of Authorized Signatory:

Artists For Humanity (AFH) respectfully requests \$30,798 from the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund for the design and fabrication of sculptural artworks to be installed on the front lawn of Brighton High School. This request directly meets the Fund's philanthropic goal to provide public benefit to Allston-Brighton by enhancing the neighborhood's aesthetic quality and user experience; promoting community collaboration and cultural growth; and showcasing unique qualities of the high school's student body.

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

About Artists For Humanity and Key Project Personnel

Founded in 1991, AFH's mission is to bridge economic, racial, and social divisions by providing underserved urban youth with the keys to self-sufficiency through paid employment in art and design. AFH began with what was then an ambitious and unconventional idea – young people can provide, through their innate talent and vision, contemporary creative services to the business community. Training and employing urban teens offers them a key solution to economic disenfranchisement and has a resounding effect on their lives, their families, and their communities. AFH employs ~250 Boston teens annually in the visual arts and creative industries.

Following a paid apprenticeship model, AFH partners teens with professional artists and designers to collaborate on innovative projects – like building a 13' sculpture that encourages recycling for Bank of America; or designing and installing an exhibit of graphic posters on African American leaders in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields for a local community center. Teens participate in project planning, product development, marketing and exhibition. They have positive interactions with adults who appreciate their work and contributions.

AFH organizes 70 to 75 exhibitions and public art projects/events each year. These exhibits allow viewers to develop a greater understanding of the young, urban experience. In essence, each participant's creative work represents an opportunity to have a voice. Public exhibition and sale of their artwork continues the dialogue. Recent select exhibit sites include: Logan International Airport, Assembly Square MBTA, Frieda Garcia Park exterior wall (visible from the Massachusetts Turnpike). We estimate millions of people viewed AFH youth-created art through these forums.

For the proposed project at Brighton High School, AFH will draw upon the resources of our talented Executive/Artistic Director, Creative Project Director, 3D Design Mentors and youth artists, as outlined below:

Susan Rodgerson, Executive/Artistic Director: AFH co-founder Ms. Rodgerson is responsible for artistic direction; program development; administration; and fundraising. Blending her experience as an artist, educator, entrepreneur, and administrator, she has led Artists For Humanity since its founding 25 years ago. She studied fine art and art history at Art Institute of Boston and Radcliffe College, and has exhibited widely in the Boston area. Rodgerson is the recipient of numerous awards to include: 2013 Charles Ansbacher Award for Culture and Community; 2008 Honorary Doctor of Public Service, Tufts University; 2006 Award for Excellence in Education, Massachusetts College of Art and Design; 2005 Social Entrepreneur in Residence, PACE University; 2005 Alumni Community Service Award, Lesley University; 2004 Changing People's Lives Award, Grand Circle Foundation; and 1999 Creative Entrepreneurs Award, Carlisle Foundation.

<u>Haidan Hodgson, Creative Project Director</u>: A graduate of Boston's University's photojournalism program, Ms. Hodgson joined AFH in 2002 to lead AFH's Photography Studio, including our ongoing collaboration with the Boston Globe's *Teens in Print* publication. She now oversees all AFH commissioned and contracted creative projects of the 3D Design Studio. Hodgson exhibits her work throughout Boston.

Ryo Matsuki, 3D Design Mentor: Ryo Matsuki brings diverse experiences in engineering, fabricating and problem-solving to his role as 3D Design Mentor. His work portfolio includes designing exhaust systems for yachts; building exhibits for the Boston Children's Museum; interpreting architectural drawings for set construction at Mystic Scenic Studios; and developing television sets for the QVC home shopping channel and ESPN. Matsuki has Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering from Northeastern University. He joined AFH in 2015 to co-lead our 3D Design Studio.



<u>Dominique Butori, 3D Design Mentor</u>: Ms. Butori was a youth apprentice in AFH's 3D Design Studio before attending Montserrat College of Art. While attending Montserrat, she continued to work at AFH as an Assistant 3D Design Mentor during the summer sessions. Butori received her Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts Sculpture in May 2014, and has been a full-time mentor at AFH ever since.

<u>Hannah Fallon, 3D Design Mentor</u>: A lifelong creator, Ms. Fallon has been imagining and constructing works of art since early childhood. She apprenticed with jewelers and accessory designers and contributed to several large-scale and notable installations such as Ernesto Neto's *Anthropodino*. Fallon's creative work centers on textiles, costumes, furniture-making, and clothing design, and she collaborates often with other artists and visionaries. Following a 2011 collaboration with AFH's 3D Design Studio to design and develop an iconic dress comprised of Vitamin Water bottles, Fallon joined AFH's staff as a 3D Design Mentor in 2012.

AFH 3D Design Youth Artists: AFH youth participants represent Boston's diverse demographics. Most are aged 14-18 and attend Boston high schools; 83% are from low- and very-low income families; and 91% are of color. AFH brings young people from different backgrounds together as artists and innovators. Within the 3D Design Studio, youth work with wood, metal, plastics, and a variety of natural and synthetic materials. Found objects such as construction debris, household appliances, business machines and cars give new meaning to the concept of recycling. AFH's 3D Design studio is renowned for constructing unique coat-racks, benches, tables and more – infusing the zest and humor inherent in young people "making things".

In addition to the ten 3D Design Youth Artists who will contribute to the sculptural silhouette project, many of whom attend Brighton High School, AFH also plans to engage other Brighton High students during the concept development process.

Partner Organizations/Property Owners

Brighton High School is very excited about partnering with AFH on designing and installing the proposed series of sculptural silhouettes, as indicated by their letter of support (enclosed) and by their help in securing approvals from the Boston Public Schools as well as a commitment from the BPS Facilities Management to assist with project installation and maintenance (also enclosed). AFH has garnered additional community support, as evidenced by letters of support from the Brighton Marine Health Center and WGBH.

AFH's 3D Design Studio will work in partnership with Brighton High School's Graphic Design teacher and students during the design process. Teen artists from AFH will work side by side with the school's students to identify personas for the sculptural silhouettes that represent the student body and the School's commitment to academics, the arts and sports. AFH wants the neighborhood to feel a sense of authorship/ownership, and we will utilize direct contact and social media to achieve high levels of participation and promotion. AFH has proven success with community engagement on public projects, as we detail in greater depth later in this narrative.

Experience with Community-Driven Public Art Projects

AFH brings enormous experience with planning, designing and installing large-scale public art projects. Our works combine the mastery and expertise of a professional artist, supported by the energy and vision of a team of emerging youth artists. AFH's structure endows us with administrative capacity to navigate planning and permitting challenges. It also allows great flexibility in visual arts media applications, inclusive of murals; painting, photography, sculpture/3D design, graphic art, motion graphics, video, and web design.

Select collaborative and/or public art projects include:

- Exterior mural. AFH was recently awarded a contract from the Boston Redevelopment Authority's Fenway Park Demonstration Project to design and paint a 95'x15' mural on Ipswich Street as it passes beneath the Philip G. Bowker Underpass. AFH connected with members of The Fenway Alliance during the project's plenary phase to ensure a participatory process. Painting began this summer, and AFH muralist Rob Gibbs and a team of youth have nearly completed a dynamic mural. Community feedback is overwhelmingly positive, with neighbors stopping by to watch the crew at work and others complimenting it on social media.
- <u>Interior mural</u>. The Whittier Street Health Center commissioned AFH to create a 4' x 16' mural at their community facility in 2012, requesting that the mural: appeal to youth and young adults, ages 5-20; reference local scenes with young people playing and interacting; and engage Roxbury youth artists.

- <u>Site-specific paintings</u>. AFH partnered with Fort Point Arts Community on developing a rotating exhibit at State Street's new Channel Center office. Youth developed works inspired by sky and water in reference to the Fort Point neighborhood. They also explored how geometrically perfect lines can be transformed. This collection creates a new composition of rhythm and movement, which emulates water and sky.
- <u>3D Design with recycled materials</u>. The Massachusetts Transport Authority commissioned AFH to design and create an 8'x8' sculpture of the recycle symbol comprised of aluminum and recycled bottle caps, which was installed at Logan Airport on April 22, 2013 in honor of Earth Day. This project required AFH youth to partner with East Boston youth on material sourcing.
- <u>Photographic portraits</u>. AFH partnered with Providence artist Mary Beth Meehan during Summer 2012 on a series of photographic portraits of Brockton residents; the portraits were printed on 8' x 12' banners and installed throughout Brockton's downtown commercial center.
- <u>Graphic portraits</u>. The Edward L. Cooper Community Garden and Education Center in Roxbury commissioned AFH's Design team to create a series of commemorative graphic portraits on outstanding African Americans in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. Teens worked closely with community leaders to identify and research portrait subjects. This permanent exhibit opened on September 13, 2013.

II. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Description and Public Benefit

AFH will partner with Brighton High School on the design and development of life-size sculptural silhouettes of teens engaged in typical student activities such as reading, writing, scientific inquiry, sports and the arts. To be installed on the school's sloping front lawn, these sculptures – comprised of painted metal – will be highly visible from Warren Street and will add visual interest to this busy corridor that connects the Allston-Brighton residential and commercial sectors with St. Elizabeth's Hospital (please see mapping detail on next page). The sculptures will help Brighton High School establish a greater sense of welcoming, inviting the community to see and share in the educational pathways of our future generation.

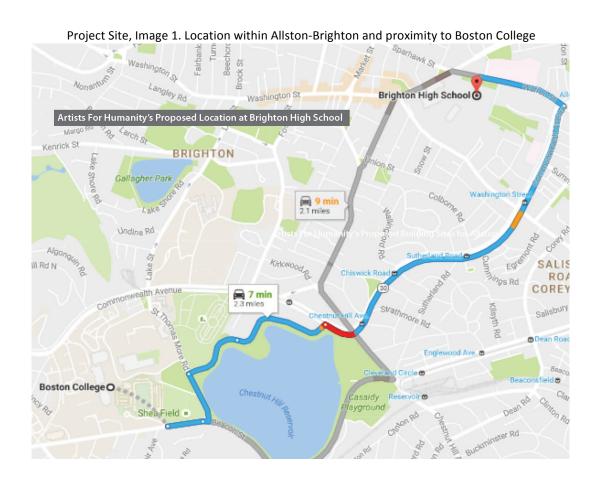
Situated as it is behind fencing and atop a hill, Brighton High School seems imposing and physically removed from the community. It is not immediately obvious what activities transpire therein. AFH's proposed project will make this space more interactive; advertise that this is a place of learning, career-building and achievement in arts and athletics; and invite the neighborhood to explore this educational center.

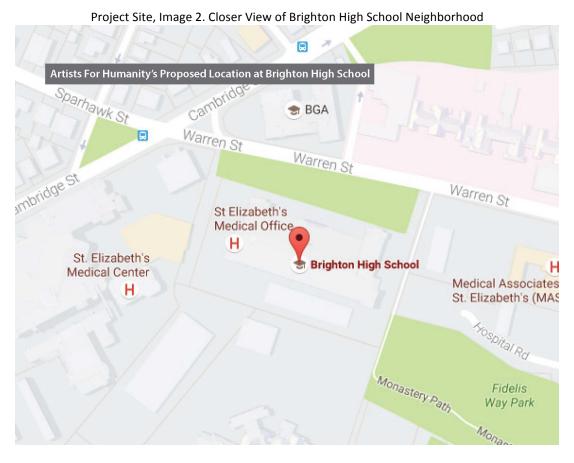
In discussion with Brighton High School, AFH conceived of the idea of "bringing the school outside" by fabricating life-sized silhouettes of teens engaged in student and extracurricular activities. We propose installing them on the grass hill near the school's front property line to maximize their visibility and capture the interest of passing motorists and pedestrians. As depicted in the renderings to the right, AFH envisions powder-coating the metal sculptures in brightly colored paint to increase visual interest and enhance the sense of motion and activity.





AFH's proposed installation will offer immense public benefit by bringing public art to the busy Warren Street corridor; cultivating a better sense of community connection between neighborhood and school; and reinforcing civic pride and investment in the neighborhood's next generation. Ours will truly be a community-led project. It will pair AFH youth artists living in Allston-Brighton with peers at Brighton High School on designing works for the neighborhood school. Under the guidance of professional AFH artists, teens will discuss project themes, brainstorm on images and solicit feedback from the community. AFH will finalize project designs, fabricate sculptures, and manage the entire process through installation. We will host a special celebration to promote the project, to be attended by residents and community stakeholders.





Timeline

AFH anticipates the entire project will take approximately three months, to include concept development, design, fabrication and installation. The project will conclude with a promotional event to share the initiative formally with the community. The actual start date will depend on the award's timing, and the overall timeframe assumes that all partners are able to commence once the award is announced and that appropriate weather conditions exist at the time of installation. We see the project unfolding as follows:

- Concept Development, Design and Engineering (Six to Eight Weeks)
- Fabrication and Installation (Four to Six Weeks)
- Public Celebration

Project Sustainability and Maintenance Plan

AFH will fabricate the sculptural silhouettes with consideration for long-term durability and ease of maintenance. The sculptural components will be made from industrial grade steel and powder coated, and should require no maintenance for at least five years. AFH has successfully used these materials and surface finishes for low-maintenance public sculptures in urban environments including: bike racks and outdoor sculptural elements (i.e. a sculptural mural on the exterior wall of Frieda Garcia Park). AFH will supply Brighton High School with touch-up paint for the repair of scratches, should they occur.

Notably, the sculptures will be quite sturdy with footings cemented into the ground. If for some unforeseen reason there is significant damage to a sculpture, AFH has the digital file to reproduce the sculptural piece.

The office of Boston Public Schools Facilities Management and the administration at Brighton High School both fully support this project and commit to its implementation and maintenance.

Budget Narrative

AFH anticipates the total cost to design, fabricate and install the sculptural silhouette series will be \$40,078. This includes staff time for AFH's Artistic Director, Creative Project Director, three 3D Design Mentors, and 10 teen artists to collaborate with Brighton High School's administrative leadership and creative team on the project development, as well as installation and maintenance fees, to be provided by Boston Public Schools' Facilities Management team.

- Design & Engineering \$15,650
- Fabrication, Installation & Maintenance, \$22,928
- Promotion \$1,500.

AFH has received a commitment of \$9,280 toward the \$40,078 project costs in in-kind creative, project management, installation and maintenance services, as detailed below:

- Boston Public Schools Facilities Management, \$5,000
- Brighton High School, \$4,280 to support administrative and creative support.

We respectfully request the project balance of \$30,798 from the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund. With your support, we will undertake a dynamic and highly collaborative public art project that will enhance the neighborhood's aesthetic quality and user experience; promote community collaboration and cultural growth; and showcase unique qualities of the high school's student body.

AFH's request represents the entire project scope. We are not planning a Phase 2 installation. That said, we would be open to expanding the installation or exploring other synergistic/visually complementary projects, should the community so request.

III. ATTACHMENTS

- Project Budget, with other funding sources
- Project Renderings
- Project Support Letters









Rendition

To the left is a rendition of the proposed life-size sculptural silhouettes depicting teens engaged in typical student activities. The placement or personas chosen are not finalized, rather placeholders used to share a visual image of the proposed project.

The colorful metal scultpures will be highly visible from Warren Street and will add visual interest to the busy corridor that connects the Allston-Brighton residential and commercial sectors with St. Elizabeth's Hospital.



Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund 2016 Budget Proposal for Artists For Humanity

REVENUE

BRA Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund \$30,798
Boston Public Schools Facilities Management \$5,000
Brighton High School (in-kind contribution) \$4,280
TOTAL \$40,078

EXPENSES

AFH Team: Three 3D Design Mentors, 10 Teen Artists, Creative Project Director, Artistic Director Plus BPS Facilities Management staff and Brighton High School staff and students

Design & Engineering\$15,650Fabrication & Installation\$22,928Promotion\$1,500TOTAL\$40,078



Facilities Management

Khadijah J. Brown, AIA, LEED AP - Director of Facilities Management Robert Harrington - Assistant Director, Construction Paul M. Wood - Assistant Director, Building Services 1216 Dorchester Avenue

Dorchester, Massachusetts 02125

Tel: 617-635-9162

Fax: 617-635-9306

bostonpublicschools.org

August 9, 2016

Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund

ATTN: Anabela Gomes

480 Washington Street

Brighton, MA 02135

Dear Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund,

The Facilities Department of Boston Public Schools as well as Boston Public Schools supports both Brighton High School and Artists For Humanity in their efforts to secure funding from the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund to both promote Brighton High School and its role in our community while adding beauty to the neighborhood through the addition of art pieces to be displayed permanently. We recognize that Brighton High has partnered with George Mallett-the AFH Community Network Director for this initiative with Artists for Humanity creating a series of art pieces that will both represent Brighton High School and increase the visual appearance of Warren Street.

This proposed project would allow Brighton High School to add to the beauty and allure in the Brighton-Allston community through the addition of artistic figures created by Artists for Humanity. Brighton High is often called the castle on the hill. It is a beautiful gothic building that sits on a key pedestrian area with a vast and largely unused front lawn along Warren Street. The creation of several art pieces in this unused area will promote human interaction while enhancing the glamour already present in the neighborhood. It will create a public space that will make people from different areas and backgrounds want to be there. Boston Public Schools is proud of the roles our schools play in their community and believe this project will be a source of inspiration for all those traveling past the school that will be captivated by the art forms displayed there.

Brighton High school is trying to build a culture of excellence in academics, arts and athletics and this will help achieve these goals. These artistic representations will become a conversation



piece for those traveling on Warren Street which is a common stopping point for many residents with three local hospitals located there. It is an opportunity for Brighton High to showcase to the Brighton-Allston Community its values while at the same time adding splendor to Warren Street through this series to be created. We are committed to working with Brighton High School and Artists for Humanity in promoting this project. As the facilities director for Boston Public Schools, I have no hesitation in supporting this project and my department will assist in placing the art pieces on the property once the grant is approved. We strongly endorse this application for the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund submitted in collaboration between Brighton High School and Artists for Humanity.

Yours truly,

Khadijah Brown AIA

Director, Facilities Management

Boston Public Schools



77 Warren Street Brighton, MA 02135

August 3, 2016

Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund ATTN: Anabela Gomes 480 Washington Street Brighton, MA 02135

Dear Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund,

Brighton Marine Health Center supports both Brighton High School and Artists for Humanity in their efforts to secure funding from the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund to promote Brighton High School and its role in our community. We recognize that Brighton High has partnered with George Mallett and Artists for Humanity for this initiative with Artists for Humanity creating a series of art pieces that will represent Brighton High School and displayed on the lawn in front of the school that can easily be seen by cars and pedestrians moving along Warren Street. Brighton High School has strong College and Career Pathway courses in both Art and Engineering and a rich tradition in athletics that will be represented through these art pieces created by the Artists for Humanity artists. This proposed project, if funded, would allow Brighton High School to showcase its values in the Brighton-Allston community. Brighton High is one of almost thirty high schools in the Boston Public School system. Such pieces will brand or market certain aspects of Brighton High that are its strengths. This artistic representations will become a conversation piece for both those driving by Brighton High School as well as those researching the school on the web. It is an opportunity for Brighton High to showcase to the Brighton-Allston Community their values and areas of academic strength. My organization, as a community partner to Brighton High School, highly endorses this initiative as we support Brighton High and its academic and athletic initiatives. We have already met this spring discussing opportunities for Brighton High to showcase itself and believe this grant to be such an opportunity.

We are committed to working with Brighton High School and Artists for Humanity in promoting this project. We strongly endorse this application for the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund submitted in collaboration between Brighton High School and Artists for Humanity.

Yours truly,

Michael Dwyer

President & CEO

(617) 208-6231

Boston Private Industry Council

Boston's Workforce Investment Board

Dr. Gary L. Gottlieb Chair Neil Sullivan
Executive Director

Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund

ATTN: Anabella Gomes 480 Washington Street Brighton, MA 02135

Dear Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund,

I am writing to support both Brighton High School and Artists for Humanity in their efforts to provide artwork that will enhance the beautification and school outreach to our Allston/Brighton Community. The Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund would allow us to fund and promote artwork that will beautify our campus and market Brighton High School and its role in our community. We recognize that Brighton High has partnered with George Mallett and Artists for Humanity for this initiative with Artists for Humanity creating a series of art pieces that will represent Brighton High School and displayed on the lawn in front of the school that can easily be seen by cars and pedestrians moving along Warren Street. Brighton High School has strong College and Career Pathway courses in both Art and Engineering and a rich tradition in athletics that will be represented through these art pieces created by the Artists for Humanity artists.

This proposed project, if funded, would allow Brighton High School to showcase its values in the Brighton-Allston community. Brighton High is one of almost thirty high schools in the Boston Public School system. Such pieces will brand or market certain aspects of Brighton High that are its strengths. The artistic representations will become a conversation piece for both those driving by Brighton High School as well as those researching the school on the web. It is an opportunity for Brighton High to showcase to the Brighton-Allston Community their values and areas of academic strength. My organization highly endorses this initiative as we support Brighton High and its academic and athletic initiatives.

We are committed to working with Brighton High School and Artists for Humanity in promoting this project. We strongly endorse this application for the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund submitted in collaboration between Brighton High School and Artists for Humanity.

Yours truly,

Daniel M. Cuddy, PIC Brighton High Schools (617)438-5451







One Guest Street Boston Massachusetts 02135

617 300 2000 wgbh.org

Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund ATTN: Anabela Gomes 480 Washington Street Brighton, MA 02135

To the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund;

On behalf of WGBH I am pleased to write in support of Brighton High School and Artists for Humanity in their efforts to secure funding for a proposed permanent art installation that will help promote Brighton High School and its role in the neighborhood. We are delighted that two of our community partners are coming together to enhance the community by creating a series of art pieces that will both represent Brighton High School and add to the visual interest of Warren Street.

Artists for Humanity is an important resource for Boston, providing an opportunity for young people to develop and express themselves through art. By joining together with Brighton High to create art that represents the academic strength of the school, this project will give meaning, pride and inspiration to the hard work of the students there. This is an innovative way to signal to the community the value of this sometimes invisible educational institution.

WGBH has been a partner with Brighton High School on a number of academic initiatives, and we recognize how necessary outside resources are to their achievement. We also create many programs in the arts and understand the ways in which it can open minds and hearts. With a 'digital mural' on our Brighton building we hear regularly from residents that they enjoy being able to see something of interest to brighten their day as they drive by. This art installation will have a similar effect for those who come through our neighborhood and travel on Warren Street.

We strongly endorse this application and hope the Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund will support this innovative approach to improving our community and lifting our students.

Sincerely, Jeanne Hopens

eanne Hopkins

Vice President, Communications & Government Relations

