

MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139,
www.miamibeachfl.com
Tourism and Culture Department
Tel: 305-673-7577

July 29, 2025

Ms. Deborah Tackett
City of Miami Beach
Department of Planning and Zoning
Historic Preservation Board
1700 Convention Center Drive
Miami Beach, FL 33139

Re: HPB LETTER OF INTENT – Historic Preservation Board Letter of Intent for a permanent public mural at Marjory Stoneman Douglas Park at 3rd Street, Ocean Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139

Dear Ms. Tackett,

The City of Miami Beach Tourism and Culture Department, as well as the Miami Beach Art in Public Places Committee, respectfully requests the Historic Preservation Board's favorable review and approval of this application for the site placement of a permanent public mural at Marjory Stoneman Douglas Park.

At the March 5, 2024, Miami Beach Commission for Women meeting, members made a motion to honor Marjory Stoneman Douglas for her contributions to South Florida with a mural at Marjory Stoneman Douglas Park. On April 3, 2024, at the request of Commissioner Rosen Gonzalez, a discussion item (C4 R) was referred to the April 17, 2024, Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee (PSNQLC) meeting to discuss the motion. Following the PSNQLC favorable recommendation, Dr. Lynette Long, Chair of the Miami Beach Commission for Women, presented to the Art in Public Places (AiPP) Committee at the June 18, 2024, meeting. The Call to Artists, project budget, and directive for the Tourism & Culture Department (TCD) to identify measurements informing the project scope were approved by the Committee and communicated via LTC#247-2024.

At the July 18, 2024, AiPP Committee meeting, TCD staff recommended pursuing direct selection for the commissioned artist based on the available budget of \$15,000 identified. Artist Christina Pettersson was in turn invited to develop a corresponding proposal and present options for the mural on the Park's restroom facility west-facing wall. Her selected mural depicts Marjory Stoneman Douglas relaxing in the habitat she spent her life protecting. The funding for this project has been allocated from the Art in Public Places Fund and appropriated in the current

FY 2025 budget.

At the May 20, 2025, Art in Public Places (AiPP) Committee Meeting, Committee members selected the proposal by artist Christina Pettersson for the public artwork for the Marjory Stoneman Douglas project, communicated via LTC #303-2025. The artist will install a concrete vinyl mural measuring approximately 16 feet wide and approximately 6 feet tall honoring Marjory Stoneman Douglas at her namesake park on the restroom facility's west-facing wall.

Proposed Location:

Located in the heart of South Beach, Marjory Stoneman Douglas ("The Park") is a serene public space offering a mix of natural beauty and family-friendly amenities. The park features a shaded playground, as well as open grassy areas, perfect for picnics or relaxing by the ocean breeze. The park is also equipped with public restrooms and water fountains. With direct access to the beach and a welcoming atmosphere, the park is a cherished spot for locals and tourists alike. In addition to the mentioned amenities, the Park will include a unique commissioned work of art as part of the Art in Public Places Program collection.

The AiPP program is a city board responsible for the commission and purchase of artwork by contemporary artists in all media. The program is funded from 2% of hard costs for city projects and joint private/public projects. Funds from construction projects may be aggregated into the AiPP Fund and allocated for artwork at public sites and for collection maintenance. The fund is administered by a City Commission-appointed citizen's board of seven members, the AiPP Committee.

The scope of work for the selected artist, Christina Pettersson, includes providing, delivering and installing a custom art piece for Flamingo Park. This includes design therein with applicable material. The selected proposal was required to provide a maintenance plan for the care of artwork.

The pre-determined potential location for placement of the artwork included the Park's restroom facility's west-facing wall.

Project Description:

Christina Pettersson's selected mural depicts Marjory Stoneman Douglas relaxing in the Everglades habitat she spent her life protecting, along with the flora and fauna of South Florida.

Christina Pettersson was born in Stockholm, Sweden, and raised in Miami, Florida. She creates large-scale drawings, videos, installations, and collaborative performances that delve into Florida's hidden histories and endangered ecosystems. Rooted in public engagement and cross-disciplinary collaboration, her practice invites audiences to connect more deeply with the landscapes and stories in their own backyards. Her work reflects reverence for the wilderness of a bygone era and the haunting beauty of a world in decline.


"My art evolves from the Everglades landscape I've explored since childhood, even as Florida

becomes increasingly a paradise lost. Through research and exploration, I aim to reconnect audiences with our wild places and wild selves. We love what we find beautiful, and we protect what we love.”

Pettersson is a Fulbright Scholar and the recipient of numerous awards, including a Knight Arts Challenge Grant, a Wavemaker Grant, two Ellies Creator Awards, and three Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowships. Her work is held in the collections of the Pérez Art Museum Miami, Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami, Bass Museum of Art, the Margulies Collection, and the Four Seasons Hotel.

The City of Miami Beach Tourism and Culture Department, as well as the Miami Beach Art in Public Places Committee, respectfully requests the Historic Preservation Board’s favorable review and approval of this application for site placement. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 305-673-7577 x 26597.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Lisette Garcia Arrogante, MPA
Director
Tourism and Culture Department
City of Miami Beach