



**Notice Of Intent to Qualify an Initiative for the November 2020 Ballot
to Protect Public Access To Public Art in San Francisco**

October 11, 2019

President Stevon Cook
San Francisco Board of Education
555 Franklin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear President Cook:

Two months ago, on August 13, 2019, the San Francisco Board of Education voted to rescind its decision to destroy the 13 New Deal murals by Victor Arnautoff at George Washington High School and instead to spend \$825,000 to install solid panels covering the murals to permanently remove these valuable works of public art from public view.

That flawed decision satisfied nobody and resolved nothing.

In the interests of notice and disclosure, I am writing to notify you that the Coalition to Protect Public Art is moving forward to qualify an initiative called "*Protect Public Access To Public Art*" for the November 2020 ballot that will prevent public funds from being used to destroy, censor, or prohibit public access to public art at George Washington High School. We are currently drafting the legal language of the ballot initiative and preparing to begin a petition signature drive in February 2020 assuming that the Board continues to pursue its current plan to block public access to public art.

The Coalition to Protect Public Art includes hundreds of artists, educators, and concerned citizens from San Francisco and across the nation who have come together to defend public art in public buildings. The Arnautoff frescoes at George Washington High School are now the most famous works of New Deal art in the world. If the School Board continues its current plan to deny students, teachers, and the public the ability to learn from, debate, and decide for themselves what to think about these important works of art, we are confident that San Francisco voters will decide otherwise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Golinger".

Jon Golinger
Coalition to Protect Public Art