

**Art Underneath the Elevated Proposals**  
**By Kristy McCarthy**

**“Rockaway in Flight”**

Proposal description: A hand painted flock of Rockaway’s flying fauna, coasting on the breeze above passerby’s heads. Over 25 local birds and butterflies will be painted onto recycled cardboard cut outs and mounted to overhead wire cables with trolleys, allowing the paintings to fly like a colorful sea of kites.



## **Proposal: “Rockaway in Flight”**

**Proposal description:** A hand painted flock of over 25 of Rockaway’s local birds and butterflies, including the endangered Piping Plover, painted onto large cut-outs of recycled cardboard, sealed with protective coating, and mounted wire trolleys. The installation will include an educational workshop for the community to hand paint one of their own (smaller) cardboard cut out monarch butterflies to be included as part of the flock. The workshop will include information about the monarch migration and it’s status as an endangered phenomenon.

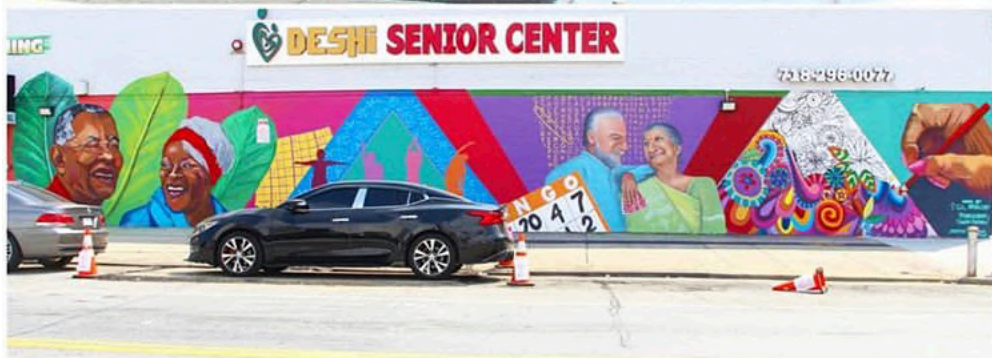
This project not only provides an educational visual exhibition of Rockaway’s local wildlife, but beautifies the underpass and transforms the ceiling into a moving flock of artwork and nature. The trolley system allows each piece a range of movement along the elevated ceiling, giving the illusion of a soaring bird or butterfly, coasting through the sky, accompanying each passerby on their journey along the underpass. This presence of art and movement will bring the space to life and transform the bare concrete ceiling into a beautiful flock of flying kites.

In my public art practice, my work aims to harness the power of public art to inspire hope, pride, and positive change. As director of HART, I have seen first hand that community art has a lasting positive impact on it’s members, not only uplifting their daily lives, but inspiring ideas and connecting neighbors. My hope with this installation and workshop is to bring the community together to contribute to the beautification of their public space, while fostering a sense of agency and raising awareness about the environmental challenges that the Rockaways face, including the dwindling monarch butterfly migration and the endangerment of the Piping Plover.

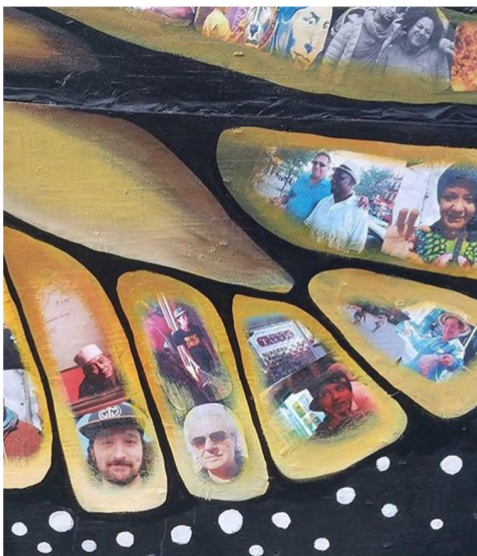
Apart from the positive impact that I hope this project will have, I truly, whole-heartedly enjoy painting birds and wildlife and would love to have an opportunity to bring my work to life and put it into movement. The wonderful breeze and the high ceilings of the walkway underneath the elevated A-train provide an amazing space and ideal conditions to bring this vision to fruition.



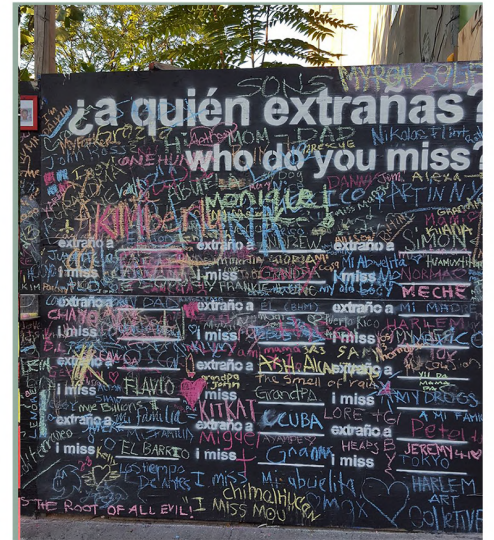
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# The Guerrilla Gallery: La Migración es Beautiful



# Guerrilla Gallery: Dia de los Muertos



# PS123 Active Design Mural

