



FLORIDA RUFFIN RIDLEY SCHOOL MURAL PROJECT

The Brookline Commission for the Arts is proud to work in partnership with the Florida Ruffin Ridley School and the Town of Brookline to bring a beautiful and inspiring new public art piece to one of our key gathering spaces and business districts, Coolidge Corner. We believe a large-scale statement piece rooted in our history and showing our commitment to the values and beliefs that Florida Ruffin Ridley stood for can help unite and empower our community. We see this as a first step towards creating a public art sector, a place for people to appreciate and be inspired by all that art can do: spark conversations, unite us, energize us, and bring us out into our community together. Most importantly, this shows our children we believe in them and what education can do. Florida Ruffin Ridley was a civil rights activist, suffragist, teacher, writer, and editor. She was one of the first black public schoolteachers in Boston, and edited *The Woman's Era*, the country's first newspaper published by and for Black women. She is truly someone

our children can look up to and with this mural they can literally look up to her and be reminded each day what she stood for!

In order to make this happen, we have partnered with a talented young Brookliner, Jason Kokones who has started his own mural non-profit, Impact Walls, and works closely with many artists both local and abroad. Working with Jason we have selected five potential artists we can approach for this project. The artist will work closely with the community and the school to ensure we create a stunning piece of art to inspire generations to come. The mural would likely go on the wall on the left side of the photo in the header.

Included below are images of current work from the five artists we are considering. You can also click on their names for a link to their website and the instagram logo for their social channel.

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GO FIVE (WEBSITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION)

