

THE BERNAL LIBRARY MURAL

BACKGROUND

- Mural project originated by former Bernal Librarian Ruth McGinnis, community activist Kate Esposito and volunteer neighborhood group
- Group commissioned Arch Williams, Bernal resident as muralist
- Arch worked with neighborhood youth and volunteer artists to complete the project
- Mural dedicated in 1982

ABOUT ARCH WILLIAMS

- Arch Williams was member of the Haight-Ashbury Muralists
- Committed to using artistic skills for social change
- Painted other mural s in Balmy Alley and Francisco Middle School
- Mr. Williams passed away in 1996

ABOUT THE MURAL THEMES

- South side (back side of library) represents
 Bernal Heights past and present
- East side (Moultrie Street) represents different themes
- Front side on Cortland Street
 - Most significant historic and artistic elements
 - Represents power of culture and continuity



Bernal Mural - Cortland Street Facade



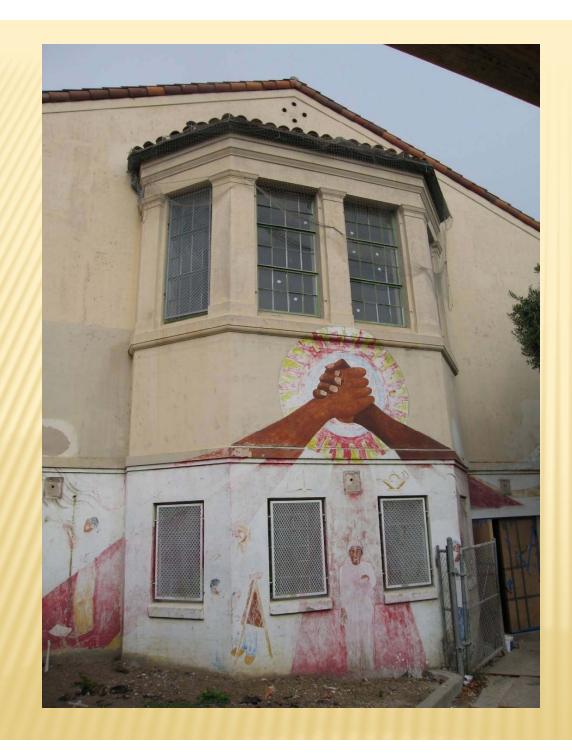
Bernal Library Mural - Cortland Street Facade



Bernal Mural - Cortland Street Facade



Bernal Mural - Cortland Street Facade



Bernal Mural

- East Side

Moultrie Street
façade



Bernal Mural – South Side Facing playground

DISCUSSIONS REGARDING MURAL OPTIONS

- Discussion with community about Bernal Mural dates back to 2002
- Further discussions with community members held in September 2008
- No consensus on options for mural

IDEAS AND OPTIONS FOR BERNAL MURAL

- Restore the mural (all walls or portions of it)
- Restore exterior to original WPA style by painting over entire mural and either:
 - * Recognize the existing mural with replica inside of building (ex. located in stairwell, program room)
 - Create a new mural on back wall (south façade) facing playground

RECOMMENDATION

- Restore the mural on the Cortland Street side of building only (front side)
- Paint over east and south sides of the mural

NEXT STEPS

Recommendation would go to Visual Arts Committee for review and recommendation to full San Francisco Arts Commission in September