ALTERNATE DESIGN OPTIONS FOR UTILITY BOX ART PROGRAM 2025

1. Artist: Evan Chaffee

Short Bio:

Evan Chaffee, a Costa Mesa resident who grew up in Orange County, discovered his passion for graphic design as a self-taught high school student. What began as a personal pursuit soon transformed into a powerful outlet for creative expression. In 2023, Evan found a unique canvas for his art through acrylic paint on surfboards and skateboards, merging his love for design with the coastal lifestyle that has shaped his journey.

Evan's work embraces the contrasting essence of action sports and tranquility. Each piece showcases serene scenes on dynamic surfaces, creating a visual dialogue between energy and calmness. Through this medium, he finds not only a way to showcase his art but also a means of daily reflection, allowing the peaceful process of creation to balance the rush of everyday life. Blending the aesthetics of surf culture with a refined artistic touch, Evan's designs capture the spirit of both his craft and his community. His work reflects a unique juxtaposition—tranquil landscapes on the very boards that carry riders through waves and streets. For Evan, every creation is a celebration of art, life, and the peaceful surrender found in creating each piece.

Website: N/A

Additional Information: Alternate Utility Box Design (Box TBD)

Artwork: Golden Horizon

Original Medium: Digital & Acrylic



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2. Artist: Kimberly Duran

Short Bio:

Kimberly Duran is known professionally as "Shmi". Her journey into the realm of art began in Santa Ana, where she was born and raised. From a young age, she found solace and purpose in the act of creation, initially expressing herself through the crafting of mural backdrops for local plays at the age of 11. Her identity as a first-generation Chicana plays a pivotal role in shaping the essence of her artistic expression. Raised by migrant parents who settled in Santa Ana, she has always felt a profound connection to her cultural roots. Growing up, frequent visits to Mexico exposed her to a rich tapestry of traditions, customs, and values, instilling within her a deep sense of pride in her heritage. Her art serves as a reflection of this journey, weaving together themes of identity and belonging. Through the lens of her experiences and observations, she strives to amplify the voices and narratives of those who inhabit the spaces around her. With aerosol and acrylic as her chosen mediums, she specializes in the creation of large-scale mural paintings that speak to the soul of her community. Rooted in the traditions of folk art, her work is a celebration of the vibrant cultural life that thrives within Santa Ana. Each stroke of paint is a testament to the resilience, beauty, and diversity of the people who call this city home. Through her art, she aims to shape and redefine the collective identity of her community, fostering a sense of pride and unity that transcends boundaries.

Website: https://www.5hmi.com/

Additional Information: Alternate Utility Box Design (Box TBD)

Artwork: Costa Bloom

Original Medium: Acrylic, Aerosol & Photoshop



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3. Artist: Kingsley Aarons

Short Bio:

Orange County based multi-disciplinary artist, Kingsley, is a creative individual with an extensive graphic design and traditional painting background. As a progressive designer, with a broad scope of styles, Kingsley takes chances and breaks the rules with original results. Kingsley creates hand crafted artworks by merging several seemingly incompatible worlds into a new universe. He blurs the lines between digital and reality with rigid elegance.

His paintings bear strong brutalist architectural imagery influenced by his architect father. Other mediums include structural photography from world travels and digital glitched imagery influenced by too much screen time. Kingsley's latest series is unique and visually stimulating by the use of technique and imagery. By questioning the concept of reality through digital mediums, Kingsley uses a visual vocabulary that addresses many different social and pop cultural issues. His work incorporates time as well as space – a fictional and experiential universe that only emerges pixel by pixel.

Website: https://www.coroflot.com/kingsley360

Additional Information: Alternate Utility Box Design (Box TBD)

Artwork: Rocket Queen

Original Medium: Mixed Media

