HELP US DESIGN A MURAL IN NEW ORLEANS!

About the Project

A New Orleans native, Jessica Strahan’s artwork depicts New Orleans’ rich culture, distinctive landmarks, and colorful people juxtaposed with tribes of Africa. As part of Unframed, Jessica is designing a mural called “You Are What You Eat” to be placed in downtown New Orleans.

Jessica is giving PreK-12 students an opportunity to submit their artistic ideas to be included in the mural design.

To get started, watch this video to meet Jessica Strahan and hear about her art and mural here: https://bit.ly/muralkit
Research

Before you begin, interview your family members to find out what food or patterns have meaning to your culture. Here are some sample questions:

What fruits and veggies are always served during family celebrations or holidays? Which are your favorite?

Do these fruits and veggies have any special significance to your family or your culture?

What patterns have you seen your family members wear on clothing or jewelry? Are there any patterns in the artwork hanging in your house?

Where are your ancestors from? Do some research to find if there are any patterns that are important to your family’s culture.

Design

We want you to create a unique portrait showing the importance of art and food!

Step 1: Pick a fruit or veggie that means something to your family and culture.

Step 2: Pick a pattern that has a special meaning to your family and culture.

Step 3: Create a portrait of yourself or someone you admire in your family. Incorporate the fruit/veggie and pattern into your portrait. Be creative!

Here are some examples from Jessica Strahan’s “You Are What You Eat” series

Submit Your Art

Three winning designs will be selected!

Jessica will incorporate your original idea into the mural using her unique artistic style. Three winners will be selected.

Email your submissions to Sarah at sarah@artsneworleans.org with the subject line: You Are What You Eat.

The winners will receive:
Your idea incorporated into the mural
A print of Jessica Strahan’s artwork
A $50 Visa Gift Card

Submissions should include:

1. Name, grade, and school
2. Photo of your portrait
3. Description of your portrait (this can be typed or you can take a photo of what you wrote on the last page)

Deadline: Wednesday, July 1, 2020
To create your portrait, you can use whatever materials you have in your house: pencils, pens, markers, crayons, or paint! You can even make a collage! You can create your portrait in the box below, or on another piece of paper, canvas, or even a cardboard box.
In the box below, answer these questions:

1. Who is the portrait of and why did you choose to do this portrait? What do you admire about this person?

2. What fruit or veggie did you choose and what does it mean to your family and culture? If the fruit or veggie symbolizes something in your culture, make sure to explain that.

3. What pattern did you choose and what does it mean to your family and culture?