

For The Love of Art

Art is beauty, a getaway, expression, and passion whether it's in music, culinary, or painting. It feeds the mind and inspires the soul. It opens dreams to the extraordinary and definitely to the freedom of expression, but sometimes that freedom goes too far. We live in what outsiders call, "Paradise", but past the sandy beaches and tall palm trees, into the towns of Oahu, we go through the island's filth, ignoring the beauty that was once there. Graffiti hits every area on this island, as a form of representation and social status, or to show others how much potential one has. What happens when people come to "Paradise" for the first time, expecting a dream vacation? The brochures and advertisements begin to look like a joke. The same process with a clean brick wall happens over and over again: vandalized, buffed, vandalized, buffed, and vandalized, depriving our cities of the paradise we all imagine.

We try to stop the people vandalizing and get them in trouble with the enforcement. We come off more defensive rather than receptive, and often forget that graffiti is street artwork. In the "streets" it's all about respect, pride, and talent. What better place to express this than a public art center? It could simply be called, "Studio". A wide room, wooden floors, bright lights, and walls built spaced out around the room are what I can see. I see leather couches, a vending machine, and a comfy lounge-like environment. Artists, young or old, could go there with their own brushes, spray cans, paint, and supplies expressing pieces on the walls for the public to see. The walls would be painted over every two weeks after an exhibit. A winner of the best art piece for an annual contest could receive a prize of supplies or scholarship money for art school.

One of the Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation's mission is to provide assistance in the form of grants/loans to the people that desire to improve and develop themselves. By exposing their talents and finding realizations of their capabilities, the people would make up a better society. This foundation has similar ideals with what I have to offer.

Project Studio would keep the people off of the street buildings because the "Studio" would be the home of graffiti. People could connect with others and this place could also hold contests, events, and gallery shows. If a community would come together to work on creating this, it could greatly benefit our towns and people in it. This is for the community, the people, and for the love of art.