



## STAFF REPORT

**Meeting Date:** September 23, 2014

**To:** Honorable Mayor & City Council

**From:** Nancy Hunt-Coffey, Assistant Director of Community Services

**Subject:** Selection by the Friends of the Beverly Hills Public Library and Staff to Engage the Services of Marion Dies and Marian Westall to Provide Original Artwork in the Children's Library

**Attachments:** Renderings of proposed artwork

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### INTRODUCTION

After an extensive Request for Proposal process, the Friends of the Library and staff recommend engaging the services of artists Marion Dies and Marian Westall to provide original artwork for the Children's Library. The scope of the project will include the entryway to the Enchanted Woods Room as well as the transition passageway located in the center of the space. Funds for this project were raised by the Friends of the Library and were donated to the City. Staff is moving forward with preparing a contract with Ms. Dies and Ms. Westall for consideration by the City Council at a future meeting.

### DISCUSSION

The Friends of the Library expressed a desire to raise funds to provide for original artwork in the newly renovated Children's Library. With City Council's approval, the Friends raised more than \$93,000 toward this effort, including a generous donation by Mayor Bosse and her husband Jon. These funds were donated to the City and are held in a separate account.

Staff and representatives of the Friends of the Library issued a public Request for Proposal (RFP) as a call to artists who were interested in competing for this project. Twenty seven artists responded to the RFP, and after an extensive vetting and review process, the Friends and staff unanimously recommend Marian Westall and Marion Dies as the artists to do this mural work. The Fine Art Commission has been made aware of this project and does not object to it.

The entry to the Enchanted Woods Room would depict two children reading with animals, and the color palate would be in the blue range. The transition passageway from the area for the youngest readers to the area for school age children would depict

Canada geese in flight with books. Please see the attachment for renderings of these proposed pieces.

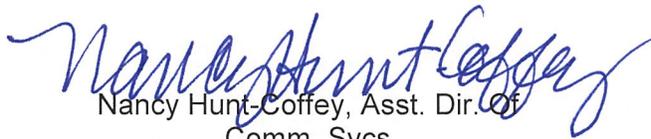
Staff is proceeding with preparing a contract with Ms. Westall and Ms. Dies to perform this work. The contract and appropriation of funds will be brought to the City Council at a future meeting.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None. The Friends of the Library raised over \$93,000 for this project, which has been donated to the City and is held in a separate account. The estimate from the artists for the original scope of the work, which includes the entry to the Enchanted Woods Room and one of the walls of the transition hallway is \$59,382. The Friends have asked these artists to provide an estimate for adorning one additional wall in the Children's Library. When and if the Friends approve this additional scope to the project, staff will return to the City Council with a revised scope, budget and proposed contract.

**RECOMMENDATION**

This item is for information only.

  
Nancy Hunt-Coffey, Asst. Dir. of  
Comm. Svcs  
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Approved By

# **Attachment 1**

Marion Dies 323 497-5639 & Marian Westall 818 618-2914



Enchanted Woods right of entry

oil on canvas

7'8" x 5'6"





Enchanted Woods Entrance

left wall 7'8" x 4'6", ceiling 4'6" x 47", right wall 7'8" x 5'6"

oil on canvas

Marion Dies 323 497-5639 & Marian Westall 818 618-2914

option 1 seen from side



Flight of Imagination (shown in perspective)

7'8 1/2" high x 8'10" wide

oil on canvas

Marion Dies 323 497-5639 & Marian Westall 818 618-2914

Option 1 seen straight on



Flight of Imagination

7'8 1/2" high by 8'10" wide

oil on canvas