

Visualizing Active Participation, Facilitating Meaningful Dialogue, Developing Engaging Curricula: Presentation of *Seneca 634 Mural* Curriculum for Youth Engagement



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PROJECT DESCRIPTION & PROPOSAL

The **Geneva Community Projects, Inc of New York** organization, a charitable corporation dedicated to building and renewing the strengths of the Geneva Community through projects designed to promote the public good and uplift the human spirit, was seeking a well-qualified candidate to **develop curricula that would teach Genevans about the rich, multi-faceted history of the City of Geneva portrayed in the mural.** The candidate would create a curriculum centered on rich heritage and history of this culturally diverse city, based in engaging, creative instructional methods. The curriculum submitted would have to be **differentiated for elementary, middle and high school grade levels and would be connected to state educational standards.**

SENECA 634 MURAL



Completed in 2010, the Seneca 634 Mural was established in order to promote Geneva, New York. Created by Kenneth Millington in his Brooklyn studio. Designed in order to capture Geneva and its rich history, the Seneca 634 Mural is **a large volume of historical events (Macro) that intersect with local time lines and locations (Micro) ...that is loaded with symbolic representation of past times and provides a gateway into a larger discussion of related issues.** The Seneca 634 Mural offers irresistible presentation/ dialog with history asserting that the mural can provide a curriculum that teaches regional history and issues.

PROJECT EXPECTED OUTCOMES

It is crucial to educate the current youth about the Seneca 634 Mural, so they appreciate the history and fabric of Geneva. Students will understand the different histories of Geneva's peoples and places, cherish the distinct neighborhoods and ethnic enclaves, and contributions of the different facets of this city. After understanding the Seneca 634 Mural, students will take pride in Geneva and the Finger Lakes. Students will have the tools necessary to see that Geneva is a unique place with a rich history, always shifting to be more accessible and equitable to all its citizens. Students across K-12, will **observe, analyze and synthesize,** and **apply critical understanding** of Geneva to their own lives and develop into civic minded citizens.

CURRICULUM PEDAGOGY



Art Based Learning through arts and crafts

New York State Education Department K-12 *Learning Standards for the Arts*

New York State Education Department K-12 *Next Generation English Language Art Standards*

Three Pronged Approach

Level 1: Observe and Articulate

Level 2: Analyze and Synthesize

Level 3: Application to Self and Context

Curriculum is rooted in critical social study of the history of the City of Geneva and the Finger Lakes

K-2 CURRICULUM

K-2 students will **observe** and **articulate.**

Join Each Letter to the Piece Students will be asked to connect individual letters to pictures in the mural; the "C" to the Canoe, the "L" to the Longhouse, and the "B" to the belt. Students will understand that the mural is made up of different components and will research what each is.

3-5 CURRICULUM

3-5 students will **observe** and **articulate** and **analyze.**

"Which item do I most resonate with?"
Students will be asked to select one item from the mural, draw it to the best of their abilities, and describe why they choose that item, and why it connects to their life.

6-8 CURRICULUM

6-8 students will **observe, articulate, analyze** and **synthesize .**

"Look at Me!, Look at Us!"
Students will create their own history book that journals their own lives in Geneva. Goal of activity is to make students aware of this city's history, expose them to diverse peoples and perspectives, and their relation to Geneva.

9-12 CURRICULUM

9-12 students will **observe, articulate, analyze, synthesize** and **apply the knowledge to themselves.**

"What is OUR community?"
Students will investigate topics relating to Geneva and the Finger Lakes identify the challenges of their community. Students will reflect on what makes their identity.