



**Bio:** Tarah McGonigle and Marion Umpleby both recently graduated from the University of St Andrews in the UK with a degree in French and Art History. They have been awarded a scholarship from their University to travel and investigate how art is used for community empowerment and social change. Tarah loves to make jewelry, paint, sketch, and collage. Marion is interested in film and loves to make YouTube videos and be a class clown for her friends.

**ArtSeed Statement:** *“We’ve been working with ArtSeed for almost three months now and have gained so much knowledge and inspiration from conversations with Josefa. Volunteering with ArtSeed has been a valuable insight into the inner-workings of an art non-profit. It’s been a great opportunity to meet new people and participate in the art scene of San Francisco.”*

**Title:** Design Your Own Mural!

**Date:** TBD

**Artists:** Tarah McGonigle and Marion Umpleby

**Materials/Prep:** A large piece of paper, sketchbook for practicing ideas, pencils, markers, paints, crayons, photos of Diego Rivera’s murals, grid paper or sheet protector for drawing paper, ruler.

**Activity:** Make your own mural! Your town/city council comes to you explaining that they have a blank wall in the community that needs a mural. What would you paint on it? Inspired by the murals of Diego Rivera and Muralistas and their questions surrounding identity, representation, and community building, students are asked to imagine what a mural in their neighborhood would depict. What images represent your cultural identity? Is there a message you want to give your community? What makes your neighborhood special?

**Vocabulary:** mural, imagination, community, utopia, culture, identity, voice, grid

**Successes:** Students being proud of where they’re from, conversation between students about their communities as they’re designing their murals, a completed prototype that they could turn into a bigger piece using a grid to blow up the image.

**Challenges:** Struggling to think of ideas, deciding how to weave together all the elements they want to represent.

**CA State Standard(s):** 5.VA:Cn10 – Apply formal and conceptual vocabularies of art and design to view surroundings in new ways through artmaking.

**Relevant Artists and Distinguished People:** Diego Rivera, Las Muralistas

Tarah's Example of a Preparatory Sketch for a Mural, *pen and marker on 8.5 x 11 paper*



*Tarah's hometown, Bangor, Northern Ireland*

**Links:**

Exhibition on Diego Rivera at SFMOMA: <https://www.sfmoma.org/exhibition/diego-riveras-america/>

25 minute documentary video about Las Muralistas: [https://www.sfmoma.org/watch/las-muralistas-our-walls-our-stories-es\\_us/](https://www.sfmoma.org/watch/las-muralistas-our-walls-our-stories-es_us/)

Art in Action Video made by Marion Umpleby on murals in the mission district  
<https://youtu.be/zNTfX2H4Z1o>

Art in Action YouTube channel with Josefa Vaughan Interview among other things:  
- <https://youtube.com/@artinaction6048>

Art in Action Instagram - @artinaction\_tm