

My name is Yuki Coyle, and I am an artist from Fargo, North Dakota. I currently am a sophomore at North Dakota State University. I am pursuing my Bachelor of Fine Arts with an emphasis in painting. As an artist, I am always excited to try new things, and that is what initially attracted me to this competition.

I have seen many murals and urban art in the Fargo-Moorhead area alone. I find the large scale of the pieces very striking and eye catching. I've always wanted to create one of my own, but never had an area available to me. In the past, I have had the opportunity to help create a couple smaller collaborative murals, but it was never quite the same as the larger pieces in downtown Fargo. This competition presents a great opportunity for me to gain experience by creating my very own mural.

As an artist, I am very interested in sharing my ideas and experiences with other people. I find it very fascinating that a picture can share an experience that cannot be fully expressed with words. With my art, I strive to reach a point where I can produce something both aesthetically pleasing and rich with meaning.

### **Design Explanation:**

A couple years back, I studied at the North Wind Aikikai dojo. I have fond memories of the time I spent there and still remember some of the techniques passed on to me by Angotti Sensei. I found that Aikido was not focused on extravagance and violence but rather harmony. This teaching inspired much of my design for this project.

My goal for the aesthetic of this design was for it to be colorful and eye catching, yet still respectful to the tradition of Aikido. The colors I chose are mostly colors seen in traditional Japanese painting. I made sure to use a lot of color so it would be eye catching for onlookers.

The image of the two individuals training is used to catch viewers' attention and raise their interest in the dojo. I wanted to emphasize the movement and energy behind the throw, so I used Japanese inspired patterns to create a blur effect. This show of energy is complimented by

the dojo's logo. The logo reads "ki" in calligraphy which translates to energy or spirit. The aim of the mural is to catch the eyes of passersby and lead them to become more interested in what North Wind Aikikai is all about.

If I was to paint my mural, I can ensure you all paint will be applied properly and neatly. I have three years of commercial painting experience and have learned many proper practices for painting at a large scale. I am grateful for this opportunity and hope you enjoy my design. Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing back from you.