

May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022Arts & Cultural Committee  
Meeting Minutes**Proposal for Temporary Installation – Project Backboard**

Artist(s): Edgar Heap of Birds  
Sponsoring Organization(s): Project Backboard, Five Star Basketball  
Title: *Neuf Series*  
Site: Murray Playground, Queens (North side basketball court at 140<sup>th</sup> St.)  
Dates: June/July 2022 to June/July 2023  
Material: Laykold acrylic resurfacing and color coating  
Dimensions: 59 feet x 47 feet

**Summary of project:**

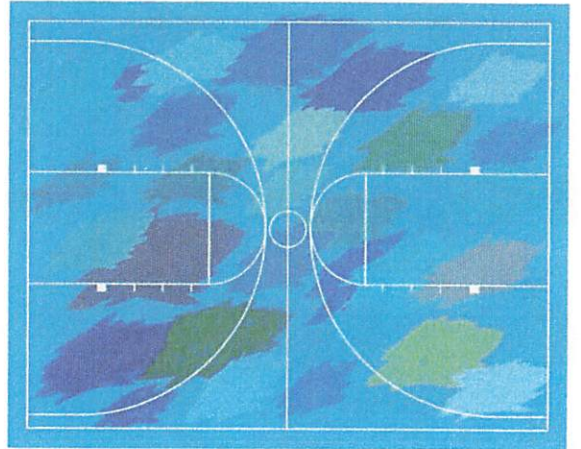
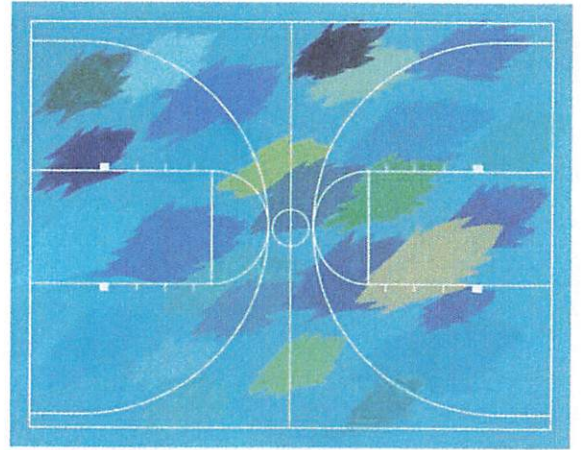
Project Backboard's mission is to ensure that all communities have a safe and inviting place to play outdoor basketball. Project Backboard has worked in public parks in New Rochelle, NY; Los Angeles, CA; San Diego, CA; Providence, RI; St. Louis, MO; Oakland, CA and many others. A leader in the field of site specific basketball court renovations Project Backboard pioneered the idea of collaborating with artists in basketball court renovations using sports specific color coatings. Project Backboard's partners include Adidas, the NBA, Under Armour, NBA 2K, Bleacher Report and many others.

Both courts will be painted using designs created by the artist Edgar Heap of Birds. Edgar Heap of Birds (Cheyenne name: Hock E Aye VI) is a multi-disciplinary artist working in a variety of media including large scale drawings, *Neuf Series* acrylic paintings, prints, and monumental porcelain enamel on steel outdoor sculpture. He is Southern Cheyenne and enrolled in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. His work has been exhibited widely in the United States and internationally

The design for this court comes from his *Neuf series* ("Neuf" is the Cheyenne word for "four"). This body of layered, abstract, colorful work draws inspiration from nature and the land, particularly the Cheyenne and Arapaho Nations's reservation lands in Oklahoma

The courts will be out of operation for 10-14 days for resurfacing and color-coating.

# Proposed Artwork



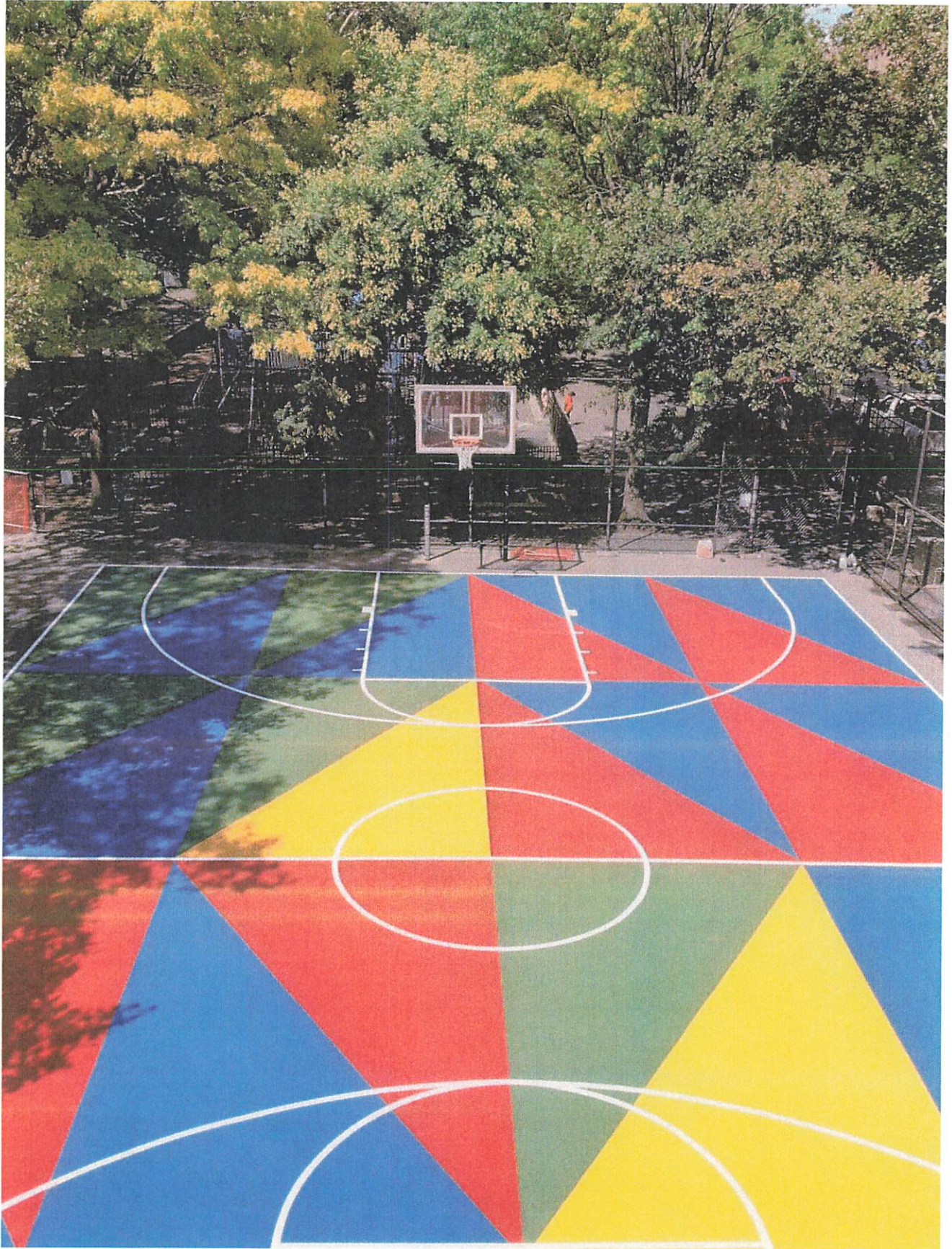
Murray Park - Neuf Series, Edgar Heap of Birds



Original source paintings by Edgar Heap of Birds

## Past Murals

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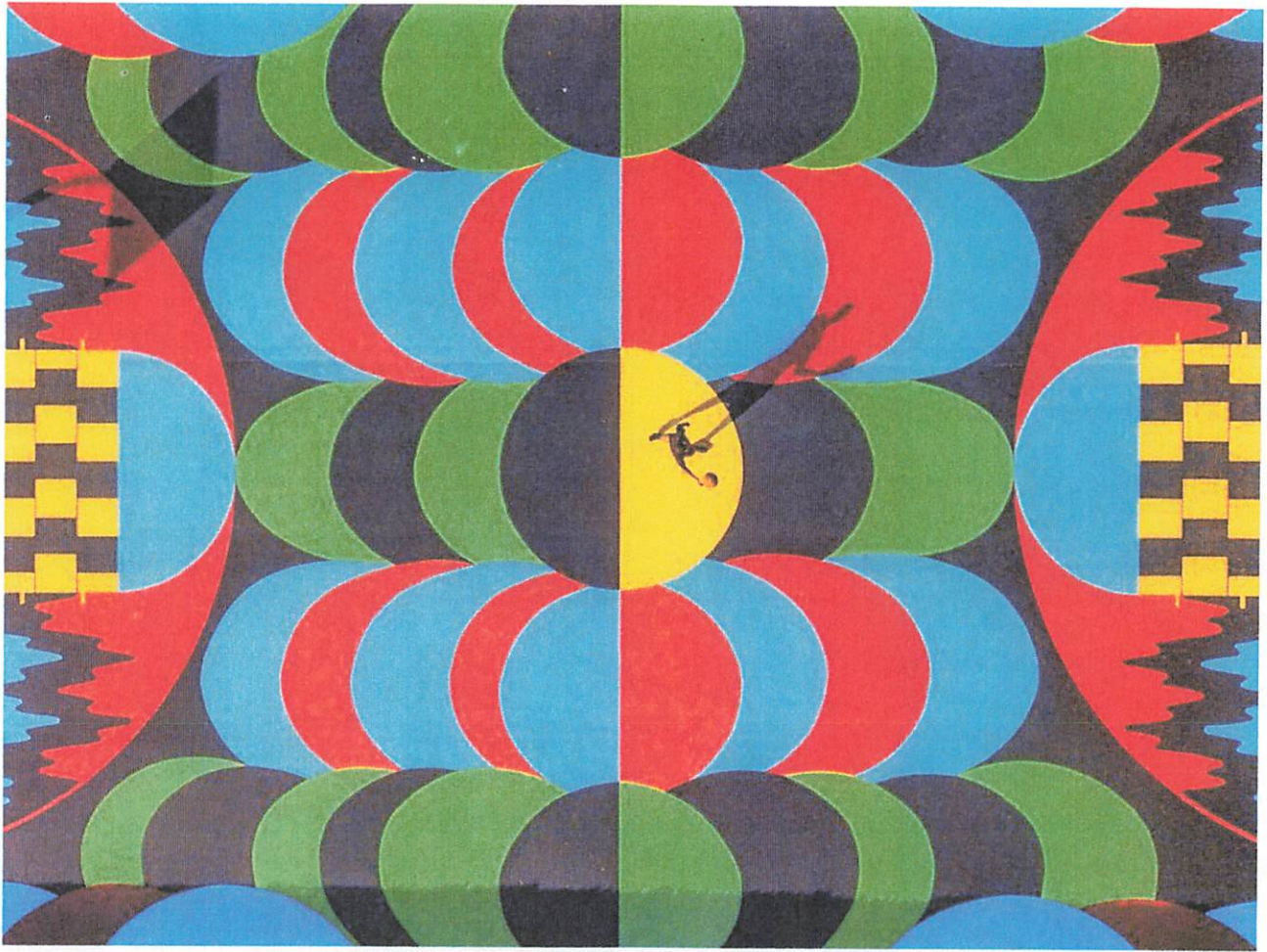
St. Nicholas Park, Manhattan



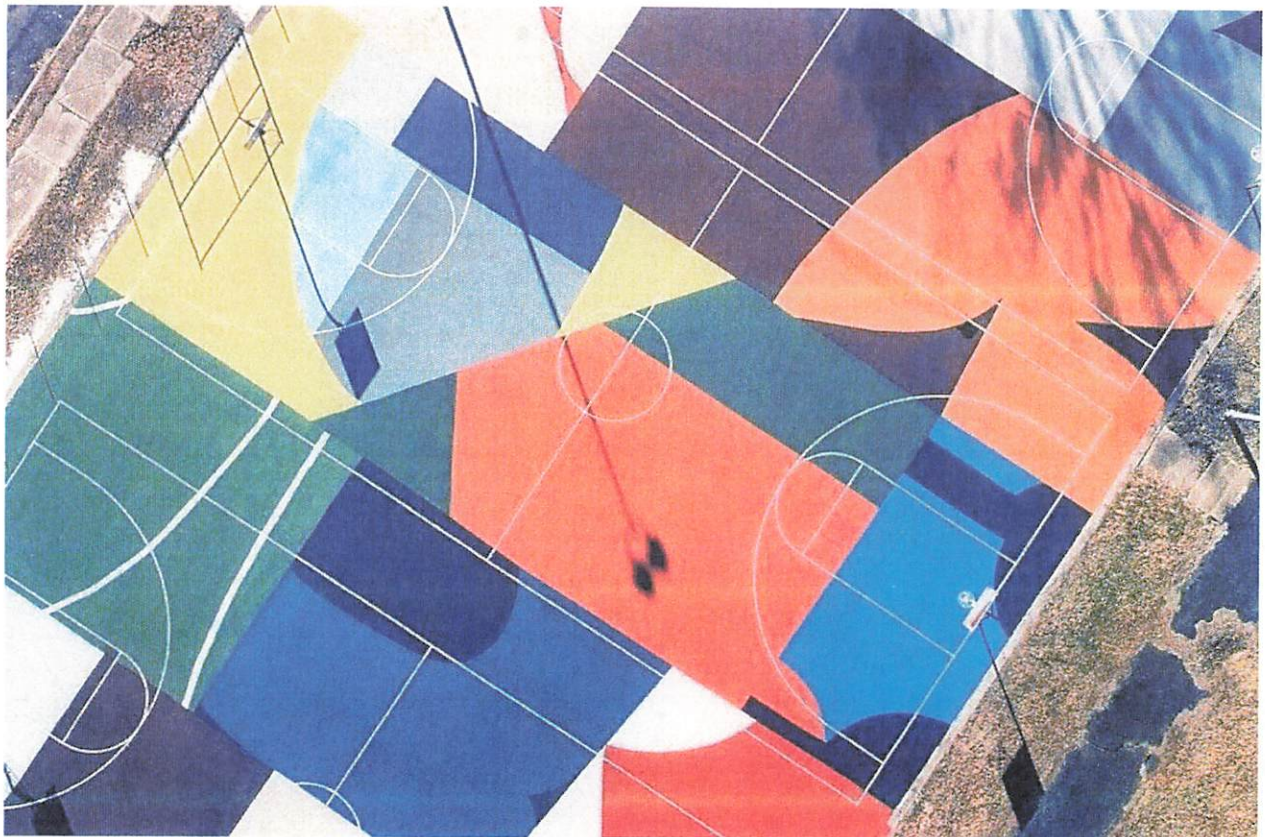
McCaffrey Playground, Manhattan



Oakland, CA



Providence, RI



Kinloch, MO



New Rochelle, NY