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NEW MURAL IN ROGERS PARK REVEALED AT CEREMONY WITH ALDERWOMAN MARIA HADDEN

Mural images available here >>

CHICAGO (June 26, 2019)—The nonprofit **Rogers Park Business Alliance** (RPBA) revealed local artist **Molly Costello**'s new mural at 6978 N. Clark Street at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, June 21. Alderwoman **Maria Hadden**, RPBA Executive Director **Sandi Price** and artist **Molly Costello** were in attendance to celebrate the new public artwork highlighting everyday residents of the diverse Rogers Park community.

RPBA commissioned Costello to create the mural as part of the organization's **Vision Clark Street Master Plan**. Her mural illustrates the eclectic, authentic and inclusive aspects of the multicultural Clark Street commercial corridor, while incorporating the vivid colors and designs that make up the new Clark Street brand.

"I feel very rooted in Rogers Park, and really appreciate how dynamic and diverse the neighborhood is," said Costello of her inspiration for the mural. "I wanted to create a scene of everyday Rogers Park residents from all walks of life, so in the mural there are scenes of neighbors engaging in activities such as preparing food, working on bicycles, reading books and cutting hair. I used a lot of stars and constellations, as when we break everything down, we are all made of the same stardust; we are very much a part of one another."

Molly Costello is a food grower and community-minded artist based out of Rogers Park. Through her work she explores concepts of connectedness; with our whole selves, each other, our communities, the natural world, and the divine of the universe at large. Everything is interrelated. Having spent many years working on programing about sustainability and community solutions to global issues, Molly's art is also reflective of the themes she encountered in that work, including community, struggle, healing, brokenness, resilience and love.

Rogers Park Business Alliance (RPBA) is a nonprofit organization that has served Chicago's diverse Rogers Park neighborhood for more than 25 years. RPBA works to cultivate and sustain a thriving economic environment in Rogers Park, serving businesses and residents with a variety of public events and business initiatives. RPBA programs include the GROW entrepreneurial training program, Taste of Clark Street, and the Glenwood Sunday Market farmers market. For more information, visit RPBA.org.

RPBA's **Vision Clark Street Master Plan** is a multi-year strategic plan for the Clark Street business corridor spanning Devon Avenue to Howard Street, which includes placemaking efforts such as new landscaping, storefront improvements and the addition of vibrant public art.

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