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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rogers Park welcomes three vibrant public art installations to uplift community spirit

CHICAGO, IL (October 22, 2024) – The nonprofit **Rogers Park Business Alliance** (RPBA) is excited to welcome three public art pieces to Rogers Park: ***Community in Bloom: Rogers Park*** by Chicago artist Ryan Tova Katz, ***Gracias Por Ser Quien Eres*** (*Thank You for Being Who You Are*) by Matthew Hoffman, Founder of the “You Are Beautiful” project, and ***Abundance*** designed by Peruvian-Canadian muralist Patrick Dyer, painted by Chicago artist Radah.

Katz’s mural ***Community in Bloom: Rogers Park***, which is now on display at 1141 W. Morse Avenue, was inspired by Rogers Parks’ successful Glenwood Sunday Market, RPBA’s farmers market dedicated to battling food insecurity and sustaining the local food system. The mural depicts Rogers Park’s diverse community shopping for vibrant bouquets and luscious produce. Katz shared, “The market showcases the heart of the neighborhood where vendors, artists, florists, and bakers come together to share their creations—whether woven, baked, or painted. The mural is a tribute to the resilience and warmth that rest beneath the cold, gray days of our winter; a monument to the joy that is ready to bloom once again, much like the community it celebrates.”

Hoffman, a Chicago public artist, also aimed to draw attention to the beauty and positivity of the community with his public art installation, ***Gracias Por Ser Quien Eres*** (*Thank You for Being Who You Are*). The large-scale sculpture written in Hoffman’s cursive handwriting runs along the Touhy Park fence at 7345 N. Clark Street and was commissioned as part of the **[Vision Clark Street Master Plan](#)**, a multi-year strategic plan for the developments of the Clark Street commercial corridor via placemaking efforts.

Abundance by **Dyer**, painted by Chicago artist **Radah**, is another Vision Clark Street Master Plan commission at 7015 N. Clark Street. *Abundance* highlights the natural

richness and multiculturalism of the Rogers Park Community while bringing a playful, imaginative space to the corridor.

Rogers Park Business Alliance is a nonprofit organization that has served Chicago's diverse Rogers Park neighborhood for 30 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/PROGRESANDO entrepreneurial training program, the Illinois Small Business Development Center at Rogers Park Business Alliance, annual Best of Rogers Park awards, Chalk Howard Street Festival, Taco Crawl, and the Glenwood Sunday Market farmers market. For more information, visit RPBA.org.

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Photos (l-r):

Community in Bloom: Rogers Park by Ryan Tova Katz

Gracias Por Ser Quien Eres (Thank You for Being Who You Are) by Matthew Hoffman

Abundance by Patrick Dyer, painted by Radah

Photos courtesy of Rogers Park Business Alliance