



FPRA MURAL PROGRAM
601 ATLANTIC AVENUE
PROJECT LIFT

PROJECT LIFT \$10,000

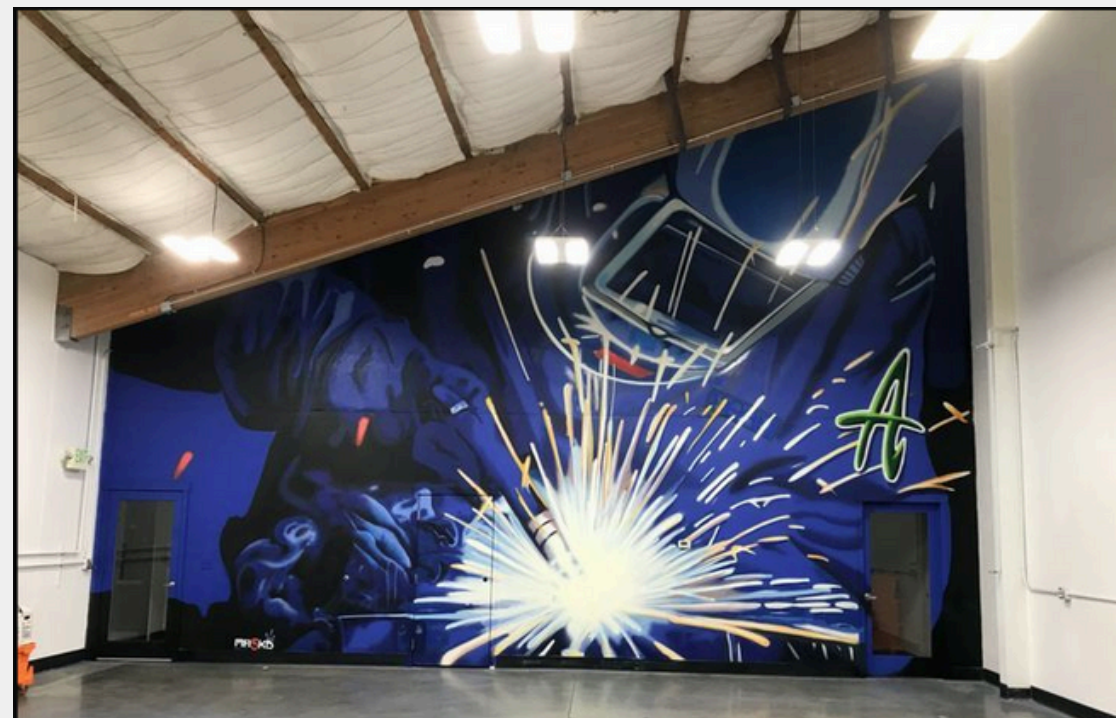
601 Atlantic Avenue
Fort Pierce, FL 34950

Proposed Location: Main Parking Lot at the entrance

Measurements of the Wall: 625 sqft

Mural Concept: Project Lift is a charity helping teens and young adults in the Fort Pierce Community in mental health and substance abuse with the behavior replacement of the trades. We would like the mural to be a student welding.

Benefits to the area: Project Lift has served over 300 teens and young adults in the past three (3) years in Fort Pierce. Many of who were refereed to us by the school or court. This mural will bring attention to our mission in helping our local teens by showcasing our work with the trades and job placement along with a high school diploma.



CJ HUNGERMAN Geneva, IL

[CJ Hungerman Website](#)

Statement: I am submitting 2 sample designs based on the theme "student welder". Rendering 1 is a traditional scene of a student welding and Rendering 2 is more abstract utilizing the welding helmet. In both renderings the sparks bring to life the intensity and excitement of the welding experience, expressing a rock star like engagement. I am always willing to work with a panel or committee of people to edit and explore as many variations on this theme as needed in order to produce the perfect piece of art for the space.

I am submitting 2 past public artwork projects, the first shows a 110 foot by 30 foot piece and the second a smaller but more complicated art work that shows people and know object to reference my abilities.





HANNAH LORRA Tampa, FL

[Hannah Lorra Website](#)

Statement: In "Forging Futures," a student welder is captured mid-spark—focused, powerful, and fully immersed in their craft. Through the gleam of their helmet and the folds of their protective gear, a vibrant tropical paradise and surreal dreamscape reflect back at the viewer, symbolizing the future they are shaping with their own hands.

This mural honors the mission of Project Lift by blending realism with imaginative vision, portraying welding not just as a skill but as a metaphor for transformation, self-determination, and healing. The luminous reflections represent the student's inner world and dreams—proving that with the right tools and support, every young person can forge a life of beauty, purpose, and possibility.



Previous Work

DANIELA SANCHEZ VEGA Miami, FL

[Daniela Sanchez Vega Website](#)

Statement: "Forging New Paths" captures the mission of Project Lift by symbolizing personal transformation through the trades. The mural tells a story of young individuals turning struggle into strength—using their hands, minds, and community support to build a future. Bold, vibrant, and emotionally uplifting, the mural will not only draw attention to Project Lift's vital work but become a daily reminder to the community that every life can be reshaped and reignited.

Left Side (Abstract Chaos → Beginning of Transformation): A dynamic composition of fractured, abstract shapes in deep purples, indigos, and charcoal greys symbolizes confusion, hardship, and emotional turmoil. These fragmented patterns gradually start to shift in rhythm, as warm light tones (oranges, teals, bright reds) emerge—visually representing internal change and possibility.

Hidden in the abstract forms are faint outlines of tools (a wrench, pliers, tape measure) and shadowed silhouettes of hands—subtle metaphors for the many paths to growth through skilled trades.

Centerpiece (Figurative Student Welder): A larger-than-life, central figure of a teen welder in action, placed boldly in the center of the wall. Their face is partially hidden behind a welding mask, yet their body posture is confident and grounded. Sparks fly from the welding torch—these sparks transition into vibrant, swirling patterns that wrap around the figure like energy waves. The sparks glow with turquoise, yellow, electric pink, and cobalt—symbolizing skill, focus, and inner power.

The welding flame serves as a metaphorical "torch of transformation"—igniting the surrounding abstract space into vibrant order.

Right Side (Abstract to Order → Growth and Future): The shapes evolve into upward, geometric forms—buildings, scaffolds, ladders, and arches—subtle hints at structure, stability, and community. A tree with metallic branches and abstract leaves grows from the geometry, symbolizing new life and rooted strength. In the background, blueprints fade in, and inside them: faint silhouettes of smiling students holding a diploma or using other tools—showing a diversity of trade possibilities and personal victories.



Previous Work

SHANNEN MYTHEN Port St. Lucie, FL

[Shannen Mythen Website](#)

Statement: 'Spark of Hope'

The aim of Project Lift is one that is very close to my families heart. After years of experiences with mental health and substance abuse issues with a sibling I have an even greater appreciation for organizations like this. From experience I have learned how delicate hope truly is and how many of us take it for granted. I now know the power of hope and the devastation that can occur when someone loses hope. Power Lift puts in the work to give young people back their sense of hope which is a stepping stone towards a better life. The glowing sparks from the welding in this mural depicts the sparks and glimmer of hope that purpose can give people. The colors are intimate and intense on the frame and get lighter towards the focal point of the welder as the image glows from the center out. The sculpture could also spell out Lift if the organization would prefer that. I have another mock up with the wide angle photo of the wall but can only upload one here.



SITKI DOGAN Lake Worth, FL

[Sitki Dogan Website](#)

Statement: This mural captures a defining moment in the transformation of a young life. A teenage welding student leans out of a cube-shaped workshop window embedded in the wall, immersed in his work, focused, and full of potential. The dramatic trompe-l'oeil illusion brings the figure into the viewer's space, blurring the boundary between reality and aspiration.

Rendered with photorealistic lighting and depth, the student's welding torch emits a burst of blue sparks that cascade toward the sidewalk—symbolizing ignition, momentum, and new opportunity. The warm interior of the shop, filled with hanging tools and industrial textures, represents discipline, mentorship, and growth.

The design celebrates Project Lift's mission: empowering Fort Pierce youth through vocational training, mental health support, and the belief that skills can spark second chances.



Previous Work

SAMARA ASH Miami, FL

[Samara Ash Website](#)

Statement: This mural honors the transformative power of the trades, as taught through Project Lift. A young welder stands at the center of a cosmic backdrop, symbolizing limitless potential and the expansive future available to youth who choose a new path. The infinity symbol emblazoned on the welder's chest signifies that the skills these teens acquire extend beyond the workshop—translating into confidence, resilience, and success in every area of life. Inspired by the vibrancy of Florida and the energy of young adults, the mural's radiant colors and galactic setting celebrate a future built through self-determination, mental wellness, and community support.



"FORGE THE INFINITE"



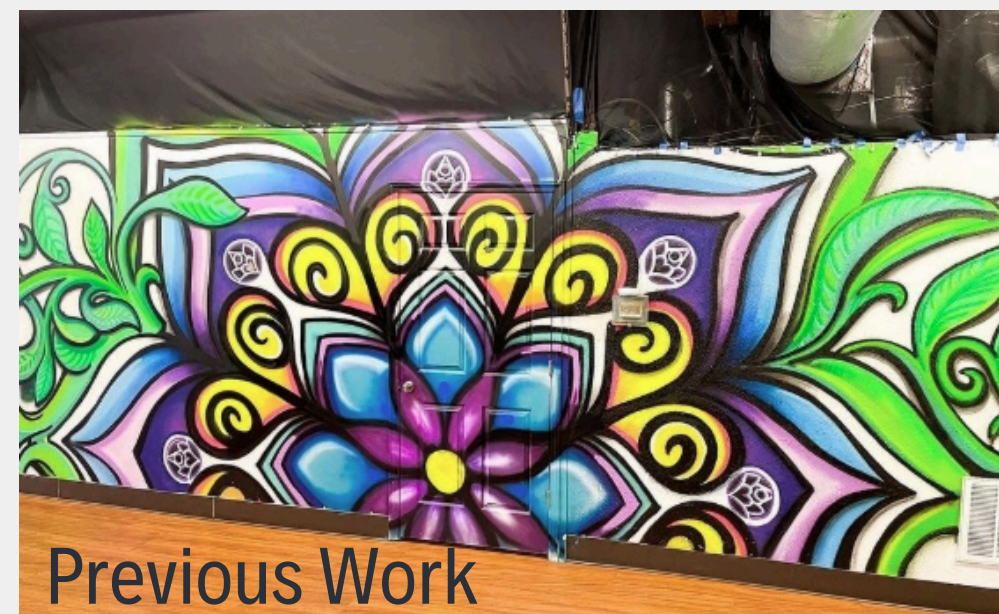
Previous Work 



TIFFANY MACHLER Wilmington, NC

[Tiffany Machler Website](#)

Statement: As someone who grew up as a wayward teen with no stable role models and a family shaped by addiction and mental illness, I understand how isolating and overwhelming the world can feel. I've also faced addiction in my adult life and come through it to become a professional muralist, a single mom, and the owner of a public art business. I've painted over 30 murals across the country—from Alaska to Michigan—but this opportunity in Fort Pierce, Florida, holds special meaning for me. The mural I'm proposing features a welder in action, their sparks bursting outward and transforming into a swirling galaxy. It's a symbol of resilience, transformation, and the belief that even the darkest starting points can lead to something beautiful. We are all creators of our own lives—and the spark is just the beginning. Beyond the visual impact, I see this as a chance for meaningful engagement. I've taught free spray painting classes for at-risk youth through programs like DREAMS and GLOW Academy, and I would love to involve teens from Project LIFT—whether through assisting with the mural, or participating in a workshop or coloring-page-based lesson. That kind of hands-on collaboration gives the students a sense of pride and ownership, while also creating opportunities for storytelling. Documenting the process through social media, short videos, or local press adds value not just to the mural itself, but to the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency by showcasing its commitment to uplifting youth and building community through public art. My résumé includes a short video that reflects my approach and energy, and I'm committed to Bringing both professional execution and heartfelt purpose to this project.



Previous Work



AVI RAM Oakland Park, FL

[Avi Ram Website](#)

Statement: "Welding in Bloom," celebrates the transformative journey of youth who are finding strength, purpose, and healing through the skilled trades. Inspired by Project Lift's mission, the piece portrays a young student welding — a symbol of focus, growth, and resilience.

The welding helmet and uniform are wrapped in flourishing vines and vibrant flowers, illustrating how creativity and discipline can lead to inner growth and a renewed sense of self. The blooming elements represent the blossoming potential of each student, even when forged through fire and struggle.

The warm sparks from the welding torch contrast with the cool tones of the background, symbolizing how light and hope emerge from the hard work of change. This is not just a student learning a trade — it's a young person rebuilding their life, welding a new future, and growing into something beautiful.



Previous Work



JASON TETLAK Jacksonville, FL

[Jason Tetlak Website](#)

Statement: My concept for this mural focuses on a bold, eye-catching design that creates a sense of energy and motion by using various spark images and icons, along with simulated torn paper imagery in the top right, and a number of arrows and diagonal lines.



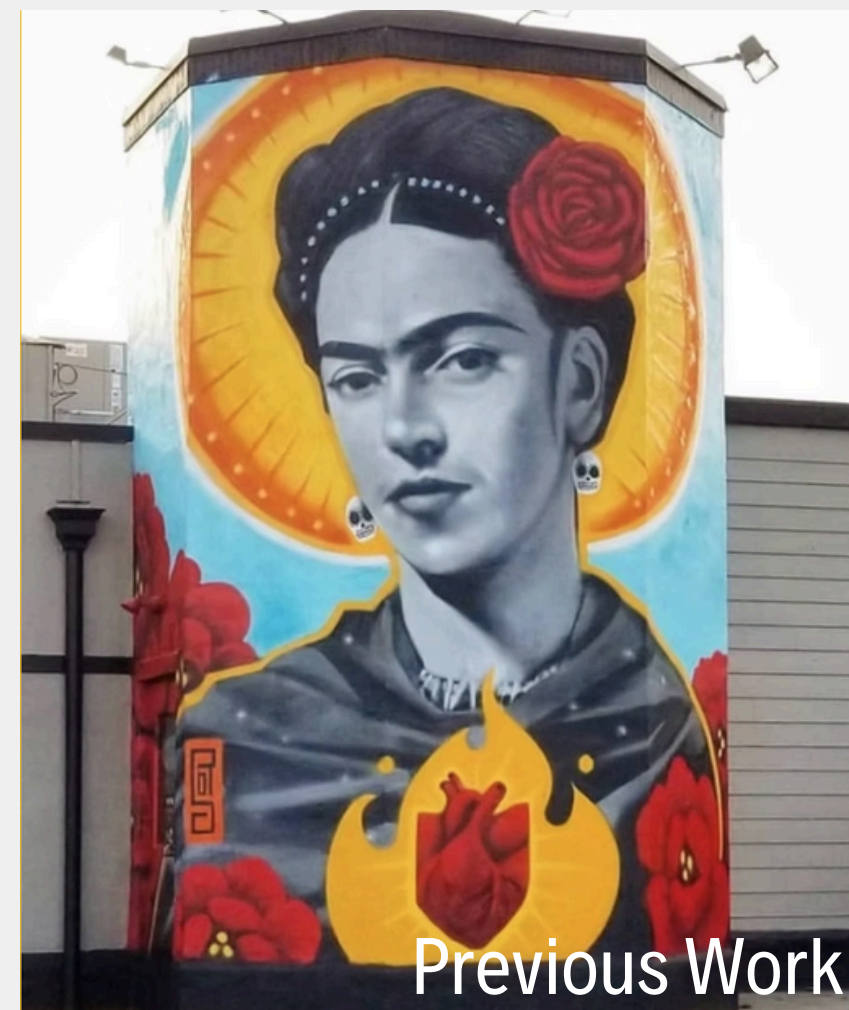
Previous Work



CARLOS "ROA" Columbus, OH

[Carlos "Roa" Website](#)

Statement: Foraging Futures. This mural captures a pivotal, symbolic moment: a Fort Pierce youth, fully suited in welding gear, stands grounded in purpose — helmet down, torch lit. A burst of welding sparks illuminates the scene, casting brilliant light on rough steel in progress. It is unclear what they are building — and that's the point. The mural is a metaphor for the unseen, ongoing work of building a life.



Previous Work

OLIVER CRISOSTOMO Royal Oak, MI

[Oliver Crisostomo Website](#)

Statement: I seek to represent a welding student in his own universe, full of light. He uses this program to weld and repair his own inner world to achieve self-improvement. From this world, small heart-shaped sparkles of the weld emanate, as he does so with love and patience.



DAMIEN MITCHELL Long Beach, NY

[Damien Mitchell Website](#)

Statement: This mural honors the strength, resilience, and transformation of young people rebuilding their lives. Depicting a welder mid-spark, the image symbolizes the forging of new paths through dedication, hard work, and guidance. Each spark represents a possibility—a future shaped not by the past, but by the courage to begin again. Painted on the wall of a facility committed to helping troubled youth reintegrate into society, the artwork reflects the power of skill-building and personal growth. Bold, dynamic, and full of energy, this mural serves as both a tribute and a daily inspiration to those working to create something better for themselves and their communities.



Previous Work



STEFAN SMITH Miami, FL

[Stefan Smith Website](#)

Statement: Welding Our Future



Previous Work

SEAN COFFEY Memphis, TN

[Sean Coffey Website](#)

Statement: "Forging Futures" celebrates the passion and dedication of Florida's next generation of welders. The main image is a student welder captured in a moment of focus—helmet down, sparks flying, steel glowing. This mural honors the blend of craftsmanship and creativity that welding requires, symbolizing how hands-on training and technical education ignite real-world opportunity. Surrounded by vibrant colors and elements of Florida's industrial and natural landscapes, the artwork is a tribute to the skilled trades and a reminder that powerful futures are built one weld at a time.



Previous Work

View



JUVY TORRES New Smyrna Beach, FL

[Juvy Torres Website](#)

Statement: The Spark of Industry pays homage to the unseen hands that shape the world around us, those who build with heat, grit, and precision. The artwork captures a powerful moment of transformation where raw materials meet human skill. Rendered in a bold, graphic illustration style inspired by traditional linocut prints, the image uses sharp lines, vibrant color, and radiant bursts of light to highlight the energy and drama of the welding process.

The composition elevates a routine industrial task into a visual symbol of innovation, strength, and resilience. The welder, clad in protective gear, is framed by dynamic rays that suggest both creation and illumination. This piece honors the tradesperson as both laborer and artist, reminding us of the essential work that quietly supports and sustains the infrastructure of modern life.



Previous Work

VALERIA FABRE SCHWETZ Orlando, FL

Statement: "Find your spark" the inspiration and concept is described in the attached file however to simplify. It is heavily inspired by Pop art where you see bold color, outlines, and often words in the work. My goal was to create something inspirational but cool enough to make people want to stop, admire, and engage with the work.



Previous Work



LAYTON SCARBROUGH Culpeper, VA

[Layton Scarbrough Website](#)

Statement: My mural proposal, GUIDING LIGHT, portrays a young student learning to weld under the guidance of a mentor. This scene honors the heart of Project Lift. Not only as a guiding light for so many in the community, but also as a place where youth discover their own path through the trades.

I felt it was important to depict a real mentoring moment, emphasizing the bond between mentor and student. I chose to feature vintage welding goggles rather than modern face shields. Not only as a nod to the history of the trade, but also to ensure viewers can truly see the youth and connect with their journey.

My goal is to create a piece that is both visually striking and deeply meaningful. One that generates excitement around Project Lift and helps foster greater appreciation and acceptance of the trades within the community.

It would be an absolute honor to bring this vision to life in Fort Pierce. Thank you so much for creating opportunities like this for artists!



Previous Work

ALEC DEJESUS Dallas, TX

[Alec DeJesus Website](#)

Statement: The title is "Spark of Creation".

This mural will depict a young student mid-weld—helmet down, sparks flying—capturing the powerful transformation happening through Project Lift's programs. The welder, framed in bold, confident posture, symbolizes strength, focus, and possibility. Around the central figure, the bold marks of spark suggest growth, discipline, and a future in the making.

The overall composition will balance realism with stylized energy, drawing viewers in and highlighting the dignity of skilled trade work.

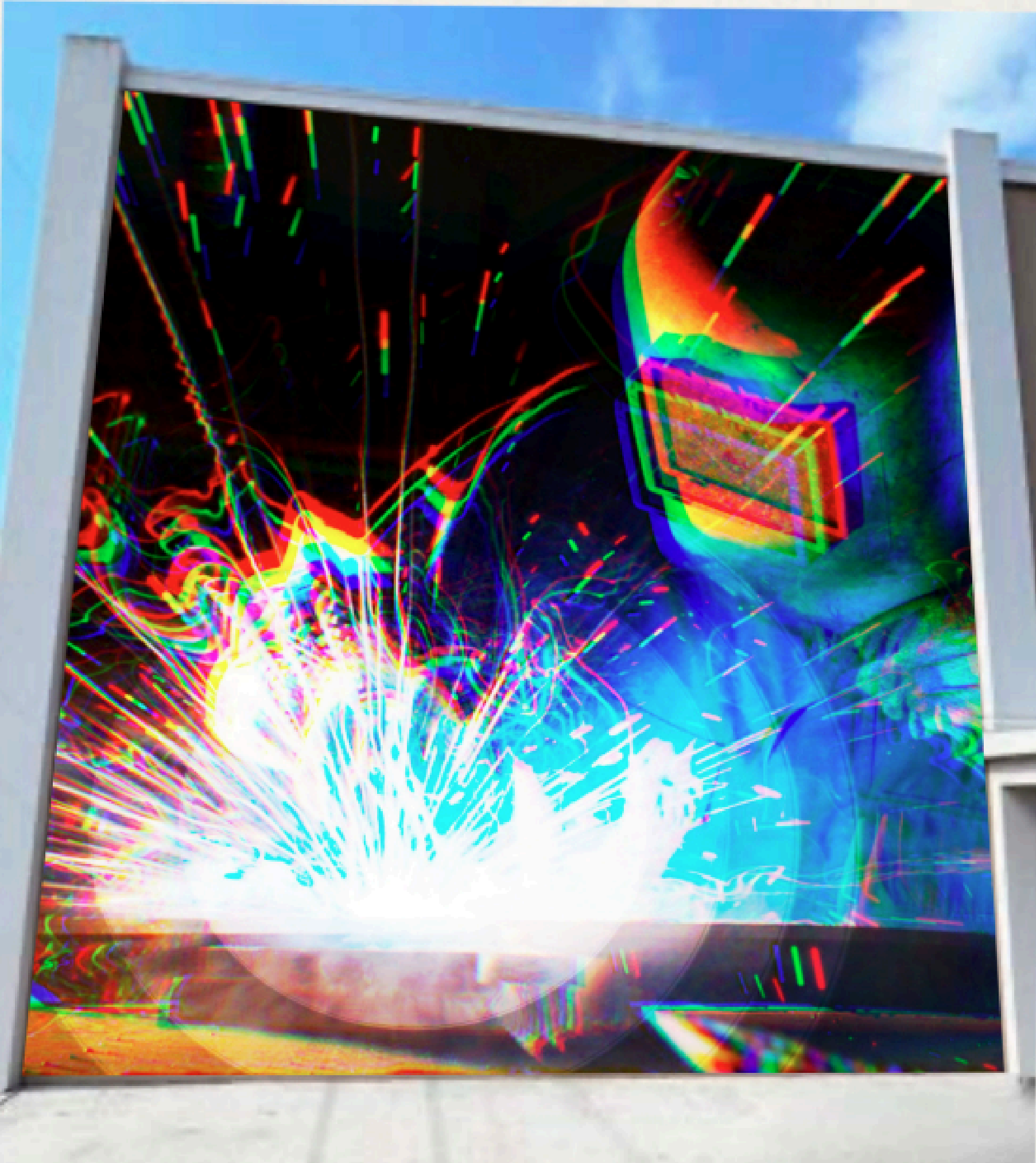


Previous Work

WHITNEY PAIGE ELLENS

[Whitney Paige Website](#)

Statement: "Sparks"



Previous Work



SYLVIA HECHT

[Sylvia Hecht Website](#)

Statement: “Sparks of Potential”

This mural is a celebration of transformation, creativity, and the extraordinary power of young people discovering their strength through the skilled trades. Inspired by the mission of Project Lift, the design captures a student mid-weld—bathed in flowing waves of color and surrounded by radiant bursts of energy. The figure channels light from both their hands and their mind, symbolizing the unique brilliance of the individuals Project Lift serves.

Metallic paints bring the mural to life, interacting with sunlight to amplify the welding spark and the radiant energy rising from the student’s helmet. This visual rhythm represents the neurodiverse ways young people learn, think, and contribute—an abstract but intentional nod to the beauty of difference. The vibrant color palette, kinetic composition, and reflective surfaces make the piece feel alive, changing with time of day and viewer movement.

The mural transforms the parking lot wall into a symbol of hope, progress, and creative potential. It honors the trades, celebrates personal growth, and lights up the entrance to Project Lift with warmth, pride, and inspiration.



Previous Work

EDUARDO MENDIETTA Fort Pierce, FL

[Eduardo Mendieta Website](#)

Statement: Welder



Previous Work

