SOUTH SEATTLE WELCOMES SASQUACH FAMILY

For Immediate Release:
Seattle, July 16 — Parent Trust for Washington Children is delighted to unveil a new mural, created by Ryan Henry Ward (Henry) and Angelina Villalobos (179) at the Parent Trust Center for Strong Families, located on the corner of Walker St. and Rainer Avenue South.

Henry’s work has adorned our wall since 2010, when he led and coordinated a group of four artists to create a magical scene that energized our staff and the families we serve. “Henry’s Wall” brightened Rainer Avenue and the whole neighborhood for nine years.

The original work was damaged by graffiti in the spring of this year and it was immediately obvious that the damage was too extensive for restoration. The neighborhood said a sad goodbye to “The Walrus on the Bicycle” that was beloved by many.

“As soon as I saw it, I knew we couldn’t save it,” said Henry, “So I thought let’s do it again. Let’s show people love always wins.” Henry and Angelina had been talking about collaborating for years. “When I heard where the project was,” said Angelina, “I knew I was going to say yes. I grew up in south Seattle. This is art for everyone.”
Without Angelina and Henry’s generosity, not only would we have lost our beloved mural, but we would need to take money away from our programing to cover over the wall. “The idea of doing that, just painting it over,” says Associate Director Linda McDaniels, “was devastating.”

Henry is an iconic Seattle muralist, who has painted more than 260 murals during his career – in Seattle, and around the world. Angelina, pseudonym 179, is an art activist and Seattle native. By donating their work to us in such a visible location Henry and Angelina are giving a priceless gift to the Parent Trust families and South Seattle.

“It means so much to have Henry and Angelina create something new for us,” says McDaniels. “It’s positive energy we can all feel. We were blessed by all the artists who painted the first one, and we are re-blessed to share the new one with our neighbors.”

About Parent Trust:
Raising kids is a big job. Parents don’t have to go it alone. At Parent Trust, we meet families where they are, when they need us, throughout their parenting journey. Our programs include a parent coaching call-in line, developmental screenings, childbirth and parenting classes, parenting groups, stress reduction training for teens, and support groups for parents recovering from substance addiction.

About Henry: https://itsahenry.com/
About 179: https://onesevennine130849860.wordpress.com/

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More photos and short videos of the artists working are available.