

## Teen Public Art Project Coming to Greenpoint

Nov 01, 2013

by Jeff Mann



*Gina Argento, Elaine Brodsky, Jeff Mann and Dana Rachlin with Groundswell's Esteban DelValle and the Groundswell teens*

On Wednesday, October 30th, 20 students handpicked from the Greenpoint Youth Court and Williamsburg High School for Architecture and Design (WHSAD) met for the first session in a special yearlong afterschool program.

Through a partnership with Groundswell, a 17 year old non-profit that brings together artists, youth, and community organizations to use art as a tool for social change, the teens will research, design and create a large scale work of public art to be installed in Greenpoint based on a theme of Social Justice.

Two Groundswell artists will work with the students one night a week for three hours through May, holding design workshops, meetings with community stakeholders and field trips focused on generating ideas, images and themes for the mural.

The teens will be paid a stipend to participate in the program and the mural will be installed in a highly trafficked area of Greenpoint.

Costs for the program, which include all artist fees, supplies, youth stipends and insurance came from private donations from Gina and Tony Argento (Broadway Stages), Elaine and Norm Brodsky (CitiStorage), Kevin Thompson (ExxonMobil) and Jed Walentas (Two Trees).

To follow the student's process, follow WHSAD Junior David Segarra's weekly posts at <http://www.whsad.org/whats-happening-at-whsad/community-murals-week-1-david-segarra>.