

Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners

Emmnauel Gillespie

Proposal for Consideration

Dr. Charles L. Sifford Golf Course
1225 Remount Rd., Charlotte, NC 28208



Proposal Prepared for:
Mecklenburg County
Commissioners County Managers



ABOUT GILLESPIE

Emmanuel Gillespie was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. He received his BFA from the University of North Texas and later earned his Master of Art from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Gillespie works with mixed media in both 2D and 3D forms. As a creator for over 20 years, Gillespie has completed several public art projects in Dallas. Some most notable works include site-specific sculptures for the Bexar Street Corridor, two bronze sculptures for the Cedar Crest Golf course, the design for the DART bus station for the DART Green Line project, and a statue commission of Ernie Banks for the Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. Gillespie utilizes his artistic practice as a conduit for community engagement. Emmanuel Gillespie has a long history with the Dallas/Fort Worth community through his studio art instruction. In addition, his administrative work in implementing art programs in collaboration with the African American Museum of Dallas, South Dallas Cultural Center, and other institutions, foster an appreciation for the arts for our youth and adults. Emmanuel Gillespie's artwork cultivates conversation and his passion for the arts bridges a greater understanding of our history.

PUBLIC ART



GILLESPIE CV

EDUCATION

M.A. Art Department, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, PA, (Magna Cum Laude).
B.F.A., Art Department, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas, (Magna Cum Laude).
Booker T. Washington: School for the Performing and Visual Arts, Dallas, Texas, (Magna Cum Laude).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dallas College (Studio Art Professor) Dallas, Texas, 2023 - present
The Winston School of Dallas (Sculptor Instructor) Dallas, Texas, 2011- 2023
South Dallas Cultural Center (Art Instructor) Dallas, Texas, 1994-2010
St. Philips School and Community Center (Art Instructor) Dallas, Texas, 1998-2009
Office of Cultural Affairs (Artist in Residence) Dallas, Texas, 1995-2008
Young Audience of Greater Dallas (Artist) Dallas, Texas, 1998-2003
Kimbell Art Museum (Workshops) Fort Worth, Texas, 1997
Dallas Museum of Art (Workshops and Art Instructor) Dallas, Texas, 1994

PUBLIC ART

Walter Hagen Statue, City of Dallas, Cedar Crest Golf Course, 2023
Dr. Charlie Sifford Statue, City of Dallas, Cedar Crest Golf Course, 2023
Ernie Banks Statue, City of Dallas, ARTS, 2018
BEXAR CORRIDOR, City of Dallas, Texas, 2014.
MUSIC AND IMAGINATION, House of Blues Community Project, Dallas, Texas, 2010.
DART, Train Station, Martin Luther King Blvd., Dallas, Texas, 2008.
SANKOFA, South Dallas Cultural Center, Dallas, Texas, 2007.
DART, Rail Station, J.B. Jackson, Dallas, Texas, 2005.
MURAL, Playground, Martin Luther King School, Dallas, Texas, 2004.
MURAL, Warren United Day Care, Dallas, Texas, 2002.
MURAL, "Malcolm," Malcolm Blvd., Dallas, Texas, 2001.
MURAL, North Texas Food Bank, Dallas, Texas, 2001.
MURAL, American Airline, Dallas, Texas, 2000.
MURAL, B.F. Darrell Elementary, Dallas, Texas, 1999.
MURAL, Hall of State, Fair Park, Dallas, Texas, 1998.
MURAL, Temporary mural, African American Museum, Dallas, Texas, 1996-1997.
MURAL, McNair Elementary, Dallas, Texas, 1995.
MURAL, Adelle Turner Elementary, Dallas, Texas, 1994.
MURAL, K.B. Polk Elementary, Dallas, Texas, 1993.
MURAL, Exline Recreation Center, Dallas, Texas, 1993.
MURAL, Temporary mural, Trammel Crow Company, Dallas, Texas, 1984.

AWARDS AND HONORS

HONOR SOCIETY, Phi Kappa Phi, University of North Texas
HONOR, Tau Sigma Society, University of North Texas
AWARD, David C. Driskell Artist and Young Scholar Award, 2010.
GRANT, Seagram's Gin Artist in Residence Grant, Dallas, Texas, 1998-1999.
AWARD, National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts.
AWARD, Arts Alliance, Selected Artists Award, Texas.
PUBLICATION AWARD, Who's Who in America.

INTERVIEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

"Historic Statues Unveiled at Cedar Crest Golf Course", Dallas Morning News, Texas, 2023
"Dallas' Pencil on Paper Gallery Centers Black Art and Education", Dallas Morning News, 2022
"How Do Artists See Their World?", Art & Seek/KERA/NPR, Texas, 2021
"Three Dimensions", Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas, 2019
"Ernie Banks", Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas, 2018
"Ernie Banks", CBS Channel 11, Dallas, Texas, 2018
"Ernie Banks", NBC Channel 5, Dallas, Texas, 2018
"Ernie Banks", D-Magazine, Dallas, Texas, 2018
"Music and Imagination," Art and Seek, KERA, Dallas, Texas, 2010.
"The Green Line," Dart Interview, You Tube, Dallas, Texas, 2010.
"Dart in Motion: Telling the Story in Iron and Stone," Magazine, Dallas, Texas, 2005.
"Erykah Badu: The First Lady of Neo-Soul," Book by Joel Mcleever, 2002.
"Nommo," Collaborative CD, Volume One, 1998.
"On the Record," Interview, KERA, Channel 13, Dallas, Texas, 1998.
"Onyx," DFW's Magazine, Dallas, Texas, 1997.
"The New Groove," Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas, 1997.
"The Family of America," Book by Michael Cottman, 1996.

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Dr. Keith & Donna Rawlings Private Collection
The Michael & Rebecca Finley Private Collection
The Wright Family Collection
Cedar Crest Golf Course
Dallas Arts District Public Art Collection (Booker T. Washington HSPVA)
African American Museum of Dallas Collection
House of Blues Dallas Private Art Collection
Melucci Family Collection
Joe & Rayné Ventimiglia Family Collection
Jane & Douglas Dover Family Collection
Penn Family Collection
Hargrave Collection
Erykah Badu Family Collection
Tosha Storey Collection
The Central Hesa Family Collection
Harlem Fine Arts Show Permanent Collection

One of the most meaningful aspects of this project for me is the serendipitous way it connects to my previous bronze sculpture commission. Two years ago, I had the privilege and honor of creating a bronze sculpture of Dr. Charlie Sifford for Cedar Crest Golf Course in Southern Dallas. That experience deepened my belief in the power of art to build relationships within a community and to illuminate the richness of its history. Meeting Dr. Sifford's son was especially profound as through him, I felt a connection not only to Charlie but also to the legacy he left behind.

The stories he shared inspired me to continue creating work that honors and preserves the histories of those who have shaped our world.



PAST PROJECTS



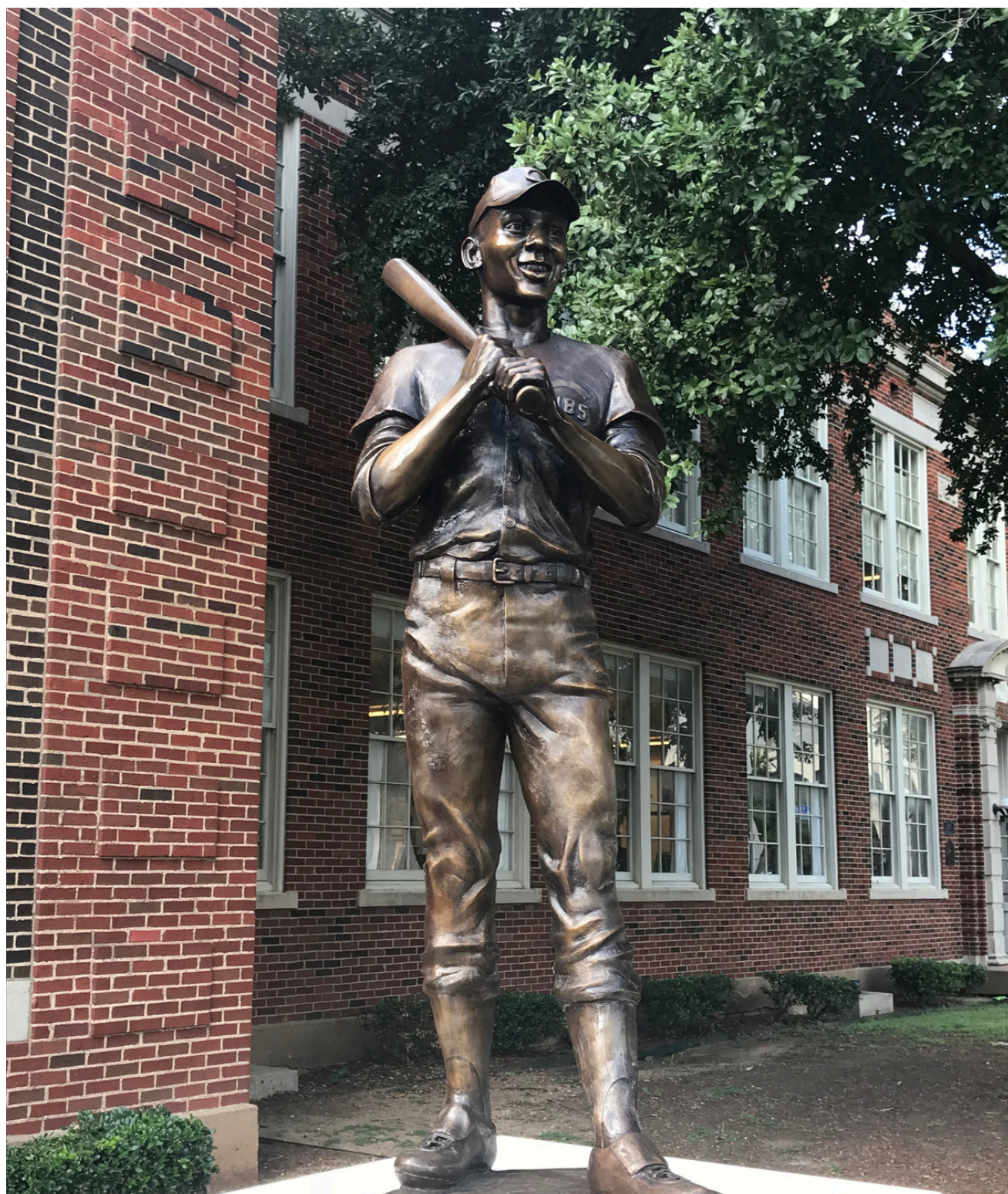
Dr. Charlie Sifford

2023

8 Feet Tall

Bronze

Commissioned By Private Donors & I Am a Golfer Foundation, Dallas, TX



Ernie Banks

2018

11 Feet Tall

Bronze

Commissioned By Private Donors, Dallas, TX



Walter Hagan

2023

8 Feet Tall

Bronze

Commissioned By Private Donors & I Am a Golfer Foundation, Dallas, TX

BUDGET

Charlie Sifford

Bronze Statue

Dr. Charlie Sifford statue

Height: 5.8 x120% = 6.96/ (7ft tall statue)

7ft. tall golfer in poise swinging golf club with a 3'x3'x4" tall bronze base.

ARTIST:

Emmanuel Gillespie
www. emmanuelgillespie.com
214-862-7288

COST:

Maquette 24 inches tall.....	\$12,000.00
Mold	\$15,000.00
Casting / (Includes patina and mounting attachments)	\$53,000.00
Shipping for a large crate to NC	\$8,000.00
Schaefer Art Bronze transportation (Sculpture delivery/installation - Concrete base)	\$14,000.00
Supplies/Enlarged Foam/Clay.....	\$7,500.00
Flight/Food/Travel/4 Trips (\$575per trip/\$300, 2 Night Stay)	\$3980.00
Insurance	\$1500.00
(Instruction/Fabrication/HRS).....	\$5020.00
Artist Fee	\$30,000.00

TOTAL..... \$150,000.00

THANK YOU

Eason, Arlissa

From: patricia joslin <patriciaj29@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 11:58 AM
To: County Clerk
Subject: [External]Budget Input

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Commissioners,

I strongly advocate for our most vulnerable citizens as you consider and vote on budget proposals. With significant cuts from the Federal Government, it is imperative that counties, cities, and states step up to provide funding for agencies that serve the unhoused and those experiencing food insecurity. I am a volunteer and donor to Crisis Assistance Ministry, Roof Above, Nourish Up, and Second Harvest. Please speak on behalf of those in need as you deliberate over the next few days and weeks.

Respectfully,

Patricia Joslin
727 E. Morehead Street
Charlotte 28202
704.575.3924

Eason, Arlissa

From: Amy Farrell <amy@generationnation.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 2:47 PM
To: County Clerk
Cc: Amy Farrell
Subject: [External]Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council and GenerationNation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Board of Commissioners,

Many thanks for your continued support for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council (CMYC) partnership with Mecklenburg County. On behalf of the young leaders who make CMYC a successful "youth think tank" and resource for you and County staff - including Chase, Zahara, Katie, Chris and Ailen, who were elected to lead CMYC in 2024-25 - we are writing to update you on the partnership's work this year and ask you to consider increasing the county's support for this outstanding program.

CMYC is the youth advisory council for Mecklenburg County, City of Charlotte, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. CMYC advises county, city, and school leaders about policies and issues impacting young people and the future of the community, enables Mecklenburg County youth to learn first-hand how local government works, and develop important experience, knowledge, and networks for leadership now and in the future, expanding their opportunities for college, career, and civic life and strengthening Mecklenburg County. GenerationNation manages the partnership.

GenerationNation is the only Charlotte nonprofit organization dedicated to building civic literacy and leadership among K-12 students in our community. We do this through a variety of programs that take place through the year. Since 2013, GenerationNation has partnered with Mecklenburg County, City of Charlotte, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools to provide the community's public officials, civic leaders, and students an outstanding youth council which has received state and national recognition.

So far this year, CMYC has engaged over 200 Mecklenburg County youth in meetings and activities focused on local government and education policy and leadership development. Members are diverse and representative of Mecklenburg County, attending over 45 area high schools and live in every zip code in the community. Over 25% of participants live in or near areas designated as the City of Charlotte's Corridors of Opportunity.

Almost 25% of the county's population is under 18 years of age. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council enables Mecklenburg County to engage with - and hear from - youth across the county. The council is engaged in a variety of county issues connected to education, public health, workforce development, race and equity, economic development, awareness of county government, local government career exploration, and other topics. This includes advising county leaders on the budget, public health, mental health strategies and supports, job training and internships, community safety, economic mobility, public education, and more. Youth safety and violence has been an area of focus for the youth council, with CMYC in numerous meetings, dialogues, task forces, and town halls about the

topic. All of the youth in the council are impacted by this topic through personal experiences, friends, families, neighborhoods, and schools.

CMYC is transformational for the school district, the county, and the participants themselves. The program enables Mecklenburg youth to meet friends from different schools across the county, build social capital through interactions with peer and adult leaders, develop important skills and knowledge for college access and workplace success, and learn how to engage as leaders in adult settings. CMYC members serve the community on committees and boards and many serve as young professionals - for example, you have met the Student Advisor to the Board of Education and you appointed youth to serve on the Community Relations Committee and Juvenile Crime Prevention Council - and much more. Alumni Righteous Keitt used his CMYC and GenerationNation experience to earn a full college scholarship, worked to solve economic mobility at United Way in Charlotte, and is headed to law school. He is vice chair of the GenerationNation Board. There are numerous stories like this.

Through the youth council, high school students from every high school meet regularly to advise officials, problem-solve current issues, build social capital, and become leaders. The youth council also helps young people to build personal skills and networks that will help them access and succeed in college, the workplace, and civic life.

Most of you are aware of our work and have directly engaged with our students. We thank you for that. With your support, GenerationNation is educating Mecklenburg County students about local government, helping youth to understand and engage in the big issues connected to county policy and decision-making, and enabling youth to get involved in Mecklenburg County now and in the future. We are creating a pipeline of diverse, civically informed, and engaged young people who are active in their schools and communities now, and seek public service, including local government careers and elected office, in the future.

We appreciate your continued partnership through the Mecklenburg County Public Information department. The CMYC program has grown significantly since the partnership began in 2013. However, the county's investment has remained at \$13,000 each year since then. The City of Charlotte's investment is currently \$50,000 annually.

By increasing your investment in CMYC, both in dollars and in using the County's platforms to elevate CMYC and ensure that ALL Mecklenburg County youth know they can access the opportunity, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council can do even more to help Mecklenburg County to address important county priorities and position the County for continued and future success.

Thank you for your consideration. I am unable to attend the budget hearing due to a youth initiative we are leading at the same time. Please contact me with questions or to discuss.

Amy

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Amy Farrell
Executive Director
704-343-6999
@GenNation
@GenerationNation

GenerationNation develops a new generation of civic leaders.

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/generationnation>

Good evening, my name is **Dr. Virginia Covill**, and I am the Deputy Director of Strategy and Operations at Leading on Opportunity.

I'm here tonight to share our support for the county's Fiscal Year 2026 budget. And to thank County Manager Dena Diorio for her years of unwavering dedication to this community as she submits her final Mecklenburg County budget.

Simply put, Dena thank you! Thank you for making the sometimes-difficult decisions, and at other times innovative choices that have made Mecklenburg County a great place to live and raise a family.

This fiscal budget represents one of those difficult times as Mecklenburg, like counties throughout the country, face economic uncertainty. As Manager Diorio, said during her budget presentation last week, this was not the budget that any of us hoped for. Yet, she and her staff created one that is balanced and minimizes cuts to county services while expanding investment in a few priority areas that will increase opportunities for residents to improve economic mobility.

Before I go any further, I realize that some of you may not know me as well as you know my LOO colleagues. Let me tell you a little bit about myself.

Prior to joining Leading on Opportunity, I spent five years working at Communities in Schools. I saw students that CIS served struggling with grown-up challenges; yet they were expected show up in the classroom focused on school. CIS is changing students' lives, and that's important. But I also want to change the system that makes it so difficult in the first place. At Leading on Opportunity, we work with entities like the County and non-profits coalitions to ensure that the CIS **students** of today don't become CIS **parents** of tomorrow. And that requires making smart decisions today.

Adopting the proposed budget, with its emphasis on education, is one of those smart decisions. The budget is an investment in our youth and workforce. For example:

- It fully funds CMS' budget request, including an additional \$28m focused on employee compensation.
 - According to the Opportunity Compass, attrition continues to be a persistent issue since the pandemic. Better compensation allows CMS to attract new teachers and retain current educators.
- The budget also expands your flagship Meck Pre-K. It will allocate money for 10 additional classrooms in the northern and southern parts of the county.
 - According to the Opportunity Compass, this expansion will help the County ensure that more of our economically disadvantaged youth can receive quality care to prepare them for kindergarten.
- And continued support of excellent educational institutions like Central Piedmont Community College

In these uncertain economic times - in which the County must tighten its belt - this budget sends a strong message that our county leaders invest in residents from cradle to retirement.

When a County continues to make these types of investments despite the economic climate, it reinforces the strong foundation that Manager Diorio and her team built to make Mecklenburg County one in which every child regardless of race, parental income or zip code has the chance to thrive.