Art in State Buildings
Department of Mental Health Recovery Residence
Kathryn Wiegers
Presentation
Examples of Previous Public Art Commissions
My Concept for this project is to paint large and small scale murals for both exterior and interior spaces. My goal is to bring about a sense of light, space and Tranquility to the viewers. Using a theme based loosely around the four elements, The murals will give the walls a feeling of nature and a more natural nurturing environment rather than clinical. I have included examples with these sketches, however they can easily evolve and change.

The Earth theme is represented in a mural that depicts the clouds and open sky reflecting off the water with the land in between. By utilizing the selection of color trends in healthcare, the colors in this mural including the clear blues are meant to bring a feeling of comfort as well as a connection to nature.

The Wind theme is represented in a mural that I would propose for the large open wall in the waiting area. It is created to give a sense of a breeze blowing through a large grass field and the open sky above. With this mural I hope to bring about a sense of a light breeze and tranquility to the viewer.

The Water theme is represented in a mural of water lilies floating in peaceful water. There are Koi fish to bring in color as well as the skis’ reflection in the water. With the water theme my goal is to bring about a feeling of calm and relaxation. I can also envision a mural of just water with slight ripples and the light reflecting off.

The Fire theme is represented as a mural of Pottery. A large ceramic pot holding cherry blossom branches is shown in the sketch. I have used pottery as an example of what is created from fire. There can be ceramic pottery of different shapes and sizes painted in different locations. With the use of shadow the pottery will appear three dimensional rather than two.

I have also addressed the Gym in my concepts. This is a space that I believe a mural can have a dramatic effect on those in the environment surrounding it. Instead of looking across the courtyard at a large metal building, I am proposing a mural that gives a sense of continuing nature. The Sketch shows a woodland scene that allows the trees behind it to blend in.

I have also included a sketch of a mural for the side of the Gym. This picture of the gym was taken from the nature trail. With this mural of a blue heron flying my goal is to help bring people together. The heron connects the community that resides within the Residence to the public that hikes the trails. The Heron fits in as a subject as it is a native species to the Winooski Valley Park District and Woodside Natural Area. According to the North American Native Tradition, the Blue Heron represents an ability to progress and evolve as well as self awareness.