

**City of Newton**  
**Newton( North) High School**

**Historical Mural  
Restoration and  
Installation  
CPC Project Request**

**November 5, 2015**

# The Story of Lt. Brown

- Stafford Leighton Brown graduated from Newton High School in 1915.
- He attended Dartmouth College, and in 1917, joined the American Ambulance Field Service, and was sent to France.
- He became a pilot and flew in the famous Lafayette Flying Corps.

# Lt. Brown in uniform:



- His plane crashed in Oct. 1918, just six weeks before the war ended, and Lt. Brown is buried in an American Cemetery in France.
- He once wrote: *“I would like to be remembered for having done something worthwhile, or for dying in the attempt.”*

# Mural in Brown's Honor

- In 1936 Maurice Compris was commissioned to paint a three-part mural entitled "Citizenship."
- The mural was dedicated to the memory of Lt. Brown and hung in the Newton High School library.
- Each panel depicts an aspect of life and education in the city.

# Mural in Brown's Honor

- Mrs. Eugenie Stafford Brown (Stafford's mother) was present at the dedication of the murals in 1936, and according to *The Newtonite*, she paid for the materials that Compris used to create them.
- She also established a scholarship in her son's name, which is still given annually to "a deserving Newton North student."

# Center Panel – “Education” in Original Installation



# Left Panel – “Commerce” in Original Installation





# Right Panel – “Industry” in Original Installation



# The “WPA Mural”

- The mural was often called “the WPA mural.”
- Compris did do some work for the WPA, but we have no evidence that this mural was funded by the WPA.
- It certainly is in the style of many similar works funded by the WPA.

# Mural Restoration

- In 1973 Newton High was torn down; the center panel was moved to the new NNHS and hung in the cafeteria until 2010. The two side panels were rolled up and stored.
- In 2010 the new Newton North opened; the center panel was found to be in need of significant restoration.
- It was decided to apply for CPA funds to restore all three panels of the original mural.

# Future Plans

- We hope to fully restore the mural, and hang it prominently in Newton North.

# PROPOSED FY2016 RESTORATION BUDGET

Conservation Restoration		\$ 82,200
Installation	See reformatted/corrected project budget as of 18 December 2015, posted separately on Newton CPC website.	\$ 17,100
Admin Fee		\$ 15,600
Total Projected Expenses		\$114,900

# Thank You!

- Thank you for your time and consideration.
- We hope that you will approve our request to add another chapter to the story of this dramatic work of public art!