This mural serves as a historical tribute to the former business people who made Central Avenue and the surrounding neighborhood a viable place to live, work, and provide essential goods & services. It also serves as a visual reminder of Mayor Iorio’s commitment to neighborhoods & improving their quality of life while integrating art and history into our neighborhoods.

Depicted on the wall are (l to r): Moses White, Mr. Henry & Mrs. Jean Joyner, C. Blythe Andrews Sr. with Perry Harvey Sr., and Mr. Watts Sanderson, Sr. All were leaders in the African American community and played a significant role in bringing civil rights to Tampa. They are a few of the many contributors who made Central Avenue a thriving neighborhood.

Central Avenue was critically impacted with the emergence of urban renewal. The good intentions and idealism of urban renewal met reality with disappointing results that adversely affected 60 percent of Tampa’s Black population. This mural addresses more broadly the issue of moving forward with the neighborhood and community to revitalize the area and serve as the initial step towards establishing a Central Avenue Historic District.

The City of Tampa’s Public Art Program promotes the involvement of artists in projects throughout the city that enhance the physical environment and celebrate Tampa’s unique character and identity.