



*We are a puzzle of people
A palette of pieces*

*We are process and promise
Past and presence*

*We are years and seconds
Never leaving and never left*

*All here and not heard
Thirteen years of hands held
in clay*

*We are something
To believe*

*This wall that doesn't
Separate us, that
Celebrates us, that*

*Reminds the future
Of who we are.*

*Hakim Bellamy
Poet Laureate
2013*



TJERRS



Mayor's Arts Institute

of the Harwood Art Center

About the program

The Mayor's Art Institute was created in 1999 to provide paid training and mentorship for artistically talented youth and adults. The Institute was funded over the course of several mayoral terms including Mayor Jim Baca and Mayor Martin Chavez. With the enthusiastic support of Mayor Richard J. Berry, the program has expanded to include additional sites beyond the Albuquerque Convention Center keeping the program robust and vital. The Harwood Art Center of Escuela del Sol Montessori began administering this program in 2006.

Each spring and summer, the Harwood Art Center hires a group of apprentices to work with two professional artists to create a handmade tile mosaic. The apprentices help with every aspect of making a public artwork. They learn how to assist with design, carve tiles from wet clay, glaze tiles, fire a kiln, cement tiles to the wall, and grout the finished artwork. The symbolism of the mosaic designs is conceptualized, researched and drawn collaboratively by the apprentices with guidance from the lead artists to realize a rich, magical and illustrative three dimensional representation of our place, our culture and our history.

Over 150 young people and adults from Albuquerque have participated in the Institute. Apprentices have gone on to universities, colleges, and art schools around the country, and some have become professional artists. Lead Artists have included Mark Woody, PAZ, Lia Rosen, Margarita Paz-Pedro, and Cassandra Reid. While most of the program's work has taken place on the Albuquerque Convention Center, the Institute has also created mosaics at the Albuquerque Museum and other locations downtown.

The Institute has received funding from the New Mexico Youth Conservation Corps, the City of Albuquerque Public Art Program, the Heart Gallery of New Mexico Foundation, the Mayor's Office, Albuquerque City Council, Family and Community Services Department, Cultural Services Department, Bank of the West, French Mortuary, American Home Furnishings, Don Chalmers Ford, LEF Foundation, the McCune Foundation, and the Urban Enhancement Trust Fund.





ALBUQUERQUE CONVENTION

Apprentice Artists

Nadine Carriaga
Rachelle Crosby
Tim Garrett
Tess Houle
Ashley James
John Josephson
William Kuntz
Angelica Lucero
Juanita Martinez
Marie Menard
Karl Mignardot
Malcolm Murray
Kirsten Sanderson
Kari Schafer
Jessica Ward
Jesse Williamson
Mauro Woody

Lead Apprentices

Tiffany Hunter
Sara Nall
Eric Witt

Lead Artists

Mark Woody
Cassandra Reid
Daisy Kates



2001 Las Florecitas

Funded by
NM Youth Conservation Corps,
City of Albuquerque

This was the first mosaic created at the Convention Center. The flower design provides a foundation for the mosaics on the walls of the building.



2002 Bringer of Light

Bringer of Light depicts a serpent breathing out a spiral of fire. The spiral represents the cosmos and the creative force. While the serpent is an original design, it is meant to resemble the feathered serpent sacred to many Mesoamerican cultures. These civilizations to the south have influenced and shaped New Mexico and are an important part of our heritage. This mosaic's fiery theme is balanced by the mosaics on either side of it; River of Moonlight, to the north, is filled with water imagery, and Tree of Life, to the right, incorporates the elements of earth and air.

Starting at the serpent's tail and moving from left to right, the symbols above and below depict: an eagle, rendered in a style that recalls designs on Pueblo pottery; a stepped mountain, which symbolizes the earth. At the base of the mountain is a crocodile with wide open jaws. This image is a reference to the creation story of the Nahua (Aztec) people. To the right of the mountain is a sun, and a rosette sits on the corner. The rosette is an important motif in New Mexican and Spanish Colonial art, furniture, and architecture. Moving closer to the serpent's head, one can see a rain cloud, with lines of rain spilling down. Below the cloud is a symbol of the ocean: a triangular shape with a wave pattern in the border and conch shells inside it.



Apprentice Artists

Nadine Carriaga
Rachelle Crosby
Emilee Flores
Raquel Garcia
Vanessa Griffin
Tess Houle
Tiffany Hunter
Angelica Lucero
Marie Menard
Billah Muhammad
Malcolm Murray
Kristy Padilla
Charlene Platero
Kjrsten Sanderson
Daniel Schufft
Sarah Schwenk
Amanda Sundheimer
Kathryn Valliant
Jessica Ward
Jesse Williamson
Mauro Woody

Lead Artists

PAZ
Cassandra Reid

Funded by

NM Youth
Conservation Corps,
City of Albuquerque





River of Moonlight 2003

The moon on the corner of the building radiates its soft yet powerful light; this light becomes a flowing river filled with symbols of watery life. River of Moonlight is about a fluid, feminine creative energy, playing its greens and blues off of the Bringer of Light, which contains a fiery, masculine creative spirit.

Youth apprentices designed the symbols that surround the river of moonlight. From left to right they depict: a frog symbolizing fertility, surrounded by a border of pollywogs. The black and white pattern of the frog melds together ancient Celtic and Mimbres designs. The spiral above the river symbolizes the constellation of the Pleiades; it is an important constellation that is involved with agricultural cycles for many cultures in the Americas. The small square tiles that outline this image invoke the mosaic traditions of ancient Rome. Moving further down the wall one can see a turtle. The shell pattern on the turtle's back contains images of different animals and insects, symbolically representing the earth as "Turtle Island."



Apprentice Artists
Gabrielle Aoulosman
Chris Dajgneau
Ray Gutierrez
Delila Herrera
T.P. Hunter
Brittany Jacques
Jesse James
Kate Kennedy
Karl Mignardot
Kristy Padilla
Rachel Oman
Esperanza Salazar
Katrina Sedillo
Daniel Schufft
Alicia Sedillo
Josie Suazo
Amanda Sundheimer

Lead Apprentices
Tess Houle
Angelica Lucero
Jesse Williamson

Lead Artists
Cassandra Reid
Lia Lynn Rosen

Funded by
Youth Conservation Corps,
City of Albuquerque



2004 Squash Blossoms for Burque

In 2004, the Mayor's Art Summer Institute was asked to create a mosaic in Albuquerque's Old Town for the City's Tricentennial.

An ornate squash vine was selected because squash is historically one of the most important foods of New Mexico and the Southwest. Squash is also used in ceremonies and for medicine. For over a thousand years, its beautiful vines and flowers have inspired jewelry, baskets, paintings, and other art forms.

Squash plants grew all over Old Town in past decades, and their twirling vines were reflected in wrought iron designs on neighborhood buildings. The night sky in the background contains the constellations of the Big Dipper, Little Dipper, and Orion.



Funded by
City of Albuquerque
Family & Community
Services

Apprentice Artists
Gabrielle Abouseleman
Lisett Coulter
Brittany Jacques
Jesse James
Kathryn Kennedy
Karl Mignardot
Daniel Schufft
Josie Suazo

Lead Apprentices
Angelica Lucero
Kristy Padilla

Lead Artists
PAZ
Cassandra Reid





2006

Tree of Life

This section of mosaic depicts a tree of life under a gathering storm. A colorful fractal or swirling wind at the left end of the mosaic spawns storm clouds that blow across the sky. Ripe corn plants sway in the wind before the storm. A water serpent is visible in the clouds, sending shafts of lightning to the earth.

The tree of life is rendered in a Mesoamerican style with two branches and a colorful trunk. It attracts birds to its branches and grows from the earth, which is symbolized by the turtle at the base of the tree. The tree of life and the surrounding corn plants will be nourished by the imminent rain. The elements of air and earth featured in this mosaic complement the themes of water and fire in River of Moonlight and Serpent of Light (located to the left, across the doorway).



Apprentice Artists

Vanessa Alvardo
Eamonn Brazil
Shem Calvin Jr.
Alyssa Cardenas
Erin Crooks
Kaitlin Frady
Kathryn Kennedy
Shem Nguyen
Liz Olive
Jake Pett
Kayla Sanchez
Alyssa Silva
Adrianna Tefoya
Brittany Vandever
Luna Zamora

Assistant Artists

Kathleen Garcia
Jesse Williamson

Consulting Artist

Cassandra Reid

Lead Artist

PAZ

Funded by

Youth Conservation Corps,
The Office of the Mayor,
The Office of City
Councilor Isaac Benton





Garden of Transformation 2007

Garden of Transformation depicts the coming of rain.
Multicolored drops cascade to the ground, where they turn into butterflies.
This mosaic is about the beauty and bounty created when rain falls onto the earth.

The large yellow and orange rosettes on each side of the doorway are ancient symbols. While found around the world, rosettes are particularly prevalent in Spanish Colonial art. They have been used in New Mexican painting, sculpture, furniture, and architecture for hundreds of years, and these traditions continue. In this mosaic, they are a symbol of blossoming life after it rains.



Apprentice Artists

La Dawna Aguilar
Jessica A. Baldonado
Joshua Lopez-Binder
Stephen J. Calvin Jr.
Danielle Easley
Sara FitzGerald
Stephanie Griffin
Jesse James
Breonah Karpp
Sergio Leanos
Mitchell Maier
Ray Martinez
Elizabeth Olive
Ashley Perry
Adrianna Tafoya
Brittany Vandever
Emma White
Teal Wilson
Luna Zamora

Lead Apprentices

Vanessa Alvarado
Kathryn Kennedy
Jesse Williamson

Lead Artists

Cassandra Reid
PAZ

Funded by

Youth Conservation Corps,
The Office of the Mayor

2008

First Light

First Light was designed to create a sense of depth and tranquility. An eagle hunts at dawn, soaring above an ancient adobe building that is slowly returning to the earth. The colors of the sky were designed and laid with great care by the apprentices to depict the sacred, contemplative moment of dawn. This section provides a visual and metaphorical “breathing space” for the mosaic cycle as a whole.



Apprentice Artists
Jessica A. Baldonado
Stephen J. Calvin, Jr.
Danielle Easley
Ray Martinez
Ashley Perry
Luna Zamora

Lead Apprentices
Vanessa Alvarado
Kathryn Kennedy

Lead Artist
Cassandra Reid

Funded by
City of Albuquerque Public Art Program,
Escuela del Sol, Harwood Art Center,
LEF Foundation, McCune Charitable Foundation,
American Home Furnishings, Bank of the West,
Don Chalmers Ford, French Mortuary







Dance of the Matachines 2009

Apprentice Artists

Chantelle Aguilar
Molly Caldera
Staci Drangmeister
William Geusz
Sarah Lucero
Morgan Matthew
Haley Pearce
Diego Villegas
Teal Wilson
Luna Zamora

Lead Apprentices

Vanessa Alvarado
Stephen J. Calvin Jr.

Consulting Artists

Aaron Cajero
Joe Cajero
Linda Hirst

Lead Artists

Margarita Paz-Pedro
Cassandra Reid

Dance of the Matachines depicts an ancient dance that has been performed in the Americas for many centuries; it has roots in Mesoamerica, Europe, and North Africa. Up until the mid-twentieth century, almost every town in New Mexico had matachines who performed on the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12) or on the feast day of the town's patron saint. This dance is still alive today in many New Mexico communities. It continues to incorporate diverse cultural influences in creative ways. This is a tradition that remains strong.

The youth apprentices were involved in researching, drawing, and creating the dancers depicted here. There are dancers from seven different communities represented in the mural. Beginning at the left end of the mosaic (to the left of the doors) are two dancers from Jemez Pueblo. On the right side of the doors one can see two dancers from Bernalillo: a young female dancer, known as la Malinche; and an adult dancer accompanying her. Further to the right are dancers from Tijeras, Cochiti Pueblo, Alcalde, Tarahumara, and Tortugas. The last dancer on the right is a Toro, or bull, traditionally danced by a young boy.



Funded by
NM Youth Conservation Corps,
City of Albuquerque Public Art Program





Apprentice Artists

Stephanie Abeyta
Sahar Freedman
William Geusz
Shih-Hsuan Huang
Marlena Livingston
Andres Martinez
Miguel Martinez
Lucille Padilla
Haley Pearce
Javier Portillo
Christine Romero
Luna Zamora

Lead Apprentices

Vanessa Alvarado
Staci Drangmeister

Lead Artists

Margarita Paz-Pedro
Cassandra Reid

Cuentos de las Estrellas (Stories of the Stars) 2010

All cultures have looked to the night skies and used the stars to guide navigation, agricultural cycles, creation stories, and other cultural narratives. The figures in the design represent “celestial guardians.” The deer is a bridge between the world of people and the world of myth; her antlers and hooves are laced with stars as she leaps into the night sky. At the center of the mural is the thunderbird - a powerful guardian symbol combining design elements from many different cultures. The design inside the bear shows the constellation of the Big Dipper; it is also a heart line often depicted in Pueblo art.



Funded by
NM Youth Conservation Corps,
City of Albuquerque Public Art Program



Spring 2011

Winds of Change

Winds of Change depicts breezes playing through a field of sunflowers. The title refers to the changes the group of artists went through as they worked together on this section. It also expresses hope for change – the hope that humanity will renew its connection to the earth, her cycles, and all other beings.



Lead Apprentice
Vanessa Alvarado

Lead Artist
Cassandra Reid

Apprentice Artists
Dannee Ashton
Ernest Campos
Joey Goss
Maria Mendoza
Jamie Pocan
Keith Scott

Funded by
City of Albuquerque
Public Art Program



Summer 2011

Feathered Brilliance

Peacocks are vibrant, colorful, and symbolic birds that are seen all over the world. The peacocks that frame this entrance are international symbols of life and creativity. Youth apprentices developed the complex and colorful pattern created by the birds' feathers.



Apprentice Artists

Andreadrew Abeita
Tanya Avilés
Karly Catron-Cardell
James Long
Jessica Lovato
Yanira Marrufo
Freeman Msangi
Lucille Padilla
Kylie Pepe
Ashley Perry
Anai Pulido
Korie Tatum

Lead Apprentices

Vanessa Alvarado
Staci Drangmeister

Lead Artists

Margarita Paz-Pedro
Cassandra Reid

Funded by

NM Youth
Conservation Corps,
City of Albuquerque
Public Art Program



2012 Three Sisters

Funded by
City of Albuquerque Public Art Program

The three female figures in this mosaic represent corn, beans, and squash. These crops have been food for people across Central and North America for thousands of years. In some Native languages, these plants are called the Three Sisters. A Three Sisters garden is based on interconnection. Corn provides a trellis for beans, which in turn provide nitrogen for the soil. The squash vines and leaves protect the ground beneath, holding moisture for the entire system and stabilizing the soil.



The middle figure is a portrait of Maria Martinez, the San Ildefonso Pueblo potter who is known worldwide for her iconic black-on-black pottery. The pot she holds is a traditional water vessel called an olla. To the right, a second sister holds an Apache basket containing various squashes grown in the southwest. She is dressed in a traditional Mesoamerican huipil embroidered with flowers. This figure was inspired by the artworks of Diego Rivera and the Mexican Muralists. The third sister, on the left side, is inspired by the Art Nouveau movement from the end of the nineteenth century. The mosaic as a whole gives homage to the American mural tradition of the 1930's, in which the Works Progress Administration enabled hundreds of artists to create scenes of American workers and American life.



Apprentice Artists

Dannee Ashton

Joey Goss

Maria Mendoza

With Installation help from

Helen Atkins

Fatai Babatunde

Staci Drangmeister

Ashley Esquibel

Will Geusz

Shannon Jones

Jacklyn Le

Marlena Livingston

James Long

Jessica Lovato

Katie Martinez

Shawnee Martinez

Margarita Paz-Pedro

Jorge Perez

Edith Rodriguez

Lead Apprentices

Vanessa Alvarado

Karly Catron-Cardell

Lead Artist

Cassandra Reid



2012

Radiant Sun, Enchanted Rain (Sol Radiante, Lluvia Encantada)

This section of mosaic depicts a uniquely new Mexican landscape – shafts of sunlight mixing with clouds as a rainstorm passes over the desert. The wind forms beautiful ripples in the sand. This artwork tells the story of how the sun and rain bless us and give life.



The design of the sun honors the Aztec Calendar Stone, but its imagery reflects the cultures, history, flora, and fauna of New Mexico. At the core of the sun is a spiral, which signifies the sacredness of the center. It is surrounded by a ring of feathers reminiscent of Pueblo pottery designs. Surrounding the feathers is a ring of twenty "day signs;" these animals, plants, and other images from New Mexico convey the concepts of the original Aztec day signs. One of the rings is carved with an Islamic tile design. This is a way of honoring the contribution that Moorish people and other Muslims have made to the history of New Mexico since the 1500's. The outermost ring depicts the four elements in a naturalistic, European style. All of the different rings symbolize the cultural diversity of New Mexico. The red and orange swirls that extend from the sun evoke the Zia sun sign.



Apprentice Artists

Helen Atkins
Fatai Babatunde
Ashley Esquibel
Will Geusz
Shannon Jones
Jacklyn Le
Marlena Livingston
James Long
Jessica Lovato
Katie Martinez
Shawnee Martinez
Jorge Perez
Edith Rodriguez

Lead Apprentices

Vanessa Alvarado-Ramirez
Karly Catron-Cardell
Staci Drangmeister

Lead Artists

Margarita Paz-Pedro
Cassandra Reid

Funded by

NM Youth
Conservation Corps,
Heart Gallery of NM
Foundation,
City of Albuquerque
Public Art Program

Spring 2013

To the Mesa We Are a Mirror

This mosaic depicts the land we love – the desert stretches away to juniper and pinon trees in the shadow of a distant cliff. A raven glides above the desert, its shadow slipping across the sand, while a storm cloud swells with rain. The poem in the desert was written by Hakim Bellamy, Albuquerque Poet Laureate 2012-2014. Pictures of a buffalo and a rabbit are hidden somewhere in this mosaic – can you find them?





Apprentice Artists

Fatai Babatunde
Ernest Campos
Jessica Lovato
Orion Manuelito
Maria Mendoza
Ramiro Rivera

Lead Apprentice

Karly Catron-Cardell

Lead Artist

Cassandra Reid

Poet Laureate

Hakim Bellamy

Funded by

City of Albuquerque
Public Art Program,
Heart Gallery of NM Foundation



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