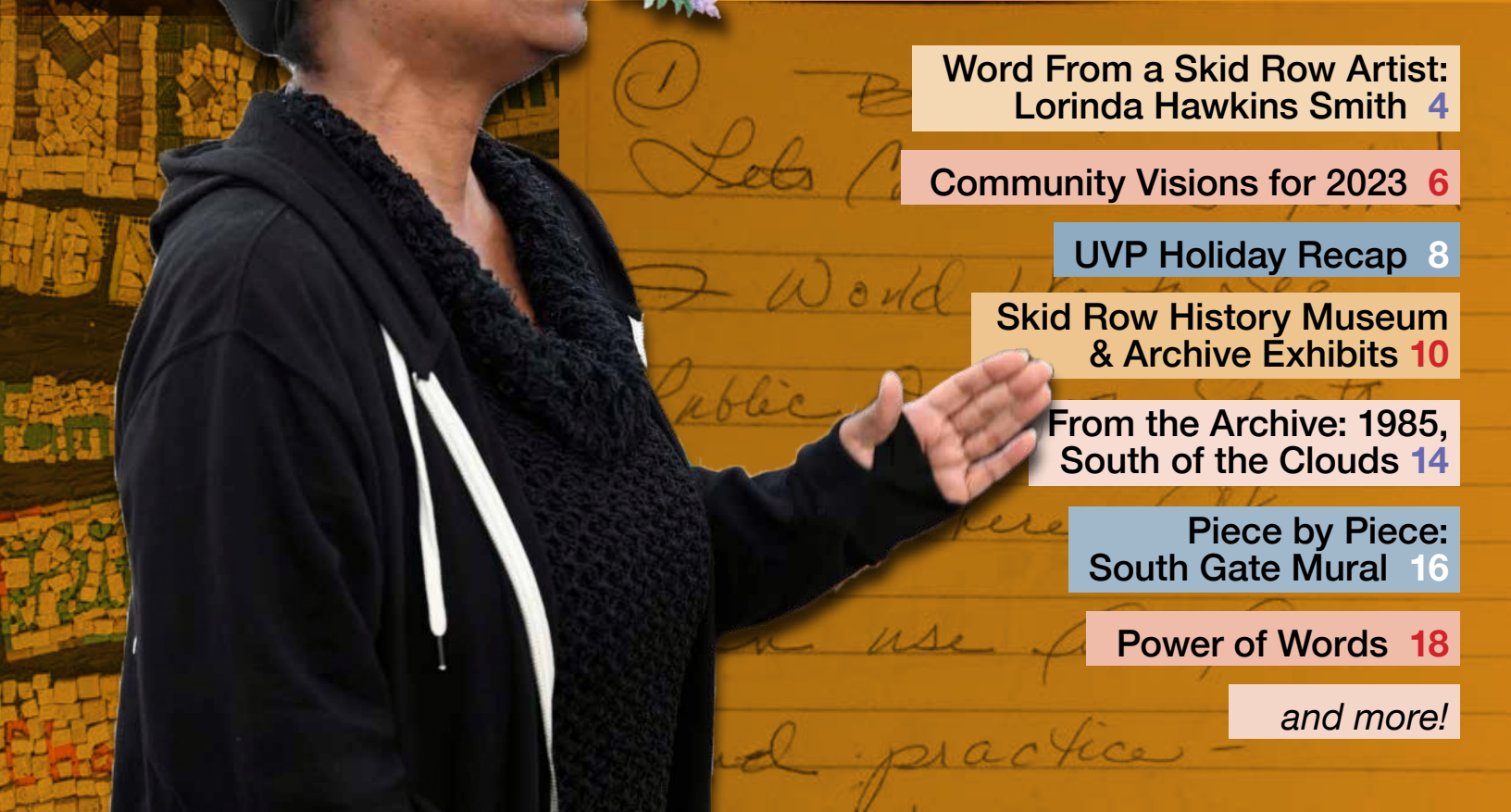


ARTS ZINE



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Welcome

...to your **Skid Row Arts Zine**, your way to connect to multiple physical and online offerings of different Skid Row-based arts organizations. The Skid Row Arts Alliance seeks to promote neighborhood-based connectivity through creativity.

Visit the website: skidrowartsalliance.com for links to all our programming. Text (323) 412-9770 for more information.

Brought to you by the Skid Row Arts Alliance:

- Los Angeles Poverty Department
- Piece by Piece
- Street Symphony
- Urban Voices Project



... and additional partners





“WORD FROM A SKID ROW ARTIST”

ARTIST PROFILE: **LORINDA HAWKINS SMITH**

I describe myself as an activist. I like to bring awareness to difficult issues creatively to hopefully bring about dialogue leading to change.

Mahalia Jackson is one of my biggest musical influences. And I love her role in the civil rights movement. Bridget “Biddy” Mason is one of my all time biggest influences and sheroes. I only learned about her in 2007 when I was living in Skid Row. After learning her story, I felt like I had no excuses in walking in my own calling and purpose.

I started performing when I was in grade school. That’s when I had a leading role in a play. I would also sing in the Glee Club and take piano lessons. With the piano lessons came recitals. I started modeling children’s furniture before that in print ads. My mother asked if I wanted to start being in pageants and the thought of that made me terrified. I told my mother, no. She respected my decision and didn’t force me. But acting on stage felt right. I had a bad experience during one of my recitals that made me stop playing

the piano. I started back up playing it in 2009.

There’s a lot of pressure to please everyone and be this or that. I encourage everyone to be authentically themselves. And to reject the pressure of trying to fit in.

I would describe Skid Row as a neighborhood. Many people don’t realize that. But there are families, children, all kinds of people in Skid Row. I would also say it’s a big recovery community.

I first discovered Skid Row by driving through it. I’m a native Californian. Born and raised in LA County. I’ve heard about Skid Row all my life. I was overwhelmed by it. My father became a missing person in 2003. I was told that I should check out the shelters in Skid Row because he could be there. The thought of walking the streets of Skid Row looking for my father scared me. So, I just called shelters and described my father. I was ok driving through Skid Row, even riding my bike through and dropping off food, but to just hang out, didn’t sit right with me. In 2007, I lost everything and ended up in Skid Row. Once I got over the culture shock, I was able to humble myself and be a part of the community. I would soon learn



that Skid Row is a neighborhood made up of some beautiful people that don't get a lot of press. Yes, there are people who are really struggling but they are pretty real about it. I mean, there's not a lot of putting on airs. It's amazing how people, I included, would think that just because someone is living in Skid Row, they don't know God. Or that God isn't here. Many ministries come to Skid Row to minister one way. One direction. The one direction of let me help you but aren't open to receiving help by the person they are helping. If they were open, they might find that the very person they are helping would have a profound word for them. A word that could help them. Or a prayer that could change them.

A Skid Row artist is resilient. Someone who is refined by fire. Someone who is on the front line of the struggle. Whatever struggle is happening in the world, whatever social injustices are going on, Skid Row is the first to feel it. And if you are one of the fortunate ones to rise like a phoenix from the fire, you are a miracle walking.

I truly learned about social justice theater by living in Skid Row. Performing arts. Most of the community theater in Skid Row is social justice oriented. That's when I discovered my purpose in being an activist. The arts are healing—visual, performing, literary. By

that logic, artists are healers. So, I believe the role of a Skid Row artist is healer. The role of the arts in the Skid Row neighborhood should be to uplift, encourage, and empower.

I believe the role of Skid Row arts and culture in the greater Los Angeles community is to shine a light to what is hidden and raise a mirror to the community at large. To express truth. And the truth shall make you free. Freedom is healing.

I don't think of myself in terms of a community organizer or cultural leader. But if there is a message I want to get across in my work, it would be to amplify the voices that don't get much press.

I would like to share my book series with the readers. "Justice? Or... Just Me? The Bite, The Fight, The Flight". This book and solo play series is based on my journey as a domestic violence survivor.

To find out more about Lorinda and her work, follow her on social media:

- Facebook: @lorindahawkinssmith
- Instagram: @lorindahawk_
- TikTok: @lorindahawkinssmith
- YouTube: LorindaHawkinsSmith

Or check out her website: lorindahawkinssmith.com

Community Visions for Skid Row in 2023

We asked our community members to respond to one or both of the following questions:

1. If Skid Row was a canvas, what would you create in your community next year?
2. What do you want to focus on as an artist next year?

① Building Community
Lets Commune Together

I would like to see
Public Outdoor Sports
Spaces where folks
can use for free
and practice -
spectators allowed.

1- Tennis / Badminton

2- Racquet Ball -

3- Soccer

4- Volley Ball

King

② Making Some Money
so I can move
to a wonderful
beautiful Apartment.
With a big kitchen
and I can cook great
meal for the needed
people so they can
be happy.

② Focus

Music
Keys
Song

Focus

~~①~~

① A Network of storytelling classes throughout the Skid row Community.

② Podcasting
Singing
Drawing
Photography

TAMI

I would like to focus on my music and keyboard. Also specializing in reviewing and releasing my music literature.

DEAR COUNCIL MEMBER DELEON, PLEASE RESIGN!

Thank You.



The holidays were alive and singing this last season!



This has been a holiday season to remember for music in the Skid Row community.

Urban Voices Project, Skid Row's community performance choir, started the holiday season off with the *2nd annual Holiday Called Home Celebration*. A holiday musical experience paired with an arts & cultural festival with winter help for the Skid Row community was on the Inner-City Arts campus on December 17th from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Conceptualized, strategized and implemented by Skid Row artists, this was truly a community driven event intended to bring Skid Row and Los Angeles neighbors together through an arts festival. This event partnered with Creative I and Piece By Piece for visual and mosaic arts activities. Drumming, sound healing and other musical activities were provided by Skid Row artists, as well as an Open Mic for the whole community. Beyond other art and food activities, there was a successful Skid Row Artist Gallery and Auction, featuring the local talents.

The voices of Skid Row continued to be represented into Christmas Eve on a bigger platform: **Los Angeles County's 63rd Holiday Celebration** broadcast on PBS SoCal. The choir performed "Hang Your Lights" by Jamie Cullum and the choir's lyrical adaptation of "Everyday Will Be Like a Holiday" by William Bell. The lyrics asked audiences to hear "Everyday will be a holiday when I finally, when I finally come home".

The show was broadcast to millions of viewers watching live on television and Urban Voices Project was able to represent the voice of Skid Row during Christmas celebrations.

"When we can show the culture and the arts of the community, the depth of the Skid Row artists that live here, even if they don't have an address and they can't be enfranchised because they don't have an address ... that they can be heard nonetheless."
—Leeav Sofer, Urban Voices Project Artistic Director

Finally, Christmas Day was a time to gather warm clothing and accessories for folks in Skid Row as we headed into Winter. Resources were handed out on Christmas Day during UVP's *5th Annual Christmas Caroling Crawl*—a flash-mob style caroling event through the streets and service provider spaces in the heart of Skid Row involving Skid Row artists and volunteers singing shoulder to shoulder on December 25th, 10:00-1:00pm. On Christmas morning, we sang with our choir, staff, community members, and passersby at partner sites including Downtown Women's Center, Union Rescue Mission, and the Refresh Spot. It was a special day to remember!

This was followed by the very first *Skid Row Christmas Parade*, organized by members of our Skid Row community. Starting and ending at the Star Apartments, creative floats were made and shared with the community! (more info next page.)



Urban Voices Project has long been a Skid Row community choir, yet offers so much more. UVP provides music education and wellness classes, as well as building community spaces to express voices of humanity.

Connect with us!
www.urbanvoicesproject.org
 Follow us: @urbanvoicesproject
 Email: info@urbanvoicesproject.org

First Christmas Parade in Skid Row (by Tom Grode)

The Resident Advisory Committee for the County Skid Row Action initiated what became a community input and resource fair gathering called Ubuntu on the second floor of the Star Apartments. Ubuntu is an African word meaning “I am because we are”. From that great energy came the grassroots decision to do the first ever Skid Row Christmas Parade. Pulled together in just a couple weeks and with a great Santa and Friends float by Studio 526, the Parade was sponsored by the Skid Row Community Improvement Coalition.



Skid Row Now & 2040

Press Conference

SKID ROW HISTORY
MUSEUM & ARCHIVE

LAPD
LOS ANGELES POVERTY DEPARTMENT

HOW TO HOUSE
7,000 PEOPLE
IN SKID ROW



On November 22, the Skid Row Now & 2040 Coalition released its policy paper Containment and Community: The History of Skid Row and its Role in the Downtown Community Plan with the exhibition “Blue Book – Green Paper” and a press conference.

The press conference advocated for:

- ◆ Retaining the IX1 Zone, which allows only affordable housing to be developed within a designated portion of Skid Row, from 5th to 7th Streets and east of San Pedro Street to Central Avenue.
- ◆ Expanding the IX1 Zone to represent the historical boundaries of Skid Row, from 3rd to 7th Streets and from Main to Alameda Streets.
- ◆ Establishing a Skid Row district council for self-representation by residents (housed and unhoused) and workers within the historical Skid Row boundaries.
- ◆ Supporting elements of DTLA 2040 that foster a healthy and sustainable Skid Row neighborhood.
- ◆ Further developing the City’s new inclusionary zoning study to complement DTLA 2040’s proposed Community Benefits Program to achieve transformative levels of acutely low-income housing units.



“Skid Row, as a historically multiracial and working people’s neighborhood, has remarkable grassroots social networks, cultural assets, and housing that spans income levels and serves majority minority community members. Our goal for DTLA 2040 is to achieve the greatest amount low-income housing with the highest quality of life for all, without dismantling existing social infrastructure or displacing existing residents, both housed and unhoused.” –Cathy Gudis.

“An equitable plan for the future of Downtown Los Angeles must include present and past Skid Row needs that have never been met.” –Charles Porter, United Coalition East Prevention Project.

Blue Book—Green Paper

Exhibition through April 2023

Skid Row History Museum & Archive

Bunker Hill, the triumph of capital over community. Tens of thousands displaced. Get ready for Bunker Hill 2—the sequel. A plan to raze Skid Row.

In 1975, that plan was on the table and adopted by City Council in July of 1975. But people didn't like it. Residents didn't want to lose their housing, housing activists were beside themselves, Developers in other parts of town wanted those redevelopment tax dollars for themselves.

Mayor Bradley Stopped the process. Five months later, he put the plan on hold and appointed a Blue-Ribbon Committee to rethink it and recommend an alternative.

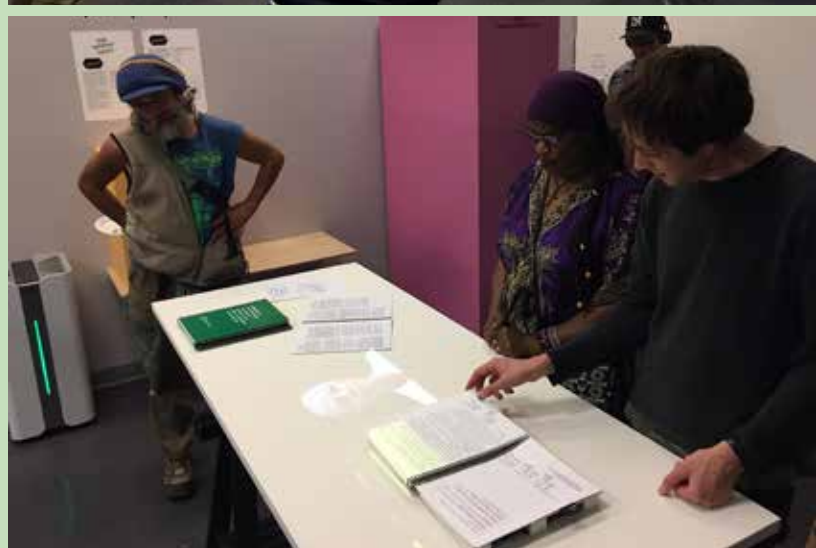
Out of nowhere an alternative plan appeared. The Blue Book. In it, community activists laid out a plan to save the housing in Skid Row and protect it from development. Surprisingly the Blue-Ribbon Committee embraced it, and City Council adopted this plan: no market rate housing would be allowed between Main and Alameda, 3rd St. and 7th St.

Now you can see the Blue Book plan come to life.

One Book, one table. See the activists who made the plan emerge from the Book. Turn a page and Catherine Morris jumps out of the book, her image appears on the table, and she tells us how she got the idea to intervene in the planning process. Turn another page and thematically linked photos, videos, audio, and paper documents, pop up and are projected. The show is designed by Robert M. Ochshorn curated by LAPD/SRHM&A's John Malpede. Ochshorn is the co-founder of San Francisco based, REDUCT, Inc. where he designs media interfaces for extending human perceptive and expressive capabilities.

Why Now?

A new plan for downtown is about to go to City Council. It will define what's possible in downtown development for the next 20 years. Now, there's a sequel to the Blue Book Plan—The Green Paper (because it's got a green cover). Skid Row Now & 2040, a neighborhood coalition of grass roots organizations and residents, has been in dialogue with the planners to ensure that the final plan will benefit current residents of Skid Row: including housing for everyone, neighborhood amenities and no



displacement. These concerns and recommendations are articulated in the paper, “Containment and Community: The History of Skid Row and its Role in the Downtown Community Plan,” authored by UC-Riverside historian, Dr. Cathy Gudis.

Come see The Blue Book come to life and read / get yourself a copy of The Green Paper. Imagine that this successor to the Blue Book is also adopted and has an equally long, and fruitful life.

Also available online:

www.lapovertydept.org/blue-book-green-paper

The World Responds to the “Walk the Talk” Archive

Exhibition through February 2023

Skid Row History Museum & Archive

Open Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10am–5pm and by appointment

Walk the Talk is a project that honors people who live and work in Skid Row and who have made it a significant neighborhood and a place for solving the problems that other people have given up on.

“Walk the Talk” is a biennial parade with site-specific performances that acknowledge Skid Row residents and workers who have done transformative work in the community. The parade features a New Orleans style brass band, artist rendered portraits of each honoree, and performances by LAPD about each honoree. In making the scenes, we conduct one and two-hour interviews with each honoree. The interviews are distilled into 10 or 15-minute scenes that we perform at locations chosen by the honorees. Initiated in 2012, Walk the Talk has acknowledged 78 people and their initiatives. The next Walk the Talk parade is scheduled for May 2024.

Artist / technologist Rob Ochshorn designed software for the Walk the Talk Archive, which is hosted on his REDUCT Video site. There you can see videos and transcripts of Walk the Talk interviews and performances and search by subject.

In 2020, we began to invite people and groups to make short videos inspired by their engagement with the people and concerns addressed in the archive. This exhibition consists of all the responses. These include 13 responses created in the past year, as well as 10 earlier responses—23 responses in total. All 23 responses are now viewable in this exhibition.

Also available online: www.lapovertydept.org/the-world-responds-to-the-walk-the-talk-archive/



Visit the Walk the Talk Archive



On December 8, the responders met at the Skid Row History Museum & Archive. We screened 5 responses and had a conversation with their makers and the Skid Row people in the Walk the Talk archive, who have inspired each response. The responses we screened were made by Victoria Romano, Helen Kim, Douglas Mungin, Lorinda Hawkins and Vancouver B.C.’s The Right to Remain Collective and Clancey Cornell moderated the conversation.





Coming up in February at the Skid Row History Museum & Archive:

Get ready for our first **“community curator’s” exhibition**. The exhibition and related music and public conversation events will focus on the many dimensions of Charles Porter’s work in Skid Row to create a healthy community. The exhibition and events will reveal the intersection of community connection and organizing using music, African culture, history and spiritual practice that are central to Charles’s work.



Interested in theatre and performance? JOIN US!

Founded in 1985, Los Angeles Poverty Department (LAPD) is the first arts group in Skid Row made up of Skid Row residents, housed and un-housed. We make performances, create exhibitions and we have an archive of Skid Row History.

JOIN US! Theater Workshops Open to Everyone:
 Tuesday afternoon: 2–5pm; Thursday evening: 7–9pm
 at the Skid Row History & Archive Museum:

Address: 250 S. Broadway, Los Angeles
Telephone: 213-413-1077 (Leave us a message and we’ll call you back!)

Email: info@lapovertydept.org
Website: www.lapovertydept.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/lapovertydepartment
www.facebook.com/skidrowhistorymuseum

LAPD'S first indoor performance, (at the Boyd Street Theater) was a series of monologues based on doing a physical activity that brings pleasure. In workshops, director Malpede asked LAPD performers to identify an activity that they liked and to do it for a sustained period of time--- until they generated the good feeling that they get from the activity. When they were in that feeling state and while continuing with the physical activity, they were asked to talk about it. What they said was taken down as notes and by doing this several times and then editing / and finishing off the writing, the monologues were generated and then performed.

There are four South of the Clouds monologues. Jerome Nelkin (a.k.a. Jim Beame), delivered a play-by-play of a teenage baseball game in the Bronx; Robert Clough's monologue was about washing clothes at the river; Frank Christian was boxing while recalling the civil rights movement; and Pat Perkins remembered a crush on a musician, while working as a waitress at the Ice House in Pasadena.

Washing Clothes

by Robert Clough

Boy, I love washing clothes. One reason I love washing clothes is because of the bubbles that squish in my fingers. It feels so good. And another thing I like about washing clothes is the smell. The smell of the Tide and the Downy Fabric Softener. Mmmm! They smell so good! And another reason I like to wash clothes is the feeling of ringing out the clothes. I just squeeze and wring. It gives me the feeling of revenge against my father.

He was an alcoholic and he used to beat my mother. And I hated him for that. He called her retarded. I don't think that's very funny! So, I just squeeze his neck. I would just wring his neck.

Down by the Delaware River, there were wildflowers and there would be people walking. And there would be people jogging and I would take my wash. And the wildflowers smell so good. And I'm there with my Tide and my Downy. And the water is warm and sudsy. And it smells so good. And I pick up a rock to wash with. And I beat, beat, beat the clothes. I pick up a rock and I beat, beat, beat him with a rock, like he used to beat my ma.

And down by the Delaware River I would lay all my clean wash all over the wildflowers to dry. And then I would fold the clothes and take them home. I would fold them smooth. And they smell so good. And that's why I'll wash clothes for the rest of my life.



Photo: Gail Garretsen

A Change of Heart

Monologue by Frank Christian

A middle-aged man in red trunks, black boxing shoes and gloves, shadowboxing.

That was 18 years ago, but it seemed like yesterday. Place, Trenton, New Jersey. 1968 Golden Gloves Championships. Me, Chris Colt versus Gypsies Joe Harris, the Philadelphia Buzz Saw. (He throws a right hand a bobs when he says, “me, Chris Colt,” and puts his balled fists on his waist sides.) In the first round, I was feeling good, like Pall Mall should, solid? We came out, touched gloves, and circled each other feinting, but without throwing any punches at all.

I throw two lefts and a right to his shaven head. The punches landed but slide off his greasy bald head.

He kept moving in throwing zipping lefts and rights to the body and my head. I caught most of the punches on his elbows and arms, spined Gypsie around, threw two left hooks and a right hand. Gypsie’s knees buckled, but he kept coming in, throwing round-house lefts and rights, missing me by a mile.

I stuck my tongue out at him. I hit Joe Harris with four left jabs and laughed at him as I went back to my corner. I threatened Gypsie from my stool, and I told my trainer Gypsie was one piece of cake.

As the bell rang for the next round I ran to the corner of Gypsie and hit him with a barrage of punches. Then disaster struck. I began to hold on. The crowd said, “What’s happening to Colt? You hurt or something, man”?

Gypsie noticed too and hit me with all kinds of punches as I covered up. Finally, I sagged to the canvas from a punch combination.

Why? Why did I stop fighting? Huh? I had a change of heart, that’s why. For four weekends, I was helping Martin Luther King’s group with the Poor People’s Campaign in Resurrection City, Washington DC. Those people were putting their bodies on the line, man, can you dig it? Huh!!

They came from everywhere to D.C. Some by hitchhiking with their transistor radios blasting Dylan’s ‘Like a Rolling Stone.’ People young and old; most left, some right, some black, some white. Father Groppi from Milwaukee and his sidekick, Sweet Willie Wine, and many others. The march dedicated to the recently slain King, Medgar Evers, Viola Liuzzo, the Italian Filly with Balls, a Chicago housewife

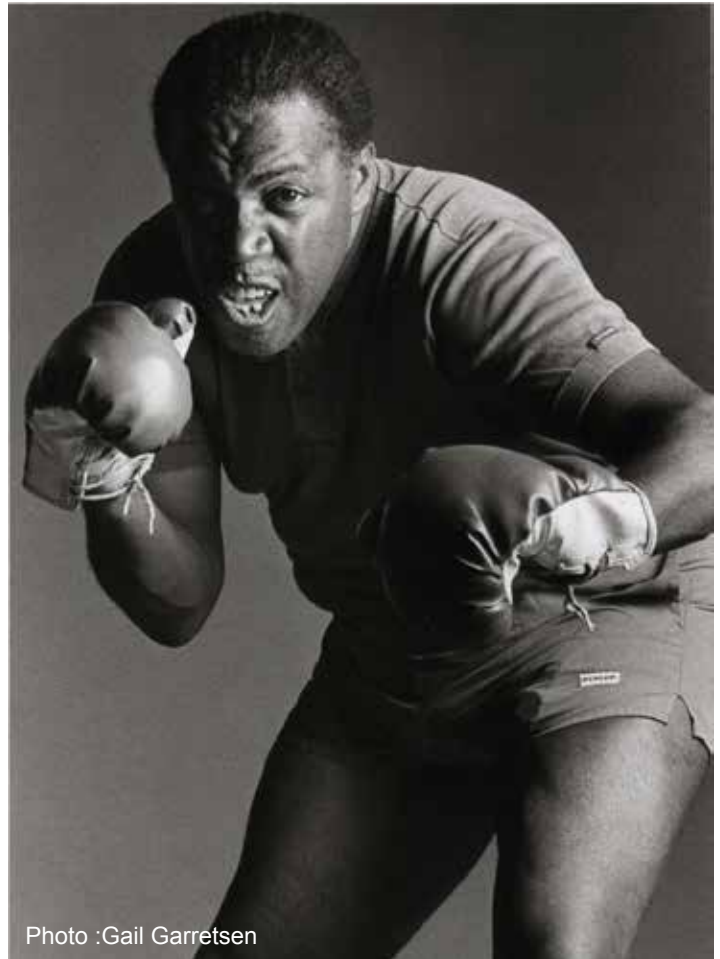


Photo :Gail Garretsen

who went down south for others’ civil right and got wasted, man. Damn!

The Kennedy bots! Scottsboro boys! Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!

I ain’t lost my heart, man! I can still fight, but I’m fightin’ a different way now. Like the two white dudes from Harvard and Yale. They dedicated their lives to human rights when they were young. Now they live in fatherless black homes among the rats and roaches. I lost my bigotry when I saw them trying to get love from the little black children that they didn’t get from their parents.

You see, man, while their parents were jet-setting around the world, they’re in private institutions all alone. One of ‘em said he was sexually abused there, man. They were in prison, too; but they had more food and clothes than me.

For the first time, solid, I saw Whitey as a victim and right then and there, solid, I dedicated myself to the whole human race, to prove I’s mystical. Can you dig it? Hoo!!

Now my body’s on the line too, Dudes, and I’m still fightin’. But there is one thing I won’t fight no mo’ for; I won’t fight no mo’ for trophies that rust.

PIECE BY PIECE: PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

South Gate Mural

Piece by Piece is working on a 50-foot mural to be installed in the city of South Gate. The mural is a timeline journey—tracing the local history of the land, people and plants—from early Tongva Gabrielino tribes to current times. Check out some of the native plants being included in the mosaic, and some of the artists working on it.



MUGWORT



SAGE BRUSH



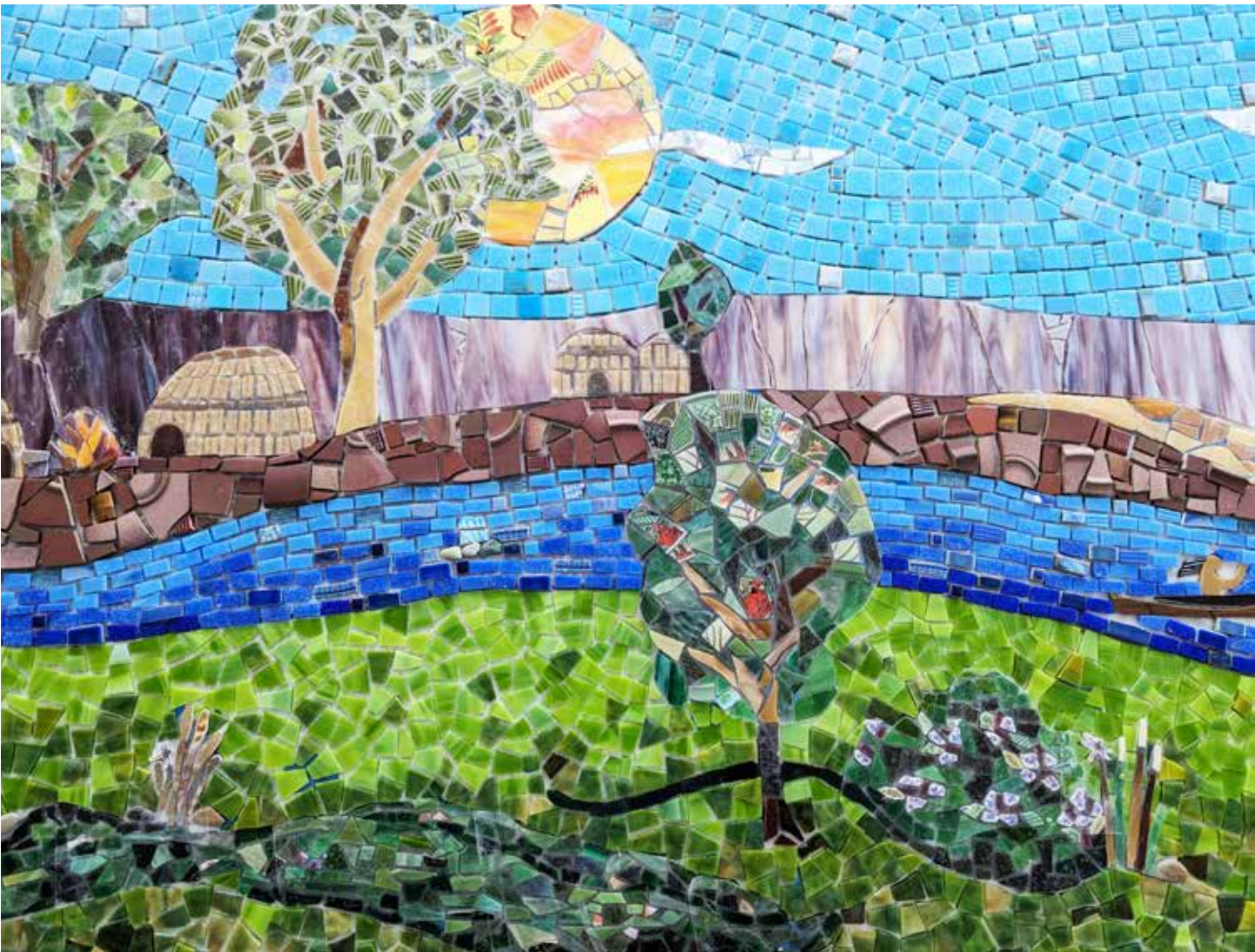
TOYON BUSH

Jose, mosaic artisan



Kim and June
mosaic artisans





Join our Community of Artists



Piece by Piece is a nonprofit mosaic art program and social enterprise, offering free workshops and training to residents of Skid Row, South Los Angeles, and beyond. Classes are open, welcoming, and a safe space to be creative. Opportunities to earn income through the sale of individual work, or to contribute to public art, are available.

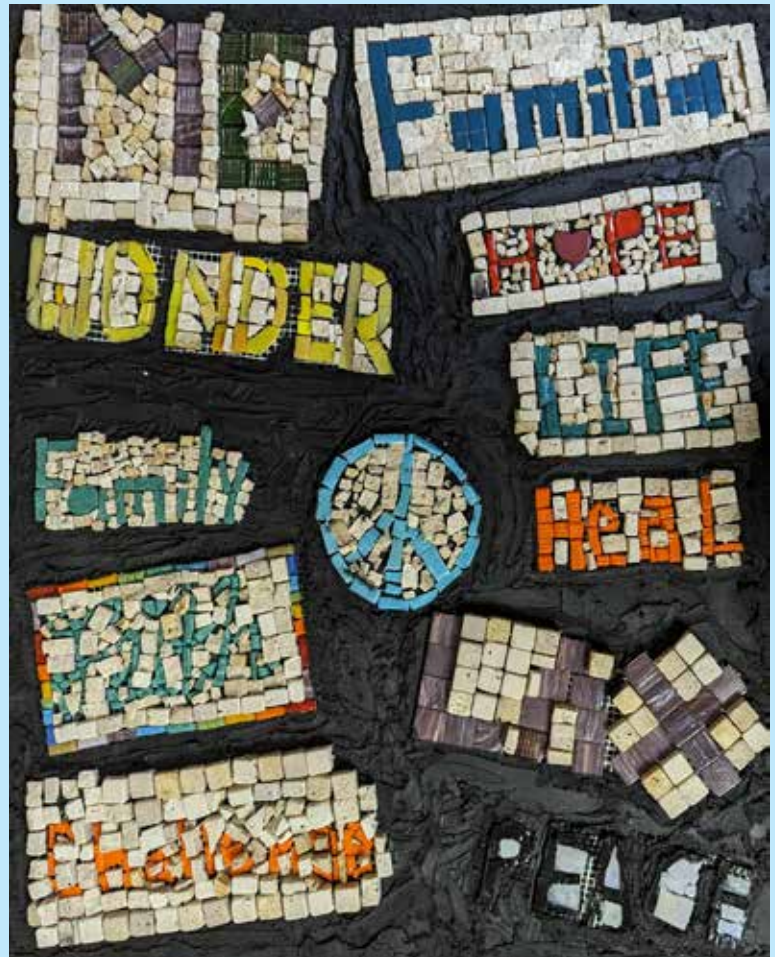
Get info or register at www.piecebypiece.org. Or call (213) 459-1420

The Power of Words

"No matter what anybody tells you, words and ideas can change the world." — John Keating.

What are the words that most resonate with you? What words give you power, make you feel stronger?

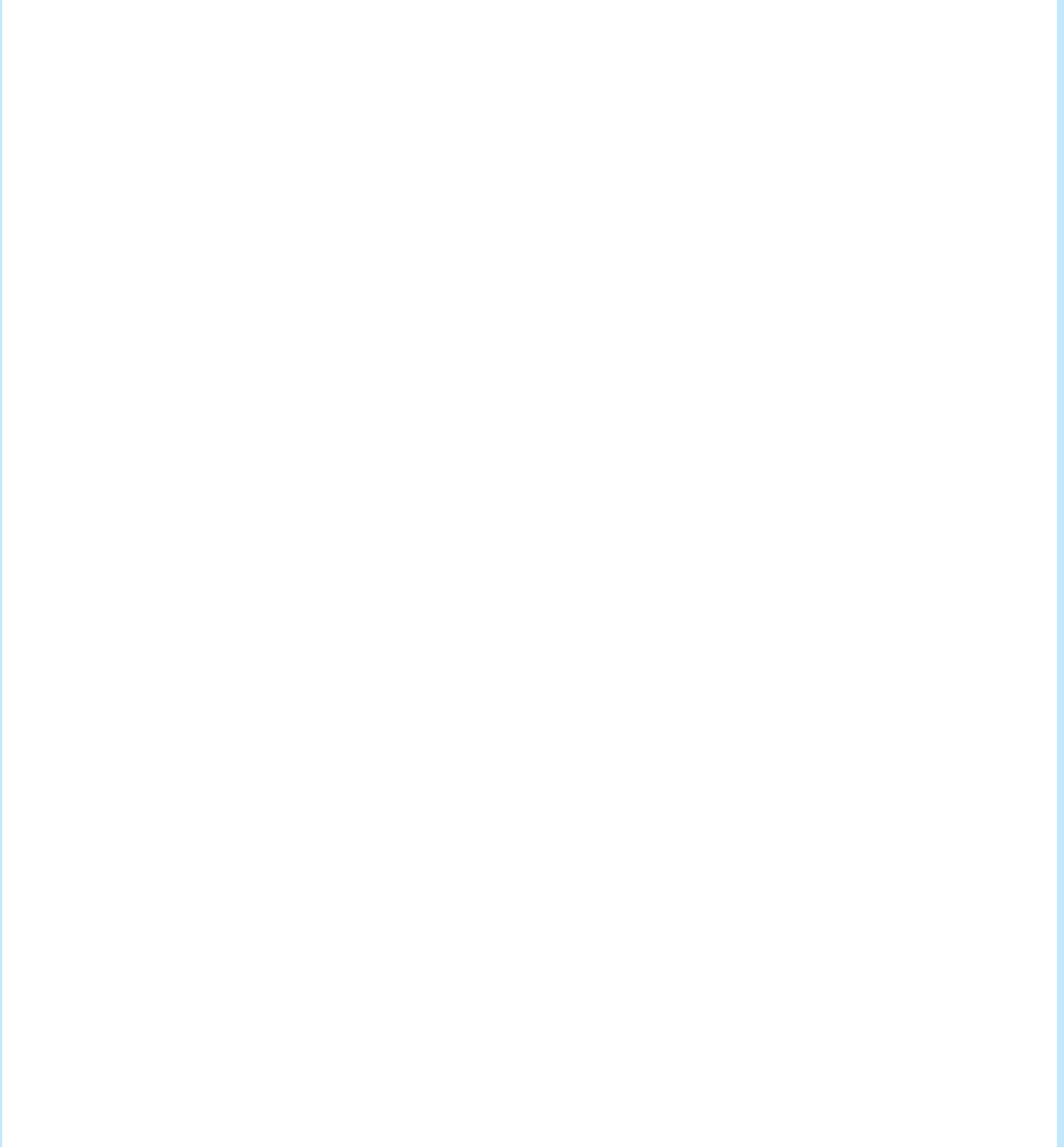
At Piece by Piece, we explored words that uplifted ourselves and each other. Then, we turned them into mosaic, including a collaborative mosaic, which now sits in the studio to inspire us every day.



What are the words that most resonate with you?

What words give you power and make you feel stronger?

Write down your word(s) below, large. Cut up and glue scrap pieces of newspaper, mail, outdated coupons, using them as mosaic pieces as in the examples on the previous page.



The Songs That Get Us Through It

- What are the songs from this past year that have helped you “get through it”?
- Spend a few minutes scrolling through your music library, and then come up with a list of at least three songs. For this exercise, try to choose songs that are current or were made in the past year or so.

- After you have your list, see if you can make any connections among the songs. Here are some questions to consider:
 - What topics do the lyrics touch on? Are they alike in any way?
 - What themes do these songs have in common? For example, a theme might be love, heartbreak, friendship, angst or growing up.
 - Are their sounds similar? If so, in what ways? How would you describe this sound?
- Taking these songs together, what do you think they say about your life over the past year? What do they say about the world? What do they tell you about music now or where it might be headed?

Now, what songs will “guide you through it” for 2023?

- Find your three songs that will guide you through it for 2023. Ask yourselves the same questions above and how they apply to the upcoming year. Are the sounds the same? The lyrics? The themes? How do they transform? How will they help you transform for this new year!
- Keep these new three songs at the top of your playlist anytime you need them for the year!



On-going programs throughout the community

Check our website and social media for specific information and join us!

Drumming in the Parks

Drumming events build community connections. Cultural exchange drives individuals to feel a sense of belonging and a connection with themselves. Public, accessible events like these *Rhythm at the Refresh* are the roots for building relationships, establishing comrade that flourishes with community growth. Vibrations are the catalyst which brings people together.



“The rhythms of the drum are the heartbeat and universal language we speak to become one.”

– Raymond Lewis, Ase Ashe Drummers

Crossroads Concert Series

We are presenting unique performances for the skid row community at the Roshenthal Theatre at Inner-City Arts at 707 Kohler St.



Block Party

Presented Annually since 2019, Street Symphony has partnered with The Midnight Mission to host its “Block Party”, an open air music festival presented in the heart of Skid Row. “Block Party” features a festival line-up of professional Los Angeles based ensembles, as well as Skid Row community artists, and features a diverse range of musical traditions, from Mariachi, Reggae, Rock and Roll, Afro-Cuban, Traditional West African Drumming, Jazz, and Classical. In addition to the musical performances, “Block Party” includes a lunch service for around 2000 individuals, and hosts Skid Row community provider and arts agency pop ups.

The Messiah Project in December

Since 2015, Street Symphony has partnered with The Midnight Mission to host its annual “Messiah Project,” a celebration of the resilience and stories of the Skid Row community. Centered around Handel’s beloved Messiah, The Messiah Project reflects and honors the history of the Messiah as a work of resilience. Handel’s Messiah was written in 1741, and performances during the composer’s life were dedicated to social causes, such as providing relief for incarcerated debtors and orphaned children. Using Handel’s work as the frame for a 90-minute concert event, Street Symphony’s Messiah Project is a modern adaptation of the classic work: presented in the gymnasium of TMM, Messiah Project features professional musicians from the LA Philharmonic and Master Chorale, students from the Colburn School and University of Southern California, and community musicians from Skid Row ensembles.

Street Symphony is a Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization that utilizes music to create opportunities of human connection to homeless and incarcerated communities through workshops, events, and one-on-one musical instruction. These musical programs are held at Skid Row clinics, homeless shelters, permanent supportive housing agencies, and LA County jails.

www.streetsymphony.org
Follow us: @streetsymph
Email: info@streetsymphony.org

STUDIO 526 News

The **“Communal Individual”** Group Exhibition in the Arts District of Los Angeles on Friday, Dec 16, 2022 was a standout event featuring the talented artists of The People Concern’s Studio 526. Organized by L.A. Hope Dealer, Corrie Mattie, the exhibition showcased the diverse perspectives of artists from Studio 526.

One artist who received well-deserved recognition was Gary Brown, a Studio 526 standout artist known for his famous faces. Born in Louisiana in 1952, Gary is a gifted artist and jazz musician with a deep connection to the Bayou State. His work, inspired by a range of sources including the natural beauty of his surroundings and ancient Egyptian mythology, is always captivating and evocative.

Gary was just one of the many talented artists on display at the exhibition. There were also works by Sougi Galleon, Ricardo Leon, Edwin Rivera, and Peter Villapudua, each showcasing their own unique styles and talents. And don’t forget about YoMoki, an artist known for her miniature origami and drawings of cat characters in kimonos. YoMoki’s work is heavily influenced by her culture and spirituality, and she uses humor to address universal themes in her art.

This exhibition, with Valence Projects, a positive impact arts agency, was a reflection of L.A. Hope Dealer, Corrie Mattie’s commitment to supporting and empowering artists from Studio 526. It provided an important platform for these artists to have their voices heard and their work seen by a wider audience. It was a powerful reminder of the ability of art to bring people together and inspire change. We encourage our fellow Skid Row artists and residents to support these talented artists from our community.



- Studio 526 artists featured:**
- Sougi Galleon
 - Gary Brown
 - Peter Villapudua
 - Ricardo Leon
 - Edwin Rivera
 - YoMoKi



(Clockwise from bottom left) Painting by artist Peter V.; artist Gary Brown poses with artist and curator, Corrie Mattie, in front of his mural created for this exhibit (inspired by his original painting, “Waiting”; “Hope” by artist Ricardo; artist YoMoki with her cat drawing; one of YoMoki’s miniature origami cranes in her palm.



The People Concern, STUDIO 526 is a creative studio platform in LA’s Skid Row neighborhood, rooted in the conviction

that equitable access to arts and cultural spaces is a fundamental human right, essential for everyone.

The art studio is open two times a day on Tuesdays & Thursdays (8:30–11:30 am & 12:30–3:30pm) and on Fridays, 12:30–3:30pm only.

To make an appointment for orientation or music studio time, please call or email us at:

(213) 488-9559x265
 ACorona@ThePeopleConcern.org

Studio 526 is located at:
 526 San Pedro St. Los Angeles



FREE @ THE CENTRAL LIBRARY



African and African American Tales With Michael D. McCarty

Saturday, February 18, 2023

Time: 2:00–3:00 pm

Location: Mark Taper Auditorium

Master Storyteller Michael D. McCarty shares tales from Africa and of African-Americans that depict the challenges and triumphs of black people and will both educate and entertain. For children ages 5 and up.

Tech Thursdays (drop-in tech help)

February 23, 3pm-4pm

Location: Carson Center for New Technologies

Children are invited to share the joy of storytelling and reading. Bring your own device (smartphone, laptop, tablet) to Tech Thursdays, where staff can assist with basic issues such as how to download an e-book or send an email with an attachment.

This program is intended to provide basic technology assistance. If staff are unable to assist you with your specific issue, they will try to point you to resources that can help. Assistance is provided on a first-come, first-served basis at these drop-in sessions.

For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. *Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento.*

Story Telling and Reading (STAR)

Days: Sundays, 1pm-3pm

Location: Children's Literature section

Children are invited to share the joy of storytelling and reading with our special STAR volunteer, India.

The Central Library offers many free events and classes

Go to <https://tinyurl.com/3usdk728> for more information on current and future free exhibits, events, workshops and many other helpful resources at this branch.

Join the Octavia Lab for free access to high-tech tools!

Octavia Butler was an award winning science fiction writer who broke new ground in a male dominated field. Her legacy lives on in Central Library's **Octavia Lab: Creativity Within Reach** which offers high tech tools for artists free of charge. Under the heading of Design Computers, Equipment, and Studio, the Lab services include 3D Printing, Laser Cutter, Epson Large Format Printer, and a Green Screen Backdrop. In the Studio are Video and Audio programs including Final Cut Pro and Garageband. The Lab is open Monday through Saturday afternoons and Staff at the front desk are there to help. Workshops are offered to help you use the large range of equipment. Go to lapl.org/labs.





UNITED COALITION EAST PREVENTION PROJECT

Established in 1998, United Coalition East Prevention Project is located at 804 E 6th St in Skid Row. We specialize in Abuse Recovery, Addiction Counseling, Drug & Alcohol Addictions, ADC, Chemical Abuse, Compulsions, Drug & Alcohol Abuse, Habit Control and Substance Abuse Counseling.

- UCEPP Monthly Meeting: Third Thursday, 2 PM
- Skid Row Parks Meetings: First Thursday, 2PM
- The Skid Row Community Improvement Coalition Meeting: First Thursday, 6PM

For information on how to join these projects and meetings, please contact:
charlesp@socialmodel.com / zelenec@socialmodel.com



Join our Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/308265560150699/about>

Uniting Social Model's (SMRS) prevention work in Skid Row (UCEPP) and Boyle Heights (CCERP). This is forum to connect and update coalition members as well as celebrate our collective efforts to improve the neighborhoods we serve.



LA CAN



The mission of **LA CAN** is to help people dealing with poverty create & discover opportunities, while serving as a vehicle to ensure they have voice, power & opinion in the decisions that are directly affecting them.

LA CAN's Arts and Culture committee features incredible artists from in and around the LA area, all of whom have a deep passion for community and social justice. Our artists are diverse, creative and represent a broad swath of arts achievement in our community! Visual and performing arts, theatre and many music genres serve as the backdrop for these amazing creations.

More info: www.cangress.org

My Friend's House

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20% Discount
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WHERE 100% OF THE PROCEEDS, BENEFITS THE COMMUNITY!

FIND
US
ON



Daily Hours:
Mon - Sat, 11:30am - 6pm

1244 E. 7th St. Los Angeles, CA
www.MyFriendsHouseLA.org

Look for arts activities happening throughout the community.
SAVE THE DATE! December 17th—Save the Date, A Holiday Called Home (UVP)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE SKIDROWARTSALLIANCE.COM

Explore a variety of inspiring programs from music
to theatre, visual arts and much more.
Each program uses the arts to nourish wellness,
community and connectivity.

Share your experience and ideas for the next Zine!
Reach us at sraa.tvguide@gmail.com or (323) 412-9770

Skid Row Happenings: On-going

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
<p>1–2pm (Zoom) Music Education Lab (Urban Voices Project): Build performance skills and techniques whether you are an industry professional or a seasoned shower singer! (see p.20)</p>	<p>8:30–11:30am, 12:30–3:30pm Studio 526: art workshops and open art studio open to public, (see p.23)</p> <p>11am–12pm Virtual Art Inspiration (Zoom beginning mosaic workshop with Piece by Piece instructor): Register online at www.piecebypiece.org (see p.17)</p> <p>2–4pm Theatre Workshops for Everyone (LA Poverty Dept.) (see p.13)</p>	<p>10am–12pm Free Beginning Mosaic (Piece by Piece): Learn basic mosaic techniques and be part of this welcoming and friendly community! (see p.17)</p> <p>1:30–2:30pm (10/12, 10/26, 11/9, 12/7, 12/21) Studio 526: art studio orientation–reservation required. (see p.5 for info.)</p> <p>2pm Neighborhood Sing (Urban Voices Project): Joshua House Clinic, 325 E 7th St, LA (see p.18)</p>	<p>8:30–11:30am, 12:30–3:30pm Studio 526: art workshops and open art studio open to public, (see p.23)</p> <p>5–6pm Culture Hour (LACAN) Join the Freedom Singers from LACAN on Facebook Live (p.25)</p> <p>7–9pm Theatre Workshops for Everyone (LA Poverty Dept., (see p.13)</p>	<p>11am Family Sing (Urban Voices Project): A class that encourages families and pre-school children to explore the world of music. (see p.20)</p> <p>12:30–3:30pm Studio 526: art workshops and open art studio open to public, (see p. 23)</p> <p>1–2pm (Zoom) Music Wellness Lab (Urban Voices Project): Practical ways to use music to create change in the mind and body. (see p.20)</p> <p>2x monthly: 7–9pm Free Movie Nights at the Museum (1st & 3rd Fridays, LA Poverty Dept.) (see p.13)</p> <p>Monthly, Last Friday: 5–7:30pm Open Mic Night (LA Poverty Dept.) (see p.13)</p>



Sir Oliver

PRODUCTIONS LLC PRESENTS

8TH ANNUAL

BOB MARLEY DAY Celebration

SUNDAY 2/5 12-5PM

Free Food

Join us on February 5th at the Skid Row History Museum and Archive (250 S. Broadway) for a celebration of the music and legacy of Bob Marley. This free event will feature live performances by:

- Unkel Bean
- Dustin Seo
- Urban Voices Project
- Selecta from "Love Revenge Sound"
- The Archivist

Plus surprise celebrity appearances!

Coming early April:

Urban Voices Project's

Coffeehouse Concert

Follow us online for updates!
urbanvoicesproject.org



Skid Row is a dynamic and powerful arts community. Anywhere on the streets of Skid Row, creativity is happening. This map will show you where to untap the artist inside you.

SKID ROW ARTS MAP



- 1** **Skid Row History Museum and The Los Angeles Poverty Department**
Monthly Open Mics and Movie Nights
250 S. Broadway | 213-413-1077
www.lapovertydept.org
- 2** **Central City Community Church of the Nazarene**
419 E. 6th St. | 213-689-1766
- 3** **The Midnight Mission**
419 E. 6th St. | 213-689-1766
- 4** **Studio 526 (Art & Music studio)**
419 E. 6th St. | 213-689-1766
- 5** **Urban Voices Project**
419 E. 6th St. | 213-689-1766
www.urbanvoicesproject.org
- 6** **"Movies in the Park" and some art workshops and music**
• **San Julian Park**
312 E. 5th St. (5th & San Julian)
• **General Jeff Memorial Park** (formerly Gladys Park)
808 E. 6th St. (6th & Gladys)
- 7** **Piece by Piece**
call for address: 323-963-3372
www.piecebypiece.org



Refresh Spot Bus Stops Metro Station Landmarks

Designed and Produced by Sebin Song and Xivi Huang of the USC Roski School of Art and Design. Supported by USC Arts in Action, part of USC's Visions and Voices: The Arts and Humanities Initiative.