
COMMUNITY MURAL

BACKESTO PARK

13TH STREET AND EMPIRE STREET
DISTRICT 3

APRIL 21, 2025



Photo credit: <https://www.sanjose.org/attraction/backesto-park>



Extra Space Storage



Backesto Park



Kiem Service
Laundromat
Recently viewed

San José
City Hall



Dr. Martin Luther
King, Jr. Libry



San Jose Improv



BACKESTO PARK HISTORY

- Donated in 1890 by Anna E. Backesto in memory of her husband, Dr. John Perrie Backesto
- The park has a community center, BBQ area, children's playground, handball courts, bocce ball, basketball, night tennis and lighted softball field.
- The jewel of park is its mosaic fountain decorated with Solon and Schemmel ceramic tiles.



PUBLIC ART AT BACKESTO PARK

- Painted in 2007 by artist Katrina Loera
- Neighborhood Association initiated project.
- West-facing wall of the handball court



PROJECT BACKGROUND

- Initiated by private coordinator (not city) and Artists.
- Project is not funded by City of San José or managed by Public Art Program.
- Project is not related to a D3 Decides mural project initiated at this site in 2018; that project was not realized.
- Coordinator and Artists began application process in September 2024.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/cultural-affairs/public-art/community-mural-and-utility-box-projects>

PROJECT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

- September 2024 - Coordinator and Artists began conversations with City about application process for murals on City owned property.
 - As one of the Artists is a current Arts Commissioner, she has recused herself from all formal public meetings to avoid conflict of interest. She has also refused any payment for this project.
 - September 2024 – April 2025 - Coordinator and Artists canvassed the community, meeting people at the park, visiting local businesses, and going door-to-door
 - They reached out to former Councilmember Torres to help get the word out to the broader community
 - Public Art staff met with Artists, and funder, multiple times to review the application and mural concept design
 - Public Art staff met with Parks Department for use of the site and input on the mural design.
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April 1
Public Art
Committee
Meeting



PROJECT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

- April 1, 2025 – Mural concept design was presented to the Public Art Committee.
 - This was a public meeting with approximately 50 people in attendance.
 - 24 letters from community members was received.
 - Concerns about outreach were voiced by some community members.
 - Public Art Committee deferred item to full Arts Commission with the recommendation that one (1) additional community meeting be conducted.
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PROJECT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

- April 16, 2025 – D3 council office convened an additional community meeting, as per Committee direction, for input and refinements to mural concept design. There were around 70 people present.

April 16 Community Meeting



PROPOSED MURAL LOCATION



PROPOSED MURAL LOCATION AT BACKESTO PARK



PROPOSED MURAL LOCATION AT BACKESTO PARK



PROPOSED MURAL LOCATION AT BACKESTO PARK

PROJECT ORGANIZER

- Ramon Castillo

- Analyn Bones

- Alfonso Salazar

- John Garcia

ARTIST TEAM

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

- Teamsters Local 853

- 1Culture
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ARTIST TEAM & EXAMPLES OF PREVIOUS ARTWORKS

- *Analyn Bones*
- *Alfonso Salazar*
- *John Garcia*

Example of Previous
Artworks

Artist:
Analyn
Bones



Larry Itliong & Dolores Huerta Mural in San Jose @ 4th & Santa Clara Streets SJ (Chevron Station)

Example of Previous
Artworks

Artist:
Analyn
Bones



Pinoytown mural finished February 13, 2024

Example of Previous
Artworks

Artist:
Analyn
Bones



Example of Previous
Artworks

Artist:
Analyn
Bones



Example of Previous
Artworks

Artist:
Alfonso
Salazar



El Tarasco
11 x 22 ft
1986 -2011
San Jose

Image courtesy of the artist

Example of Previous
Artworks

Artist:
Alfonso
Salazar



We Are Muwekma Ohlone
10 x 56 ft
2021
Guadalupe River Park, San Jose

Example of Previous
Artworks

Artist:
Alfonso
Salazar



ALAS -Ayudando Latinos a Soñar
6 X 36 ft
Half Moon Bay, California
2023

Image courtesy of the artist

O LATINOS A SOÑAR

LAS
EAMS.COM



SERVINDO A
LA COMUNIDAD
BIENVENIDOS
WELCOME

WORKER EQUITY EXPRESS
ALAS

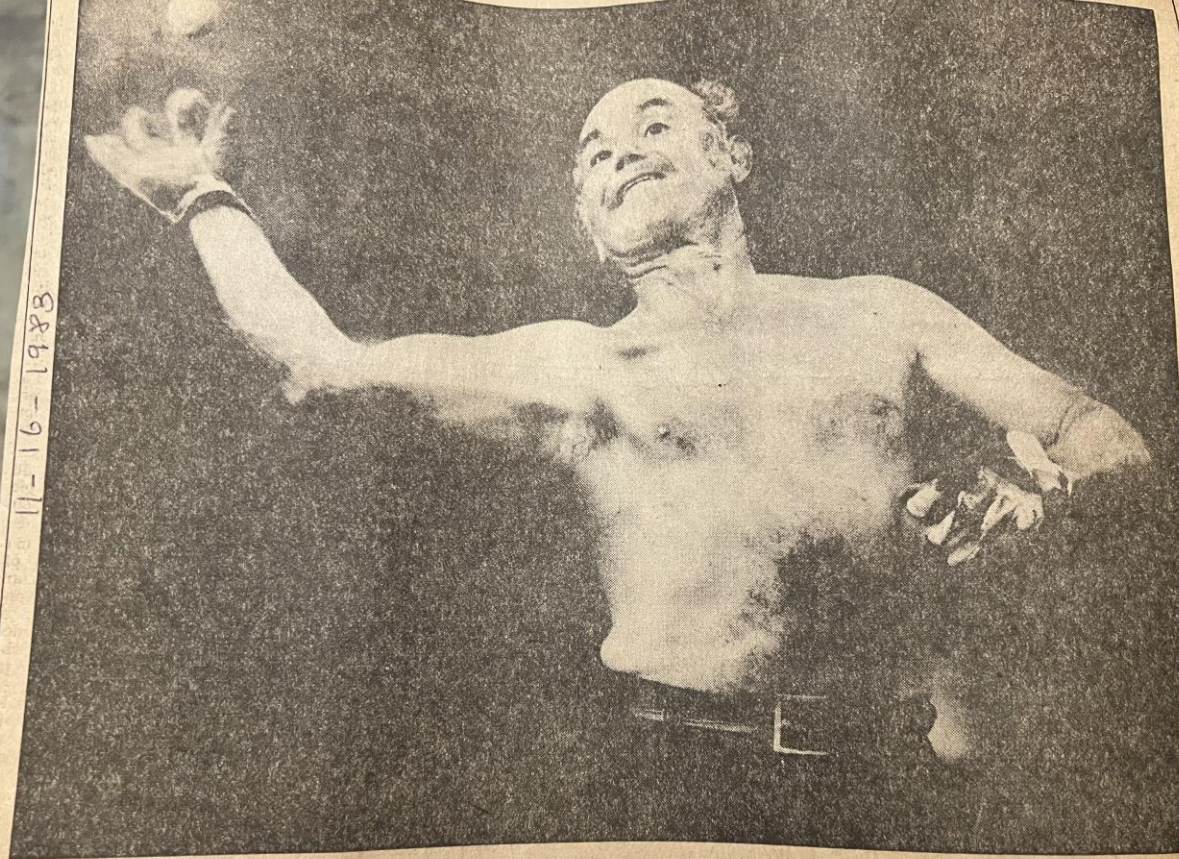
Example of Previous
Artworks

Artist:
Alfonso
Salazar



Artist: John Garcia

11-16-1983



He's doing 60 at handball

Handball just may be the fountain of youth, judging from the muscled physique of "Red" Caballero, a San Jose pressman. The 60-year-old man has been playing and enjoying this de-

manding sport since he was 30. Here, he smashes the ball while playing at an intense match in the quiet of the outdoor handball courts at Backesto Park in San Jose.

Tom Van Dyke — News

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Tom Van Dyke — News

Example of Previous Artworks

Artist: John Garcia



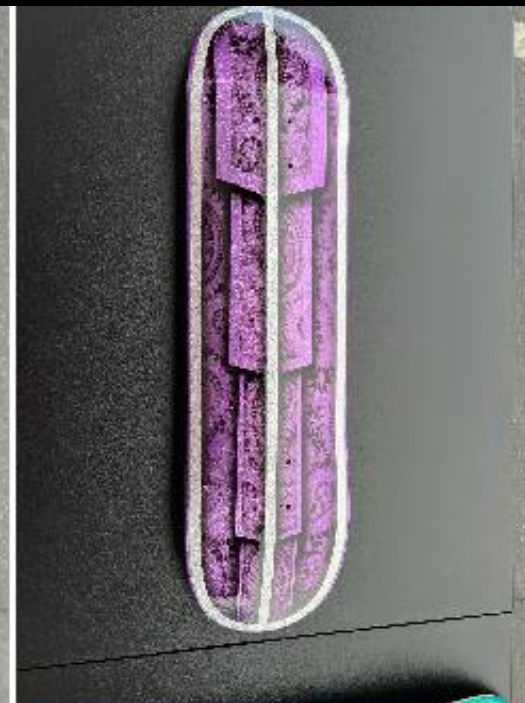
Example of Previous Artworks

Artist: John Garcia



Example of Previous Artworks

Artist: John Garcia



PROJECT MEETINGS

Date	What	Purpose	Location	Convener
09/18/24	Key stakeholder meeting	Review mural design guidelines and application process	Phone call	SJPA
09/18/24 – 04/01/25	Neighborhood canvassing	Input on mural project	Various	Project Organizer & Artist team
03/14/25	Key stakeholder meeting	Review mural design	Online via Zoom	SJPA
03/26/25	Key stakeholder meeting	Review mural design	Online via Zoom	SJPA
04/01/25	Public Art Committee meeting	Regular meeting to take action on design proposal	City Hall	SJPA
04/01/25 – 04/16/25	Petition / Neighborhood canvassing	Support for mural project	Various	Project Organizer & Artist team
04/16/25	Community Meeting	Broad community input on design	Northside Community Center	D3 Council Office
04/21/25	Arts Commission meeting	Regular meeting to take action on approval of design proposal	City Hall	OEDCA

MURAL CONCEPT DESIGN



MURAL DESIGN MOCK-UP – EAST FACING WALL OF HANDBALL COURT



NORTH SIDE SAN JOSE

MURAL DESIGN MOCK-UP – SOUTH FACING WALL OF HANDBALL COURT



MURAL DESIGN MOCK-UP – NORTH FACING WALL OF HANDBALL COURT

NEXT STEPS

- Arts Commission Approval
- Right of entry agreement
- Prepare surface
- Mural Painted
- Long term maintenance