



Brandeis
BRANDEIS NATIONAL
COMMITTEE
TUCSON
C H A P T E R

BULLETIN
SEPT-OCT
2026

TUCSON
MURALS
ISSUE

Joe Pagac's "Desert Colossus" is the tallest mural in Arizona, climbing 153 feet on the 11-story Transamerica Building at 177 N. Church St. in Tucson.



Size of, say, Reuben Weisz compared to Joe Pagac's "Desert Colossus".

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More Murals	21-28

The Tucson Murals Database lists almost 600 Tucson Murals by more than 200 artists



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

Joe Pagac also created this piece at The Downtown Dispensary. It's partially inspired by a trip that Pagac took to Hawaii.

Location: 221 E. Sixth St.

Presidents' Message

Dear Fellow BNCers,

Welcome to the new club year. Your board has been working incredibly hard putting together the 2026-27 calendar. We know you have joined BNC for the opportunity to meet new, intellectually curious adults sharing a wide range of cultural and stimulating events and study groups. BNC is a place for all to flex their leadership skills while supporting Brandeis University, a non-sectarian university, which sends graduates out into the world capable of innovative solutions to complex problems utilizing the communications skills and awareness of societal issues.

We want to especially laud those whose work you will enjoy throughout the year. First goes to Dianne Selco and her committee for engaging so many leaders of our diverse study group opportunities. This comes with a big thank you to Terrie Sherman who waded through 196 registrations to make sure each registrant was included in rosters and each leader received an accurate list of participants.

Next shout out goes to Wendy Yanow and her team for putting together what will be an exciting opening program and the best yet Book and Author event in March.

Additionally, other board members have been coordinating our other annual events which will unfold as the year progresses. To those who have shared their ideas, we thank you for keeping us in the loop since we don't have board meetings during the summer.

We look forward to meeting our new members and continuing our ongoing friendships with all of you.

Shana tova to those who celebrate the Jewish holiday and welcome back to everyone.

Erica and Marianne
Co-Presidents



Lisa Beggs photographer

This mural was created by traveling artist Victor Ving as part of a cross-country mural project called the "Greetings Tour."

Location: 406 N. Sixth Ave. behind Miller Surplus

New Members!



**BARBARA
TURTON**

VICKI GOTKIN

INTERESTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE
EVENT PLANNING – PROGRAM SPEAKER
FACILITATE A STUDY GROUP
WEBSITE
DATABASE
RETIRED ATTORNEY

M THERESA DULGOV

INTERESTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE/SOCIAL JUSTICE
STUDY GROUPS
BOOK + AUTHOR

**BARBARA GILBERT
(ALAN)**

New Members!



JIM CLARKE

FAITH COHEN

INTERESTS

STUDY GROUPS
BOOK + AUTHOR
MEMBERSHIP

**DRS. KATHERINE
+ MICHAEL FRITH**

KATHERINE WAS A MEDIA PROFESSOR FOR 35 YEARS. THEY LIVED INTERNATIONALLY FOR MANY YEARS IN ENGLAND, ASIA AND AFRICA.

INTERESTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE
COMMITTEE MEMBER: STUDY GROUPS,
BOOK + AUTHOR
FACILITATE A STUDY GROUP
MARKETING AND PUBLICITY

LAURA + RICK ALEXANDER

INTERESTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE
BULLETIN PROOFREADER
STUDY GROUPS
BOOK + AUTHOR

Opening Event



The Countdown Begins!

3...2...1...

GO!!!

Shift into gear for **BNC Tucson's Opening Event**

**Wednesday, October 21, 2026
Tucson Automobile Museum
4825 N. Sabino Canyon Road
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**



**Program starts at 2:00 pm
with Author Mimi Nichter & 2027 Book & Author Reveal**

Start your engines for an exciting afternoon at the Tucson Automobile Museum! Cruise in early to shop member-made creations — jewelry, ceramics, glass art, books, and more.

We're still looking for creative members to showcase their work

Formal invitation to follow

**Please contact Wendy Yanow
414-803-4289 wammy18@gmail.com**



A Rock the Spot Mural



A Sunshine Mile Mural

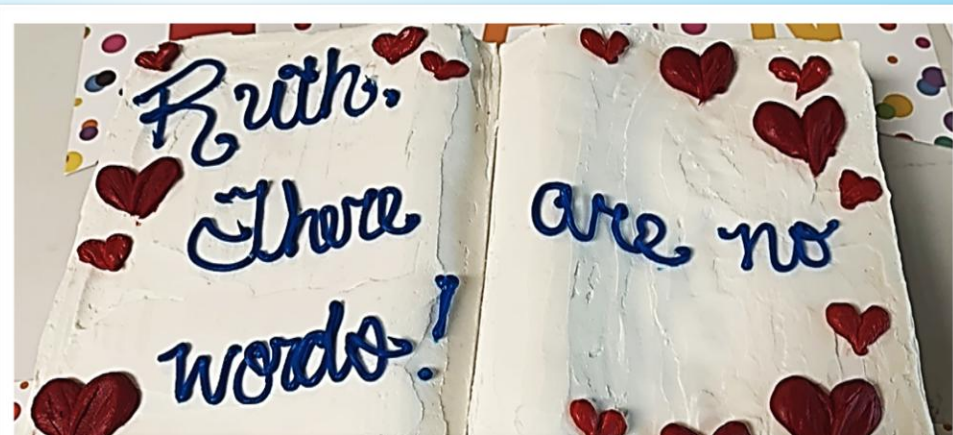
Study Groups

Contemporary Fiction

CONGRATULATIONS RUTH FRIEDMAN!!!

APPRECIATION PARTY

FOR LEADING
CONTEMPORARY FICTION
FOR 14 YEARS!





Study Groups

Classical Music with Harvey Wolfe



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

There's now a colorful mural at Southwest Strings, created by Jessica Gonzales. She said on Instagram: "So excited to add some color to the area and give the community a peek into what goes on inside this super cool business."

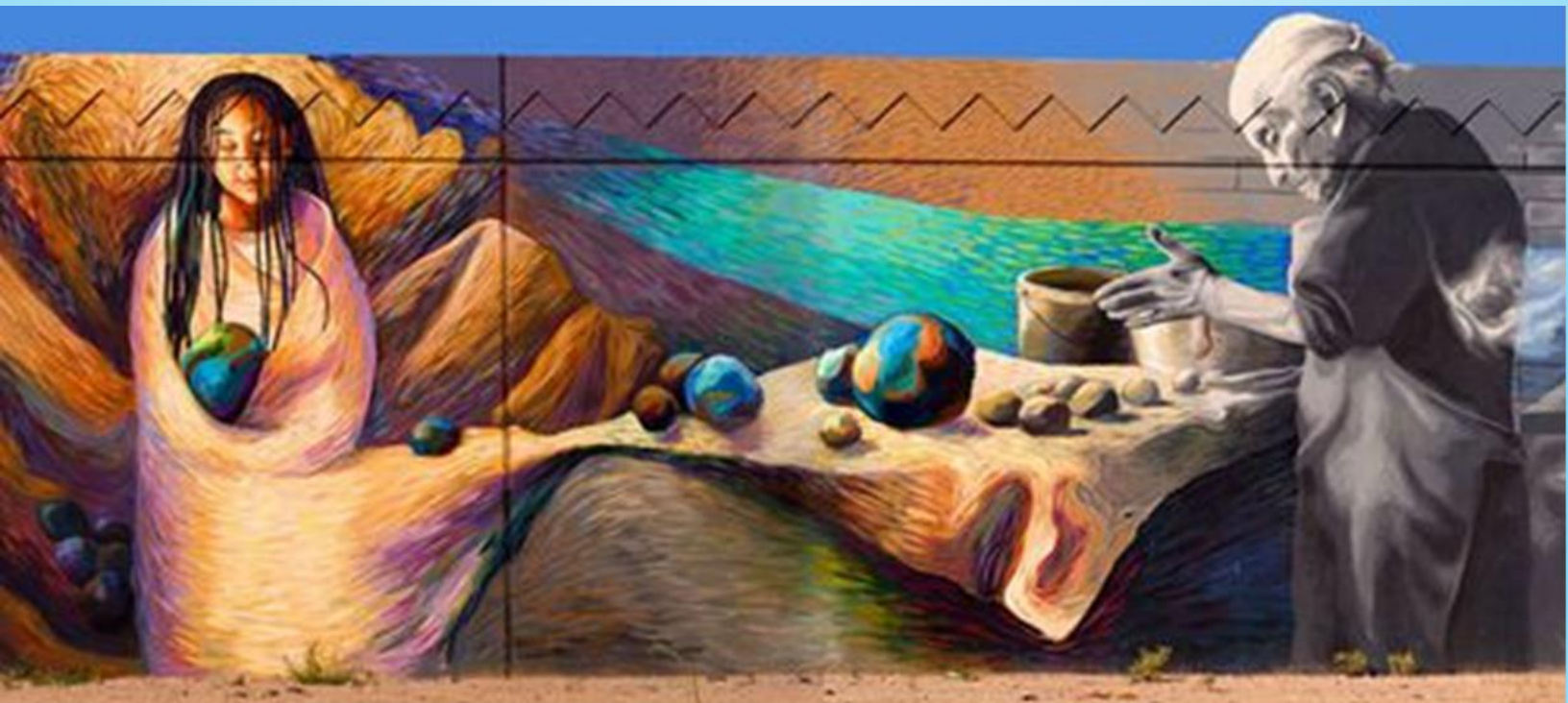
Location: 1721 S. Cherrybell Stravenue

Study Groups

Let's Learn Mahjong



Men Who Lunch on Tuesday



Kelly Presnell photos, Arizona Daily Star

A section of Anita's Song 3 shows Josefa Carrillo making tortillas near the corner of Williams Street and Contzen Avenue in Barrio Anita.



Study Groups

Lunch with Friends

Nate's Italian Kitchen



Joe Pagac painted this 3,200-square-foot mural on the east side of the Ari on Fourth apartment building.

“I’m always trying to find ways to help people appreciate the desert and the plants and animals that surround them, but I try to do it in a new and unexpected way. I’ve always loved surreal artists like Salvador Dali, so I like to incorporate a bit of that whimsy into my work,” explained Joe.

“My goal is always to make people smile and brighten up their commute or their neighborhood or the streets they frequent,” Joe continued. “And I think my mural at Ari is doing that. It makes me smile! It’s one of my all-time favorite murals!”

Location: 211 N. 4th Ave.

Study Groups

Walk, Talk, and Coffee

Our "Walk and Talk" through the Indian Ridge Neighborhood was our concluding walk for last year. We enjoyed seeing the mid-century modern homes, learning how the neighborhood streets were named, "gracious suburban living" ranch homes and carports which were fairly new to Tucson at this time. Also, it was interesting to learn that the main architect, Ann Rysdale, was a pioneer in mid-century architecture, the only registered female architect in our state between 1949 and 1960. She also designed The Tucson Inn and homes in El Encanto and Colonia Solana.

Another rare find.....
look at this photo of a cactus
growing in a palm tree!



We are again offering our Walk, Talk and Coffee Study Group this year. Our first walk will be Thursday, October 22nd and then continue the 2nd and 4th Thursday morning's through April 8th. At this point, this Study Group is full.

Lastly, we thank you for walking with us and bringing so much enthusiasm to our discovery of historic and interesting Tucson neighborhoods.

Enjoy these warm months while staying safe, healthy, and finding enjoyment in all you do.

Shelly and Lisa
Co-Leaders



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson
This inside mural is by The Desert Pen.
Location: Park Place Mall, 5870 E. Broadway (near Macys)



Study Groups

Game Night #2

A fun and friendly group getting together to schmooze and play easy-to-learn games such as Rummikub, Dominos, and Sequence.

Leader: Mindy Hirsh 516-965-9284 mindys.hirsh@gmail.com

Time: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

Dates: Third Monday – October through March

Place: Hirsh Home, East Side of Tucson

Status: Only a few spots left

\$20

Looking forward to having fun with my Brandeis friends!



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

This is a portion of one-of-two murals created by Jessica Gonzales at The Tuxon which she says were "inspired by a lifestyle that embraces elements of both the city and the desert, while also creating an inviting and inclusive space where guests at The Tuxon can feel invigorated and welcomed by what Tucson has to offer."

Location: 960 S. Freeway in the Menlo Park neighborhood

Dear Brandeis Tucson Chapter Members

**We need leaders to help form new sessions for popular topics.
These groups are in high demand or have waiting lists:**

**Mystery Day Trippers
Couples Dining Out or Single's Dining Out
Game Night
You Gotta Have Art
Behind the Scenes**

Any new group types you would like to lead

ALSO, an option is to join a class offered by Brandeis National and then meet to discuss!

The following groups are currently CLOSED. Notifications will be forwarded this week to confirm your attendance.

**Learn Mah Jongg
Couples Who Dine Out Too
Tuesday afternoon Movies
Lunch with Friends
Current Issues in Supreme Court Jurisprudence
You Gotta Have Art
Exploring the Best Mexican Restaurants
Pizza Pie-Ology
Behind the Scenes
Introduction to Southwestern Jewelry
Couples Who Dine Out Too
Just Desserts
Walk, Talk and Coffee
The Role and Influence of Media on Politics
Let's Monkey Around at the Zoo**

All other groups currently have openings.

**Please let me know if you
are interested in leading
or helping to form a new
group.**

**Sincerely,
Dianne Selco
dianne.selco@gmail.com
940-649-1091**

**Mural by Lalo Cota
Location: 3435 E. Speedway**



Hello Friends!

Welcome to our efforts to shout out how good Brandeis is.

We will collect items at our October Opening Event so check out that flyer when it's ready.

For now, how do you want to participate?

Take, for example, the Community Food Bank. We can unload donated foods (a real workout) on their collection day like Rotary does, or we can hold a virtual drive through our Facebook page. For now, we're asking for virtual involvement. Your thoughts?



Since we're pet lovers, and we're seeing more dogs in shoes (needed in both this scalding heat and ouchy-hiding monsoon puddles), let's help animals in need.

Community Care Tucson:
givebutter.com/cctpets

Southern Arizona Animal Food Bank:

<https://www.saaafb.org/>

Pima County Animal Shelter:
<https://www.pima.gov/2286/Donate>

Thank you!
Marilyn Lobell & Suzy Jacobs

Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

After seven years, muralist Ignacio Garcia painted over his original 45-foot by 45-foot mural, "Jack and Bill" of basketball legend Bill Walton riding a mythical jackalope, to create this mural titled, "La Guitarista". Garcia says the Walton mural didn't fully reflect downtown Tucson and he has embraced a style of art that represents the Sonoran culture and empowerment of women.

Location: 47 S. Fifth Ave. on the west-facing wall of the Rialto Theatre

BRING TO OPENING EVENT!

NEW SOCKS, HATS AND MITTENS FOR
WOMEN AND CHILDREN
FULL SIZE TOOTHPASTE,
TOOTHBRUSHES, DEODORANT,
SHAMPOO, LOTIONS - TOILETRIES

Correct Email for
ELIZABETH TASHJIAN
elizabeth.tashjian@
eccles.utah.edu

ATTENTION!

IF YOU ARE REGISTERED FOR THE NEW
PREPURIM HAMANTASCHEN BAKE, THIS
MESSAGE IS FOR YOU!

**THE DATE AND TIME HAS CHANGED TO
SUNDAY, MARCH 14TH AT 10:30 AM.**

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
YOUR BAKER LEADER, ERICA FRIEDMAN
ERICAFRIEDMAN@YAHOO.COM

Correct Email for
Fay Green
faygreen@comcast.net

A very long list of Tucson murals and where to find them

What's your favorite mural?

#ThisIsTucson staff Apr 25, 2025 Updated Dec 16, 2025

Many of the photos and descriptions in this Bulletin are from this website: https://tucson.com/article_9f5d841a-39ab-11e7-8840-8bd7d101486e.html



Andi Berlin | This Is Tucson

Banner - University Medicine commissioned four Arizona artists to create five murals around town. Find these floating whales near the corner of Campbell Avenue and Grant Road. They're painted by local artist Joe Pagac. He says the mural represents the idea of thriving even under the most challenging circumstances.

Location: 2320 N. Campbell Ave.

**In honor of
Marshall Leaderer's
95th Birthday**

Lisberg Scholarship Donation

Bob & Donna Richman



**To Susan Chaikin
on the passing of her
beloved partner
Stanley Lehman.**

Library Fund Donation

Shelly Abell & Dan Weisz

Engineering the Future Donation

Rachel Barker

Lois Bodin

Lisberg Scholarship Donation

Jim & Ruth Friedman

Bob & Donna Richman

Betty Scott

Terrie Sherman

Tributes

**Passing of Barry Entin
to Barbara Entin & Family:**

Lisberg Scholarship Donation

Shelly Abell & Dan Weisz

Chuck & Denise Frenz

Marianne & Stuart Taussig

Michele & Reuben Weisz

Engineering the Future Donation

Rachel Barker

Lois Bodin

Donna Leavitt

Lisa Ungar & Bob Fridrich

Library Fund Donation

Morleen Novitt

Deanna Rosen

Marilyn Sternstein

**In honor of
Sara Ross's
80th Birthday**

Lisberg Scholarship Donation

Rachel Barker



**In memory of
Stanley Leham**

Lisberg Scholarship Donation

Meg Sivitz

Lisa Grabell



**In memory of
Jordan Nerenberg**

Lisberg Scholarship Donation

Rachel Barker

Sorale Fortman

Bob & Donna Richman

Arnold & Doris Roland

Marianne & Stuart Taussig



Mamta Popat / Arizona Daily Star

This mural was finished in 2018 by artist Karlito Miller Espinosa aka Mata Ruda and his two University of Arizona art students Analaura Villegas and Brisa Tzintzun.

Location: Historic Y building, 300 W. University Blvd.

Sunshine Report

Susan Chaiken

Condolences on the death
of your partner,
Stanley

Doris Roland

Mazel Tov on the birth of your
great-grandson
Grayson

Lisa Unger

Speedy recovery

Jean Nerrnberg

Condolences on the passing of your
husband

Marsha Rosenblum

Feel better soon

Ray & Jerry Kaufman

Mazel Tov on the Bat Mitzvah of your
granddaughter

Barbara Entin

Speedy recovery

Sandra Tobin

Marriage of your
granddaughter

Sue Strauss

Condolences the passing
of your husband
Robert

Dianne Selco

Speedy recovery from surgery

Tammy & Alan Strobel

Mazel Tov on the engagements of your
son and daughter

Phyllis Schwartz

Mazel Tov on the engagements of your
grandchildren

Barbara Entin

Condolences on the passing of your
husband

Mareal Johnson

Get well soon

Fran Pakenham

Get well soon



Veronica M. Cruz | This Is Tucson

This stunning mural by Wagon Burner Arts brightens up the west wall of Tucson Computer in the Barrio Hollywood neighborhood.

Location: 1016 W. St. Mary's Road

The Brandeis National Committee

provides philanthropic support to Brandeis University,
a distinguished Liberal Arts and Research University founded by the
American Jewish community. Its membership is connected to the University
through fundraising and activities that reflect the values
on which the University was founded:
**Social Justice, Non-Sectarianism,
and Service to the Community.**



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

Ignacio Garcia created this gem, which he calls Rosa's Resistance.

*"In the forge of perseverance, Rosa toils,
A symphony of sparks, where metal coils.
Passion ablaze, her craft she adorns,
A tapestry of strength, where resilience is born."*

(Read the rest on Garcia's Instagram.)

Location: 219 N. Third Ave.

Board Officers 2026-2027

Co-Presidents

**Erica Friedman
Marianne Taussig**

VP Book and Author

Wendy Yanow

VP Book Fund

Rachel Barker

VP Bulletin

**Denise Frenz
Chuck Frenz**

VP Website

Wendy Yanow

VP Membership

**Sybil Lampert
Ray Kaufman**

VP Study Groups

**Dianne Selco
Art Friedman**

VP Virtual Communications

**Davya Cohen
Janet Miller**

Corresponding Secretary

Krista Stoker

Study Group Registrar and

Financial Secretary

**Terrie Sherman
Edie Warkentine**

Recording Secretary

Ann Meisner

Treasurer

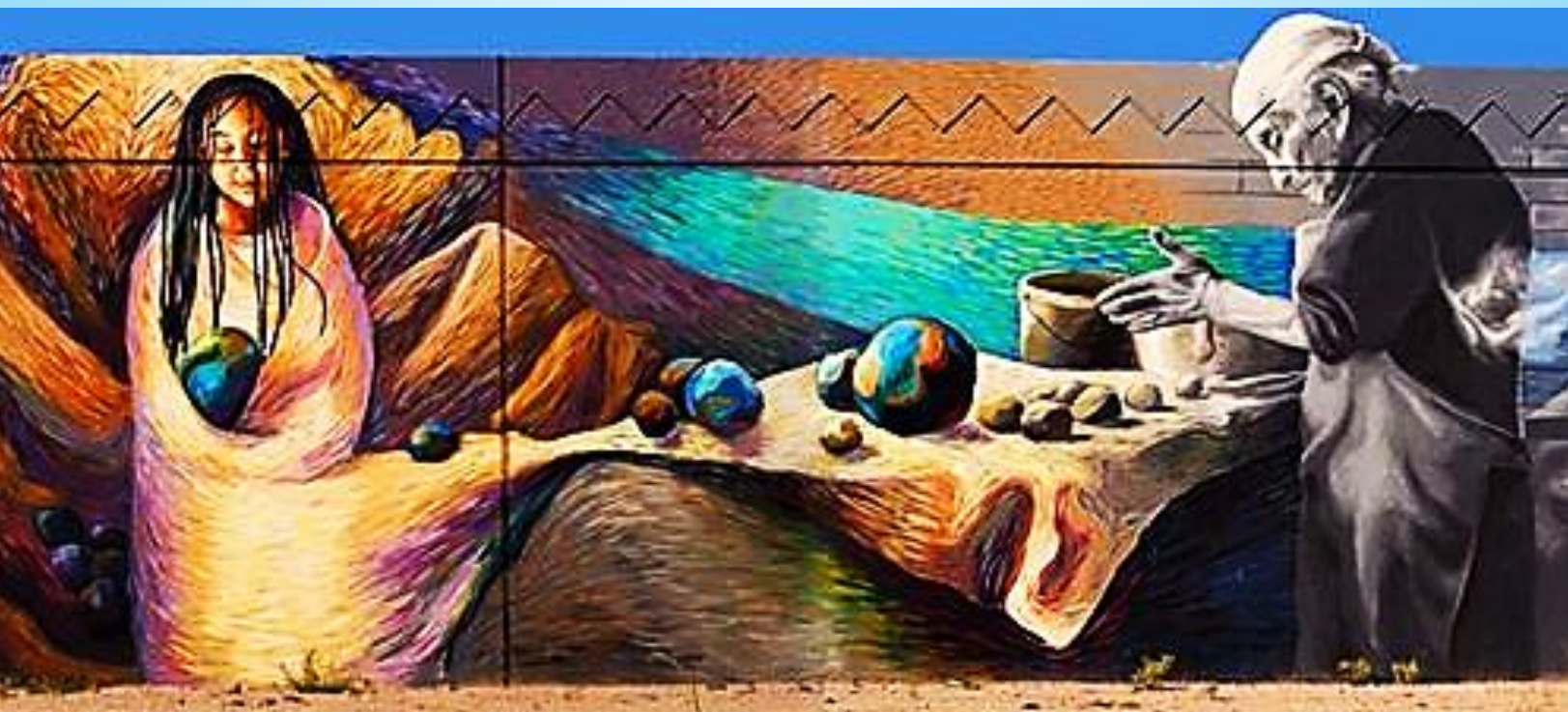
Janet Miller

Advisors

**Maxine Goldstein
Terrie Sherman**

**Chapter Information
Brandeistucson.org**

**Chapter's Contact
e-mail address:
kristabnctucson@gmail.com**



Kelly Presnell photos, Arizona Daily Star

A section of Anita's Song 3 shows Josefa Carrillo making tortillas near the corner of Williams Street and Contzen Avenue in Barrio Anita.

Board Members

Chapter Information Officer

Marianne Taussig

Renewals

Tammy Strobel

Leslee Drogowitz

Social Justice

Marilyn Lobell

Suzy Jacobs

Sunshine Report

Janet Arffa

Nominating Committee

Patrice Brown

Janet Arffa

Denise Frenz

Amy Schwartz

Dianne Selco

Phyllis Ollove

Steve Ollove

Members At Large

Annette Cremisi

Edie Warkentine

Linda Behr

Fran Pakenham

Amy Schwartz



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

The details in this Bill Singleton mural are impeccable.

Location: East side Tucson Museum of Art building at Telles St. and Court Ave.



Andi Berlin | This Is Tucson

Local artist Jonny Ballesteros spent about two weeks spray-painting this '90s-inspired image of Selena Quintanilla-Pérez.

(For perspective, note the size of the cement blocks to the left.)

Location: American Eat Co. and Market, 1439 S. Fourth Ave.



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

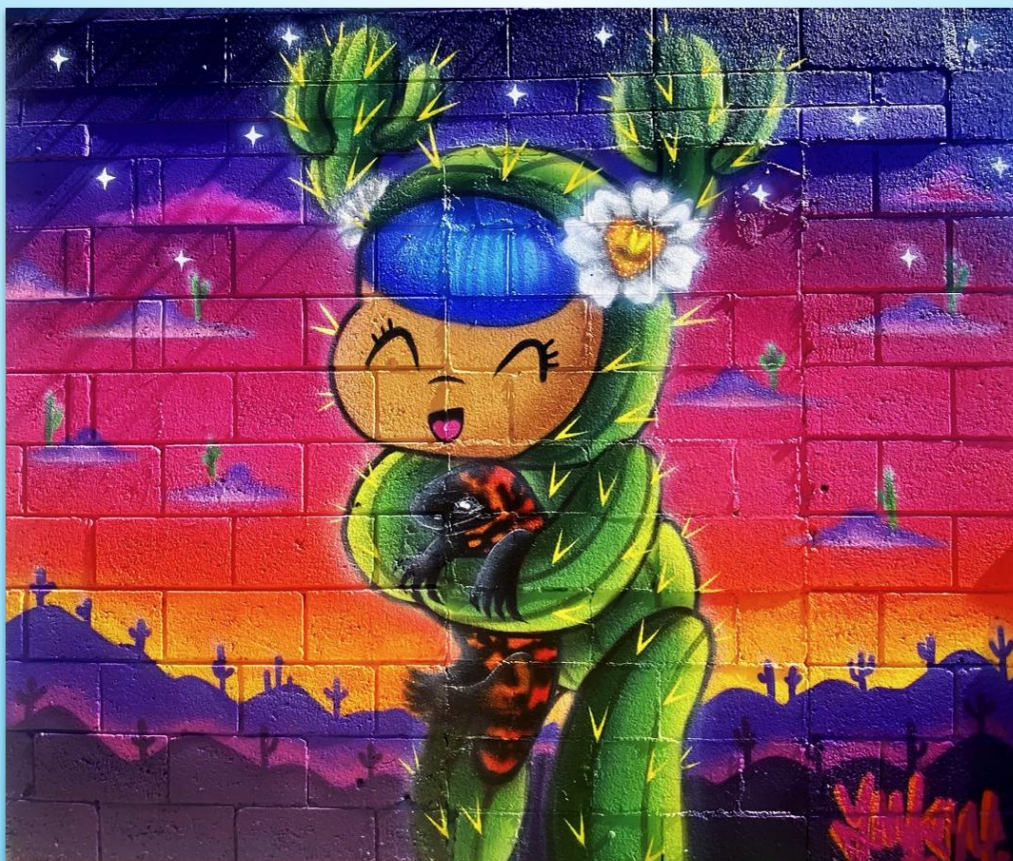
This nearly 5-story tall mural by Ignacio Garcia is called "La Mujer Empoderada" or "The Empowered Woman." Garcia says the piece represents “strength, leadership and the beauty of boldness.”

Location: 1 N. Fifth Ave.



Ignacio Garcia brings this vibrant mural, "Los Tres Amigos," to life. It celebrates 100 years of the Tucson Rodeo and honors the rich history of La Fiesta de los Vaqueros.

Location: 103 E. Alameda St. on the Tucson City Court building



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

Anitra "Yukue" Molina created this delightful mural, dubbed "Amor Querido," across from Galeria Mitotera.

Location: 1802 S. Fourth Ave.



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

A parking area on Congress Street is home to SEVERAL murals, thanks to local and national artists as part of Rock The Spot's three-day graffiti jam. This is Tucson's own Linda Ronstadt painted in a hyper-realistic style by JEKS ONE.

Location: Parking area along Congress Street, between Scott and Stone avenues.



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

Joe Pagac's 6,700 square foot mural is located at Zion City Church. Stephanie Pagac Garcia, Sue Kagel, Mary Beth Caccitolo, Ana Santos Acinas and Hanna Moreno also worked on the mural.

Location: 2561 W. Ruthrauff Road



Jessica Gonzales is the artist of this 26,400 sq. ft. (~450 ft wide by 62 ft tall) *Sonoran Skylines* mural project, the largest in Arizona--60% larger by square feet than the *Desert Colossus*--and reflects the vibrancy of Southwestern culture. (**Note the size of the cars.**)

Location: Park Place Mall 5870 East Broadway Blvd Tucson



Andi Berlin | This Is Tucson

The Tucson Arts Brigade sponsored the Barrio Centro Community Mural Project called **Beautify and Unify** in 2011. The mural depicts stories and memories of Barrio Centro residents including social life, music, and the railroad. It stretches more than 170 feet long on a cement block wall.

Location: 2712 E. 22nd St., Lucky Wishbone parking lot



Andi Berlin | This Is Tucson

Rock Martinez created this mural of a crested saguaro lady. You'll find it in the Sky Bar parking lot.

Location: 536 N. Fourth Ave.



Veronica M. Cruz | This Is Tucson

Los Angeles-based artist El Mac (Miles MacGregor) was commissioned to create this mural on the east wall of Cobra Arcade at the beginning of 2020. "Tucson has been a special place for me ever since my first visit as a little kid when I caught a sunrise with my parents at nearby Mission San Xavier Del Bac — the same place where I would eventually marry my wife and baptize our son," El Mac wrote in an Instagram post. "... I associate Tucson with a certain warm spirit of love and creativity, a tranquil Sonoran vitality, and I hope this mural can capture or transmit some of that desert soul."

Location: 63 E. Congress St., Cobra Arcade



Gloria Knott, This Is Tucson

This mural was created by Ashley White, who says she came up with the idea for the mural when attending a conference about Tucson's designation as a UNESCO City of Gastronomy. "I love this city. Even though I did not grow up here, I call it home. This designation is just one reason why I'm a proud Tucsonan, but it's one I like to celebrate hard," she said on her Instagram.

Location: Zio Peppe, 6502 E. Tanque Verde Road



In Tucson, bicycling plus murals equal perfection. That's what local muralist Joe Pagac was counting on when he launched a Kickstarter campaign to fund this enormous mural.

Location: 534 N. Stone Ave., facing Sixth Street

That's all Folks