

Cover Art by Darlene A. Dobbs p.15

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E/IHS!



...to your Skid Row Arts Zine, your way to connect to multiple physical and online offerings of various 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 our programming.

Brought to you by the Skid Row Arts Alliance:

- Los Angeles Poverty Department
- · Piece by Piece
- Urban Voices Project







. . . in partnership with



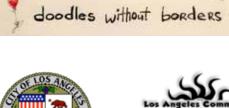




















Congratulations to the awardees of the **Skid Row Arts**Alliance Micro Grants in March, 2025!

COMMUNITY ARTS DEPOT Community Project

Storage of artwork by Skid Row neighborhood artists, led by Hayk Makhmuryan and Clancey Cornell.

Community Arts Depot (CAD) provides storage for artwork by active, inactive, MIA or deceased Skid Row neighborhood artists. as well as collaborative artwork created in Skid Row.





SIR OLIVER PRODUCTIONS Community Project

Jamaican Independence Day Celebration.

The SRAA microgrant program will support the production of the 2025 Jamaican Independence Day Celebration at Skid Row History Museum & Archive.





PTAH & ASE ASHE DRUMMERS FROM THE HEART

Community Project

A project of Drumming Culture and Arts while ensuring a safe space for the community to unleash its vast creativity by providing workshops, network gathering, meets and greets, as well a benefit concert.



We look forward to seeing these projects happening in our community.





Tom Grode & Lorinda Hawkins Community Project

Creating an innovative Eustress/ Distress gathering to help Skid Row folks on both a personal and communal level recover from trauma. The gathering will include time for personal creativity and a collaborative improvisational workshop, focused on "collaboration, creativity, and catharsis".





Photography Book by Diane Prozeller, Individual Artist Support

Diane will be creating a photography book with "images of the physical landscape and rarely noted personal observations of un-identified people (of various social/economic levels) who pass through the streets of L.A. as they go to and from work, visit and or live their lives here."



"Poor George" by Richard Volis **Individual Artist Support**

The Micro Grant will support the production of "Poor George", a 30-minute film, using cinema and theater arts to address the poignancy and often overlooked issues faced by seniors in the Skid Row community.



The Skid Row Arts Alliance (SRAA) Microgrant Program

For the past few years, the Skid Row Arts Alliance (SRAA) has been giving away a few Micro Grants to support Skid Row artists and their projects. This year we have formalized the process and focused several of our monthly SRAA community meetings on explaining the process and helping artists to apply.

There are two grant cycles: one deadline is at the end of March and the next one at the end of September. The application has 3 parts: a Bio, a Project Narrative and a Budget. When the project is done, SRAA will interview the grantees and publish it in the SRAA Zine. For more info, email us at: info@skidrowartsalliance.com



fter a short hiatus due to moving, Piece by Piece is now open and conducting Free Mosaic Workshops again. Our new location is in South Los Angeles.

Come join us in learning the art of mosaic on Mondays and Wednesdays each week. From Beginning workshops to Special Techniques to Open Studio, there is room for everyone to enjoy creativity; meet other artists; and join a community of caring, enthusiastic and friendly people.

For more information, contact John: john@piecebypiece.org or call (213) 459-1420.

Visit www.piecebypiece.org to learn more about the organization and to sign up for workshops (look under Programs in menu).

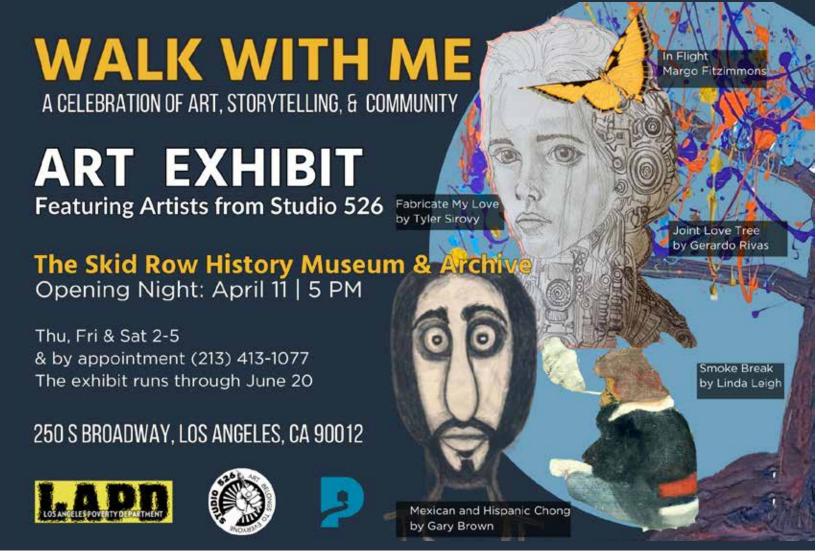
We look forward to seeing you!











The Art of Studio 526 by Alice Corona

he Skid Row History Museum & Archive is more than just a museum—it's a living, breathing testament to the power of community, creativity, and activism. Operated by the Los Angeles Poverty Department (LAPD), this space challenges mainstream narratives about Skid Row, offering a platform where history is written by those who live it. Here, art and advocacy go hand in hand, and the stories of the Skid Row community are honored in their own words, on their own terms.

In that spirit, the museum's upcoming exhibition, Walk With Me, shines a spotlight on the artists of The People Concern's Studio 526, a vibrant community music and art space where creativity is seen as a fundamental human right. At Studio 526, art is not a privilege—it's a way of life. Musicians bring their sounds to life, poets raise their voices, and visual artists transform blank canvases into reflections of resilience, hope, and joy. It is a space of self-expression, healing, and connection—a place where friendships grow and creative visions flourish.

Studio 526 artists are no strangers to the larger art world. Recently, nine of its members were featured in Visions of Transcendence: Creating Space in East and West at the Wende Museum, an exhibition so powerful it was extended by five months due to popular demand. Their work continues to resonate, and Walk With Me is yet another invitation to step inside their world—not as an outsider looking in, but as a witness to the lived experiences, dreams, and creative force of Skid Row artists.

Each piece in Walk With Me tells a story—of joy, struggle, transformation, and survival. Every artist shares on their own terms, offering deeply personal glimpses into their world. Accompanying each work are narratives written by the artists themselves, ensuring that their voices lead the way.

"The Memorial Tree"—Honoring Lives Through Art A centerpiece of the exhibition is a breathtaking 9-foottall tree created by Studio 526 artists. This collaborative sculpture stands as a tribute to the lives lost within the Skid Row community. Each branch, each leaf carries the memory of a person who once walked these streets—a reminder that their stories matter. The tree is not just a memorial; it is a testament to resilience. community, and the power of art to preserve legacies.

Meet the Artists



Rosa Miller carries light wherever she goes. A minister, an artist, and a woman of deep faith, she believes her calling is to share love with the world. Her painting, Still Water, reflects the peace she both feels and wishes to extend to others.



Queen Mama Tabia, an artist, singer, and poet, creates from a place of wisdom and spirituality. Her framed tissue paper piece, Safe Place, is inspired by the sanctuaries she has found at The People Concern's Wellness Center, Studio 526, and the Los

Angeles Poverty Department. "These are not just programs," she says. "They are places of healing, creativity, and souldeep connection."



Edwin Rivera's Charming Puppy captures the joy of a playful puppy surrounded by butterflies. His love for bright colors and simple pleasures is a reminder to appreciate life's everyday beauty.



Rene Navas' Adaptation depicts individuals from diverse backgrounds standing before the Los Angeles skyline. Though they arrived in Skid Row under different circumstances, they share a common sense of hope. "Spaces like Studio 526 provide

opportunities for people to heal. I am healing because of art," Rene shares.



Jaiye Kamson sees life—and art—as a journey of constant change. Her painting, Sun Day, reflects her path of resilience and growth, found through her creative home in Skid Row.



Peter Villapudua's Cycle of Life is a mesmerizing portrait layered with symbols of memory, transformation, and personal experience. Each viewing reveals new details-a serpent in the hair, fish in the eyes—

inviting audiences to reflect on the ways our past shapes our present.

And these are just a few. Over 20 Studio 526 artists will share their work in Walk With Me, each piece a testament to the talent, vision, and spirit of this community. These artists are not only creatives; they are historians, healers, and architects of their own stories.















Transformative Art Workshop with

Renowned Photojournalist Brenda Kenneally

Studio 526 is thrilled to welcome award-winning photojournalist and documentary photographer Brenda Kenneally for a groundbreaking weekly workshop series.

Brenda Kenneally knows firsthand the power of storytelling through art. Her work, featured in The New York Times Magazine, Rolling Stone, and Mother Jones, has illuminated

social issues, resilience, and the lived experiences of those navigating homelessness, food scarcity, and incarceration. With her background as a former



foster child and someone who has experienced homelessness, Brenda brings not only technical expertise but also deep empathy and understanding to her work-and now, to Studio 526.

Every Wednesday from 10 AM to 3:30 PM, Studio 526 (located at 526 San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA

90013) will host two powerful workshops open to the Skid Row community. No orientation is required—just show up and create.





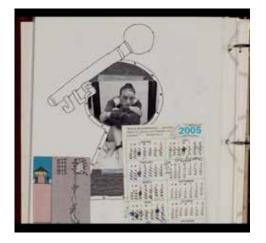


Salvation Couture: Turning the Overlooked into Art

Fashion is often seen as a luxury, but Salvation Couture redefines it as a form of storytelling, resilience, and self-expression. In this workshop, participants will gather discarded materials items deemed useless by society—and transform them into wearable art. Unlike Project Runway's unconventional challenges, the goal isn't to disguise these objects but to honor them, reimagining their purpose while acknowledging their origins.

This concept has already gained widespread acclaim. In New York, Brenda immersed herself in a decade-long documentary project about resource inequity, culminating in her book Upstate Girls. As part of that project, she staged a conceptual photo shoot where models wore garments crafted from industrial plastic waste found along Newtown Creek in Queens. The striking contrast between high fashion and discarded materials made a powerful statement.

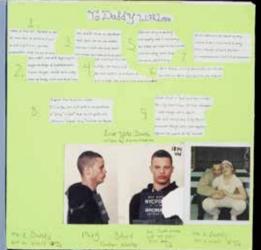
Brenda later brought this idea to Bombay Beach, where her fashion show was so successful that people had to be turned away when the venue reached capacity. Now, with a grant from the Biennale, she's bringing Salvation Couture to Studio 526, proving that beauty can be found in the overlooked and that fashion can be a tool for advocacy. The workshop will culminate in a community runway show (date to be announced), celebrating the creativity and resourcefulness of participants.













Why This Matters

Art is more than just an aesthetic pursuit—it is a tool for advocacy, empowerment,

and connection. These workshops challenge perceptions, celebrate creativity, and offer new ways to see and value the world around us.

Studio 526 is a vibrant creative space where artists in the Skid Row community connect, express themselves, and build community. Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:30 PM (Orientation Required), the studio provides free access to creative resources in a welcoming and supportive environment. For these special Wednesday workshops, no orientation is required—just come as you are.

Whether you're drawn to fashion, storytelling, or photography, these workshops offer a place to create, share, and be seen. Join us at Studio 526 and be part of a thriving artistic community that embraces imagination, reinvention, and self-expression.

Alice Corona, Director, Studio 526

Studio 526 @ The People Concern 526 San Pedro, Los Angeles, CA 90013 Email: ArtsProgram@ThePeopleConcern.org wwwthepeopleconcern.org | (213) 757-8598

Pieces of History Journals: A Living Timeline

Everyone has a story, and Photo Journals offers a space to tell it. In this workshop, participants will create personal timelines incorporating photos, keepsakes, drawings, and reflections. A shared camera will rotate among participants, capturing their lives from their own perspectives. These collective visual narratives will eventually be displayed at The Wende Museum, giving voice to stories too often unheard and highlighting the power of self-representation in art.

Brenda understands the importance of documenting history. She recalls her own difficult childhood: "I stopped living at home at 12. I was in and out of the state's care, and in and out of jail. After my mom passed away, I found a letter she had written to the judge, begging them not to let me out. I started collecting documents. I documented my history. It's important to be in control of your own story."

This workshop is an opportunity to do just that—to reclaim and preserve personal narratives through visual storytelling.



URBAN VOICES PROJECT:

A Decade of Healing Through Music





rban Voices Project (UVP) is a Los Angelesbased nonprofit that uses the power of music to uplift and empower individuals affected by homelessness. Since its founding in September 2014, UVP has grown into a nationally recognized model for how music can build community, foster mental health, and transform lives. What began on the streets of Skid Row has blossomed into a movement that bridges the divides between housed and unhoused, stage and sidewalk, isolation and belonging.

Origins: Music Meets Outreach on Skid Row

Urban Voices Project was born from a vision to bridge two neighboring but vastly disconnected communities in downtown Los Angeles-Bunker Hill, home to the prestigious Colburn School of Music, and Skid Row, one of the largest unhoused populations in the United States.

This connection was made possible through the efforts of Colburn School Dean Dr. Nathaniel Zeisler and board members Bob Attiveh and Dr. Keith Terasaki, who helped facilitate the initial introduction between The Colburn School and Wesley Health Centers. It was through their leadership that musician and educator Leeav Sofer was introduced to Christopher Mack, a respected outreach worker at Wesley, with a deep connection to the Skid Row community.

Together, Leeav and Christopher launched a pilot music workshop series, culminating in a public performance. The overwhelming response confirmed that this was more than a one-time effort-it was the beginning of a movement.

One year later, Kate Richards Geller, a trained music therapist, joined the team. She brought a vital health perspective, helping shape the project into a traumainformed and health-centered model for creative wellness and recovery.

UVP was nurtured in its early years by advocates such as Wesley CEO Al Ballesteros, and Street Symphony, whose founder Vijay Gupta included UVP in projects like the Messiah Project, and provided mentorship and partnership as UVP developed the scaffolding for launching a formal nonprofit.

Building the Movement

In 2018, UVP became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, marking the beginning of a new chapter. Around this time, LA Care and its then-CEO John Baackes discovered UVP's work. They recognized the value in its forward-thinking fusion of arts and health, and LA Care became one of the earliest major funders of the organization. Baackes would go on to become the Chair of UVP's Board of Directors, helping guide its strategic growth.

During this period, UVP's innovative model began drawing national and international attention. The organization became:

- A founding member of the National Alliance for Music in Vulnerable Communities
- · An advisor to the National Organization for Arts in Health (NOAH)
- · A participant in Arts and Homelessness International

To support this growth, UVP developed a formal curriculum and began training new facilitators, allowing programs to expand into more community sites.

UVP was also a founding member of the Skid Row Arts Alliance, alongside Los Angeles Poverty Department, Piece by Piece, and Street Symphony. Together, they published Skid Row's first arts map and arts magazine, helping unify the neighborhood's artistic efforts and amplify its cultural identity.

From 2018 to 2022, Nicole Wallens served as Executive Director, guiding UVP through a critical era of expansion, as well as the immense challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Under her leadership, UVP not only survived but continued to innovate and reach new communities.

Performing with Purpose

The Urban Voices Project Choir—composed of nearly 30 members who have experienced homelessness or are in transition—has performed across the city and the nation, using their voices to inspire, educate, and advocate. Their performances serve not just as artistic showcases, but as powerful expressions of resilience and human dignity.

UVP has performed at:

- Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
- Grand Performances
- Los Angeles City Hall
- The Skirball Cultural Center
- · The Venetian, Las Vegas
- · UCLA Center for the Art of Performance

The choir has also been featured on major platforms including: PBS, 60 Minutes, The Today Show, and Los Angeles Times

They've shared stages with artists like Dick Van Dyke, Chris Martin, Black Eyed Peas, and Ben Vereen, and have performed for audiences of over 10,000 people at national conferences.

Empowerment Through Belonging

UVP's work doesn't end on the stage—it continues in clinics, libraries, shelters, and transitional housing programs throughout Metro Los Angeles. With programs running five days a week, participants can engage in music workshops that build community, reduce isolation, and support recovery.

UVP is committed to creating space for leadership and self-advocacy. Many participants who find housing and stability stay involved as peer leaders and mentors, supporting others on their journey through music and community.

For more info visit: www.urbanvoicesproject.org

Celebrating 10 Years:

Join Us at the Colburn School on May 24

As Urban Voices Project enters its 10th year, we are celebrating a decade of music,



healing, and belonging—from Fall 2024 through Summer 2025—with a series of special events. The centerpiece of this celebration is our 10-Year Anniversary Event on:

Saturday, May 24, 2025
The Colburn School, Downtown Los Angeles

THIS VERY SPECIAL EVENING WILL FEATURE:

₱ 5–6:30pm: "C'mon Sing!" Pre-Concert Celebration

On the South Plaza of the Colburn School, join us for a festive, interactive experience that includes:

- · Food trucks
- An open mic and community performances
- Interactive stations telling the story of UVP's 10year journey through art, music, and storytelling
- Opportunities to connect with the UVP family, past and present

¹√ 7–8:30pm: UVP 10-Year Anniversary Concert Held in the beautiful Zipper Hall, the concert will feature:

- Performances by the Urban Voices Project Choir
- · Guest artists and alumni
- Reflections on our past and a vision for our future

Micket Options

To ensure that this event is accessible to as many as possible, we are offering tiered ticket pricing:

- General Admission \$35: Reflects the true cost of the event
- Community Tickets FREE: For those who need it most (limited quantity available—RSVP early!)
- Champion Tickets \$100: Support UVP and help sustain our programs into the next decade

* Be Part of the Harmony

Whether you've sung with us, supported us, or are just discovering us, this celebration is for you. Join us on May 24 to honor a decade of resilience, creativity, and community—and to raise your voice in hope for what's to come.

* Reserve your tickets today—they're going fast!

Let's sing, reflect, and celebrate—together.

10 YEARS OF MUSIC, COMMUNITY & HEALING















10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, MAY 24TH, 2025

5:00 PM - 8:30 PM

The Colburn School, 200 S Grand Ave

EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF COMMUNITY & MUSIC! **CONCERT, FOOD, OPEN MIC & MORE!**

SIGN UP HERE

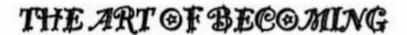


@urbanvoicesproject

WWW.URBANVOICESPROJECT.ORG









I AM THE ECHO OF STORIES UNTOLD, THE SPARK OF CREATION, THE NEW AND THE OLD. A MIRROR REFLECTING THE PATHS THAT WE ROAM, A WHISPER OF LESSONS THAT LEAD US BACK HOME.

ART IS AND SHALL NEVER BE JUST ART. IT'S THE BEATING OF HEARTS, THE SOUL'S SACRED PART. IN MURALS AND SPEECHES, IN STORIES WE WRITE, IT'S THE POWER OF CHANGE, THE STRENGTH OF THE FIGHT.

THROUGH SEUSS'S WHIMSY, THROUGH KING'S MIGHTY PLEA, ART TELLS THE TRUTHS THAT SET MINDS FREE. THE SNEETCHES TEACH TOLERANCE, THE LORAX CALLS, HORTON REMINDS US, NO MATTER HOW SMALL.

ART COLLABORATION OF ANGELS, A VISION, A PURPOSE, A GOAL, TO TRANSFORM THROUGH ART, TO HEAL AND MAKE WHOLE. IT'S NOT JUST DECORATION OR COLORS WE SEE. BUT A LEGACY OF HOPE, A COLLECTIVE DECREE.

FOR ART TRANSCENDS WALLS, TRANSCENDS SPACE, TRANSCENDS TIME, IT SPEAKS THROUGH THE AGES, THE RHYTHM, THE RHYME. IT REFLECTS THE STRUGGLES, THE DREAMS AND THE TEARS, BINDING ALL HEARTS, ACROSS ALL THE YEARS.

SO WHO ARE WE, IN THE DANCE OF THE GAME? WE ARE THE PLAYERS, THE CHANGEMAKERS, THE FLAME. NOT JUST THE QUESTION, NOR ANSWER CONFINED, BUT THE INFINITE BE IN THE JOURNEY WE FIND.

I AM THE JOURNEY, I AM THE SPARK, THE FLAME IN THE DARK, THE VOICE IN THE PARK. IN EVERY MURAL, IN EVERY PLEA, I AM, AND IN THIS MOMENT, I ALWAYS BE.

HROUGH THE ECHOES OF HISTORY, IN SEUSS'S BRIGHT LINE. IN KING'S BRAVE WORDS, THROUGH ART'S GRAND DESIGN. WE ARE THE SUM OF THE PAST AND THE NOW, THE ANSWER LIES HERE, AND THE QUESTION—SOMEHOW.

SO I BE, I AM NOT JUST THE ART YOU SEE. I AM THE QUESTION, THE ANSWER, THE ENDLESS BE. I AM THE JOURNEY, THE SHIFT, THE RISE, I AM THE INFINITE GAME THAT NEVER DENIES I BE THAT GUY



APD ARC TRACING INTERNS



his year, the Los Angeles Poverty Department's (LAPD) Skid Row History Museum & Archive (SRHMA) rounds off its seventh consecutive year hosting interns from UCLA's Community Archives Lab. Concurrent with this legacy, we have trained numerous undergraduate/graduate level interns from a variety of universities—stateside and abroad—in archival practices and theory. Yet more profoundly, we have also trained interested Skid Row community members in the same fashion.

Being the inaugural UCLA Community Archives Lab intern, I felt it necessary to be philosophically and theoretically prepared to best represent the voices, lived experiences, and social forces that shape the lives of community members. Being able to engage with and integrate into our Skid Row community became requisite for working in the archive. As the SRHMA is physical, 1-to-1 community and user engagement is an everyday occurrence of referential services we provide.

In the last seven years we have also refined our catalog templates to include sixty-five categories for description (which doubles as a pedagogical tool for all interns); accessioned five historical collections enriching the syntax of organizational collections; and participated with collaborative description, preservation, digitization, and conservation initiatives involving multiple stakeholders. All this aside from our monthly programming, annual Festival for All Skid Row Artists events, and our biennial Walk the Talk parades. We always have something going on!

Following, we would like to highlight the spectrum of our current interns, and discuss thoughts on their work, Skid Row, and the SRHMA space in general.

Jaiye Kamson: Skid Row Community Intern



What is your name, where are you from, and what do you do?

My name is Jaiye Kamson. I go by Jay, and I'm from Inglewood, California.

How did you learn about the Skid Row History Museum and Archive?

To be honest, it crept up on me. I normally went to the theater workshops, and around the fourth or fifth time is when I realized there is an archive. I saw various gatherings and art exhibitions over the years that were interesting, and I was kind of curious. It's good stuff.

I love hearing about archives because I don't really know what one does. I've heard about it "preserving," but have never actually seen the inner workings of one.

What do you do at the Skid Row History Museum and Archive?

I basically look over captions created in Reduct, which is a platform the SRHMA utilizes to create audio transcripts of all panels we record. I make sure the "I's" are dotted. Basically, I review transcriptions with a finetooth comb and make sure everything's good.

Have you learned any other skills here?

That's an interesting question. I would say no, because my work builds off skills I already have. I'm learning to apply these skills in new ways, if that makes sense. Specifically, my transcription work feels like a skill that's branched off from my active listening skills.

What goes on in your mind when you think about this space?

I think it's almost like a community hub for the Skid Row area, and a hub for people who want to help the Skid Row area. The juxtaposition is immense, and I think it's a good thing. When I review panel transcriptions (i.e., Housing Is Healthcare), I think it's important we have and preserve these types of conversations people can access when needed.

Does the archive have any meaning for you, personally?

I think it gives purpose to what I do. It's not just work. It's building towards Skid Row histories and

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Emily Haddad: UCLA, Undergraduate Intern



What is your name, where are you from, and what do you do?

My name is Emily. I'm from the Las Villas/Silver Lake area and am currently a junior at UCLA, studying anthropology with a minor in global health and environmental systems.

How did you learn about the Skid Row History Museum & Archive (SRHMA)?

I learned about the SRHMA through my friend Nick's mom, who is a professor of history at UC Riverside. When we were 15 years old, Nick was going to volunteer there and asked if I wanted to come. I came with them and have returned every summer since.

What project are you working on?

I'm working on the Nancy Mintie Inner City Law Center collection. This collection is made up of printed documents (i.e., newspaper articles, newsletters, and photos) from all of her work at the Inner City Law Center over the course of 20 years. Nancy Mintie recently donated this collection to John and Henriëtte, and I've been organizing and describing it.

What new skills have you learned?

I'm learning how to succinctly classify documents, write scopes and contents of items, generate search terms, and how to format this information in the catalog template. It's been fun and I feel like I'm getting pretty good at it.

What's the meaning of the archive to you?

I think it's important to document the history of a neighborhood that is typically ignored or scornfully viewed. This type of work surfaces richer aspects of Skid Row and makes sense out of the direct outreach and engagement the Los Angeles Poverty Department (LAPD) has with the community.

How do you feel about your work experience at the SRHMA, and how will it benefit your future endeavors?

I feel good about my work experience at the SRHMA. It's a nice environment to learn about homelessness, considering I've never been in any kind of formal office space before. I'm learning a lot about what I want to do with my future with the Inner City Law Center materials I am processing. I want to do social or public interest law. This work gives me inspiration for my future and the technical skills useful for school.

What do you know about Skid Row that you think would surprise other people?

There are a lot of families, or at least there were a lot of families, living in area hotels. I feel people mostly envision homeless people as single men.

If you had to explain what an archive is, or what this archive is, to anyone who has no idea what we're talking about, what would you say?

Like I've had to say before; it's a space where important historical documents are saved and preserved.

When people ask why Skid Row has archivists, I like to say that it is like a little time capsule. Everybody is worthy of historical preservation, and this time capsule is full of amazing people and incredible histories not commonly talked about.

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Jaiye Kamson (continued from previous page)

legacies. Who was there? Who did what? What can we learn from it, and how can we go beyond that?

How do you feel your work experience here at the Skid Row History Museum & Archive will benefit your future endeavors?

I think my time at the archive is something that's going to enrich me. It has helped me get into the public nonprofit sector. The SRHMA does a lot with grassroots organizations, and I think this contact and point of reference will help in my career journey.



If you're reading this and hold interest in volunteering with us at the SRHMA, please visit our website for more information: www.lapovertydept.org

In Solidarity, Henry Michael Apodaca, MLIS

ARC TRACING INTERNS

Francesca Alfano: University of Alabama, Graduate Intern



What is your name, where are you from, and what do you do?

My name is Franny Alfano. I'm originally from Minneapolis, Minnesota, but have lived in Los Angeles for the last 10 years. I am currently a secondyear graduate student at the University of Alabama.

How did you learn about the Skid Row History Museum and Archive?

I learned about it working down the street at the cheese shop. I found myself going past the SRHMA a lot and was curious about the work being done here. At the same time, I was taking classes at Pasadena City College for archival work. After connecting these dots, I thought I should volunteer here. So that's how I wound up here, first.

I've used an archive maybe once, but really didn't have much experience. This was my first time volunteering and my main start in an archival space.

What do you do at the Skid Row History Museum and Archive and what new skills have you learned?

I currently intern here and have been assembling our analog video digitization rack. When starting this past fall, I researched into what kind of decks, monitors, and other technologies needed for purchase. Now, I'm putting all those pieces together and figuring out a signal chain for analog video digitization.

Although there are a variety of analog video formats at the SRHMA, we are prioritizing VHS videocassette digitization representing early works of the LAPD.

What new skills have you learned?

I've learned many new skills. Every day I end up learning something new about digitization and protocols to achieve digital preservation. This includes handling and operating analog systems and materials.

Additionally, I'm learning a lot about the Skid Row community and the LAPD. Equally important is all the work that's being done here. I feel it's exciting. It's inspiring. As everyone is working on different projects, it's really cool to see how all of this work relates and comes together.

Ana Lara: UCLA, Community Archives Lab Graduate Intern



What is your name, where are you from, and what do you do?

My name is Ana and I'm from Acaiutla, El Salvador, I've been living in South Central Los Angeles since I was seven years old. I am currently a secondyear student in the Masters of Information and Library Science

program at UCLA, and this academic-year's UCLA Community Archives Lab intern with the SRHMA.

How did you hear about the Skid Row History Museum and Archive?

I learned about the SRHMA through a graduate course on community-based archives. The professor wanted to expose us to actual archives in Los Angeles and the sort of proximity they have to institutions. Through the SRHMA, I've learned how community-based archives have self-designated themselves, their missions, and techniques on how to preserve history through their respective communities.

What are you working on, and how do you feel about the overall work in the archive?

I either digitize or do descriptive work. Digitizing

means converting analog signals or materials into digital formats that are later stored and sorted for people and scholars to access. The descriptive work accompanying digitization should accurately represent technical information of the material, and contextual information of the content. When it comes to Skid Row, I get to understand and practice specific techniques to represent Skid Row in dignifying and historical ways. I take great pride in the archive accurately translating life in a way that shows how Skid Row breeds art, resistance, and critical perspectives on social forces that shape lives of community members.

How do you feel about your work experience and how will it benefit you in future endeavors?

I feel like I won't find something as special as what it is here. My dream job is to be a public librarian and I've worked really hard towards this. My experience at the SRHMA has taught me how to apply the technical skills I love, as well as how to work collaboratively with community. When people ask why Skid Row has archivists, I like to say that it is like a little time capsule. Everybody is worthy of historical preservation, and this time capsule is full of amazing people and incredible histories not commonly talked about.

EXHIBITION: "History of Visual Art in Skid Row"

July - August 2025 (open Thu, Fri, Sat, 2-5pm)

At the Skid Row History Museum & Archive, 250 S. Broadway, Los Angeles CA 90012 By Hayk Makhmuryan

Recent history of visual art in Skid Row neighborhood

If you don't know that there is art and creativity and culture on every corner in Skid Row, then you don't know the neighborhood. For most of it the intended audience is self or friends and neighbors, whether indoors or in the streets: music coming out of a speaker here, or drums on a corner there, art or creative signage decorating a tent, or on the walls inside apartments, a dance, a poem, a story. Cultural production.

All this artmaking is an integral part of adding to the neighborhood identity—whether those who create or share it think that way or not—and some of it endures against adversity, despite the circumstances set up to erase it without a trace.

July through August of this year, Skid Row History Museum and Archive will host an exhibition that focuses on one cross-section of cultural production: visual art created in the last 30-40 years in our neighborhood.



Out of Many by Sir Oliver

The exhibit will show art kept and preserved by Community Arts Depot, LA Poverty Department, as well as individual resident and artist collections.

Stay tuned for more details!



Lamp Lodge by Darlene A. Dobbs

Skid Row History Museum & Archive Calendar: Spring/Summer 2025

EXHIBITIONS: open Thu, Fri, Sat, 2-5 pm

April 11-June 22: "Walk With Me" (see p.8)

A Celebration of Art, Storytelling, and Community' by Studio 526. Walk With Me shines a spotlight on the artists of The People Concern's Studio 526, a vibrant community music and art space where creativity is seen as a fundamental human right.

Opening reception: April 11 at 5 pm—an evening of artistry, connection, and community. Art Jam, an open mic night hosted by Studio 526 membersincluding our dynamic MCs, George Long and Gerardo Bardo, aka The Prime Minister-this event invites everyone to step into the creative energy of Skid Row. Whether performing or cheering from the crowd, all are welcome to take part.

July-August: Recent history of visual art in Skid Row neighborhood' by Hayk Makhmuryan (see p.19)

An exhibition that focuses on one cross-section of cultural production: visual art created in the last 30-40 years in our neighborhood. The exhibit will show art kept and preserved by Community Arts Depot, LA Poverty Department, as well as individual resident- and artist collections.

MEETINGS

Wednesday 7 pm: Los Angeles Tenants Union-**Downtown Local**

Friday 2-5 pm: CD 14 Office Hours with Skid Row Field **Deputy Lavandar McCovey**

2nd Thursday 11-12:30 pm: Skid Row Arts Alliance (SRAA) Community meeting

BOOK CLUBS & GROUP EVENTS

Saturday 12-2 pm: Reading "A Thousand Plateaus" by Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari with Andrew Culp.

1st & 3rd Sunday 2-4 pm: Reading "Capital" with Kevin, a founding member of the Public School.

4th Sunday 2-4 pm: Mutual Aid-Self/Social Therapy (MAST) with Mel Butler



All events are free. Check our website for updates about the movies we are screening and the public conversations and events we are hosting at the museum: lapovertydept.org

Or stop by to pick up a hard copy of the calendar with all events, and check out the exhibition!

FREE MOVIE NIGHT: 1st & 3rd Fridays, 7 pm

FREE movie screenings, Free popcorn, Free coffee & Free conversation



April 4: Everything Everywhere All at Once (Runtime: 2 hr. 19 min.)

Director Q&A with the Daniels following the screening. Directed by Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert, collectively known as Daniels, the film is a hilarious and big-hearted scifi action adventure about an exhausted Chinese American woman (Michelle Yeoh) who can't seem to finish her taxes.

May 2: Lady Bird (Runtime: 1 hr. 33 min.) Directed by Greta Gerwig

A nurse works tirelessly to keep her family afloat after her husband loses his job. She also maintains a turbulent bond with a teenage daughter who is just like her: loving, strong-willed and deeply opinionated.





June 6: The Farewell (Runtime: 1 hr. 40 min.) Directed by Lulu Wang

A coming-of-age story about a Chinese-American family who lies to their grandmother about her terminal illness to allow her to enjoy her remaining time.

July 4: Minari (Runtime: 1 hr. 55 min.)

Directed by Lee Isaac Chung

A Korean American family moves to an Arkansas farm in search of its own American dream. Amidst the challenges of this new life in the strange and rugged Ozarks, they discover the undeniable resilience of family and what really makes a home.



ON-GOING WORKSHOPS

1st & 3rd Monday 7-9 pm: The Documentary Photography Working Group Hosted by the Public School Los Angeles at the Skid Row Museum-Discussion will be guided around the history of documentary photography and associated art criticism and pressing aesthetic and political questions and problems posed by ongoing photographic projects. We'll be opening the group with Allan Sekula's influential look at the photographic strategies exemplified by Alfred Stieglitz and Lewis Hine. "On the Invention of Photographic Meaning" as well as collectively deciding on the structure of future sessions!



Every Tuesday 2-5 pm and Thursday 6-8 pm: Theater Workshop. LAPD is performing The Covid Hotel Welcomes You to the Future in all 8 Service Provider Areas (SPAs) of Los Angeles County. Each performance is followed by a panel conversation Reimagining the Future of Healthcare For Our Homeless Community with Health Care providers and Housing Advocates in that neighborhood. You can see all conversations on our website.

3rd Tuesday 10:30 am-12pm: Creative Writing Workshop with Ivy Pochoda

Last Friday of the Month:

- 3-5 pm: Sock Puppet Workshop with Marilyn Irizarry
- 5-8 pm: Open Mic Night with Lorinda Hawkins Smith Whether you're a seasoned performer or a first-timer, this is your chance to shine on stage. Sing, play an instrument, recite poetry, or share a story.

Everyone is welcome!







SOCK PUPPET Making Workshop

with Marilyn Irizarry













- Do you need repairs in your apartment?
- · Is your building in bad conditions?
- · Did you get an eviction notice?

LA TENANTS UNION

DOWNTOWN LOCAL

MEETING EVERY WEDNESDAY at 7pm LOS ANGELES POVERTY DEPARTMENT

WHO ARE WE?

WHAT DO WE DO?

Questions? Email downtown@latenantsunion.org



250 S. Broadway, Los Angeles 213-413-1077, info@lapovertydept.org

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.

Movie Night



LAPD website



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

If ICE Approaches You

General Rights (Apply Everywhere):

- Remain Silent: You do not have to answer any questions.
- Refuse a Search: ICE cannot enter your home, tent, or belongings without a judicial warrant signed by a judge.
- Ask for a Lawyer: Do not sign anything without speaking to a lawyer first.
- Stay Calm & Do Not Run: This could be used against you.
- Record & Document the Interaction: If possible, take note of badge numbers, names, and details of the encounter.

If ICE Approaches You in Public

- Ask, "Am I free to go?"
 - If they say yes, walk away calmly.
 - If they say no, exercise your right to remain silent and ask for a lawyer.
- Do Not Provide False Documents or Information.
- Stay Calm & Do Not Resist.

Legal Help & Resources

If you or someone you know needs legal assistance, contact:

- CARECEN-LA: (213) 385-7800
- CHIRLA: (888) 624-4752
- National Immigration Law Center: (213) 639-3900
- Immigrant Legal Resource Center: www.ilrc.org
- ❖ Stay Informed. Stay Safe. Know Your Rights.

If ICE Comes to Your Home, **Encampment, or Tent**

- Do Not Open the Door: ICE cannot enter unless they have a judicial warrant (signed by a judge).
- Ask ICE to Slide the Warrant Under the Door or Entrance: Verify that it is a judicial warrant, not an administrative warrant (I-200 or I-205), which does not grant them entry.
 - Judicial Warrant: Signed by a judge, this is the only type of warrant that allows ICE to enter without permission. Make sure it has the correct name, address, and details before complying.
 - Administrative Warrant: Issued by ICE officials, not a judge. This does not give them legal authority to enter your space.
- Do Not Consent to a Search: They cannot search your home, tent, or belongings without proper authorization.
- Do Not Sign Anything: Without first consulting an attorney.
- Document Everything: If possible, write down badge numbers, names, and details of the encounter.

What Bystanders Can Do to Help:

- Film the Interaction: Recording can help protect the person being questioned.
 - Keep the Camera on ICE Agents: Do not record the face of the person being interrogated to protect their privacy and safety.
- Take Notes: Write down badge numbers. names, and details of the encounter.
- Do Not Interfere Physically: Stay at a safe distance and document what happens.
- Share Legal Resources: If safe, provide the person with contact information for legal assistance.

CONOCE TUS DERECHOS

Si ICE te aborda a usted

Derechos generales (aplican en cualquier lugar):

- Guarda silencio. No tienes que responder ninguna pregunta.
- No permitas un registro. ICE no puede entrar a tu casa, tienda de campaña o pertenencias sin una orden judicial firmada por un juez.
- Pide un abogado. No firmes nada sin hablar con un abogado primero.
- Mantén la calma y no corras. Pueden usarlo en tu contra.
- Graba y documenta el encuentro. Si puedes, anota los números de placa, nombres y detalles de la interacción.

Si ICE te aborda en un lugar público

- Pregunta: "¿Estoy libre para irme?"
 - Si dicen que sí, vete tranquilo y sin correr.
 - Si dicen que no, ejerce tu derecho a guardar silencio y pide un abogado silent and ask for a lawyer.
- No des documentos falsos ni información falsa.
- Mantén la calma y no resistas.

Ayuda legal y recursos

Si tú o alguien que conoces necesita ayuda legal, contacta:

- CARECEN-LA: (213) 385-7800
- CHIRLA: (888) 624-4752
- National Immigration Law Center: (213) 639-3900
- Immigrant Legal Resource Center: www.ilrc.org
- Infórmate. Mantente a salvo. Conoce tus derechos.

Si ICE llega a tu casa, campamento o tienda de campaña

- No abras la puerta. ICE no puede entrar sin una orden judicial firmada por un juez.
- Pide que pasen la orden por debajo de la puerta o por la entrada. Verifica que sea una orden judicial y no una orden administrativa (I-200 o I-205), que no les da derecho a entrar.
 - Unas orden judicial está firmada por un juez. Es la única que les permite entrar sin permiso. Asegúrate de que tenga el nombre, la dirección y los detalles correctos antes de cumplirla.
 - Una orden administrativa es emitida por ICE, no por un juez. No les da autoridad legal para entrar.
- No des tu consentimiento para un registro. No pueden revisar tu casa, tienda o pertenencias sin la autorización adecuada.
- No firmes nada sin hablar con un abogado.
- Documenta todo. Si puedes, anota los números de placa, nombres y detalles del encuentro.

Si eres testigo de un operativo de ICE:

- Graba la interacción. Filmar puede proteger a la persona interrogada.
 - Mantén la cámara enfocada en los agentes de ICE. No grabes el rostro de la persona para proteger su privacidad y seguridad.
- Toma notas. Anota números de placa, nombres y detalles del encuentro.
- No interfieras físicamente. Mantén una distancia segura y documenta lo que ocurra.
- Comparte recursos legales. Si es seguro, proporciona información de contacto para asistencia legal



MUSIC WITH A MISSION

Monthly Program at The Midnight Mission every 4th Thursday of the month after lunch services at 2:30PM. Performances are open to the public, and all participants receive opportunities to connect during the programming and resources.

MUSIC FOR THE SOUL

Every fourth Friday of the month, at 10AM, Street Symphony musicians and Downtown Women's Center residents share meditative musical offerings to convene vulnerable spaces of community and conversation.







MIDNIGHT STRINGS **WORKSHOP**

This is a 8-10 week committed group of residents, staff, and teaching artists and musicians from Street Symphony. During the residency, a Street Symphony teaching artist will lead participants in group guitar lessons for the cohort of participants. The workshop will explore different genres and styles of guitar playing, and will feature local guest guitars. Next workshop start in Spring/March.

OUR MISSION:

Street Symphony harnesses the convening power of music to invite connection and relationship



Established in 1996, United Coalition East Prevention Project is located at 804 E. 6th St. in Skid Row. We specialize in alcohol and other drug prevention and community mobilization to support a healthy and vibrant Skid Row neighborhood. We meet monthly to discuss prevention initiatives and community-driven programming at our local Skid Row parks.

UCEPP Monthly Coalition Meeting: First Thursday of each month at 2 PM, in person and on Zoom*

*Zoom (Meeting ID 87890708182) link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87890708182 →





For more information on how to get involved and support community prevention and improvement efforts please contact: charlesp@socialmodel.com

Social media: @ucepp smrs



Creating Justice LA

Hours of Operation

Monday: 9 am-2 pm

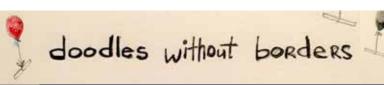
Wednesday: 9 am-3 pm (12pm) Healing Circle Book Club

Thursday: 4 pm-9 pm (6pm) Off The Top **Thursdays**

Friday: 2 pm-6 pm Freestyle Fridays







doodles without borders (dwb) is committed to equitable access to arts, cultural, and social spaces as a fundamental human right and collective responsibility.

Connect with Hayk and dwb events: doodleswithoutborders.com | @doodleswithoutborders

VISIT OUR WEBSITE SKIDROWARTSALLIANCE.COM

from music to theater, 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 info@skidrowartsalliance.com

Skid Row Arts Happenings: On-going

Music Education Labs: 1-3pm **Urban Voices** Project, held at Studio 526

MON

Neighborhood Sing:

(see p.12)

4pm **Urban Voices** Project, Little Tokyo Library (see p.12)

Documentary Photography Working Group: 1st & 3rd Mondays, **7–9pm**, LA Poverty Dept. (see p.21)

TUE Virtual Art Inspiration:

11am-12pm, (Zoom Beginning mosaic workshop with Piece by Piece instructor. (See p.6)

Art Studio: 12:30-3:30pm Music Studio: 9am-3:30pm (1.5- hr. sessions by appt.) **New Artist Orientation:** 1pm. on Select Tuesdays, Studio 526

Music Wellness Labs: 12-1pm, Urban Voices

(see p.11)

Project, held at Central Library, 630 W. 5th at Flower. (see p.12)

Theatre Workshops: **2–5pm**, LA Poverty Dept. (see p.21)

"How dare you!" community arts table: 4:30-6pm, doodles without borders, General Jeff (Gladys) Park (see p.26)

Free Beginning Mosaic: 10am-

WED

12pm, Piece by Piece): Learn basic mosaic techniques and be part of this welcoming and friendly community! S(see

Neighborhood Sing: 2-3:30pm **Urban Voices** Project, Joshua House Clinic, 325 E 7th St, LA (see p.12)

Art Studio: 12:30-3:30pm

THU

Music Studio: 9am-3:30pm (1.5-hr.

sessions by appt.) **New Artist** Orientation: 1pm. Select Thursdays, Studio 526 (see p.11)

Skid Row History Museum & Archive Exhibition—"Walk With Me," opens 4/11/25. 2-5pm (also Fri & Sat) (see p.8)

Neighborhood Sing: 2:30-3:30pm, Urban Voices Project, held at

Central Library, Meeting Room B, 630 W 5th St, at Flower (see p.12)

Off the Top Thursdays-Open Mic: 6-9pm, Creating

Justice LA (see p.25)

Theatre Workshops: 6-8pm, LA Poverty Dept. (see p.21)

FRI/SAT/SUN

Art Studio: Fridays, 12:30-3:30pm Music Studio: Fridays, 9am-3:30pm (1.5hr. sessions by appt.) Studio 526, (see p.11)

Music Wellness Labs: Fridays, 12-1pm, Urban Voices Project, by Zoom (see p.12)

Book Clubs: Saturdays: 12-2pm; 1st & 3rd Sundays: 2-4pm at LAPD. (see p.20)

MONTHLY FRIDAY EVENTS

Studio 526 Art Jam: Open Mic, Music and Art, 2nd Friday, 5-7pm (see p.11)

Buskfest, 3rd Friday, 11am-2pm (UVP: 5th & San Pedro, p.12, urbanvoicesproject.org)

MONTHLY @LA POVERTY DEPT. (p.16-17)

- Creative Writting workshop: 3rd Tuesday, 10:30am-Noon
- Skid Row Arts Alliance Meeting/Workshop 11am-12:30pm, 2nd Thursdays
- Free Movie Nights at the Museum: 1st & 3rd Fridays, 7-9pm
- **Sock Puppet Making Workshop:** Last Friday: 3-5pm
- Open Mic with Lorinda Hawkins Smith Last Friday: 5-7:30pm
- Mutual Aid Self/Social Therapy (MAST): 4th Sunday: 2-4 pm by Public School Los Angeles



FREE @ THE CENTRAL LIBRARY

The Central Library offers many free events and classes

Go to https://tinvurl.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.

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.

