

# Chicano Murals

Chicano History Writ Large on the Walls of LA

# David Alfaro Siqueiros

- <http://eastloshigh.com/thesiren/11-east-la-murals-that-deserve-more-than-a-drive-by/>
- Mexico City Today:
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TTYyHbgnQ0>
- Los Tres Grandes:
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsjxVSc9M08>

# David Alfaro Siqueiros (1896-1974)

Upon his expulsion from Mexico in 1932 for radical political militancy, artist **David Alfaro Siqueiros** came to Los Angeles for six months. During that brief time, he completed three murals, but the most significant was his second: [América Tropical](#). The 80x18 foot mural was painted on the second-story exterior wall of the Italian Hall, located on Olvera Street in the [El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical District](#). *América Tropical* is the oldest existing mural in L.A. and the only mural by Siqueiros in the United States still in its original location.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m8lhg6OBQg>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akVsJTgjHgw> (use this one)





# America Tropical



125 Paseo De La Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012

# East Los Streetscapers

**East Los Streetscapers Public Art Studios** is a [muralist art collective](#) and [fine art](#) studio based in [East Los Angeles, California](#). Its members have executed over twenty murals and large-scale [public artworks](#), primarily in the [Los Angeles](#) area.

East Los Streetscapers grew out of the [Chicano Mural Movement](#) of the 1960s and 1970s, a strand of muralism that "began as an arm of struggle of claiming urban space" for [Chicanos](#). It was founded by Wayne Alaniz Healy and David Rivas Botello in 1975. Alaniz and Botello met in elementary school, and when in the third grade, collaborated on a mural. However, they lost touch when Botello's family moved to nearby [City Terrace](#).

In 1969, Botello co-founded Goez Art Studio, "the first" [Chicano art](#) studio, with Jose Luis Gonzalez and Juan Gonzalez. In 1973, he painted *Dreams of Flight*, one of the early murals at [Estrada Courts](#).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9YVvZe-RbvQ> East LA murals

<https://vimeo.com/188477919>

# The Lost Mural—Boyle Heights



Lost mural:

<https://www.scpr.org/programs/take-two/2017/09/22/59254/the-lost-chicano-mural-that-redefined-the-meaning/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=external&v=10154908660763016>



CON ENERGÍAS ANTIGUAS"  
ON ANCIENT ENERGIES"

Botello, Healy e Yepes de  
EAST LOS STREETSCAPERS  
P.O. Box 2582 L.A. 90051  
ASST'D by Paul Botello

















# *Orale! Let's Cruise on Over to Progression, Aye!*

Curator [LoveGalo](#) and artist [Sergio Robleto](#) were commissioned by the owners of First Street Pool & Billiard, Marco Cordova and Lila Gallarza, to paint a mural. The creatives were inspired by the exhibit [¡Murales Rebeldes!](#), at LA Plaza last year.

Galo and Robleto decided on a tribute to pioneers of the mural movement from the 70s and 80s, the collective [Los Dos Streetscapers](#) from artist [David Botello](#) and [Wayne Healy](#). Their work is seen daily in Boyle Heights. On the corner of Soto and Cesar Chavez is the mural, *El Corrido de Boyle Heights* (The Ballad of Boyle Heights) painted by Streetscapers.

More than 30 years later, Galo and Sergio paid tribute to that mural. Both Botello and Healy are featured in the same car they painted at the Shell station. Botello is in the front seat throwing the peace sign. Healy is in the back seat throwing the Chicano fist. The car is heading west as that is where the gentrification is or appears to be happening most in Boyle Heights. The title of the mural is *Orale! Let's Cruise on Over to Progression, Aye!*

- <https://www.lataco.com/galo-robleto-streetscapers-mural/>





# FIRST ST. POOL

• *Divertase Jugando* CARA







Mural title: "Orale! Let's Cruise on Over to Progression, Aye!" .

Dim: 20' X 12'

Med: Spray Paint Montana 94

[@montanashopla](https://www.instagram.com/montanashopla)

Location: First Street Pool & Billiard

1906 E 1st St LA CA 90033

Visit the mural and check in or geotag it.

# El Corrido de Boyle Heights

Location: Payless Shoes

Address: 2336 Cesar Chavez Ave. (at Soto St.)

Artist: East Los Streetscrapers (David Botello, Wayne Healy, George Yepes)

Sponsor: Payless Shoe Source

Keywords: exterior, community, cultural, mural

Area: East L.A./Monterey Park (mural number 47 in [Street Gallery](#)).

On an exterior wall on the southwest corner of Soto Street and E. Cesar Chavez Avenue, the mural “El corrido de Boyle Heights” (“The Ballad of Boyle Heights”) depicts neighborhood musicians, a singing woman and dancing newlyweds.

Painted in 1983 by the East Los Streetscrapers, a collaborative public art studio co-founded by Wayne Alaniz Healy, the mural shows local musician Margarito Gutierrez playing a fiddle, while El Piporro, a famous Mexican actor, singer and songwriter, plays an accordion. According to the Los Angeles Mural Conservancy, it is at the least the third mural to occupy the same wall.

Pictured playing the fiddle is Margarito Gutierrez, Il Piporro on the accordion, and Joe Alaniz enjoying the music. The artists were assisted by Paul Botello, David Morin, and Ismael Cazarez. This is the third mural to occupy this same wall.

<http://www.grconnect.com/murals/html/r20img0925.html>











# Payless shoes



# Willie Herron and Gronk—Black and White Mural (Moratorium)

A monochromatic photo-realistic montage portraying the 1970 Chicano Moratorium, a local anti-Vietnam War protest that was attacked by the Sheriff's Department. Other imagery condemns police brutality in the barrio. In 1980 Herrón returned to paint (in color) himself embracing his wife (lower right corner). In order shown: Photo: © Isabel Rojas-Williams | Photo: © Robin Dunitz

- <https://vimeo.com/130705883>





# Wayne Healy

Born in Santa Barbara, California, Wayne Alaniz Healy was raised in East Los Angeles. His entire K-12 education took place within a 10-block area. Moving away to college at California State Polytechnic College – Pomona (BS Aerospace Engineering, BS Mathematics 1968) and then to the University of Cincinnati (MS Mechanical Engineering 1973) gave Healy a wanderlust that persists to this day. The technical education resulted in a 23-year engineering career in aerospace. In 1991, Healy left aerospace to devote full time to art. Healy made it official by earning his MFA [Art 1999] from California State University Northridge.

In 1975, WH was reunited with grade school friend and fellow artist David Botello to establish East Los Streetscapers (ELS), the most enduring public art team to come from East L A. After painting murals that celebrate the human spirit for more than two decades, ELS has grown into public art projects that are 3D and multimedia in nature. ELS now build public art from the ground up, as in two 1997 projects: El Pueblo San José de Guadalupe and the LAPD Memorial. The projects use sculpture in concrete and bronze plus architectural materials such as granite, concrete, steel and pavers. The multimedia design effort combines engineering and art, thus opening up a vast potential for new ideas. The challenge of integrating art and architecture motivates ELS in the 21st century.







Our Pico  
Neighborhood Mural  
<https://vimeo.com/199090947>











# David Botello



"David Botello is best known as one of East Los Streetscapers. A native of East Los Angeles, Botello co-founded Goez Art Studio and Gallery, one of the first Chicano art galleries, with José-Luis and Juan González in 1969. Four years later, Botello was among the first artists to paint a mural at Estrada Courts. Botello rediscovered his third-grade art partner, Wayne Healy, in 1975. As children, their first mural together was about dinosaurs. Botello left the gallery to paint murals with Healy.

Shortly thereafter, other artists, such as George Yepes and Rudy Calderón, began working with them, so Botello and Healy changed the group's name to East Los Streetscapers.



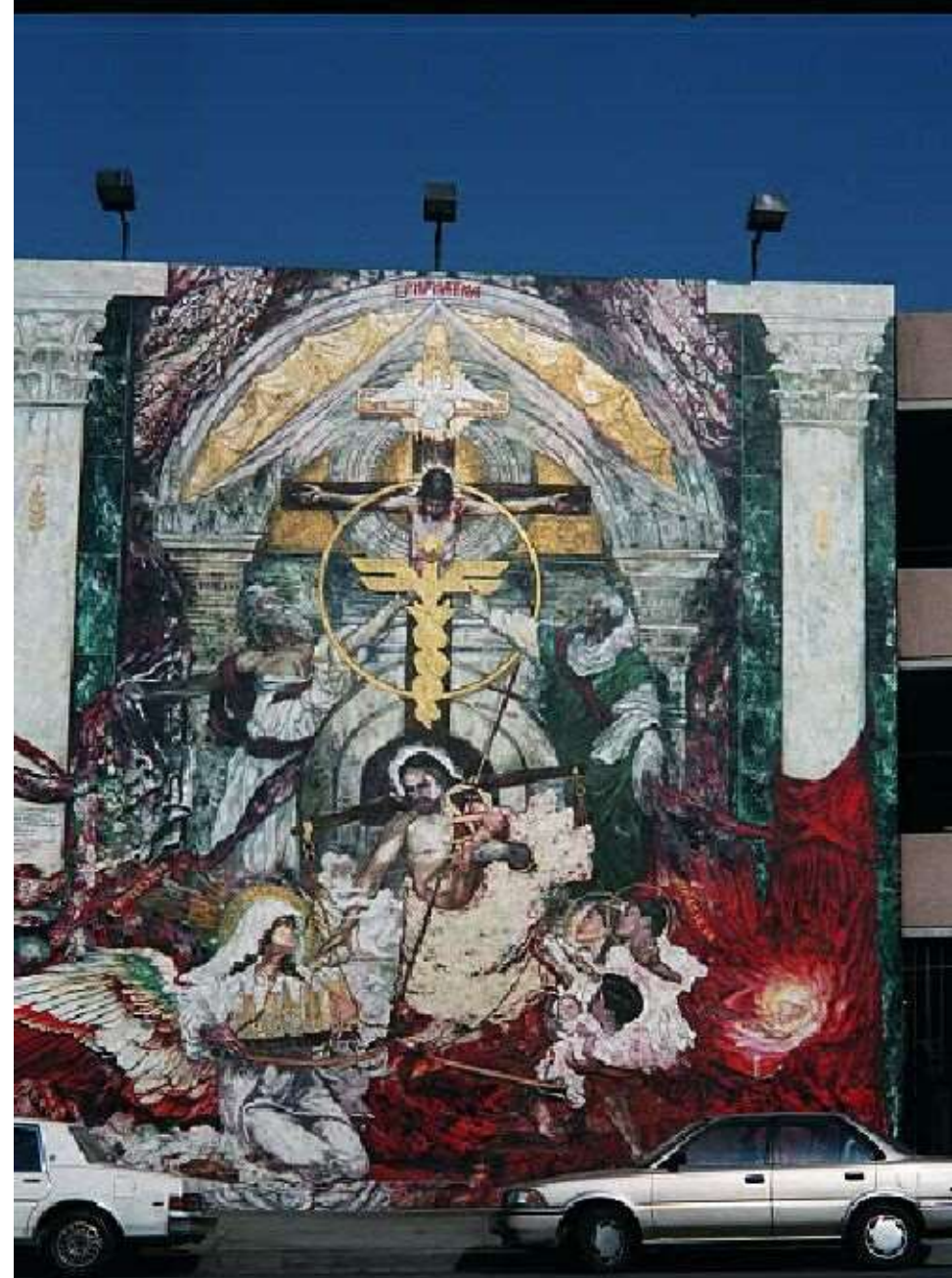


# George Yepes

Born in a cross-fire hurricane beneath a meteor shower over Baja, then raised and educated in the crucibles of East Los Angeles, the meteoric double-barrel life of Painter/Muralist, George Yepes, continues to burn beyond the Los Angeles art world. Formed by a hard street life of poverty, and gang violence; this painter not only survived the gang violence of East L.A.'s toughest neighborhoods but he has also risen above and beyond the Chicano genre. Yepes' oeuvre incorporates art and architecture, ethereally beautiful women, world history, religion and literature presented in powerfully charged atmospheres. Self-taught, with a refined renaissance bent; from religious iconography to erotica George Yepes brings a confidence and knowledge of his craft that calls to mind the great Velasquez and Titian, and the great Mexican Muralists. Imbued with a contemporary street sense, his paintings and murals combine the best of both worlds where bravado meets classical standards.











# Johnny D. Gonzalez

Walk past [Alliance Morgan McKinzie High School](#) in East Los Angeles and you might notice a striking image of a muscled man shielding himself from a rain of swords. It's one of 19 sections in "The Story of Our Struggle," an eleven-foot-high, five-foot-long fired-ceramic tile mural that charts Chicano history from pre-Columbian times to the present. In rich jewel tones, it depicts Aztec civilization, the Spanish conquest of Mexico and the loss of Mexican land to the United States. Although sweeping in its subject matter, the work is as much a personal reckoning as a cultural one.

The mural was created by artist and educator Johnny D. Gonzalez, aka Don Juan. Born in 1943 in the Mexican state of Aguascalientes, he came to California as a young child. Unable to speak English, he was ridiculed by his schoolmates for his thick accent. Working with fellow Goez artists Robert Arenivar and David Botello, Gonzalez finalized the design for the murals and the architectural facade. Goez had the tiles made in Guadalajara, Mexico at the studio of ceramicist Joel Suro Olivares. Framed by arches, the panels told a multi-generational story, illustrating pivotal moments from Mexico's past.





# The Story of Our Struggle

<https://laist.com/news/entertainment/the-east-la-mural-that-turned-a-budget-department-store-into-a-cultural-landmark>













1843 To 1900



BEST

CONGRATULATIONS

Alliance Morgan  
McKinzie High School











# Avenue 61 Mural

In 1996, Anthony "Eagle" Ortega and Andy Ledesma and other muralists painted "Quetzalcoatl Mural Project: A Sequence of Time and Culture" at the **corner of Avenue 61 and Figueroa Street in the Highland Park** section of Los Angeles. The work has since become a work in progress as each year new images are added and others modified. Here Anthony and Andy talk about the imagery in the mural.

<https://vimeo.com/166644514>







# LATINOPIA ART

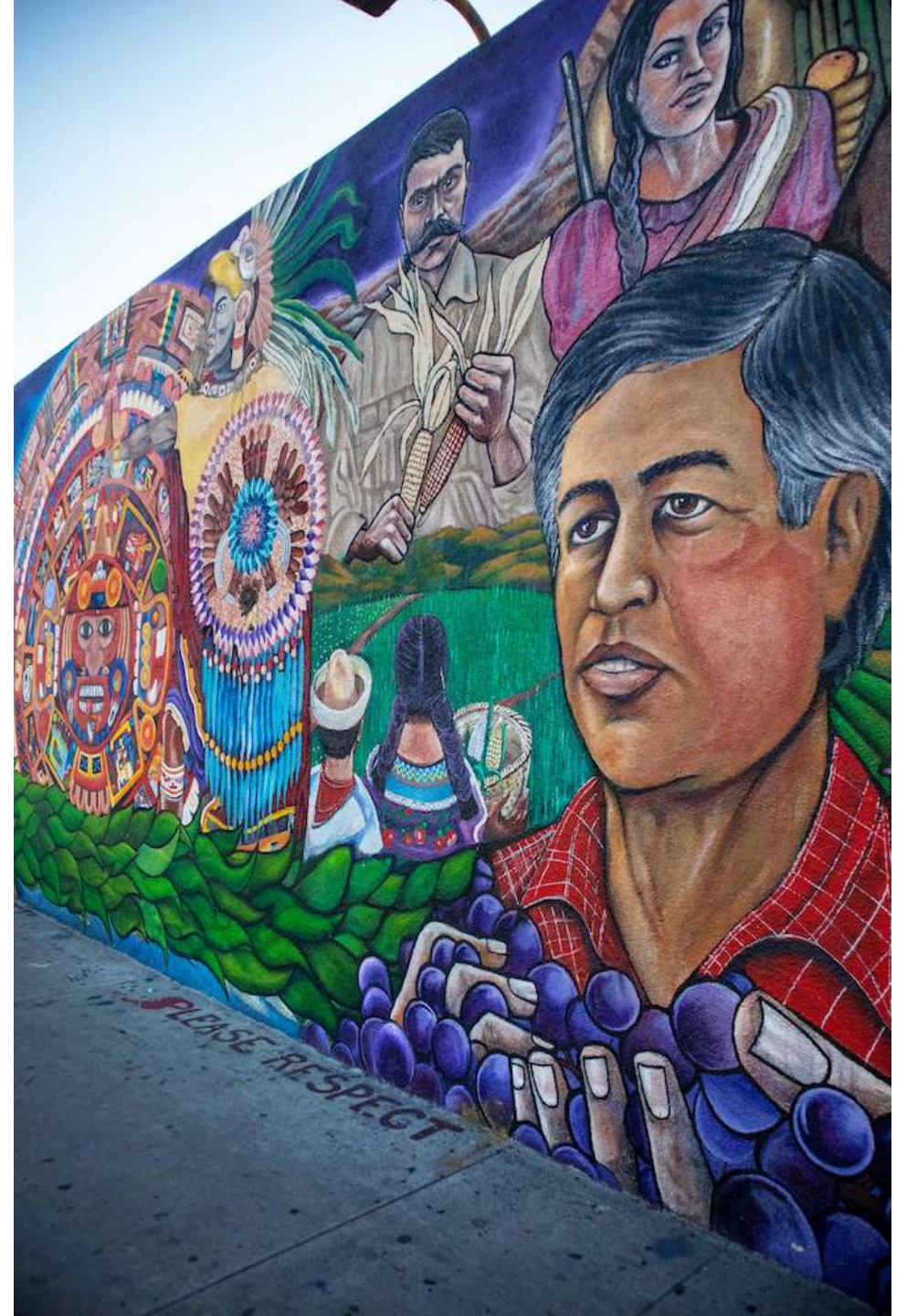
The mural is a complex, colorful composition. On the left, a large, circular sun disk (Xōchi) with a human-like face is the central focus. The face has large, dark eyes, a wide mouth showing teeth, and is adorned with traditional Aztec jewelry. The sun disk is surrounded by a ring of smaller, stylized figures and symbols. To the right of the sun disk, a man in a white shirt and a large feathered headdress holds a cornucopia overflowing with produce. Above him, a woman in a red and white dress looks on. In the foreground, a man in a red and white checkered shirt holds a bunch of purple grapes. The background features rolling green hills and a blue sky with white clouds. The overall style is a blend of traditional Mexican folk art and modern mural techniques.

AVENUE 61 MURAL















# CARLOS CALLEJO WALK-OUT MURAL

- <https://vimeo.com/281179027>





# Estrada Courts Mural—Boyle Heights

- <https://vimeo.com/125426303>



**Estrada Courts** is a low-income housing project in the [Boyle Heights](#) area of [Los Angeles, California](#). It is located between **E. Olympic Blvd. on the south and E. 8th St.** on the north, and S. Lorena St. on the east and S. Grande Vista Ave. on the west.

Estrada Courts was constructed in 1942-1943, during the [World War II](#) housing shortage in [Southern California](#), which resulted from the war-time boom in war-industry work, followed by the return of servicemen to the region and the [Bracero](#) program. Of the original 30 buildings, 214 units were reserved for defense housing.

Post-war era the Estrada Courts began to evolve, in the 1970s a total of eighty murals were painted by Chicano muralists.



























# Barbara Carrasco

Barbara Carrasco is a Chicana artist and activist who lives and works in Los Angeles. She is considered to be a "renegade feminist" whose work critiques dominant cultural stereotypes involving socioeconomics, race, gender and sexuality.

- <https://vimeo.com/26220463>
- <https://lapca.org/exhibition/uncensored-l-a-history-a-mexican-perspective/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8n038fE0C8> (long)





The Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County acquired Chicana artist Barbara Carrasco's landmark 1981 mural, *L.A. History: A Mexican Perspective*, which portrays the city's history through a series of vignettes woven into the flowing hair of la Reina de Los Ángeles (the queen of Los Angeles). The Natural History Museum (NHM) in Exposition Park was the first museum to show the full length of the once-censored mural in a gallery setting, bringing visitors eye-level with the panoramic work across three walls of an intimate gallery in the exhibition *Sin Censura: A Mural Remembers L.A.*, from March 2018 through August 2019. The acquisition of Carrasco's mural from the artist was made possible by a grant from the Vera R. Campbell Foundation and the mounting and presentation of the mural was supported by Nancy and John Edwards.











# Sonia Romero

Sonia Romero is a Los Angeles artist known for her paper-cut and printmaking aesthetics which she incorporates into both her fine art and public art commissions. Born in 1980, she grew up in an artistic household in Echo Park before formally studying at the Rhode Island School of Design. After returning to California, she began working as a public artist, and was the artist in residence at Avenue 50 Studio in Northeast Los Angeles from 2007-2014.





Artesia Library  
18801 Elaine Ave  
Artesia, CA







Belvedere Community Regional Park  
4914 East Cesar Chavez Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA











Hecho A Mano"  
at the Mariachi  
Plaza Metro  
Station

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=5&v=N9QXz0FIDqI&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=N9QXz0FIDqI&feature=emb_logo)



# Judy Baca—The Great Wall on Tajunga Wash

Judy Baca is an acclaimed artist and muralist and founder of SPARC (The Social and Public Art Resource Center). She is perhaps best known for designing and painting, with the help of many assistants, a half mile long mural in the Tujunga Wash in Los Angeles, California. The mural involved the work of more than 400 young people.

<https://vimeo.com/529639125>

The Great Wall of Los Angeles is a mural designed by Judith Baca and executed with the help of over 400 community youth and artists coordinated by the Social and Public Art Resource Center. It was Baca's first mural and SPARC's first public art project. Its official title is The History of California. [Address](#): 12900 Oxnard St, North Hollywood, CA 91606

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4dimAaP30E4> (The Great Wall)







LOYOLA  
BASEBALL

CHINESE BUILD THE RAILROAD













500,000 MEXICAN AMERICANS DEPORTED





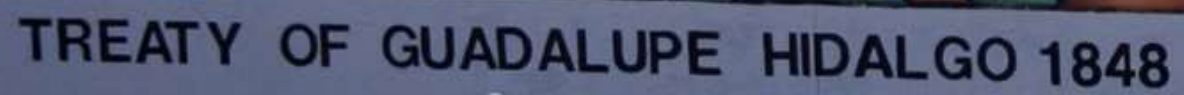












## TREATY OF GUADALUPE HIDALGO 1848





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AND THEIR  
ORAL HISTO

SPARC IS A  
CIVIC DIAL

TO HELP  
DONATION

THE PURP

OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS  
BREAKING BARRIERS 1964-1984

BILLY  
MILLS

VLMA  
RUDOLF

SAMMY  
LEE  
WALTER DAVIS





MATTACHINE SOCIETY

GINSBERG & THE BEATS

JEWISH ARTS & SCIENCES

INDIAN ASSIMILATION

ASIANS GAIN CITIZENSHIP & PROPERTY



# Judy Baca—The Emancipation Project

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=91&v=A7Elg53YVxc&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=91&v=A7Elg53YVxc&feature=emb_logo)









# Mural Mile--Pacoima

The genesis of Mural Mile is a multigenerational coalition of artists including Sandoval along with the environmental justice grassroots group, [Pacoima Beautiful](#). Though there have been some murals in Pacoima since the late 1960s and early 1970s, in the last seven years the number has tripled.

Pacoima Beautiful has worked closely with several artists, including Kristy Sandoval, [the HOODsisters](#), [Juan Pablo Reyes](#), [Erica Friend](#), [Manny Velazquez](#), [Hector, Levi and Sarah Ponce](#), [the GR818ers](#) and several others to encourage the use of arts to empower community development. Before sharing stories on these transformative artists and Pacoima Beautiful, it's important to discuss Pacoima's history as a neighborhood and why it needed to be transformed.

- <https://www.lataco.com/mural-mile-pacoima-history/>
- <https://abc7.com/murals-art-artists-paint/5272744/>



# LOS ANGELES MURAL MILE

[WWW.MURALMILE.ORG](http://WWW.MURALMILE.ORG)

- 1 Lady Of The Valley
- 2 Girl With Hoop Earring
- 3 Born in East Valley
- 4 Si Se Puede!
- 5 Serving With Pride
- 6 M.E.N.D. Mural
- 7 Pacolmoras
- 8 Sounds of Pacolma
- 9 La Bamba
- 10 Lenchita's 40-Year (Interior)
- 11 Elvira
- 12 Breaking Boundaries
- 13 Pacolma City Hall Murals
- 14 Museo Al Aire Libre Murals
- 15 Pacolma Arts Incubator
- 16 The Day The Music Died
- 17 Entrepreneur Mural
- 18 Recuerdos Of Home
- 19 Danny Trejo Mural
- 20 La Virgen
- 21 Fruits Of Our Dreams
- 22 Pets
- 23 Frida y Diego
- 24 Bike Shop Murals
- 25 Myke's Cafe Murals
- 26 Assata Shakur
- 27 Abuelita
- 28 Vintage Mural
- 29 Dreams
- 30 Toypurina
- 31 Pacolma Beautiful Murals



# Levi Ponce

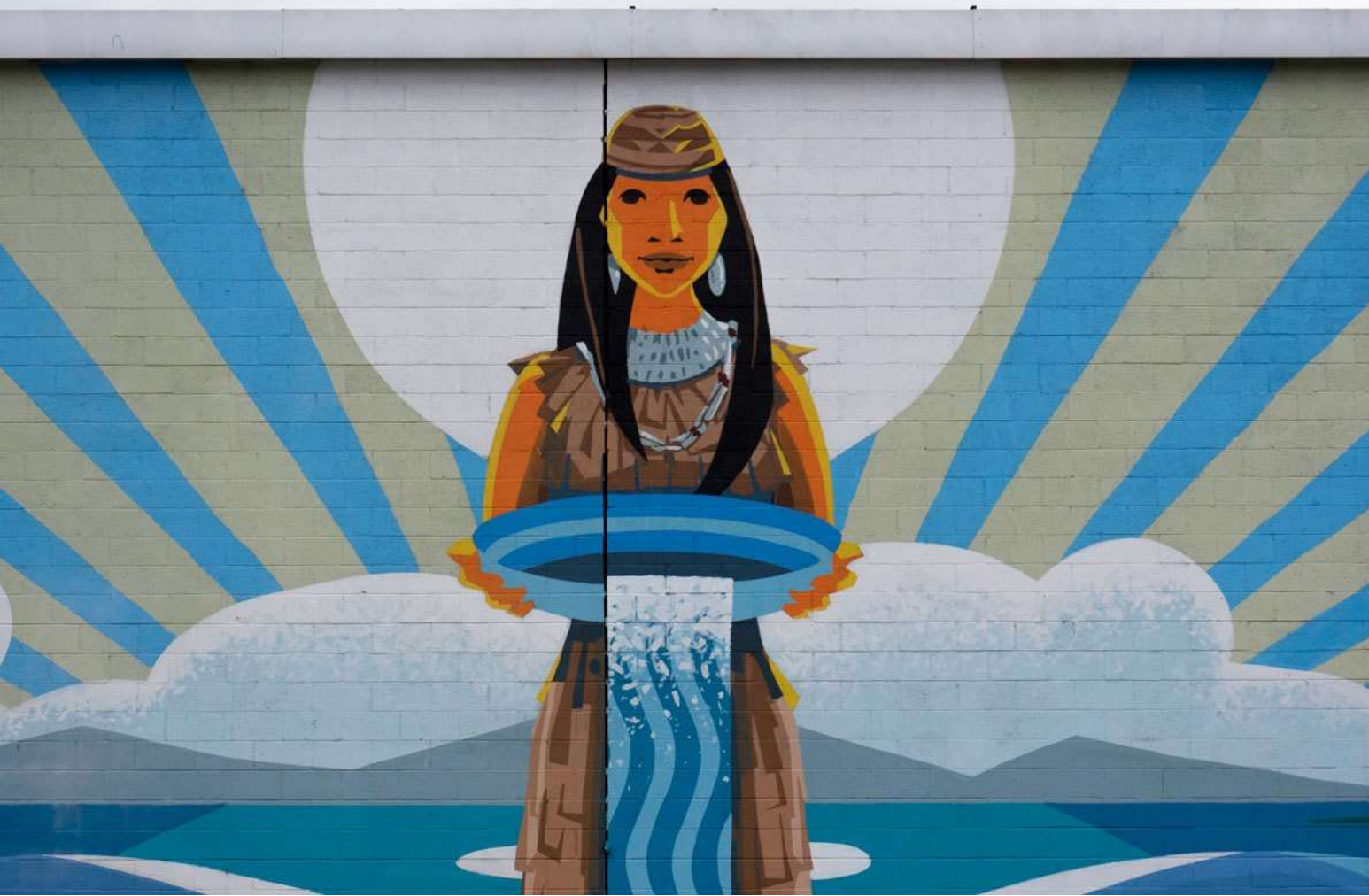
## Pacoima Mural

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4tESgSs8m3I>

Levi Ponce is the first member of his family in graduating and he keeps on overcoming obstacles to promote his urban art.







Levi Ponce—Rushing Waters

<https://sundial.csun.edu/155630/arts-entertainment/rushing-waters-a-mural-that-celebrates-the-history-of-pacoima/>













Chayito QUESADILLAS

818-665-6421  
818-429-5872

PARKING

Van Nuys Bl  
13100

282

STOP





James Peuster









Presented by the  
Artist:  
Linda Pinner  
ASSISTANTS:  
Chris  
Kathy Gibson  
SPECIAL THANKS:  
Tina Hill,  
John Martinez  
Mike Carty  
John Carty  
to HSC  
www.hsc.org.com  
01/2017









ANTO  
ENCHIL  
TLACOY  
HUARAC  
SOPE  
QUESAD  
TACOS











# Kristy Sandoval

When people think of Pacoima, they tend to think of crime and violence, but **Kristy Sandoval** wanted to paint a different picture for people and the community. After studying at The Academy of Art University in San Francisco, she came back to the San Fernando Valley with a vision to bring more art to Pacoima in order to help its great culture. She began creating murals back in 2008, but started collaborating with well-known artist **Levi Ponce** in 2012. She created beautiful murals all along Van Nuys Blvd. called **The Mural Mile**.







Decolonized by Kristy Sandoval







# Assignment Suggestions...

- Visit one of LA's Chicano murals
- Take pictures or sketch parts of a mural
- Abstract part of mural or create a montage of images
- Create an artwork that documents your history in LA