



August-September 2010
Volume 1, Issue 4

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Que PASA?: Experience and Explore Public Art

Program Updates

PASA officially kicked off the summer in July with several activities and programs in conjunction with our summer program, *Que PASA?: Experience and Explore Public Art*. Events at PASA Studio this summer fit into several "themes" that correspond with installations in the exhibition, and provide opportunities for friends and families to Roll, Reflect, Ride, Read, Recycle, and Renew!

RIDE

In connection with the "ride" theme, PASA has been conducting artist-led bike rides highlighting public artworks and other artist selected destinations throughout the city. The first four bike rides featured tours of HemisFair Park, the Beacon Hill Neighborhood, downtown San Antonio, and the River Walk and Brackenridge Park. Thanks to the help of our ride leaders and volunteers each ride has been a unique and successful experience for all of our participants! The remaining rides will take riders through Woodlawn Lake, Dignowity Hill, the River Walk's Mission Reach, and visit more artist studios. If you haven't been on a *Que PASA?* bike ride yet, be sure and join in on the fun!



Bike Ride #1

READ

For those of you who can get away for a quick lunch break, PASA is introducing its Video+Lunch series. Showcasing an assortment of public art documentary films, this free program invites you to bring a bag lunch while mulling over some "food for thought" The first few screenings have featured films including *Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision*, *Most Serene Republics*, *Sebastian: Alquimista del Espacio*, and *Drawing the Line: a Portrait of Keith Haring*. Video + Lunches take place on most Wednesdays of the month and usually run from 12 pm to 1



Video + Lunch #1

pm. A schedule of movies and times will be continually updated on the PASA summer calendar. PASA's READING corner is available to visitors, with an abundant array of public art books and video documentaries, available for guests to read and view at their leisure, generously provided by the San Antonio Public Library. .

REFLECT

Showing continuously during studio hours is the short film *PASA in a Day* by Mark and Angela Walley. Their eight-minute video takes visitors through a tour of several PASA public artworks from around the city, highlighting the sights, sounds, and unique qualities of each piece.

RENEW

Right outside the PASA Studio, and correlating with the RENEW aspect of *Que PASA?*, local artist Mark Schlesinger has employed his skills as a painter to give new life to an everyday object, using manhole covers as his canvas. The utility cover project, created through a laborious multi-step process, first involved a cleaning process that left the covers fresh and restored; a revitalization in and of itself. Once clean, the covers were treated with primer and then finished with Mark's specially-blended paint application, thus completing the transformation and process of renewal. The painted covers are right outside PASA's front door, and can be seen anytime day or night.



Artist Mark Schlesinger

Mark is also utilizing this unique painting process for his recent commission on the Jones Maltsberger Streetscape Project, for the City of San Antonio

ROLL

To promote the growing connection between public art, skateboard culture and skate parks, PASA, in coordination with artist Aaron Forland, has created an exhibit featuring 19 unique skateboard artworks. All works are on view during gallery hours. PASA also held a summer Studio



Session which included a presentation *Studio Session #1* by Grindline Skate Parks, Inc., a Seattle-based design consulting firm with extensive experience in public art specifically designed for skateboard aesthetic and functionality. Local artist Katie Pell is currently working with Grindline on public artwork designs for three major City of San Antonio skate park projects that are slated to be open to the public by summer of 2011.

RECYCLE

In an effort to draw attention to the importance of recycling and the role it plays in art as well as everyday life, PASA staff and contributing artists have built a 'recycled' wall in the center of the Studio! The wall functions as an architectural element and movie theater wall, created entirely out of reclaimed materials including cardboard, plastic and used wooden pallets. Also contributing to this theme are shelves and signage comprised of recycled materials that are utilized throughout the entire *Que PASA?* exhibit.

If you're interested in learning more about any of the *Que PASA?* activities, we encourage you to check our Summer Program Guide and choose the right activity for you to be an active part of public art this summer!

Last Call to Participate in September Events!

In addition to the bike rides and video + lunches, our final events during the month of September include the opening of a photo exhibit documenting the summer bike rides. PASA staff has worked with ride participants to gather a variety of images documenting our adventures. The images are on display in the PASA Studio windows and feature photos from bike rides # 1 - 4. Additional images from bike rides # 5 - 7 will be revealed at our *Que Pasa?* closing reception on September 30!

Coinciding with the PASA Studio exhibit is a new photography installation at the San Antonio International Airport. The display includes images by artists Thomas Cummins, Mat Kubo, Justin Parr, Jessica Ramirez and Patrick Zeller. Each artist is local to San Antonio and has participated in the *Que PASA?* summer program by donating their time and expertise as leaders of different bike tours, or have volunteered in the exhibit installation. The exhibit is currently on view in Terminal 1 through November 30, 2010.

“Last Call” continued. . .

PASA will also be presenting two more Studio Sessions on September 14th and 21st. Angela and Mark Walley, of Walley Films, will discuss their work at our next Session, and the second session will be a discussion inspired by the salvaged art wall component of the *Que PASA?* summer program, featuring local artists that utilize found objects and salvage materials in their studio practice.

Please join us for our final summer event, a closing reception on Thursday September 30th. Visitors, guests and the general public will be invited to join PASA as we officially thank all of our program volunteers and participants and look forward to next summer.

For more information on any of our events, email pasa@sanantonio.gov.

Hays Street Bridge Opening



Artist Riley Robinson

On July 20th the Hays Street Bridge, a historic east side San Antonio landmark, was re-opened to the public and officially honored at a ribbon-cutting ceremony hosted by the City of San Antonio. Guest speakers included District 2 Councilwoman Ivy Taylor, State Representative Ruth Jones McClendon, Historic Preservation Officer Shannon Wasielewski, and Police Chief William McManus. Together, Councilwoman Taylor and State Representative Jones, along with community members, cut the giant ribbon at the bridges' entrance and allowed guest and cyclists to cross the bridge for the first time in over 20 years.

Built in the late nineteenth century as a railroad crossing, the structure was originally constructed as two separate bridges. After being moved in 1910 to its current location, the bridge served as a gateway from the east side of San Antonio to downtown.

As the oldest metal truss bridge in the city, by 1982 it was deemed structurally unsound and closed, and faced imminent demolition. However, thanks to local supporters and community members who petitioned to save the structure, the bridge received funding with a Transportation Enhancement Grant from TxDOT for rehabilitation in 2001, and restoration began in 2009.

An important new addition to the bridge is a public art component, entitled *Trains*, that was added by local artist Riley Robinson. Riley has experience working with steel, cast bronze and sometimes computer based images, and his recent works incorporate historical moments and his interpretive memory of them. For the installation on Hays Street Bridge, Robinson created “silhouettes” of vintage train designs to the railings on the two approaches to the bridge. Carved out of galvanized steel, the visual imagery on the railings represents the structure's early use as a railroad bridge, and allows visitors a look into San Antonio's rich transportation history.



“Trains”

Along with the public art component, a significant part of the bridge's character comes from its historic wrought iron Whipple trusses, and a quaint wooden walkway. With its new and renovated features the bridge truly becomes a link to the past and a gateway to the future, as it allows older San Antonio residents to walk across the bridge as they did as children. Today the bridge is enjoyed by local residents, including those of the Dignowity Hill neighborhood who use the bridge as a connection to the Salado Creek hike and bike trail.

Public Art *SNAPSHOT*

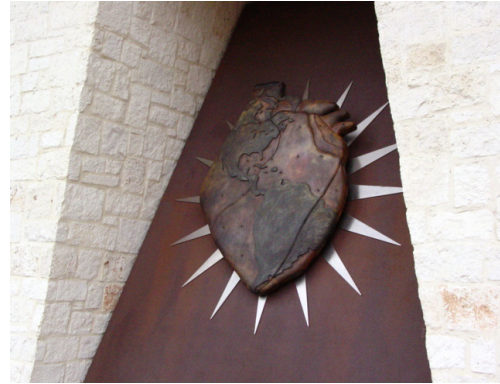
Each month we'll provide a brief "snapshot" of a public artwork from the City's collection, and encourage you to venture out and explore it for yourself. If you have a favorite San Antonio public artwork, let us know— we might feature it in an upcoming newsletter!

Title: *Corazón* by Benito Huerta

Year: 2001

Location: San Antonio Convention Center

Inspired by San Antonio's position, geographically and culturally, at the center - or heart - of the Americas, Huerta designed a simple bronze heart, emblazoned with North America and Latin America.



Corazón

Benito Huerta

For more information about this work or to find out about public art in your neighborhood, contact PASA staff at (210) 207-1436 or pasa@sanantonio.gov.

COSAS



The "Catalog of On-Site Artist Services" (COSAS) highlights works by local artists and artisans working in the built environment. This online publication is targeted towards interior designers, architects, developers, and home builders and buyers to encourage them to utilize artist services in their projects.

Featuring artist contact information and images, as well as descriptions of their work, the aim of the COSAS project is to continually showcase San Antonio's artists and their talent for creating site-specific works that combine functionality with exceptional artistry.

For more information on COSAS, click [here!](#)



29° 26' 00" N / 98° 29' 7" W

Stuart Allen

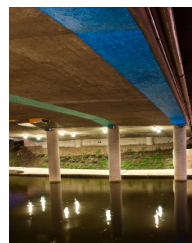
COSAS Artists of the Month

August 2010: Cakky Brawley



The August COSAS artist of the month is Cakky Brawley! A local sculptor and art educator, Cakky is versatile in a range of media and disciplines but is most well-known for her metalwork. Seen throughout San Antonio, her intricate and original designs meld her attention to architectural form with her sense of spirituality... [To view the full article, click here.](#)

September 2010: Mark Schlesinger



The September COSAS artist of the month is Mark Schlesinger, who specializes in contemporary painting. Through this traditional medium, Mark creates distinct paintings with custom paint application and texture. Many of his works transcend traditional canvas and are applied to wood and concrete... [To view the full article, click here.](#)

From the Director

For Public Art San Antonio, this summer has been a hot one! The sun has been shining brightly on the City of San Antonio, and all the while there have been lots of public art happenings all around the city. As you are likely aware of via PASA's email updates and Facebook posts, the summer program "Que Pasa?" has been really successful and we're so appreciative of all the volunteers and participants who have contributed to helping us. We've all had a lot of fun and learned much through the bike ride events and are already anticipating a batch of new rides for "Que Pasa?" Summer 2011! Check the current schedule for remaining rides this summer and be sure to RSVP!

We're still trying to boost attendance for scheduled events and during public viewing hours (Wednesday – Friday 12 to 5, and 12 - 7 on Thursday), but overall we're thrilled to be able to share public art with so many members of our community. It is always nice to see fellow downtowners come spend their noontime lunches at the PASA Studio to take in one of the public art videos being shown. The films are a great art history divergence in the middle of the workday and we may extend the video programs into the fall months. Of course we have many new ideas coming for PASA Studio, so stay tuned!

Away from PASA Studio, we've been thrilled with the community's positive reaction to the recently dedicated Hays Street Bridge Project and its public art installation by local artist Riley Robinson. Riley has been a real trooper with this project (for which he was selected many years ago!). After a long wait and many hurdles to overcome regarding the sensitivities of impacting a historic landmark, the artwork is finally realized and everyone has been very complimentary of his efforts.

Finally, more thanks go out to the many local artists who have volunteered to help PASA launch the new PASA Temporary Exhibits program that allows for several City facilities to welcome a rotating installation of borrowed artworks on a temporary loan basis. Downtown we are working with City Hall, Municipal Plaza Building offices, the Downtown Operations Headquarters (adjacent to PASA Studio), and the San Antonio International Airport (which includes installations in both the existing and brand-new Terminal "B," being dedicated later this year).

Thank you again for helping make this a great summer, and we hope to see you at the Studio!

Jimmy LeFlore, Director
Public Art San Antonio

National Artist Opportunities

Location: Las Cruces, New Mexico
Deadline: September 30, 2010
Project: Center for the Arts Performance Hall

The Art in Public Places Program of New Mexico Arts and the Local Selection Committee at New Mexico State University seek an artist or artist team to create a site-integrated commission project for the Center for the Arts Performance Hall in Las Cruces, New Mexico. This RFQ is open to professional artists or artist teams who are citizens of the United States, Canada and Mexico, and possess experience commensurate with the project scope and budget. Artists experienced in creating large-scale ceiling murals are encouraged to apply.

For a full project description and application information visit their website: <http://www.nmarts.org/current-opportunities.html>.

National Artist Opportunities cont'd.

Location: Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood, Florida

Deadline: September 24, 2010

Project: International Airport Restroom Vestibule

The Broward Cultural Council Public Art and Design Program is seeking to commission a professional artist or team of artists to create original artworks for all restroom vestibule walls (a total of 42) in Terminals 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

The artworks must create strong visual consistency that assists travelers with the identification of restroom locations throughout the terminals. These entrances shall be visible from the distance, eye-catching, and easily recognized.

The selected artist or team of artists shall design original artworks that offer a unique and positive visual experience for airport visitors that is reflective of the region and that enhance the aesthetic appearance of these high-traffic spaces. The artworks must be able to withstand heavy physical contact and be permanent, durable, easy to clean, and low maintenance.

Each one of the 42 entrance walls measures approximately 4' wide by 9' high.

The total budget established for the Project is \$450,000.

To see a full version of this Call, including the project description and submittal requirements, please visit <http://www.broward.org/arts/pad/calls.htm>.

Location: Evansville, Indiana

Deadline: October 15, 2010

Project: Arena Plaza Artwork

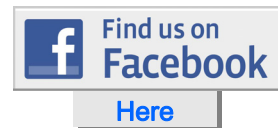
This competition seeks an aesthetically pleasing, imaginative, innovative, site-specific piece of art that has a purpose and a belonging, a sculptural piece that will have a positive impact on the location. The winning design must make a strong visual statement, must convey a sense of progress, and must be inviting, intriguing and thought provoking without being imposing. The winning sculpture will be a focal point not only for the new arena but also for the entire city. As a destination point for residents and visitors of all ages, it will become a visual identity for the City of Evansville. As part of the City's collection of public art, the City will have complete ownership of the work.

For more information, visit the official [website](#).



Que PASA? t-shirts and stickers for sale!

For sale at the PASA Studio during regular exhibit hours! Starting July 15th. Available while supplies last! Call 207-1047 to place an order.



For more information on PASA events, artists, or projects, visit www.publicartsa.com !

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