

Kaitlyn Collins

My mural uses Dias de los Muertos imagery because that celebration is huge in Fruitvale. I use calaveras/skeletons cooking and sharing food to represent a diverse group of people united by Dias de los Muertos. They make mole sauce, which is composed of ingredients from all over the world. Each calavera contributes a unique ingredient to symbolize the range of cultures that contribute to the melting pot that is Fruitvale. My mural celebrates the Fruitvale and its unique sense of community and diversity.



Cale Kaufman, Sue Lee, Kwong Choi

After visiting The Unity Council it was apparent that family and spirituality were important to Fruitvale residents. Our mural focuses on the Virgin of Guadalupe. She appears in traditional dress, framed by the Fruitvale arches. The arches (found near the building) are composed of mosaic columns with a Tree of Life pattern and topped by a trinity of fruit. We draw a parallel between the community's reclaiming of colonial culture and their reclaiming of the Fruitvale neighborhood. The community takes ownership of the past while creating a brighter and independent future.



Michi Lehman, Jinmei Chi

Our mural is inspired by Fruitvale's deep connection to Mexican and Latin American heritage. Our vibrant colors come from Latin American cultures. The fruit tree represents nurturing Mother Nature. Her headdress is inspired by the Latin American Carnival. The out stretched branch/arm and apples express the yearning for education. The galaxy represents the infinite possibilities and a positive future that await the youth of the Fruitvale.



Nicole Adames, Levi Mousaw

When looking at Latin American Fine Arts paintings, there is a strong theme of Cultural Identity and the struggle that is endured to bring it forth. We created a piece that uses Monarch butterflies to metaphorically represent the renewal and rebirth of cultural identity. This specific type of butterfly is often used to represent the return of the ancestors that come forth every year in time for Dias de los Muertos and signify the beginning of the Harvest.

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