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Announcing | Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program Exhibition – Round 2

January 19, 2022



Image Detail: Artwork by Francisco Cortés, Photo Credit: City of San Antonio's Department of Arts & Culture

San Antonio exhibit is inspired by the NYFA's Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program, which pairs emerging foreign-born or first-generation artists with experienced artists for mentorship, development, and encouragement.

We are pleased to announce the opening of New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program Exhibition – Round 2, presented by the [City of San Antonio's Department of Arts & Culture](#) at [The Centro de Artes Gallery](#) in Historic Market Square in San Antonio, TX. The two-story exhibition space, which is dedicated to telling the story of the Latino experience with a focus on South Texas, has been closed to the public for over a year and half due to COVID-19.

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This exhibition will kick off the public reopening on Wednesday, January 26—signifying the strength and resiliency of San Antonio’s creative community and shining a light on local artists. It will run through July 3, 2022.

The exhibit is inspired by [NYFA's Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program](#), which pairs emerging foreign-born or first-generation artists with experienced artists for mentorship, development, and encouragement. The multi-disciplinary exhibition explores the unique and lived experiences of 34 San Antonio-based artists connected to the program and includes partnership with local organizations [Blue Star Contemporary](#), [San Antonio Museum of Art](#), and [SAY SÍ](#), which collaborated with NYFA to implement the mentorship program.

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Image: Detail of a photo of Artist Profiles from “New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program Exhibition – Round 2,” Photo Credit: City of San Antonio’s Department of Arts & Culture

NYFA Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program Exhibition – Round 2 is a continuation of the first round of the exhibit, held at Centro de Artes in 2019. Both exhibits were selected as part of the Centro de Artes Call for Exhibitions managed by the Department of Arts & Culture in collaboration with the San Antonio Arts Commission and its Centro de Artes Committee. Guest curators and San Antonio-based artists Richard “Ricky” Armendariz, Kim Bishop, Luis Valderas, and Guillermina Zabala organized the exhibit, with the 34 participating artists representing 12 different countries from across the globe, including Argentina, Chile, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Iran, Japan, Kenya, and Venezuela, as well as the Mexico-United States border.

“We are delighted to reopen the gallery doors to the community with such a powerful, impactful and important exhibit,” said Department of Arts & Culture Interim Executive Director Krystal Jones. “This exhibition

reflects on the multilayered immigrant and first-generation experience shared by so many in our community. Centro de Artes provides a place for these stories to be told, stories that have historically been underrepresented in gallery spaces.”



Image Detail: Artwork by Naomi Wanjiku, Photo Credit: City of San Antonio's Department of Arts & Culture

Artists participating in the *NYFA Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program Exhibition – Round 2* include Fernando Andrade, Ricky Armendariz, Jose Balli, Kim Bishop, Hayfer Brea, Francisco Cortés, Juan de Dios Mora, Anna De Luna, Juan C. Escobedo, Anel Flores, Juan Flores, Sergio Flores, Brandy González, Beatriz Guzman Velasquez, Ernesto Ibanez, Julya Jara, Sergio Mata, Barbara Miñarro, Yoko Misu, Merle Mory, Anastassia Rabajille, Andrea V Rivas, Caroline Royall, Jesse Ruiz, Gloria Sánchez Hart, Sabine Senft, Hiromi Stringer, Luis Valderas, Jorge Villarreal, Anne Wallace, Naomi Wanjiku, Anahita Younesi, Guillermina Zabala, and Claudia Zapata.

NYFA's Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program paired immigrant artists working in all disciplines with artist mentors who provided individualized support for their mentees, guiding them to achieve specific goals and providing them with broader access to urban cultural centers through an exchange of ideas, resources and experiences. Discussions covered grant proposal ideas; how to approach curators, galleries, and presenting opportunities; social media best practices; networking and funding opportunities through arts institutions; and other local resources. Mentors also met regularly with mentees one-on-one to provide the artists with portfolio feedback, advice on studio and presentation techniques, and to help write and edit artist statements.

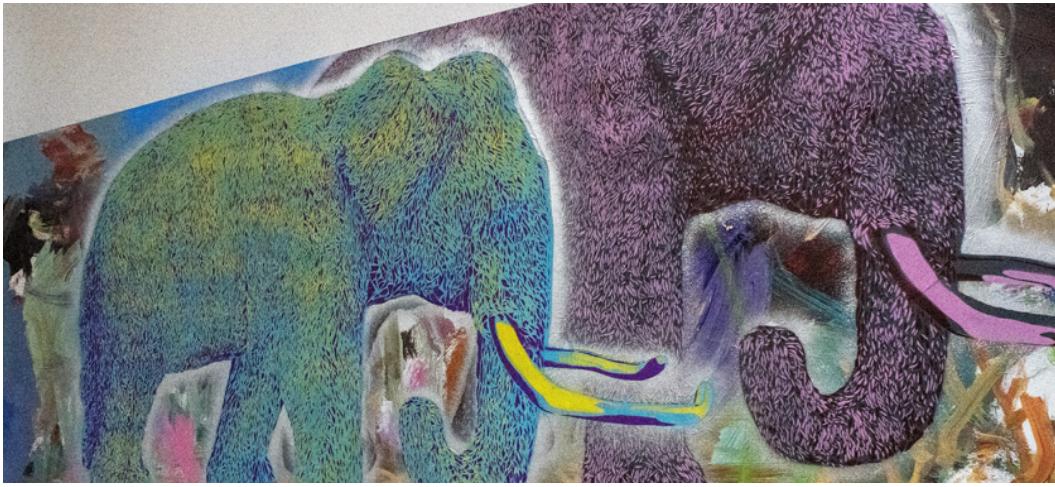


Image: Artwork by Ernesto Ibanez, Photo Credit: City of San Antonio's Department of Arts & Culture

“Many of the participating artists have already contributed to the cultural landscape in San Antonio,” said Executive Director of NYFA Michael L. Royce. “The Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program expands their ability to contribute, and this exhibition is the cumulation of what they have learned and created throughout the collaborative process.”

The gallery and all exhibit events detailed below are free and open to the public. More information is available at www.sanantonio.gov/arts.

Gallery Reopens

Wednesday, January 26

Daily Hours: Wednesday – Friday: 10:30 AM – 5:00 PM, Saturday &

Sunday: 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Grand Reopening Reception

Tuesday, February 22, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

A celebration of the NYFA Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program Exhibition – Round 2 with the opportunity to meet participating artists.

Performance Night

Tuesday, April 26, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

An immersive evening of films and performances by artists from the exhibition.

Artist Talk & Catalogue Release

Tuesday, June 7, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM,

A panel discussion moderated by Dr. Scott Sherer (Professor of Art History and Gallery Director, University of Texas at San Antonio) and Isabel Servantez (Curator of Exhibitions and Director of Programs, Mexic-Arte Museum) featuring art panelists from the exhibit.



Photo: Historic Market Square, San Antonio; Image Credit: Historic Market Square

[Click here for more information on the Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program.](#) And don't forget to [sign up for the monthly Con Edison Immigrant Artist Program Newsletter](#) to receive opportunities and events as well as artist features directly to your inbox.



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