



April 2022

Museum News

MUSEUM EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS TAKE PART IN EARTH DAY STREET MURAL PROJECT

On Friday, April 22nd, Santa Rosa Junior College sponsored a Street Mural project with the goal of raising awareness about how we can create a livable future for our planet. Elliott Avenue is now beautifully painted with numerous circular murals, done with eco-friendly, water-based paint. This project brought together hundreds of students and community groups members, who enjoyed the sunshine and the shared vision of a more just and sustainable future.

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- SRJC Earth Day Street Mural
- The Living Wall video
- Student Employees' Corner
- Kids' Learning App



The Museum's 12 foot, round mural features a tree of life surrounded by plants, animals, and earth elements, designed by Leyla Craven, pictured above on the far right. With Leyla in the photo from left to right are Caitlyn, Débora, and Ari.

The Living Wall Video



Photo above, right: from the Oak Leaf newspaper, 1995



The Living Wall

was a group of photographs of Indigenous people living in and around Sonoma County, arranged on a wall in the museum in the 1980s by then Museum Coordinator, Lynn Fox. These photographs celebrated the beauty of different cultures and told visual stories about people still living today whose ancestors were here for thousands of years before Europeans came.

The Living Wall Video is an offshoot of the original project, using many of Fox's original photos, with many more added from over the years.

View the Living Wall Video in the museum or on our YouTube channel, linked below this page.
-Rachel Minor, Museum Supervisor/ Curator

"The living wall came out of my heart. The individuals on the wall serve as role models for the students. They bring life into the museum"

Lynn Fox, former Museum Coordinator, 1995



Leyla and Débora - Student employees

STUDENT EMPLOYEES' CORNER

Working at the museum this semester has been by far the most educational and interesting job I've had in my short nineteen years of life so far. I studied art in a specialized program all through high school and began studying art at the JC, but worked in stressful food-service jobs that had nothing to do with anything I'd spent years learning. Working at the Multicultural Museum has combined so many different things I love; history, writing, research, drawing and design, photography, and closely analyzing art. One of my favorite tasks has been creating posts for the museum's Facebook and Instagram, I also love greeting and talking with our visitors.

I never could have expected how much I would learn working here; so many of the art history and general history classes I've taken in school have been incredibly Euro-centric and hardly cover smaller indigenous cultures. I hardly had the chance to study Native American art and culture in school besides a short unit in elementary school, but I have learned so much by studying our collection of artifacts, especially about local California tribes. I feel a closer connection and a greater respect for this beautiful land we live on, and I really want to study Native cultures more in classes like Anthropology and Native American studies. I feel so lucky and proud to have this position, as it has taught me lots of skills for my future career goals and has helped me become a better student and a more involved member of the SRJC community.

-by Leyla Craven, Student Employee, Spring '22

My first project at the museum was to research the history of several donated artifacts, mainly African masks. I remember feeling like I was on a mission: to distinguish each mask and learn everything I could about it, including where it came from, the meaning behind each feature, and the cultural significance. I was enthralled, and I felt incredibly fortunate to be able to learn about such a magnificent culture that was so unlike my own. And now that I've got the chance to work with these items and learn more about their stories and meanings, it's been one of the most rewarding experiences I've ever had.

-by Débora Vitaliano, Student Employee, Spring '22

Learning is Fun!

Something to watch for: A group of three very talented SRJC Web Design students are building a fun and educational app designed for elementary age students to use in the museum. This app will use short lessons and games to enhance our Children's Outreach visits, and enable kids to learn about Native American cultures while they are interacting with the exhibits. We hope to announce a date soon when kids of all ages can come in and give it a try!



Current Hours*

Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays by appointment

*through May 20th, 2022

All SRJC Covid Protocols apply - see website for more information.

Follow Links below this page to visit our website for virtual exhibits, videos, resources, and appointments!