



ARTS DISTRICT

LIBERTY STATION

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Arts District Liberty Station Debuts Open-Air Gallery and Announces 2025 Installations at the Station Artists

-Arts District Liberty Station presents a new Open-Air Gallery, featuring murals, sculptures, and public art, and announces Mischka Ippolita and Beliz Iristay as the selected artists for the 2025 Installations at the Station program-

SAN DIEGO, CA (XXX , 2025) – [Arts District Liberty Station](#) welcomes the community to explore the new [Open-Air Gallery](#), a dynamic tour through Arts District’s collection of murals, sculptures, and captivating public art, available in both English and Spanish. Most of Arts District’s public art is now accessible through the online StoryMap, offering an interactive and engaging way to explore and learn about the installations, including many from the [Installations at the Station](#) program, alongside other remarkable artworks throughout Arts District Liberty Station. As part of Arts District’s [Art in Public Places \(AiPP\)](#) programming, this outdoor gallery will offer an engaging and interactive experience for visitors.

"We wanted to offer the community a fresh, innovative way to experience Arts District like never before," said Lisa Johnson, President and CEO of Arts District Liberty Station. "With the launch of the new Open-Air Gallery and its accompanying bilingual website complete with audio, our public art is now even more accessible for visitors to learn about the creation process and inspiration behind each piece."

Since 2000, Arts District Liberty Station has been a leading force in San Diego’s arts and culture scene, fostering creativity and providing a welcoming space for artists to explore and showcase their work. In 2017, the organization launched *Installations at the Station*, a program designed to celebrate and highlight the vibrant, transborder visual arts community by commissioning both local San Diego and Northern Baja artists—most recently including PANCA, Kaori Fukuyama, Scarlett Baily, and Kline Swonger—to create lasting works that reflect the area’s cultural diversity. These installations, along with many other iconic artworks on display throughout Arts District, are now featured in the online Open-Air Gallery.

To take the tour, visitors can scan the QR code located by the signage of each public art piece. From there, they can explore the piece’s creation process, its inspiration, and discover behind-the-scenes imagery and audio from the artists themselves. The website will then guide visitors to the next closest artwork, encouraging everyone to take an outdoor walking tour through the beautiful art on display. Visitors are encouraged to tag [@artsdistrictlibertystation](#) on Instagram and use the hashtag

#ADLSopenairgallery to share their favorite piece. Now, more than ever before, you can explore the many beautiful installations on display throughout the grounds. The Open-Air Gallery Tour offers the perfect way to engage with the rich public art scene that defines Arts District Liberty Station.

2025 Installations at the Station Projects

In conjunction with the Open-Air Gallery launch, Arts District Liberty Station is proud to announce the selection of two local artists for the 2025 [Installations at the Station](#) program. As part of the Art in Public Places programming, Installations at the Station showcases dynamic, evolving visual art that celebrates the culture and diversity of the San Diego-Baja region through commissioned sculptures, murals, and other public art pieces.

After a thorough selection process, two local artists have been chosen to create site-specific art installations throughout the year. Mischka Ippolita has been selected for the mural track, and Beliz Iristay has been chosen for the multimedia/sculpture track.

Find more information on the 2025 Installations at the Station recipients below:

Mischka Ippolita

[Mischka Ippólita](#) (she/her/they/them) is a multidisciplinary artist and textile designer based in Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico. Ippolita's art combines microbiology with visual expression through *Microbioart*. Influenced by her grandmother and biologist Ernst Haeckel, she continues to push boundaries in both the art and science worlds.

For her Installations at the Station mural, Ippolita will integrate elements of the sea, the local community, and the unique architecture of Liberty Station in a mural titled *Vitral Sunset: A Marine Perspective Across The Border*. Drawing from marine and terrestrial landscapes, architectural features, and microscopic life, the mural explores the border region's complex identity, with a stained-glass aesthetic inspired by the North Chapel's historical windows as noted by NTC Foundation's historical records. The mural's design, featuring vibrant shades of blue and warm sunset tones, offers an abstract yet open-ended interpretation for viewers, inviting them to reflect on the interconnectedness of the land, sea, and people of this region. Ippolita's mural will bring a modern, vibrant interpretation of the area's rich history and its forward-looking artistic narrative, becoming a visual invitation for the community to engage with the evolving cultural landscape of Arts District Liberty Station. The mural will be located behind Barracks 19, home to Wildflour, Apricot Yarn, and a variety of artist studios.

Beliz Iristay

[Beliz Iristay](#) (she/her) is a Turkish American multimedia artist known for blending cultural influences from her Turkish heritage and her experiences living in California and Mexico. After moving to the U.S. from Turkey, she established her ceramic studio, TURKMEX, in Ensenada, Mexico, where she continues to develop her artistic practice. Today, Iristay's work spans various mediums, including ceramics, glass, resin, and video art, and often explores themes of identity, heritage, and cultural exchange.

Iristay's site-specific sculpture, titled *Fuente Fantasma*, reimagines the traditional Tijuana border craft, the *alcancia* (a whimsical plaster bank figure), by incorporating it into a six-tiered fountain structure. The *alcancias*, which are often brightly colored, will be embedded into the fountain, symbolizing the layering of cultural influences between Tijuana and San Diego. The fountain, an architectural symbol of San Diego's Spanish heritage, will serve as a fitting backdrop for this celebration of the region's complex history and its layered social relationships. The installation will engage with the local community and

visitors, inviting them to reflect on the cultural connections and historical significance of the border area. Through *Fuente Fantasma*, Iristay aims to embrace the past while celebrating the present, offering a visual commentary on the ever-evolving socio-cultural dynamics of the region. Iristay's installation will be located along the North Promenade by Barracks 16 and 17, which house La Galleria and Carruth Wine Cellars.

For more information on the Open-Air Gallery or Installations at the Station, please visit www.artsdistrictlibtystation.org.

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About Arts District Liberty Station

Arts District Liberty Station is a premier destination in San Diego dedicated to enriching the city's vibrant arts and cultural scene through the revitalization of 26 historic buildings in the former Naval Training Center. Spanning 100 park-like acres in Liberty Station, Arts District Liberty Station is home to over 100 museums, galleries, artist studios, dance companies, fine dining establishments, creative retail spaces and other organizations. Visitors experience the arts, culture, creativity, and cuisine that are the hallmarks of the San Diego region and enjoy innovative experiences in a historic setting at Arts District Liberty Station that inspire lives for generations to come. www.artsdistrictlibtystation.org