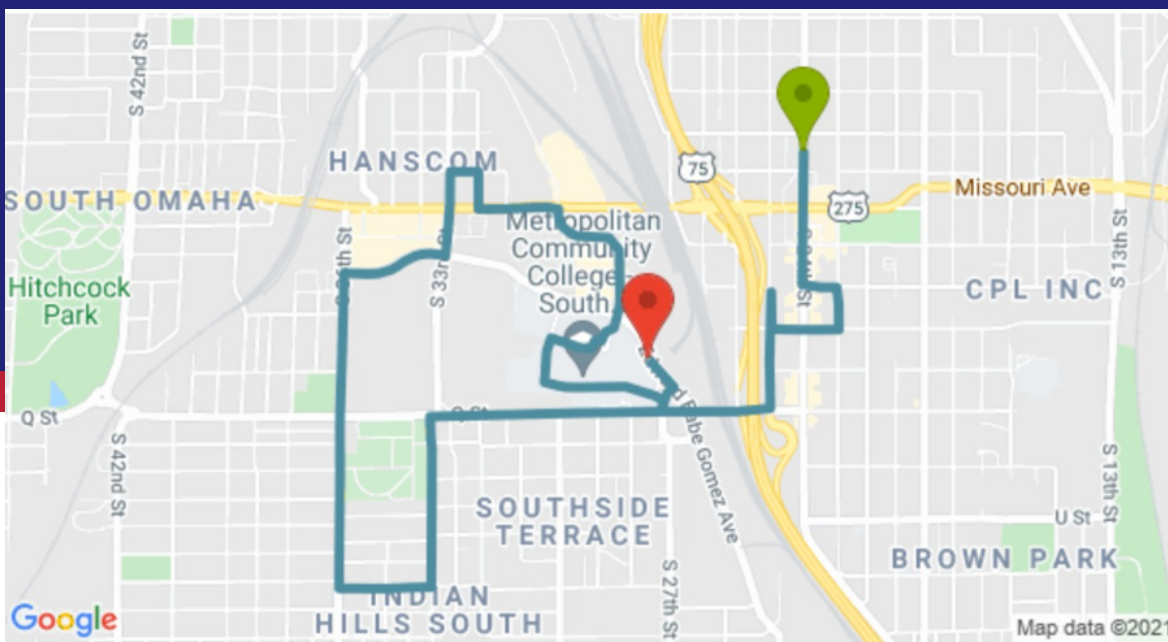


SOUTH OMAHA ROUTE



Classic



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RIDE SPOT



SOUTH OMAHA PUBLIC ART TOUR STOP GUIDE

Stop 1

The Magic City

Mike Girón. Richard Harrison. Rebecca Harrison. Jair Rodriguez. Ian Rodriguez. Aaron Olivo. Rigoberto Barajas-Rivera. Gary Kastrick.

“Magic City” speaks to a story of families migrating for opportunities and safety. The Lead Mike Giron worked with design assistance from Richard Harrison, Rebecca Van Ornam and Jair Rodriguez, and painted with assistance from a team of South Omaha youth. It was completed in 2014 in collaboration with the South Omaha Mural Project. This mural can be found at South 24th and N st on the side of Omaha Family Dental.

The artist met many times with community members to shape the design of the mural to express the area's unique culture as well as the area's past, present, and future. All of the young men that assisted in painting have gone to college or found good trade work. One of them expressed to A Midsummer Mural that the experience from the community art project helped him get a full ride scholarship to College. What you see at this corner now is much like it has always been: a bustling and vibrant local culture where businesses and families celebrate ethnic heritage and a self-defined spirit.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the South Omaha Public Art Tour.

Stop 2

DEL FUTURO AL PASADO

Mexican American Historical Society of the Midlands and Friends. Hugo Zamorano. Mike Girón. Gerardo Vazquez. Ian Rodriguez. Jair Rodriguez. Aaron Olivo. Daniel Castaneda. Richard Harrison. Quintin Slovek. Gary Kastrick.

To create this mural, Mexican American community of South Omaha came together to share what matters to them: who they are, what they stand for, and how they want to be remembered. The artists creating this mural were invited into people's homes to look at scrap book after scrap book and eat great home cooked food. Through their community meetings, some main themes became clear, such as the desire of older generations to make it possible for their little ones to have a better life. Many challenges were put in the way, many were not encouraged to pursue college careers, worship in their own language, even soldiers of Mexican ancestry were not welcomed into veterans groups after serving their country. Artists listened in groups of all ages as grandparents told what working in the packing plants was like and how Mexican immigrants worked against the odds to create places of worship, food pantries, health programs and social gathering places. Quite a lot of individuals stood out as having sacrificed their time and resources to make South Omaha a better place to live.

Del Futuro Al Pasado, the title of the mural means from the future to the past. The elder generations paving the way for the younger generations to have a better life.

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Stop 3

Threads of Life

Mayan Community Mural

Located at the back of Kubat's Pharmacy on 24th and N, this mural was completed in 2019 by Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim and Friends. Follow the fabric through three loops: past, present, and future. Within the stitches you can find stories of the sorrow, strength, and hope of the Mayan Community in South Omaha. This mural coincided with the production of "EPIC" a play written by Ellen Struve that tells the story of local teenagers who paint a mural that connects their lives, ancestry, and the sacred Mayan text, the Popol Vuh. Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim helped to write, perform, design, and paint the stories of their indigenous culture and history.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the South Omaha Public Art Tour.

Stop 4

Waves of Immigration

Metro Community College Mural

The Metro Community College Mural Project at the South Omaha Campus involved students, instructors, muralists, and historians in depicting the trajectory of South Omaha's epic history. Many community meetings were held across the area to hear stories and discuss what was important to the residents. Lead artist Mike Girón and assistant artists Rebecca Harrison and Richard Harrison painted with the assistance of 8 students and several community members.

The story of South Omaha is one of risk, dedication, perseverance, and above all, the grueling labor of families who migrated. This mural is a timepiece- the earth lodge on the left introduces the Umahon, indigenuous people of Omaha, to the Chief theater, a well known location for youth to gather, to the stockyards and what was once called "Magic City ". Honor in labor, education, perseverance and concern for one's neighbor are presented in the small businesses and family atmosphere of South Omaha throughout the neighborhood and business areas of the mural. This Mural can be found on 29th and Edward Babe Gomez, Metro Community South campus.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the South Omaha Public Art Tour.

Stop 5

Slainte

Irish Community Mural

Omaha Irish Cultural Center and Friends. Rebecca Harrison. Quintin Slovek. Richard Harrison. Mike Girón. Gary Kastrick. 2019

For many Irish families, it was a huge uphill climb to find success as many experienced terrible famine and civil war at home. *Slainte*, another work from the South Omaha Mural Project painted by the Omaha Irish Cultural Center and Friends, portrays the supportive Irish Community in South Omaha. The community became very politically engaged to help lift each other up. It was a favorite pastime to attend political events at the neighborhood bar, Duffy's. Many influential people, both local and national can trace their roots to this supportive community. At the heart of many Irish homes were strong women who supported each other and their families with faith, charisma, and courage. This mural embodies the love of good company with music, dancing and a joyous romp!

This the South Omaha Mural Project's first mural to be completed on Polytab fabric in our studio and then installed onto the wall. This allowed them to paint all through the harsh winter months, achieve smoother textures, even brushstrokes, and more detail, because they didn't have to paint directly on rough bricks. The mural was painted in sections and had to be assembled like a puzzle on site. This mural serves two purposes— preservation of the lives and stories of Irish families, and a durable surface to help preserve parts of the crumbling brick facade on Donohue's Pub.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the South Omaha Public Art Tour.

Stop 6

Sesquicentennial Mural

South Omaha Neighbors— Rebecca Harrison. Richard Harrison. Mike Girón. Quin Slovek. Hugo Zamorano. Alondra Gonzalez. Rigoberto Barajas-Rivera. Gary Kastrick.
Located on the side of Supermercado Nuestra Familia.

The Sesquicentennial Mural was created by South Omaha Neighbors Rebecca Harrison, Richard Harrison, Mike Girón, Quin Slovek, Hugo Zamorano, Alondra Gonzalez, Rigoberto Barajas-Rivera, and Gary Kastrick in 2017. It Portrays a great drama about resilience, connection, and growth across Nebraska. On one side, the rural experience of ranching and

farming, where families tend the farm in chorus and neighbors raise barns together. When it's time to bring their livestock to market, there is only one place to go, the bustling "Magic City" of South Omaha. The two worlds are drastically different, yet totally dependent on one another. For Nebraska's 150th anniversary, this mural celebrates the hard workers across the state, who's collaboration feeds the nation.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the South Omaha Public Art Tour.

Stop 7

ZAJEDNICA

Croatian Community Mural

Sts. Peter and Paul Church and Friends. Richard Harrison. Rebecca Harrison. Quintin Slovek. Maggie Heusinkvelt. Gary Kastrick.

In 1917, Blaz Cupic and his neighbors in Goose Hollow raised enough one dollar donations to build St. Peter and Paul Church. Father Zapotnic, the first priest of this parish, is portrayed in the mural writing a customary blessing in chalk above the central arch of the mural, Mary is crowned the queen, the community roasts a lamb, and listens to a Taburica ensemble. The mosaic style of the mural evokes the art of a local tile setter and the Byzantine mosaics of Croatia. Artists used small sponges of different shapes to create a mosaic effect, and to include the entire community in the painting process. In 2017, the church's centennial anniversary ended in the christening of this mural.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the South Omaha Public Art Tour.

Stop 8

SIENINIS PAVEIKSLAS

Lithuanian Community Mural

The colony of Lithuanians, who escaped the Russian invasion and settled in South Omaha, expected to return to their homeland once the occupation ended. They devotedly instilled their language, religious practices, and culture into their children. Over time, most of the Lithuanians were never able to return home and became South Omahans for life. Still, you might find them around the bonfire telling tales of magical maidens turning into trees or of hands held for miles in the name of peace. This mural was designed and painted by the Omaha Lithuanian American Community and Friends: Mike Girón, Richard Harrison, Rebecca Harrison, Hugo Zamorano, Gary Kastrick.

Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet to continue the South Omaha Public Art Tour.

This concludes the North Omaha Public Art Tour. Refer to the RideSpot app or your cue sheet for directions back to a Heartland B-cycle station. Check out Heartland B-cycle's Ride Spot profile for more Public Art Tours across the Metro

