

# explore public art

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In 1929, business leaders invited the world to establish commercial ventures and roots in the City of South San Francisco by installing concrete block letters unabashedly

announcing "South San Francisco — The Industrial City" in the scenic backdrop of Sign Hill. This prominent image and historical artifact, perhaps what could be considered one of South San Francisco's first public art installations, inspired the fledgling agricultural community to evolve into a thriving 21st century metropolitan area.

By its subjective nature public art accomplishes many objectives. Public art beautifies and enhances the landscape. It challenges, questions, and provokes dialogue. It impacts, defines, safeguards, and celebrates public space and the identity of the community. In the City of South San Francisco, each generation uniquely employed the accessibility of public art. From the intriguing historical murals of the Metropolitan Hotel to the scintillating steel lines of the Millennium, this foresight compelled the population to achieve a dynamic transition into contemporary society while still respecting the founding values of the past.

In this new millennium, city leaders, with the overwhelming support of residents and the business community, continue their commitment to seek and encourage the placement of public art in the City of South San Francisco. As the stunning mural Transporting Oneself takes the viewer on a journey through time and space so does this brochure invite the reader on a journey to discover an industrious and resilient community as revealed by its public and private art installations. In this century, the proclamation to the world is, "Welcome, We are building our Community...through Art!"

## A GUIDE TO Art in Public Places

IN SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO



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