

A Chance to Grow

Artist: Mona Caron

November 2018

Paul Moore Park, San Jose, CA / Council District 9

ABOUT THE PROJECT



Artist Mona Caron enlivened a service building in Paul Moore Park with colorful mural inspired by the community, and the flora in the environment. Using the park's community room facility as her canvas, Caron seeks to draw attention to wild strains of plant life in the park through use of botanical images, one native and one invasive species, each of which assertively flank the community room entrance. These images are a continuum of her body of work titled "Weeds" in

which she utilizes wild plants as a metaphor of resilience, an invitation to notice the unseen, and to foster appreciation of things regardless of their origin or status. This botanical theme also includes several tiny seedling images in other locations on the facility walls, positioned low to the ground to engage young park visitors in the artwork. Together, with striping that accentuates the buildings architecture, these elements give the community building a striking and inviting new presence in the park.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Mona Caron is a Swiss-born, San Francisco-based artist, using muralism, illustration and photography in both her art and activism. Her focus is on community-informed and site-specific murals in public space. She has created large-scale murals in the US, Europe, South America and Asia, has delved into stop-motion animation as part of her "WEEDS" project, and co-creates visuals for street actions and outreach with social and environmental movements.



ABOUT THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The City of San José Public Art Program seeks to build community identity by initiating artworks and exhibitions that enhance the civic landscape and experience. Through active community engagement, public art strives to reflect the City's diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future. The Public Art Program is part of the City's Cultural Affairs, a division of the Office of Economic Development. The Public Art Program was established by a 1984 municipal ordinance that provides public art through funding from City capital improvement projects and eligible private development. For further information and photos, please contact the San José Public Art Program.