

# Labor of Our Fruit

## Artist: Patrick Hofmeister

August 2020

3<sup>rd</sup> Street Parking Garage, San José, CA / Council District 6

---

### ABOUT THE PROJECT

Artist Patrick Hofmeister's 4,000 square foot mural *Labor of Our Fruit* magnifies and one of our smallest immigrants to the grand status it deserves and honors this key contributor to the food chain and our survival. The Honeybee parallels the story of the immigrant. Not native to California, the Honeybee was introduced to San José, and thereby California, by Christopher A. Shelton in March 1853. The Honeybee catalyzed California agriculture, and proved how invaluable immigrants, no matter their size, stature, or from where they came, can revolutionize the world for the better. This mural was commissioned by the City of San José Office of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the Department of Transportation Parking Program, San José Downtown Association, Local Color and Harvest Properties.



## **ABOUT THE ARTIST**

Patrick Hofmeister was born and raised in San José, CA. He is a self-taught artist with a background in graffiti art. Having been introduced to art by his grandparents at an early age by visiting the San José Museum of Art, his interest, pursuit and development of his artistic skills did not occur until late adolescence. When he was 17, he started working at a local Hip Hop/skate store and was inspired to try his hand at graffiti. At the age of 20 he found himself homeless which led to an opportunity: he was referred to the Bill Wilson Center's (BWC) Transitional Housing Program where he lived for a year while learning life skills and getting his life on track. While there he was encouraged to start painting. The BWC bought him his first easel and paint set and he never looked back. He has gone through many artistic styles but has always been drawn to surrealism.

## **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.

