

# XO

Artist: Laura Kimpton and Jeff Schomberg

2022

San José Mineta International Airport, 1700 Airport Blvd., San José, CA 95110 / Council District 6

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

Located outside San José Mineta International Airport's Terminal B, near the curbside passenger drop off area, "XO" is composed of 12-foot-tall aluminum letters. Together, the letters "x" and "o" stand as a contemporary communication for "hugs" and "kisses." The symbol, used as a salutation on letters, emails, and text messages, is a lighthearted way of expressing affection, sincerity, and friendship. The sculptural letterforms are perforated with bird cutouts. The birds, a key aspect of artists' work, are visual symbols for flight, and as an offering in support of safe air travel.



The artwork is intended to be an iconic love letter to the community and is accessible to travelers as a photographic opportunity memorializing their journey. At night, the sculpture is internally illuminated with changing colors.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Kimpton and Schomberg's Monumental Words have been displayed at the Sundance Film Festival, the Life is Beautiful festival, the TED Conference, and the University of California Riverside. The Venetian in Las Vegas purchased a LOVE sculpture for their two-story waterfall atrium. The Monumental Word installations have also been purchased by the Paradise Ridge Winery in Santa Rosa, California as part of their permanent collection, and have been purchased for several prominent private collections across the country. Prior to the permanent installation at the San José Mineta International Airport, XO was temporarily displayed at Burningman, and San José City Hall.

## 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. Through active community engagement, public art strives to reflect the City's diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future.

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The Public Art Program is part of the City’s Office of 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.



Office of Cultural Affairs **Public Art Program**  
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