



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NELDA STUDIOS AND AUSTIN PBS
PREMIERE BROADCAST SERIES, *MURALING AUSTIN*,
A JOURNEY INTO THE VIBRANT MURALS OF AUSTIN**

The three-part documentary series premiering on Austin PBS at 7:30 p.m. on March 24th features some of Austin's iconic murals and the artists, organizers, and activists behind them.

The series profiles muralists Shepard Fairey, Sandra Chevrier, Ruben Esquivel, NIZ, ULOANG, Sadé Channell Lawson, Zuzu, Soledad Fernandez-Whitechurch, and DAAS.

AUSTIN, TX (February 2023) – Look up in Austin, Texas – art is everywhere. From fences with simple messages to walls with towering icons, murals are transforming spaces, giving voice to causes, and impacting communities. Murals spring up from the imaginations of street artists and grassroots leaders. They also arise from organizations that are financing and commissioning murals citywide. [Muraling Austin](#) dives into the dynamic and impactful public art of this capital city. Meet the artists. Watch them create. Hear from the organizers. Take in the colorful stories behind the murals.

[Nelda Studios](#), an innovative Austin-based company with a mission to amplify creativity and the arts, presents a three-part documentary series, *Muraling Austin*, premiering on **Austin PBS**, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 24, 2023, on 18.1. *Muraling Austin* journeys into some of Austin's most inspiring public murals and profiles the artists and activists who made them. From large-scale installations to intimate painted walls, these murals celebrate people (Frida Kahlo, Angela Davis); honor histories (19th Amendment, Austin Black Senators baseball team); and transform spaces (Rosewood Park, the Pan American Recreation Center).

Each 30-minute episode features murals, both public and private, that are gracing the walls and surfaces of Austin — with behind-the-scenes stories of the artists who created them, the organizers who made them possible, and the histories they are bringing to light.

Viewers can explore the murals of Austin through the following episodes:

- “Pride of Place” premieres at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 24th, and showcases the national and community changemakers who helmed efforts to realize Austin's most inspiring murals, including *The Beauty of Liberty and Equality* and the Bolm Road fence murals.
- “Women Rising” airs at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 31st, and features the images of women rising on the walls of Austin – from murals honoring accomplished artists and activists to spiritual icons with messages of female empowerment. Meet the artists driven to paint these women.

- “Big, Bright & Bold” airs at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 7th, and highlights the vibrant contemporary murals that are bursting onto public spaces throughout Austin. Leap into the art and meet the artists who are energizing this capital city’s urban architecture.

“We are excited to launch a series that celebrates the phenomenal public art in Austin. As supporters of Austin’s creative community, we were drawn to the incredible and moving stories behind these murals and the artists who created them,” said **Nelda Buckman, Founder of Nelda Studios and Executive Producer of *Muraling Austin***. “There’s no better partner for this project than Austin PBS, a highly respected community voice that has reflected the pulse of Austin for over 60 years.”

Murals and artists featured in the series include: *The Beauty of Liberty and Equality* (Sandra Chevrier, Shepard Fairey); *Protectors of the Red Bluff* (Ruben Esquivel); The Pillars Project: Our History Our Trail (Samara Barks, Amado Castillo III, Chroma Collective, Will Hatch Crosby, Ruben Esquivel, Anabel Gómez, Sadé Channell Lawson, Armando Martinez, Raymond “Rage” Mendoza, J. Muzacz, Carmen Rangel, Kendrick Rudolph, Reji Thomas, Serena Tijerina, Lakeem Wilson); *Reconnect Yourself* (NIZ), *Viva la Vida* (ULOANG); *It’s Okay Not to Be Okay* (Sadé Channell Lawson); *Paradise Found* (Zuzu); *Virtual Hike* (Soledad Fernandez-Whitechurch); and *Where the Wildflowers Grow* (DAAS).

"Through feedback and listening, we know our viewers are very interested in Austin’s art and culture, which is why Austin PBS is so excited to bring *Muraling Austin* to broadcast and streaming audiences. Our community is full of stories that deserve to be told, and we rely on storytellers like Nelda Studios to help us achieve that mission," said **Sara Robertson, Chief Content Officer, Austin PBS**.

“Muraling has been a powerful form of human expression for tens of thousands of years. Austin has its own rich history of murals and a vibrant community of artists and organizers that go along with that. This three-part series brings to light some of Austin's most compelling mural art and the people and the stories behind it,” said **Natasha Davison, Director and Producer of *Muraling Austin***.

Muraling Austin is a production of Nelda Studios. It is directed and produced by Natasha Davison and executive produced by Anne Zeiser and Nelda Buckman. The series is narrated by award-winning actress Franchelle Dorn. To preview the show and explore the murals and artists, visit MuralingAustin.com.

ABOUT AUSTIN PBS:

Austin PBS serves as a bridge to the Central Texas community, providing essential programming and services to 3 million people in more than 20 counties. Austin PBS showcases PBS’s family-friendly national programming and creates innovative local content that reflects and celebrates Austin through programs like Central Texas Gardener and Austin City Limits. With digital-first initiatives like Decibel and ATX Together, Austin PBS is committed to addressing community issues through first-person storytelling and meaningful dialogue. Leveraging the power of media across platforms and on the ground in the community, Austin PBS is also helping address critical needs in early education and advancing learning in Central Texas. Find out more at austinpbs.org.

ABOUT NELDA STUDIOS:

Nelda Studios, founded by Karl and Nelda Buckman, is a media company and philanthropic organization that amplifies creativity and the arts. The Austin-based studio advances this mission through original media productions, philanthropic support of the arts, and community initiatives and events. Signature

media productions include Tony-nominated *The Prom*, original musical *Half Time*, television series *Muraling Austin*, and several feature documentary films in development. In addition, Nelda Studios has partnered with The University of Texas at Austin to found the Buckman Center, a future collaboration space for creatives, designers, and technologists at the School of Design and Creative Technologies. Nelda Studios sparks creativity and provides inspiration and opportunity for current and future generations. For more information, see neldastudios.com.

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