



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

**PRESS RELEASE
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Commission for Arts and Culture and La Maestra Community Health Centers Dedicate New Public Artwork in City Heights

[SAN DIEGO, CA] On Tuesday, March 12, 2013 the City of San Diego (City) Commission for Arts and Culture (Commission) joined La Maestra Community Health Centers in City Heights to dedicate a new public artwork to the citizens of San Diego. The artwork, by Lynn Susholtz, is titled *Grandmother's Kitchen/Grandfather's Garden* and is a wall mounted sculpture that serves as a digital cookbook, a visual poem and a cultural archive of the City Heights neighborhood. The photography, video and text featured in this wall-mounted sculpture were collected by the artist from the residents of City Heights and the staff of La Maestra Community Health Center to present the diversity of the neighborhood through shared experiences and culturally specific stories of food. Susholtz was selected through a competition among U.S. artists by a panel of San Diego community members appointed by the Commission to create an original artwork documenting the community of City Heights. Funding for the artwork was donated to the City by the late French artist Niki de St. Phalle, who moved to San Diego in 1994 and spent eight years creating and installing her iconic sculptures around San Diego County. Witnessing the geographical and social bifurcation of the City Heights neighborhood during the construction of Interstate 15, de St. Phalle developed a particular concern about the wellbeing of the community in this area of San Diego. She envisioned public art as a healing force for the neighborhood.

The artwork is on view to the public at the La Maestra Community Health Center, City Heights, 4060 Fairmount Avenue, San Diego 92105, Floor 3, Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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The City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City Council on promoting, encouraging and increasing support for the region's artistic and cultural assets, integrating arts and culture into community life and showcasing San Diego as an international tourist destination.

The City, through the Commission, commissions and exhibits original artworks to provide meaningful aesthetic and cultural experiences for San Diego's residents and visitors. The City collects artworks that demonstrate the creativity and innovation practiced in the arts; that stimulate discussion and the exchange of ideas; that balance urbanization and development with humanizing elements; that honor the history and heritage of San Diego and its citizens; and/or that reflect the character and diversity of San Diego's region while incorporating a global perspective.