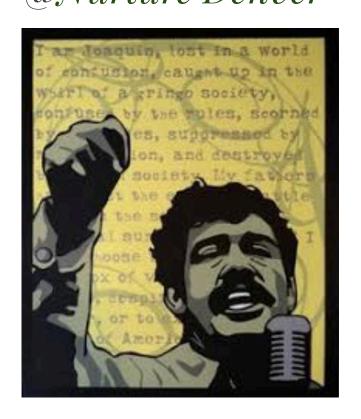
Community Gathering *@Nurture Denver*



North Side Art Show
June 18th, 2021 4:30-6:30pm
2949 N. Federal Blvd., Denver, CO
Celebrating Chicano Muralists
of North Denver

By Neena Expressions, Community Arts Producer

Table of Contents/ Title/ <u>Initial Seed/</u> Hypothesis/ Contextual Metaphors/ Purpose/ Process/ Dialogic Communication/ Participants/ AV/ Stories/ Parcour/ Theory/ Context/ Reflections/ Curated by/

Sponsored by/

Initial Seed/

In April 2021, I visited 2949 N. Federal Blvd., in Denver Colorado, after 4 years. The building used to be Escuela Tlatelolco Centro de Estudios for 26 years, the school where I taught from 2002-2017. The school was founded by human rights activist Corky Gonzales, and run by his daughter, Nita Gonzales.

The building is now called Nurture Denver, a wellness center/cafe offering "wellness for the whole human". I received a tour from the event planner, Hanna. I told her I used to be a teacher at Escuela and am now a performance artist. Hanna graciously invited me to do performance events at the space. I felt honored at the thought of doing an event at the place that was like my second home for so many years. While on the building tour Hanna told me about frustration coming from the original North Side community, and not knowing what to do about it. I thought about this for a long time. I also had feelings of frustration and sadness about the murals that were no longer on the building, and the community that was no longer together.

A week later I met with Hanna and Nikki, a former co-founder of Nurture Denver. We talked about the Chicano murals that used to be in, on, and around the building, and the extreme sadness that the community experienced after everything disappeared. People from the community didn't have a chance to express their feelings.

We decided to collaborate on an event, inviting the Escuela community and Chicano muralists together to celebrate with art, poetry, and storytelling.

I had spent 15 years teaching in the intense, year round school. My son Solace was a student at Escuela for 9 years. Our school was a treasure of Denver; it encompassed education, social justice and cultural empowerment. Carlota Espinoza's mural greeted me every morning before I went in to see the students. When Escuela closed in 2017, our close knit community was immediately disbanded. In addition, the artistic expressions that nourished staff and students every day had literally been erased. *(Please note: this erasure happened before Nurture Denver bought the property).

Art is the heart and soul of a community. As the years passed, I felt a sense of grief and longing every time I drove by Speer and Federal, or talked about our school and its noble mission and legacy.

Hypothesis/

My inquiry pertains to transformation and healing: How do we connect art and storytelling with ritual and ceremony, to begin to heal communal wounds?

Contextual Metaphors/

connection ~ healing ~ community ~ transformation ~ ritual ~ ceremony ~ language reclamation

Purpose/

- 1. To Create a safe space for healing expressions that have been silenced by oppression and gentrification
- 2. To highlight the vibrant Chicano muralists of North Denver
- 3. To create transformation experiences through meditation, art and poetry

Goals:

I hope to create a safe space of connection and love, while raising awareness and sensitivity to the struggles the community faces, from different perspectives and viewpoints.

Together we cry,

Together we heal,

Together we grow

Intent as an artist

I invite intuition, imagination, and prayer to guide my practice, and plan to document the process, using an interdisciplinary approach, that includes live presentation, writing, photography, visual art, audio and film.

In my personal life, I am reclaiming my voice, and my sovereignty by deprogramming from colonization, in my own way, by incorporating Urdu language reclamation into my artistic repertoire. I love to share experiences of healing and transformation within a community setting.

Process/

Artistic - My intent is to invite muralists, poets, educators, students and residents of North Denver and surrounding areas, to show, discuss and teach about their passions and life experiences. I welcome listeners and audience members to engage in self reflective interpretation. I encourage emotional depth among human beings sharing this human experience.

Therapeutic - My larger goal is to dialogue ways in which we may engage social development as a whole, using performance, art and language to share expressions intended to be understood by everyone.

Dialogic Communication/

I wish to create a space of connection, sharing, and meaningful interactions.

Come With Me ...

ART SHOW & HEALING EXPRESSIONS

PARTICIPANTS:

BOBBY MAGEE LOPEZ ~ CARLOTA ESPINOZA

CEE MARTINEZ~ CORINNE BEE BOP

DAVID GARCIA ~ DINO GARCIA-CASTELLANO

JASON CABRAL~ JAVIER HOLLINES

JAVIER FLORES~ JAY MICHAEL JARAMILLO

JERRY JARAMILLO ~ JOHN MAUSER

NORVAN MASSEY ~ NITA GONZALES

NURTURE DENVER ~ RAMON DEL CASTILLO

RAVEN SPEAKS ~ REBA YEPES

ROCKART PRODUCTIONS ~ ARLETTE LUCERO

STEVON LUCERO ~ SUNNYSIDE SALSA

UC SEPIA

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT NEENA
NEENAEXPRESSIONS@GMAIL.COM
CALL OR TEXT 720-314-0616

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE ARTISTS WHO PAINTED BEAUTIFUL MURALS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF ESCUELA TLATELOLCO, INCLUDING CARLOTA ESPINOZA AND JOAQUIN GONZALES JR.

FLYER ARTWORK BY CARLOTA ESPINOZA ~ FLYER DESIGN BY NEENA EXPRESSIONS

AV/

The first Community Gathering in 2021 consisted of an art show and speaking engagement that emphasized healing expressions. Participants brought artwork to show and/or sell, and some participants spoke at the gathering. The intention was to encourage folks to speak out about their feelings regarding the school closure, gentrification, etc. Each speaker was informative, interesting and spoke from their heart. The participants were people that I knew from Escuela Tlatelolco, the Santa Fe Arts District, or had learned about from the work of Lucha Martinez de la Luna at the Chicano Murals Project, and an article I read in 303 magazine, written by Corinne Anderson.

Chicano Murals Project

Denver's Chicano Culture

Community Gathering, Neena Expressions (2021)

Video link: CG 2021 Introduction



Introduction to the Community Gathering

Neena Expressions, Cultural Arts Producer, former educator of Escuela Tlatelolco

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1664x1111, Photo by John Mauser

As the initiator of this event I began with an introduction and land acknowledgment. Please see below in "context" for more information about my art practice, Neena Expressions. Neena Expressions

Community Gathering, Tishram Alaripu (2021)

Video link: CG 2021 RSPA



Performing Bharatnatyam invocational dance

Raven Speaks, Performance artist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1664, Photo by John Mauser

I then proceeded the event with a traditional invocational South Indian dance, Tishram Alaripu, followed by an Urdu poem I wrote, "دن اور رات" <u>Raven Speaks</u>

Community Gathering, Carlota Espinoza (2021)

Video link: <u>CG 2021 Carlota Espinoza</u>



Carlota Espinoza speaking at the first community gathering

Carlota Espinoza, Muralist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1664, Photo by John Mauser

Carlota spoke next and presented an oil painting of Corky Gonzales that she created for the event! <u>Carlota Espinoza</u>

Community Gathering, Ramon del Castillo (2021)

Video link: CG 2021 Ramon del Castillo



Ramon del Castillo sharing poetry at the first community gathering

Ramon del Castillo, Educator, Poet

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1389, Photo by John Mauser

Ramon presented two amazing poems, one that honored Carlota Espinoza and one that honored Corky Gonzales. <u>Ramon del Castillo</u>

Community Gathering, Nita Gonzales (2021)

Video link: CG 2021 Nita Gonzales



Nita Gonzales speaking at the first Community Gathering

Nita Gonzales, Educator, activist, former principal of Escuela Tlatelolco

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1665x1111, Photo by John Mauser

Nita Gonzales spoke at the gathering and expressed how she felt a great deal of healing take place by being there. Although the feeling of being at the former Escuela felt painful, sad and frustrating, Nita's speech was a powerful example of why this gathering feels healing for people who need a safe space for expression. Nita Gonzales

Community Gathering, Javier Hollines (2021)



Javier Hollines speaking at the first Community Gathering

Javier Hollines, civil engineer, former Escuela student

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1664

Photo by John Mauser

Javier is one of my former students of Escuela Tlatelolco. He spoke about the gentrification that is taking place in the neighborhood where he lives and where the school used to be. He clearly wants to contribute to his community and is doing so by being a participant of this gathering.

Community Gathering, Bobby Magee Lopez (2021)

Video link: <u>Interview with Bobby Magee Lopez</u>



Bobby Magee Lopez speaking at the first Community Gathering

Bobby Magee Lopez, muralist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1389

Photo by John Mauser

Bobby is a muralist in Denver and nationally. His talk motivated folks at the gathering to begin to change narratives around mutualism and create new narratives that communities could all be a part of, which would minimize the impact of mural erasure. Although there is no video footage of Bobby speaking at the gathering, he graciously participated in an interview after the gathering that highlights many of his innovative ideas. Bobby Magee Lopez

Community Gathering, Jerry & Jay Jaramillo (2021)

Video link: <u>CG 2021 Jerry & Jay Jaramillo</u>



Jerry & Jay Jaramillo speaking at the first Community Gathering

Jerry Jaramillo, Jay Jaramillo, muralists

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1664x1111

Photo by John Mauser

Jerry and Jay are a father and son duo of muralists in Denver. Jerry was one of the original Chicano muralists in Denver and taught his son painting. Jay describes his father's murals as his siblings and both father and son appreciate the support they receive from the community. Although one of Jerry's community murals (Primavera) was erased a few years ago, it's been re-created and lives at their residence. Jerry Jaramillo

Community Gathering, David Ocelotl Garcia (2021)

Video link: <u>CG 2021 David Ocelotl Garcia</u>



David Ocelotl Garcia speaking at the first Community Gathering

David Ocelotl Garcia, muralist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1665, Photo by John Mauser

David is a muralist in Denver. David is working on some local city funded projects, which speaks to the willingness of Denver and local government to ensure that Chicano artwork remains part of our culture. David has also had some murals erased, notably the one on 8th and Federal, called "Huitzlipotchtli." Efforts are being made to undo the distress that was caused to the community when the mural was whitewashed. Stay tuned for more information about this process. <u>David Ocelotl Garcia</u>

Community Gathering, Corinne Bee Bop (2021)



Corinne Bee Bop speaking at the first Community Gathering

Corinne Bee Bop, muralist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1386, Photo by John Mauser

Corrine is a muralist who is somewhat new to Denver and her studio resides at the Santa Fe Arts District. She has made a great impact on murallism here in Denver as her works speak to current social issues in a very powerful way. Corinne Bee Bop

Community Gathering, Dino Garcia-Castellano (2021)

Video link: <u>CG 2021 Dino Garcia-Castellano</u>



Dino Garcia Castellano speaking at the first Community Gathering

Dino Garcia-Castellano, visual artist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1388, Photo by John Mauser

Dino is a member of the Denver Art Society. He described the West side Walkout of 1969, and his powerful experience being a young child in a school that didn't treat him well. Many people at the gathering didn't know about the walk out and his speech gave people a better perspective of why the walkout was necessary. Dino Garcia-Castellano

Community Gathering, Javier Flores (2021)

Video link: CG 2021 Javier Flores



Dino Garcia Castellano speaking at the first Community Gathering

Dino Garcia-Castellano, visual artist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1388, Photo by John Mauser

Javier Flores is a visual artist in Denver, Colorado. His talk at the gathering entailed a description about the history of Chicano murallism. He prepared a slideshow presentation, which will be available online at a later date. <u>Javier Flores</u>

Community Gathering, Hailey Vaughan (2021)



Hailey Vaughan speaking at the first Community Gathering

Hailey Vaughan, bar manager, Nurture

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1111x1389,

Photo by John Mauser

Haley Vaughan is the bar manager at Nurture and was gracious to co-host the gathering with us. It was great to hear her perspective about the gathering as a staff person at Nurture, and not knowing about the history of the building.

Community Gathering, Cee Martinez (2021)



Cee Martinez, Dino Garcia-Castellano, Carlota Espinoza, painting of Corky Gonzales (from left to right),at the first Community Gathering

Cee Martinez, interdisciplinary artist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 749x819

Original photo by John Mauser, edited by Neenaexp

Cee is an interdisciplinary artist who is a member of Denver Art Society at the Santa Fe Arts district. She brought interesting artwork and copies of her book to sell at the art show. She also introduced me to Dino and Frank, so thank you Cee! <u>Cee Martinez</u>

Community Gathering, Jason Cabral (2021)



Jason Cabral, Brian Chavez, Sarah Struhbar, (from left to right), at the first Community Gathering Jason Cabral, entrepreneur, interdisciplinary artist

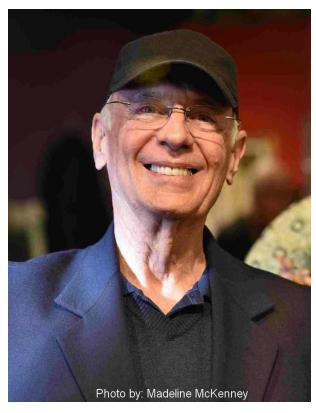
June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 749x819

Original photo by John Mauser, edited by Neenaexp

Jason is a former student of Escuela Tlatelolco. He's a great artist in his own right and was very encouraging towards my idea of the Community Gathering. While at the gathering, Jason was working on a live painting called "Mask of Tlaloc."

Community Gathering, John Mauser (2021)



Bio "For me, photography began at age 5, watching images magically appear on paper in chemical trays. By age 7, I took photos with any camera I could get my hands on. Fast forward, my camera traveled with me through the Army Signal Corps and 42 years in the corporate world. In 2013 I discovered the Art District on Santa Fe, shooting artists at work, head shots, hand shots while painting, their models, all the time providing copies of my work to them and getting feedback on composition and color. In 2018 I was invited to shoot Carol Mier Fashions' clothing on models. That fashion shoot was the seed that grew into Art Fashion Photography in 2020 with a focus on shooting paint/visual artists, entertainers, bakers, fashion designers or simply, "creators". How'd the first Carol Mier Fashion shoot go? I was so comfortable shooting headshots, I forgot to shoot most of the clothing. Carol stuck with me, giving me opportunities and solid input on how to shoot fashion and to listen to the client and give them the fit, finish, color and mood

John Mauser, photographer Denver, CO

Digital image 990x1237

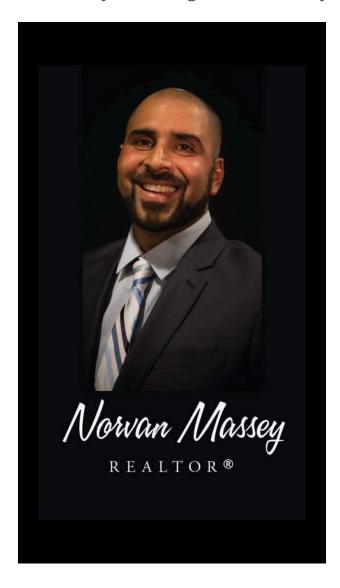
Photo by Madeline McKenney

John is a gifted photographer that I met at Santa Fe Arts District. He has taken many pictures of my movement art on Santa Fe Dr. when I've performed at First Friday events at Carol Mier's Fashion boutique on 8th and Santa Fe.

desired."

Carol Mier Fashion

Community Gathering, Norvan Massey (2021)



Norvan Massey, event producer, real estate agent

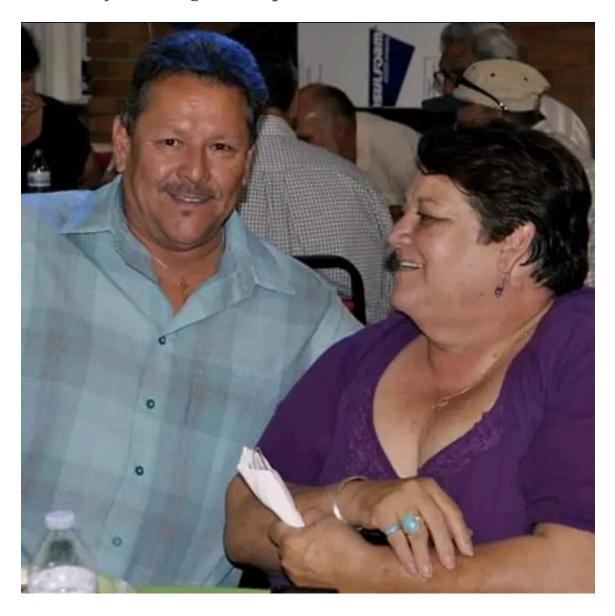
Denver, CO

Digital image 750x1334

Photo by Akshay Pradhan Photography

Norvan is my brother and has helped with almost all of Neena Expressions events. He runs an entertainment call company called Norvan Entertainment, and is also a licensed real estate agent in Colorado. <u>Norvan Entertainment</u>

Community Gathering, Reba Yepes (2021)



Ed Yepes, Reba Yepes, (from left to right)

Reba Yepes, educator/ artist

Denver, CO

Digital image 750x747

Photo by Reba Yepes

Ms Reba is an artist/educator that used to be an art teacher in my classroom when I taught at Escuela Tlatelolco. She now makes and sells her own jewelry, using precious stones and metals.

Community Gathering, Rockart Productions (2021)



Frank Guerrero creating video at the first Community Gathering
Frank Guerrero, Interdisciplinary artist, Rockart Productions
June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO
Digital image 1111x1389
Photo by John Mauser

Frank Guerrero created a live video for the Community Gathering. He is an interdisciplinary artist. He creates photos, videos, and actual "rock" art. He's one of the main photographers of the Lowrider show in Denver. <u>Rockart Productions</u>

Community Gathering, Sunnyside Salsa (2021)



Jerry Jaramillo, Valerie Martinez Sandoval, Alexiana Sandoval, Nick "Nino" Sandoval at the first Community Gathering

Nick Sandoval, Jack of all trades/salsa maker, Nick Sandoval

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1389x1111

Photo by John Mauser

Sunnyside salsa features Denver Chicano murals on their salsa labels. What a great way to market and celebrate Denver's Chicano muralists! <u>Sunnyside Salsa</u>

Community Gathering, UC Sepia (2021)



UC Sepia at the first Community Gathering

UC Sepia, muralist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 266x684

Photo by John Mauser, edited by Neenaexp

UC Sepia is a muralist in Denver. She creates vivid, otherworldly characters on walls. These characters emerge from her imagination. Her style is distinctive and endearing.

UC Sepia

Community Gathering, Arlette Lucero (2021)



Arlette Lucero at the first Community Gathering

Arlette Lucero, muralist

June 18, 2021, Nurture, Denver, CO

Digital image 1664x1111

Photo by John Mauser

Arlette Lucero is a muralist in Denver. She and her husband, Stephon Lucero, have been pioneers in the mural community. Arlette brought beautiful artwork to sell at the community gathering. <u>Arlette Lucero</u>

Stories/

Escuela Tlatelolco One of the main inspirations for the Gathering. Escuela Tlatelolco was the school where I had worked for 15+ years. The Escuela was home for many immigrant families as well as for students who didn't fit into any other schools. So many rituals we had at the school were different from anything students had experienced anywhere else. Our community room served as a place for lunch gatherings hosting international guests, political activism as well as regular school meetings and staff retreats. (Include video of me and Nita)

Carlota Espinoza Carlota's mural tribute to Corky Gonzales Grace the entrance to the school for 26 years and served as a powerful symbol to the northside community premier was also inspired also inspired many other murals inside and outside the entire building of a square look like they look up Escuela it's like they will go in compass artistic expression with its curriculum so students could take part in many forms of artistic expression to aid in their growth and development.

Nita Gonzales Nita Gonzalez was the principal and CEO of Escuela thought they look up at 49 years she got it staff and families in a proactive direction that allowed people to learn about our own cultures as well as pay respect to the cultures of others part of the curriculum that was taught to students included direct activism for instance on MLK day the entire school would attend them a raid March with our school banner in solidarity with the African-American community and come back to the school and study makes kids and teach students about the struggle of the civil rights movement. An international human rights day the students would go to the Civic Center Park and be a part of the citywide gatherings that took place. Our choir would usually sing at these events . students learn to think critically, engage in civic duty and felt that they were making a difference in the community unity in unison and needed to encourage me to teach choir singing dance and performance art.

Unity in Unison

Nita encouraged me to teach choir singing dance and performance art I created unity in unison as a means of expression for the elementary students and actually at some point the preschool and upper school join in as well unity in unison sang songs that taught students about social justice human rights and different cultures mostly students learn songs from their own cultural heritage and indigenous roots what I love most about unity in unison was that students who were struggling readers could learn to read much

easier by reading lyrics also students were able to move quite a bit during the school day which helped active students to be able to focus on things like math, reading, and activities that required higher levels of concentration.

Parcour/

Journey, After the 2021 gathering experience I remember feeling completely exhausted and got sick for a couple weeks which is pretty out of the ordinary I believe it was a calm culmination of all the stress I had accumulated in the short time I had to prepare for the gathering as well as the large number of participants that responded to the gathering I mentioned this because one of the main goals of this event was to create a space for healing and transformation and that includes myself the biggest take away from the first gatherings that there was unanimous interest in having another gathering like this one. I also remembered that when I had worked at Escuela Tlatelolco I worked so much and with so much intensity that I didn't feel I could ever relax or take a sick day I went into the 2021 community gathering with that same energy as I had before and I think that possibly being in the Service industry for so long as an educator and prior to that as a server in a restaurant I was just used to going on autopilot for so long and not stopping to take care of personal needs like rest and relaxation so with that said I left the gathering alone for several months and focused on other things projects that help me to balance my life. as well as I need to do things differently for the next gathering so that I could remain well throughout the process

Theory/

Escuela Tlatelolco/

The Escuela Tlatelolco Centro de Estudios was founded by Corky Gonzales, initiated by the struggle of the Chicano Movement in the 60's. His daughter, Nita, nurtured the school in a way that inspired direct activism from students, staff and families. The school closed in 2017 after 46 hardworking years. The Escuela community was separated and the murals inside and outside the building were erased. Many people felt a sense of sadness and grief because the artwork was symbolic and meaningful to many Denver residents. The school was located on Speer and Federal Blvd., for 26 years.

Chicano Muralism/

Chicano muralism began in the 1960's in response to the need for more cultural awareness in the barrios of Southwest U.S. Culturally rich images were painted on various types of public buildings, giving Mexican Americans greater identity to their indigenous roots. The Chicano Movement paved the way for this creative and colorful form of activism.

Nurture Denver/

Nurture Denver's intention is "wellness for the whole human" for its patrons and community. Nurture Denver's vision feels inclusive, warm and inviting, while simultaneously bringing wellness to a higher level of conscious awareness and accessibility. Nurture Denver now resides where Escuela Tlatelolco used to reside. Although Nurture had nothing to do with the erasure of the Escuela murals, they want to support the efforts of remembrance and inclusion. An interactive mural will be created at the event, by former Escuela students, which will be featured at Nurture Denver as a recognition of the community that was once there.

Context/

Neena Expressions/

Neena studied Chicano muralists as her undergraduate thesis at UCD. She worked at Escuela Tlatelolco from 2002-2017. After the school closed, she obtained her MFA-IA in Performance Art Education in 2019 from Goddard College. She has now begun working in the capacity of healing through artistic expressions. The vision of this project comes from her intent as an artist. She would like to begin her art practice in a community setting, to help raise awareness and sensitivity to the struggles the community faces, from different perspectives and viewpoints.

This project brings attention to a communal wound that needs attention and acknowledgement. Sharing stories of remembrance in a safe space begins the process of healing. This project is very special to Neena because of her love of Escuela, and the artistic murals in Denver.

I'm a performance artist and educator. I received my undergraduate degree in

International Affairs, with a minor in Spanish, Political Science and Fine Art, from the University of Colorado at Denver. My final undergraduate thesis was a photojournalistic essay documenting Chicano muralists of Denver. Carlota Espinoza was one of the artists I studied for my undergraduate thesis. I also studied artists like Carlos Fresquez, Tony Ortega, Leo Tanguma, and Lalo Delgado.

After graduating, I stayed at home for 2 years with my newborn son, Solace. I then became a teacher at Escuela Tlatelolco Centro de Estudios, in North Denver. Carlota Espinoza's mural was located in the front of the building. This synchronistic moment outlined my career for the next 15 years. I utilized all parts of my undergraduate degree while working at Escuela Tlatelolco.

I taught academics, along with performance and choir, in the vibrant, bilingual Montessori classroom, Casa Tolteca, housed in the Escuela. This experience shaped my perception as an artist of life. Through observing children's innate abilities to lovingly express, I learned that there is more involved with communication than words on a page or spoken aloud.

After the school closed in 2017, my colleagues, students and I were separated from each other. Students had to find other schools, and staff had to find other means of work. At this turning point, I obtained my MFA-IA degree in Performance Art Education from Goddard College, in Port Townsend, Washington. My art practice focuses on healing from generational trauma through movement, art and storytelling.

My first art project has brought me back to the building that used to be Escuela, to begin the journey of healing expressions. My hope is that ongoing honest dialogues will bring about greater understanding, which will eventually heal the hearts of our community members. I believe that sharing art and love can heal us from the sadness of displacement, so I invited artists to join in this event.

Community Engagement/

Nurture Denver's intention is "wellness for the whole human" for its patrons and community. This is why I felt a resonance to this collaboration. I strongly believe in the incorporation of wellness practices as a part of healing the body, mind, heart and soul. I feel much gratitude to Nurture Denver for creating a vision that feels inclusive, warm and inviting, while simultaneously bringing wellness to a higher level of conscious awareness and accessibility.

Reflections/

Testimonials

"The event was colorful, well organized and full of Chicana/o cultural expressions. The ambience you created was masterful and your opening statements and presentation were excellent. I enjoyed the many local artists who displayed their work. I know that many times people of color do not have the exposé that many other artists have. Your event promoted art that can compete with any other art that exists. We need to continue this for new artists, however there was also a balance with the old Veteranas/os like myself to be included. On a personal note I don't want to be forgotten. That has happened in the past. I would be honored to attend next year. I would like to do a short Teatro titled "King Heroin." The structure of the event was appropriate: an open mic for spoken word always challenges the upcoming spoken word artist to step into a different reality. Youth leadership is crucial to our struggle." Ramon del Castillo

"It was well planned and executed. I believe it helped bond the community even more." John Mauser

Curated by/

Neena Expressions



Neena Expressions Logo
Digital image 960x727
Photo by Jaize

Sponsored by/

Nurture Denver



Nurture Logo
Digital image 552x350
Photo by Nurture

philanthropists/

Jeanette and Shirley Hardie, New York