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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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City Unveils Artistic Buses Wraps Featuring Downtown Arts District Wraps Invite Community to Meet Up Downtown

EL PASO, Texas — The Museums and Cultural Affairs Department (MCAD) and Sun Metro have collaborated on a new marketing campaign, *Meet Me in the Arts District*, to draw people back to visit and spend time in Downtown El Paso.

Two Sun Metro buses have been wrapped with artwork, created by local artists and featuring the Downtown Arts District, a high-quality arts and entertainment area. The artist-led campaign is funded through the Texas Commission on the Arts Cultural Districts Program.

Both buses, which are now in circulation, will be on static display at 5:30 p.m. today, Thursday, July 29, on Franklin Street (in front of the El Paso Museum of History) as part of *Last Thursdays*, a monthly entertainment series.

The local artists who created the designs, Lucero Ornelas and Vanessa Clark, will be on hand to discuss their artwork with the public. Visitors will also have a chance to obtain a print of their artwork (while supplies last).

The two artists were selected to create designs that feature the Downtown Arts District. In addition, the campaign features a mural, *I Heart the Arts District*, created and painted by local artist Tino Ortega. The mural is located on a wall on Santa Fe Street across from the El Paso Museum of Art.

The El Paso Downtown Arts District was designated by the Texas Commission on the Arts in Fall 2011. The District is anchored by museums, greenspaces, performing arts facilities, cultural venues and tourist amenities. The Downtown Arts District has become the place where El Paso and the surrounding community meet for high-quality arts and entertainment.

About the Artists

Vanessa Clark is a painter and graphic artist born and raised in El Paso. She is influenced by nature and the mixed culture along the U.S./Mexico border.

Lucero Ornelas is a visual artist and graphic designer born in El Paso and raised in Ciudad Juarez. She is inspired by the cultural and lifestyles along the U.S./Mexico border.

For more information, visit the El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department at www.mcad.elpasotexas.gov.

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