

Self-Guided Hispanic Heritage Tour



Centro de la Comunidad Unida • United Community Center
1028 South 9th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204 • www.unitedcc.org



United Community Center's Mural Walk

1 Wonders of Latin America Mural

Located at the UCC Parking Lot on the corner of 6th and Washington

On thirty support columns under the I-94 Highway overpass, this “outdoor gallery” showcases the work of three artists and local youth in the theme of the natural wonders of Latin America. Each focused on their own area of interest and expertise: Juan Flores painted scenes from his native Mexico, Robert Cisneros painted the underwater world of Baja California, and José Augusto Paradisi, with the assistance of Raoul Deal from UW-Milwaukee School of Art, painted fantastic jungle scenes from his native Venezuela.

2 Hispanic Literary Figures Mural

Located on the exterior walls of the UCC/US Bank Elderly Village on 8th and Washington



These four murals are based on the lives of four important Hispanic literary figures: Mexican philosopher, nun, and pre-feminist, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz; Puerto Rican poet Luis Palés Matos; Spanish novelist Miguel de Cervantes' characters Don

Quixote de la Mancha and Sancho Panza; and José Hernández's character Martin Fierro in Las Pampas of Argentina.

3 Lady of Guadalupe Shrine

Located at the corner of 9th and Washington



This shrine was created by Mexican artist and sculptor Alejandro Romero, who used Byzantine tiles from Mexico and Italy to create the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Virgin of Guadalupe, patron saint of the Americas and important Mexican spiritual icon, was a gift from UCC to the Walker Square neighborhood. The shrine is maintained by UCC clients and staff, and is

open to the neighborhood as a spiritual retreat.

4 Aztec Myths Ceramic Murals

Located on the south wall of the main building, facing Washington and 9th Streets

These tile murals were created in a summer workshop by children from our community and the Bruce Guadalupe Community School. Created under the direction of Jorge Rello, the murals are based on Aztec myths and history. They depict the themes: mythology, gods, trades, and games, and showcase traditional Aztec headpieces worn during those activities.

5 Blending of Cultures Mural

Located on the west wall of the Bruce Guadalupe Community School

Created by Reynaldo Hernandez, a local artist who has created many community murals throughout Wisconsin, this mural highlights the blending of Latino culture in Milwaukee.



6 History of Latinos in Milwaukee Mural

Located on the North Wall of the Bruce Guadalupe Community School, adjacent to the I-43S entrance ramp

This mural is a visual narrative of the growth of the city's Latino population. The narrative begins with the foundations of culture in the Americas and ends with an open door toward an optimistic future. Painted by local artist Roberto Cisneros, a complete mural booklet is available that details each segment.



UCC's Hispanic Heritage Center



The main lobby of the United Community Center is designed as the community's Hispanic Heritage Center. This area was completed in March 2004, and is dedicated to the families and ancestors of the Hispanic community in Milwaukee. All of the photos were donated by families who participate in our programs and by neighbors of the community.

1 Maquetas

Glass boxes located throughout the main lobby of the United Community Center

These glass boxes represent the history of Hispanics in Milwaukee, and depict the three main industries where Hispanic immigrants found work during the early days of immigration: Agriculture, Foundries, and Tanneries. The railway car in the north entryway represents the work Hispanic immigrants completed in the early 1900's as American workers were overseas during war time. The immigrant workers often ended up living in those same railway cars.

2 Mercado

The Mercado, run by Latino Arts, Inc., features a selection of beautifully fashioned knits, weavings, accessories, and jewelry from the renowned artisans of Chinchero, Peru, and Nayarit, Mexico. Also available are quality artworks by local artists, lovingly crafted ceramics by members of the UCC's Senior Center, and note cards designed by Bruce Guadalupe Community School students. A portion of the proceeds go toward supporting Latino Arts' educational and cultural programs.

3 Latino Arts, Inc. Gallery

Latino Arts, Inc operates the gallery located off the main lobby of the United Community Center. Each year they host two seasons of performances and exhibits, which showcase Hispanic culture through dance, music, and art. The art exhibits are free and open to the public. Please refer to the Latino Arts season brochure for more details on the current exhibit.



Mexican cart made by community members



Items for sale in Mercado



Wonders of Latin America Mural in UCC parking lot

Thank you for visiting the United Community Center and learning about Hispanic Culture and Heritage. We hope that you enjoyed your time with us and learned much about the history of Latinos in Milwaukee.