



Murals in Logan Square

When you emerge from the Logan Square CTA Blue Line stop, you will find yourself surrounded by Street Art. Layers of wheat paste, stencil, and brown wash are nothing new in urban settings, but in Logan Square, it represents overlapping cultures, a tension between what is and what could be. How should the viewer interpret this? Does it represent a neighborhood's diverse vitality or things out of control?

Along Milwaukee Avenue and the Bloomingdale Trail, also known as "The 606," restaurants and bars, bookstores and galleries, everything from vacant buildings to new developments—any wall or door that might otherwise have been left blank may bear a mural, tag, sticker, or even low relief paintings and random stuff.

As you move through the commercial corridors, back alleys and viaducts, ask yourself:

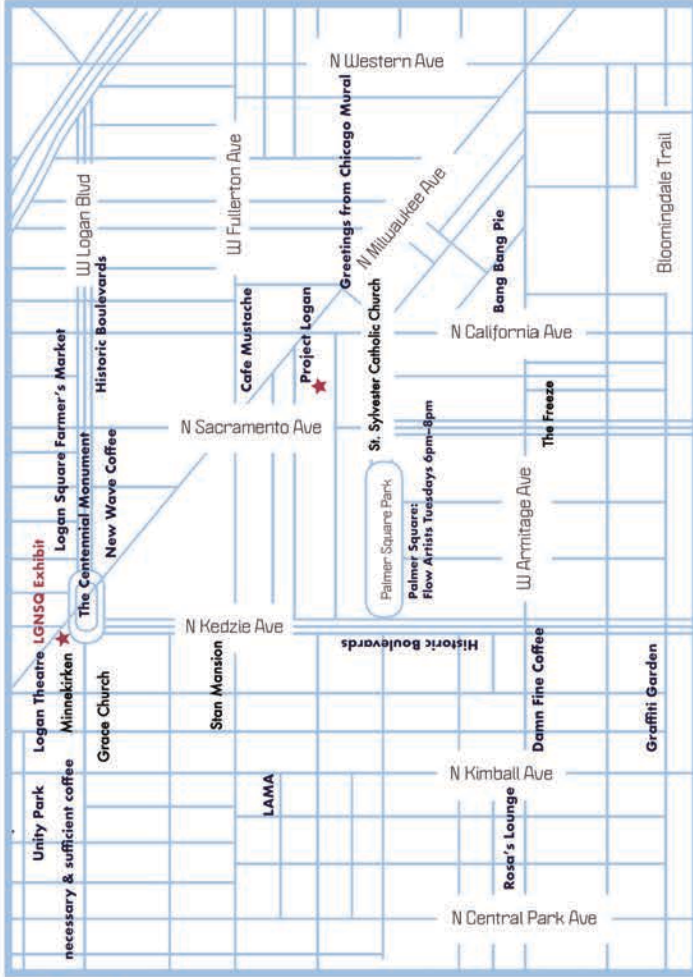
Where did this art come from?

Who put it there?

What does it tell you about Logan Square?

What will you learn about this neighborhood's history and community?

Read about the murals featured in and near the exhibit at lgnsq.com.



Family-friendly Ideas in Logan Square

Get your bike tuned at **Boulevard Bikes** at 2765 N. Milwaukee Avenue. Take the kiddos on a ride on the service roads to enjoy the historic mansions along Logan, Kedzie, and Humboldt Boulevards. **Tour Palmer Square** which has been a popular site for bike races since the early 1900s. Palmer Square is also the site of the Tuesday meetup of **flow artists** called "Taco Tuesday." Bring a donation or dish and learn how to juggle.

Along the southern border is **The Bloomingdale Trail**. Start at the Exelon Observatory at Bloomingdale and Kedzie and bike, walk, or push a stroller to the Drake exit. Walk along the trail to the Kimball underpass where you find murals featuring women artists: Naomi Martinez @monstrochika, Delilah Salgado @artolzena, and Miss CHEA FIR @cheafir. Admire the **Grafitti Garden** murals on the street level and take the Spaulding Avenue ramp to get back on the elevated trail.

Need a party break? Exit at California and walk north to Armitage. Enjoy a shake at **The Freeze** at 2815 W. Armitage or head to **Bang Bang Pie** at 2051 N. California and enjoy a slice at their outdoor patio.



For upcoming family-friendly events, check out the websites of

[Friends of the Bloomingdale Trail](http://FriendsoftheBloomingdaleTrail.org)
bloomingdaletrail.org

[Unity Park Advisory Council](http://UnityParkAdvisoryCouncil.org)
unityparkchicago.org

LGN SQ CULTURE IS EVERYWHERE

May 31 to June 27, 2021 at the CTA Logan Square Blue Line Station

During the month of June, all the advertising in the Logan Square station will be displaced by stories of the neighborhood's residents and important histories.



FEDERER CAPITAL CONCEPTS
Sponsored by Khleb U. Kravets, owner of Modern Capital Concepts, Inc., a woman-owned Logan Square based financial advisory and investment management firm.

Sometimes, in the tradition of Blek Le Rat, it is done as a symbol of protest. Though street gangs have influenced the social conditions under which Street Art was produced, some continue to associate the genre solely with gang culture though it now encompasses everything from graffiti writing or tagging, which is mostly unauthorized, to billboard size murals sponsored by beer companies.

The fluid definition of Street Art poses a constant threat of removal or brown washing (painting over with neutral tone paint) any work that has not been accepted into the City of Chicago's Mural Registry program, created in October 2018 to prevent the accidental erasure of public art deemed a community asset. The City of Chicago considers graffiti a form of vandalism and encourages residents to report suspicious work through a hotline.

What is Street Art?

Street Art is traditionally defined as visual culture that is uncommissioned and executed in public venues. Its origins can be traced to Europe in the 1980s, with an artist named Blek Le Rat who stenciled images on buildings as a form of social critique. Since its subversive roots, artists continue to innovate in form and material. One definition of Street Art distinguishes it from graffiti as art which does not contain names or letters. According to this strict definition, the most photographed mural in Chicago, *Greetings from Chicago*, would be considered graffiti.

Essentially Street Art can be anything — consisting of any material and bearing any intention. Sometimes the artist has permission to create a work on a specific site.

Project Logan near Fullerton and Milwaukee Avenues is a 12-minute walk from this station.

LGNSQ CULTURE IS EVERY WHERE

is a selection of images taken from the book LGNSQ: The Logan Square Book and runs from May 31 to June 27, 2021 at the CTA Logan Square Blue Line Station.

Featuring photography by

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Exhibit design by JNL Design

Download the audio guide and purchase the book at lgnsq.com.



MODERN CAPITAL CONCEPTS

Sponsored by Khlóé U. Karova, owner of Modern Capital Concepts, Inc., a woman-owned Logan Square based financial advisory and investment management firm.

The Fireside Bowl / Exhibit Intro / Map of Cool Stuff



The Bloomingdale Trail (The 606) / Milwaukee Avenue / The Comfort Station



The Halloween Parade / Nightlife / The Freeze / Rosa's Lounge



Palmer Square: Radical Mass and Flow Artists / Vernacular Architecture



Unity Park: Lucha Libre / The Battle for the Eagle



INBOUND/FOREST PARK

Grace United Methodist Church / Minnekirken / St. Sylvester Catholic Church



Exit to Faces & Places of Logan Square mural on Spaulding Avenue



BBoy8 / Torres Omar Jewelers / necessary & sufficient coffee / Boulevard Bikes



DJ Ethan Andrew and family / Latin American Motorcycle Association



Murals in Logan Square / Project Logan

What is Placemaking?

Placemaking can be defined as creating space for residents to engage in activities meaningful to their values, culture, and identity that do not have explicit commercial intent. In the past, people might have found community in churches or schools. While those institutions are still important, finding community has shifted to stores, bars, restaurants, cafes, and public places. Torres Omar Jewelers, necessary & sufficient coffee, and Boulevard Bikes are examples of businesses that play important roles in Logan Square's identity and commercial vitality.

Street Art: Graffiti at New Wave Coffee / Garage Door on Troy Street / Assemblage on Fullerton Avenue



Murals and public art along The Bloomingdale Trail

