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## **The Cheech presents *Black & Brown in the Inland Empire & Beyond***

**Through community-led voices of color,  
exhibition shares artists' histories and creative resistance**

**November 6, 2025 – March 15, 2026**

**RIVERSIDE, CA** - The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture of the Riverside Art Museum announces ***Black & Brown in the Inland Empire & Beyond***, a powerful new exhibition that amplifies the lived experiences, collective memory, and creative resilience of communities of color throughout the Inland Empire region. On view from **November 5, 2025, through March 15, 2026**, the exhibition features sculpture, digital art, and paintings created by artists and community members who participated in a series of collaborative workshops led by local historians, educators, and longtime residents.

Rooted in dialogue and discovery, these workshops provided a space to uncover and reckon with the layered histories that have shaped the Inland Empire — from redlining and segregation to inequities in education, language, and migration. Participants drew connections between the systemic injustices of the past and their ongoing impact today, transforming this understanding into visual narratives that merge art and activism.

Each artwork — whether created individually or in collaboration — stands as a testament to the power of storytelling. Through intimate, community-centered expressions, ***Black & Brown in the Inland Empire & Beyond*** bridges generations and geographies, inviting visitors to witness how creativity becomes both a form of resistance and a tool for healing.

***Black & Brown in the Inland Empire & Beyond*** also serves as the pilot for *Puente Tolteca*, an initiative by Vision Tolteca, dedicated to bridging ancestral wisdom, creative expression, and community empowerment through art and education. The program aims to preserve local histories and elevate the voices of community experts, ensuring that cultural knowledge and resources remain accessible to future generations.

“This exhibition reminds us that art is not only about representation — it’s about reclamation,” said co-curator **Duan Kellum**. “Our goal is to keep building bridges - bridges of understanding, creativity, and healing,” shared co-curator **Xochitl Flores**.

Presented in the Altura Credit Union Community Gallery, the exhibition offers a deeply human portrait of solidarity, hope, and imagination, illuminating how Black and Brown communities continue to define and enrich the cultural fabric of the region and beyond.

**LIST OF ARTISTS:** Jacob Adame (Briar Rosa) • Freddy Calderon • James Coats • Yadira Dockstader • Xochitl Flores • Bonnie Gutierrez (blu) • Samantha Herrera • Alexander Jovanie Howard • Duan Kellum • Gabe Lara •

Juwaun McCrary • Yulileth “Julie” Ordonez • Christopher Perez • Jesse Ramirez • Irene Monica Sanchez • Toni Sanchez • Denise Silva • Maryam Trebeau • Ida Tyus • Alondra X

This exhibition is co-curated by Duan Kellum and Xochitl Flores of Vision Tolteca. Visit [www.visiontolteca.com](http://www.visiontolteca.com) to find out more.

**ABOUT RIVERSIDE ART MUSEUM & THE CHEECH MARIN CENTER FOR CHICANO ART & CULTURE:** Riverside Art Museum and The Cheech are dedicated to ensuring accessibility for all through a range of free, reduced-cost, and general admission ticket options. Details at [riversideartmuseum.org/visit/plan-your-visit](http://riversideartmuseum.org/visit/plan-your-visit)

The Riverside Art Museum (RAM) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit serving the Inland region since 1959. Through exhibitions, art education, and artist residencies, RAM uplifts diverse voices and fosters community connection. Housed in a 1929 Julia Morgan-designed building at 3425 Mission Inn Avenue—a registered historic landmark—RAM welcomes thousands annually for exhibitions, classes, and events. Learn more at [riversideartmuseum.org](http://riversideartmuseum.org) and follow [@RiversideArtMuseum](https://twitter.com/RiversideArtMuseum).

Opened in 2022, The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture is the nation’s first center dedicated to Chicana/o/x art. Located in Riverside’s former public library at 3581 Mission Inn Ave., it houses the Cheech Marin Collection and presents exhibitions, programs, and scholarship exploring the legacy and evolution of Chicano art. Visit [thecheechcenter.org](http://thecheechcenter.org) and follow [@TheCheechCenter](https://twitter.com/TheCheechCenter).