



A New Era of Iconic Signs: Design Charrette

[Friends of the Orphan Signs](#) is seeking 10 artists from Albuquerque to participate in a design charrette to generate innovative methods for engaging with Albuquerque's empty signs over the next 10 years.

We are hosting this design charrette because we believe that Albuquerque has the capacity to experience a new "sign renaissance," replete with iconic signs of the 21st century. We know that Albuquerque's artists can teach us all what contemporary iconic signs can be.

Artists will also produce an original artwork, to be printed in an edition of 50 at the local print studio Risolana. This print will be included in a portfolio comprised of prints by all 10 charrette participants, exhibited at Gallery One, and entered into the CABQ Public Art Collection.

Artists from communities and/or backgrounds that are underrepresented in Albuquerque Public Art are encouraged to apply.

Selected artists will:

- Participate in one four-hour brainstorming session on Saturday March 30th, 10am-2pm; or Saturday April 6th, 10am-2pm
- Create one unique artwork based on an existing sign in Albuquerque
- Print an edition of the artwork at [Risolana](#) (2 hour appointment)
- Contribute copies of prints to the City of Albuquerque's Public Art collection
- Be included in an exhibition of the portfolio at CABQ's new Gallery One
- Keep 10 prints of their own artworks from the edition, and receive one full portfolio of prints
- Receive a \$500 honorarium

About Friends of the Orphan Signs:

Friends of the Orphan Signs is a collaborative, public art and educational initiative that revitalizes abandoned road signs along historic Route 66. FOS facilitates collaborations with local communities

with the aim of designing new imagery to install in the signs as public art pieces that explore neighborhood identity.

About Risolana:

[Risolana](#) is a community risograph studio located in the South Valley at the Partnership for Community Action's Social Enterprise Center. They see power in printmaking as a tool for community dialogue where personal and collective expression meet.

A risograph is a printer invented by the [Riso Kagaku Corporation](#) in Japan in the 80's. The Risograph uses ink to produce vibrant digital prints with a uniquely handcrafted feel. Although originally marketed to corporations, schools, and churches for their efficiency and low cost, artists have recently used risographs to start small presses and DIY printmaking spaces.

Design Charrette Dates:

A design charrette is a collaborative meeting and design session where artists discuss, share, and work together to develop ideas and designs.

There are two charrette dates for applicants to choose from. 5 different artists will attend each charrette. Applicants must be available to attend one of the following dates:

- Saturday March 30th, 10am-2pm
- Saturday April 6th, 10am-2pm

Application Questions:

- Select your charrette date availability (March 30th or April 6th)
- Tell us a little about yourself
- Considering how road signs previously, and currently, define the visual landscape of Albuquerque, what interests you about designing new “iconic” signage?
- Share a link to your visual art or design work.

To Apply:

Please complete the application here: <https://bit.ly/iconicsigns>

Application opens January 17th, 2024

Application closes Friday, February 23rd, 2024 at 11:59 p.m.

Successful applicants will be notified by Friday, March 8th.



This project is funded by a grant from Visit Albuquerque and the City of Albuquerque Department of Arts & Culture Public Art Urban Enhancement Division.

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ORPHAN SIGNS**

risolana

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