

Eight local artists came together to create posters of inspiring women in their lives or in history. Created in a workshop led by the women of the Herstory Print Collective and hosted by the Mancos Common Press, the artists used a relief printmaking technique to make bold and compelling images printed onto newsprint for wheat pasting to the Beehive's building (alley side) in Mancos, CO.



**TOGETHER**  
WE MAKE HERSTORY

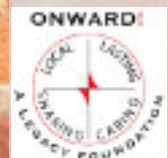
@herstoryprintmaking

## Herstory Print Collective & Mancos Common Press present: Artists of the Four Corners: Celebrating Women Through Printmaking

We are a group of women printmakers. As a collective we produce portrait murals of women who have impacted how we see and understand the world. We formed in early 2021 in Albuquerque, NM as a core group of three women artists. We invite other women to create portraits, too. They are loosely in the style of political street art, done on newsprint and wheat pasted to walls. To date Herstory represents the work of 19 artists and portrays 32 women. Herstory murals have been mounted on Mountain Rd. in Albuquerque, in Silver City at the Southwest Printmaking Fiesta, and on the mobile gallery, Axle Contemporary. Additionally, we offer live-printmaking at community events, sharing our tools and techniques with the public.

Website: [www.juliannakirwin.com/herstory-printmaking-collective/](http://www.juliannakirwin.com/herstory-printmaking-collective/)  
Facebook: herstoryprintmaking Instagram: @herstoryprintmaking

Thank you to **Onward Foundation** and **Mancos Creative District** for generously funding this project.



<https://onwardfoundation.org>  
<https://mancoscreativetdistrict.com>







After living **1,682** days inside of the walls of a Sanctuary Church, I realized how injustice has been perpetrated over and over again to innocent people. While I was trying to avoid an imminent deportation, I had to become the face who represent the millions of immigrants in the USA who are living in the shadows and terrified that at any given moment their lives could change forever, endlessly waiting for an outdated Immigration Law to transform and to finally bring the **Freedom-Libertad** and **Peace-Paz** we all deserve as human

beings, without losing our **Faith-Fe** for that to become a reality.

Santuario en Mancos, Colorado 2017-2022

Sanctuary in Mancos, Colorado 2017-2022

#### Learn more about my story:

[rosabelongshere.org](http://rosabelongshere.org)

[rosabelongshere@facebook.com](mailto:rosabelongshere@facebook.com)

email: [rosabelongshere@gmail.com](mailto:rosabelongshere@gmail.com)

Rosa Sabido

#### The Chinese Women in Durango c.1881-1882

While little is written about the Chinese/ Chinese-American experience in this region of Colorado during the late 19th century, they were indeed here – though, during a time surrounded by exclusionary local and national sentiments.

Based on a c.1881-1882 photograph from the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College's archives, this print represents the women who were here, living and raising families despite the anti-Chinese measures that intended to erase or remove them. It's interesting to think of a timeline of what bigger picture things were going on during this period of history... and how people nevertheless existed outside of the written historical record: A Silver World newspaper snippet published January 8, 1881, stated, "Chinamen are not allowed in the town of Durango." The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad line was built between late summer 1881 and was completed July 1882 – histories of the event vaguely note, almost in passing, that it was constructed by 500 mostly Chinese and Irish workers. In 1882, Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, the first in a series of legal actions of exclusion that held until the 1940s.

Amy Cao is the Museum Collections Manager at the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College and is always happy to be on the making-side of art for a change.



Amy Cao



I've been intrigued by Morley Ballantine since I first learned about her in my early Durango days 18 years ago, especially when I learned she was born Elizabeth Morley Cowles. Though I never had the chance to meet her, I'm inspired by her hard work and the way she actively used her privilege to lift others and improve her community. Dedicated to education, women's rights, the written word and the arts, Morley not only ran The Durango Herald for decades, she was also instrumental in launching several community organizations that help Durango

thrive today, including the Women's Resource Center, the Durango Arts Center and the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College. She was a strong supporter of Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains and the League of Women Voters. I'm proud to share her name, even if I haven't found the place where our family tree branches intertwine (yet?), and glad for the opportunity to celebrate her. Thank you to all the artists for helping this word girl figure out how an unfamiliar medium works—and to Tami Graham for encouraging me to participate!

Libby Cowles was, like Morley Ballantine, born Elizabeth Cowles, though 43 years earlier and in New York rather than Iowa. She is a practicing believer in the power of language and education as forces of social change, and an avid appreciator of the arts—which, incidentally, she also sees as a critical tool for societal transformation. Libby is the dean of enrollment and community outreach at Animas High School in Durango. Engaging in the Herstory printmaking project was a lovely foray out of her comfort zone.

This print of Annie Dodge Wauneka is definitely an expression of my connection to my background growing up among the Diné people in Rock Point, AZ. Annie was a powerhouse leader in public health among the Diné, and the great aunt of my dear childhood friend whom I've remained friends with since I was one month old and she was born. Annie was very much respected by my mother, who was a public health nurse.



I chose this image of Annie because she has personality, and she's smiling—not the stereotypical image of the stoic Native. Also, she is looking right at you, her gaze confronts you as you gaze at her.

By having Annie Dodge Wauneka's image pasted in public, I intend to give prominence to a Native woman who can be celebrated by the many Native peoples who reside and work in Montezuma County. Annie is also a person who everyone else should know and celebrate.

My creative practice started with art making but has primarily been expressed in landscape architectural design. That practice has been a way for me to facilitate connection between me and landscape and the larger community, between others and their place on the earth.

My art (object) making (primarily drawing, painting, and small 3 d objects) investigates connection as well but tends to pursue ironies and ambiguities, spaces where tensions are explored, and mystery is pondered.

LindaRobinsonStudio.Com

Instagram: LindaRobinsonStudio

Facebook: LindaRobinsonsStudio



My subject was local icon Betsy Harrison, who passed away just a few months ago. A beloved mother, friend, mentor, and community activist. Among the many projects Betsy touched, the Mancos Common Press restoration and expansion was her passion.

When I moved to Mancos six years ago, I was immediately struck by how much the community valued creativity. I knew I'd fit right in. There is never a day when I am not making or dreaming up my next project. Sewing, book folding, clay arts, and printing! Hiking, biking, and volunteering locally give me plenty of inspiration.

Patsy has a great love of family, community, the natural world, music, and books. She is the proud mom of three sons and seven grandchildren. Patsy is always generous in giving to her community and has served Boy Scout Troop 518 and later Eagle Scouts. She taught Bible School at St. Pauls Episcopal church and was treasurer of the mission committee. Patsy served on the Mancos Valley Chamber of Commerce Board, the SW Library Services Board and has been an Americorp member in Dove Creek CO teaching STEM. Patsy served tirelessly for almost twenty years as the Director of the Mancos Public Library, stewarding the building the new library and the move into it. Patsy is a Marathon runner and she and her husband participated in the 714 mile Trans South Dakota mountain bike race in 2016. She currently enjoys homesteading on the 16acre Arcadia farm in rural SW Colorado gardening and embracing permaculture methods, raising food and chickens.

Midge Kirk has an MA in Feminism and Social Justice from Goddard College. She co-founded HerStory over thirty years ago, which brings forgotten women from the dusty archives and breathes new life into them. She writes a monthly column for the Free Press and hosts a blog: [herstory-online.com](http://herstory-online.com).





For my poster, I chose to honor cowgirls and the history of women's rodeo.

I was inspired by photographs from the 1919 Durango Fiesta Days of cowgirls performing daring tricks on horseback, breaking broncos, and breaking gender roles. When some see these photos they can mistake the cowgirls for cowboys, hence "Genuine Lady Cowboy".

My poster is meant to represent the cowgirls of the Southwest and their incredible strength and bravery.

Instagram: @never.ruined

Honoring Marcelina  
My Great GrandMother

While I was at a crossroads in my life, my Great Grandmother's wisdom came to me:

"Discover the Unlived, and Release The Outworn" through "Honoring and Healing Our Lineage(s)".

While pondering how to create an art project while attending IAIA, I had a vision... The print I created through the HerStory project is a depiction of that vision.

TESS~ The Oracle Artist©

4th generation of Esoteric Wisdom Keepers.  
Tess intuit's energy and insight from the etheric realm.

As, The Oracle Artist©, she creates multi-mediums of art, which include visceral imagery and words depicting the design that are inspired by spirit and observances while Wondering in Nature©

While achieving an art degree at the Institute of American Indian Art, (IAIA) Santa Fe, NM, Tess began curating art exhibits through her company - Curations Creations.

Tess's motto is to foster heART of heARTists.

Facebook: Tess~The Oracle Artist

