FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Tanya Lenti

tlenti@cabq.gov



Route 66 Remixed Puts Creativity in the Driver's Seat in Albuquerque

Celebrating 100 Years of the Mother Road with Murals, Sculpture, and Augmented Reality

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – The City of Albuquerque has announced *Route 66 Remixed*, a creative reimagining of the city's 18-mile stretch of Route 66. This innovative public art project will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the historic highway and invites locals and visitors alike to explore its legacy through murals, sculptures, and augmented reality (AR) experiences.

Created in partnership with **Meow Wolf** and **Refract Studio**, Route 66 Remixed transforms Albuquerque's Central Avenue (aka Route 66) into an art-fueled road trip across the city. Along the Route, travelers will discover large-scale public art installations and site-specific digital activations that reflect the stories, traditions, and people that have helped to shape Albuquerque.

"Route 66 is a defining part of Albuquerque's identity," said City of Albuquerque Arts & Culture Director Shelle VanEtten de Sanchez. "Route 66 Remixed will give residents and visitors alike the opportunity to experience the Mother Road like never before on each and every day of the Centennial rather than only during specific events."

The project is led by the City of Albuquerque's Department of Arts & Culture, with support from Visit Albuquerque, Meow Wolf, Refract Studio, and local artists. Additional partners include the New Mexico Tourism Department and community organizations throughout Albuquerque.

Once launched, visitors can experience each site on its own or explore all the curated stops all via a web interface. The official Albuquerque Route 66 Centennial website is Route66ABQ.com which will be updated as the various installations are completed through the fall of 2026. The project will feature Hakim Bellamy as the narrator and road trip storyteller.

Annual events along Route 66, including Summerfest and the Twinkle Light Parade, are also being expanded in honor of the Centennial.

Featured Route 66 Remixed Project

The first Route 66 Remixed mural that will be completed is the Historic El Rey Theater Mural at 7th Street and Central Avenue. The collaborative mural by Jesse Littlebird & Thomas Christopher Haag reflects Albuquerque's artistic vibrancy and cultural dynamism. Littlebird is a Pueblo artist whose bold, story-driven works asserts place-based peoples and their histories on the land. Haag is a street and studio painter known for organic compositions inspired by sacred geometry and myth.

jesselittlebird.com, thomaschristopherhaag.com



Route 66 Remixed Projects and Artists: Estimated Completion for All Projects - October 2025

Singing Arrow Open Space AR Experience

Deb Jojola

East Central Open Sky Sign Installations

Nazario Sandoval

Talin Market AR Experience

Helen Atkins

Guild Theater AR Experience

Dale Deforest

M'tucci's Bar Roma Sculpture

Nazario Sandoval

Route 66 Shield at Triangle Park

TBD

University of New Mexico Arts Lab Mural

Noé Barnett & Travis Black

Special Collections Library AR Experience

Jessica Helen Lopez

Historic Crossroads (4th Street & Central Avenue) AR & Installation

• Gael Luna: Installation

• Carmen Montes: AR Experience

505 Central Food Hall Mural

Lynnette Haozous

El Rey Theater Mural

Thomas Christopher Haag & Jesse Littlebird

Albuquerque Museum Sculpture Garden AR Experience

Sonja Killer

ABQ BioPark Aquarium and Botanic Garden AR Experience

Lea Anderson

Albuquerque Rapid Transit (ART) Bus Wrap Traveling Installation

Dante Betsch

Route 66 Visitor Center AR & Mural

• Akilah Martinez: AR Experience

PAZ/Mapitzmitl: Mural

Nine Mile Hill AR Experience

Karl Orozco