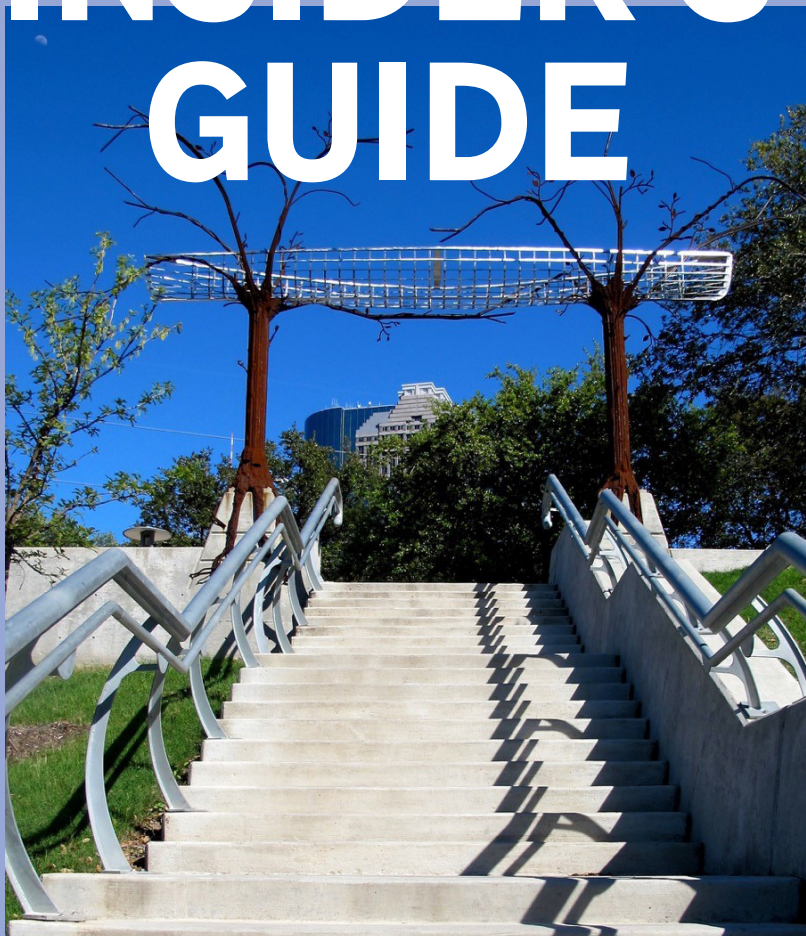


INSIDER'S GUIDE



THE ECOLOGY OF ARTS DISTRICT HOUSTON

ARTS **HOU**
DISTRICT



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guide at
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INSIDER'S GUIDE TO

THE INTERSECTION OF ART & ECOLOGY IN ARTS DISTRICT HOUSTON

Arts District Houston is highlighting the intersection of art and ecology, from former farms to the District's natural boundaries at the White Oak and Buffalo Bayous, and from the Gulf Coast to the world's coral reefs. Hear from the artists themselves on how they generated vibrant painted imagery from their environmental research. Following the map from mural to mural on a self-guided bike tour provides a hyper-local context for their work, offering an opportunity to reconsider the natural landscape one may have overlooked in the bustling city. The map includes B-cycle locations where you can pick up a bike and come learn more about the art up close. What are you waiting for?

OUR TOP FIVE PICKS:

- | | | |
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 **B-Cycle Bike Station**



1.1



Photo by Monica Kressman

THE RAIL TO THE SEA

*1505 Sawyer Street
Houston, Texas 77007*

Hours: Any

Janavi Mahimtura Folmsbee's mural captures various forms of the marine world by employing linear progression and rich color, a reminder that the District's railway leads all the way to the Gulf of Mexico. Folmsbee, a seasoned scuba diver and marine conservation artist, seeks to help viewers better understand the hardships of our oceans and the majestic creatures it holds. Her work includes public art as well as collaborations with marine research labs and local conservation organizations. Folmsbee has faith that with art, awareness, and beauty, we as humans are capable of doing much more for our oceans and environment.

ARTIST

Janavi M. Folmsbee

CREATED

2016

INSIDER TIP

To get a good photo of the mural, shoot from across the street from the parking lot at The Silos. For the best light, and to avoid street traffic, it's best to photograph in the early morning or early evening. A wide angle lens will help!

1.2



Photo by Giselle Parra

SANCTUARY

Jerry's Artarama of Houston
2201 Taylor St
Houston, Texas 77007

Hours: Any

Patricia Barrera's mural celebrates the beauty of our bayou green spaces, restorative sanctuaries in the heart of the city. Barrera identified flower species native to the Houston area, like purple coneflower, pink evening primrose, and plains coreopsis, that are vital to our local web of life. Each flower represents a quality that describes the spirit and history of the District's neighborhoods and people.

ARTIST

Patricia Barrera

CREATED

2019

INSIDER TIP

This mural highlights the way nature weaves its way across the landscape and through the neighborhoods, demonstrating the natural boundaries of the District, White Oak Bayou to the North and Buffalo Bayou to the South. This is one of many public artworks in the District depicting bayou and gulf ecology.

1.3



Photo by Giselle Parra

DREAMS AND TRAIN SMOKE

*Bayou City Adventures
1520 Silver St
Houston, Texas 77007*

Hours: Any

Jessica Guerra incorporates her love of native plants and vintage textiles into the visual storytelling of this mural, presented in her signature block print style. Guerra was inspired by the farms, orchards, and home gardens that preceded the industrial development of the neighborhood, as well as the magnolias, roses, and citrus trees that still color the landscape today. The painting is also an homage to the trains that carried locally grown produce to be sold at Houston's early markets.

ARTIST

Jessica Guerra

CREATED

2019

INSIDER TIP

Did you know? You can rent a kayak from Buffalo Bayou City Adventures nearby! Head down to Buffalo Bayou, hop in a kayak or canoe and explore the District's southern boundary. It is a Houston experience like you've never seen before.

1.4



Photo by Giselle Parra

AS THE LITTLE HOUSES GO...

Meek Studio & Gallery
1903 Spring St
Houston, Texas 77007

Hours: Any

As the Little Houses Go... shares a story about change, the constancy of nature, and the resilient spirit of our city and the First Ward's early residents. Canna lilies and trumpet vines are featured prominently in this mural, symbolizing the tenacious nature of Houston and its people. Both plant species are hearty survivalists, able to weather obstacles and continue to grow despite their continued destruction via the development of the built environment.

ARTIST

Jessica Rice

CREATED

2019

INSIDER TIP

Did you know? A B-Cycle location is located just a few blocks away from *As the Little House Go...*. Rent a bike and take a tour through Arts District Houston to visit the other murals in this guide.

1.5



Photo by Jonnu Singleton/SWA Group

BUFFALO BAYOU PARTNERSHIP

*105 Sabine Street
Houston, Texas 77007*

Hours: Any

Buffalo Bayou, Houston's most significant natural resource, is an unexpected venue for art — especially in an urban context. Commissioned and maintained by the Buffalo Bayou Partnership, a variety of public artworks, from traditional bronze sculptures to land art, are on view 24/7 along pedestrian trails from Shepherd Drive, through Arts District Houston, and to the Port of Houston Turning Basin.

INSIDER TIP

Buffalo Bayou Partnership regularly offers nature walks led by a Master Naturalist. On this walk you can explore the landscape and ecology of Buffalo Bayou Park and the importance of green space, wildlife, and land and resource conservation. In the meantime, grab a bike from a B-Cycle location in the Arts District and head over to www.artsdistricthouston.com for a full audio tour of the murals in this guide!

ARTS DISTRICT HOUSTON |

Arts District Houston embodies Houston's dynamic creative economy. This colorful, urban, artist-centered community is situated in the city center along the Washington Avenue Corridor and touts the highest concentration of working artists in the state. Visit this lively historically-designated area bound by two of the city's bayous and feel the creativity flow throughout the creative businesses, restaurants, artists studios, and reimagined industrial spaces, notably the iconic repurposed rice silos and old Union Pacific rail line that run through it. This state-appointed Arts and Cultural District has a rich history as it encompasses portions of both the First and Sixth Wards, two of the city's oldest neighborhoods. Arts District Houston is home to 300+ studio spaces for local artists, designers, and makers where you can see firsthand how art gets made.

GETTING HERE |

Although much of the District is walkable, you will probably want to have some mode of transportation to explore all that the District has to offer. There is free parking available throughout the district. Uber and Lyft are great ways to get where you need to go. Houston B-Cycle has a paid bike sharing station at 2411 Washington (at Sawyer).

FRESH ARTS |

The District's management partner, Fresh Arts, amplifies the district's ability to serve artists and the greater community through artist-centered initiatives that help build capacity, audiences, and shared resources for the artists and creative businesses that compose the district. Fresh Arts and Arts District Houston are dedicated to shaping and building Houston's creative economy in a responsible way that ensures the district retains top artistic talent and energy while continually enhancing the livability of the surrounding neighborhood.

MADE POSSIBLE BY FRESH ARTS AND ITS SPONSORS |

For information about partnerships and inclusion in future Insider's Guides, contact ADHou@fresharts.org.

For a more comprehensive list of artists and businesses, visit artsdistrichouston.com
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FreshArts



INTERSECTING ARTS, COMMERCE, AND COMMUNITY