



Hispanic, Latino, Chicano, Latinx arts and culture expand influence, inform a deeper understanding of identity

In the Hispanic, Latino, Chicano, Latinx community there isn't always agreement on self-identifiers. Applying just one broad brush moniker can quickly wipe out thousands of years of ancestral tradition, rich and varied national histories and each individual's journey. Allow the individual to paint their own portrait of how they stand in their community and the world. But in their arts and culture community, there is a point of steady agreement, acknowledged for decades: Art and culture from the Spanish-speaking world deserves a larger seat at the table and deeper recognition across a broader spectrum of Colorado and national institutions.

Common to the community and its arts and culture writ large is a shared struggle to ensure their artforms are seen and heard and acknowledged. Like many communities of color who operate outside the European artistic tradition, the fight for visibility and acknowledgement has been a long road. But in the Denver metro area there has been a clear and ever-growing focus on developing both institutions to showcase that art and culture as well as a mentoring of younger generations to ensure these institutions and the art they showcase survive and thrive. Efforts have produced community museums, dance troops, visual artists among other creatives and has steadily fostered a larger community that is prepared to support those artists with their entertainment dollars and their time.

Dozens of artists, activists and educators from the community have worked toward this common goal for decades. Their progress has been hard won, but substantial, creating some of the longest-standing institutions of their kind in the country. Here are the stories of two long-time champions of those efforts.

[Meet Maruca Salazar and Jeanette Trujillo-Lucero >](#)



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SCFD Board of Directors news

The SCFD is governed by a board of directors with representation from district member counties Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson. The board oversees district funding and ensures the district is running the way voters intended. The board meets eight times a year and all meetings are open to the public.

- The next meeting of the SCFD Board of Directors will be held virtually at 1 p.m. on Sept. 23. [Get more information for joining meetings and see the full calendar of 2021 board meetings.](#)

Board Spotlight

Each month, we take a moment to introduce you to one of our board members. This month's spotlight focuses on Boulder County Representative, Deborah Malden.



Boulder County Appointee, Deborah Malden

Deborah Malden is the Arts & Culture Liaison at the Boulder Chamber. Following a career in the banking and financial sector, she moved to Boulder in the late 1990s. She has served on the Boulder County Cultural Council (2010 – 2015), including two years as chair. She has also volunteered her expertise as a board member of multiple Boulder nonprofit arts organizations, including The Dairy Center ARTS Center, where she served as interim executive director. Deborah is a board member of Social

Venture Partners Boulder County, which strengthens Boulder County nonprofits and leverages individual engagement in philanthropy. She joined the board in January 2017. Her 2nd term expires in February 2023.

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