RUBY CITY

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Chris Park. Courtesy of Linda Pace Foundation, Ruby City.

Ruby City Honors 20th Anniversary of Chris Park

San Antonio's contemplative green space endures as one of Linda Pace's most personal gifts.

San Antonio, TX — September 30, 2025 — Ruby City is proud to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Chris Park, the one-acre urban oasis of lush gardens and contemporary art created by artist, collector, and philanthropist Linda Pace in memory of her son, Christopher Goldsbury (1972-1997). Since its opening on October 28, 2005, Chris Park has offered San Antonio a rare green refuge just south of downtown, where visitors can reflect and encounter art and community in equal measure.

To commemorate this momentous occasion, Ruby City will host a series of special events throughout October including a public celebration of the park scheduled for **Saturday, October 18**th **from 2:30 to 5pm**. The celebration will include tours of the park, remarks from special guests accompanied by a celebratory toast, beautifully designed cake from Oh Yeah Cakes, music by Santita, and experiences led by local storyteller, dancer and author of *Loteria Remedios*, Xelena González. Guests will also have an opportunity to collect a commemorative hand printed poster designed by local artist Gilbert Martinez or a plant cutting from Chris Park, itself. Posters and plants will be available in limited quantities and will be distributed on a first come first served basis.

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On Sunday, October 19th, the community can participate in a special tree sitting meditation led by practitioner, Reiki master, multi-instrumentalist & composer, <u>Pamela Martinez</u>. Martinez leads monthly meditation sessions in Chris Park. The month will wrap with a new exhibition opening to celebrate a solo show by artist <u>Daniel Rios Rodriguez</u>. *Open This Wall*, will be celebrated on **Saturday, October 25, 2025**, with a gallery walkthrough and reception 2-5pm and will be on view through Sunday, October 4, 2026 in <u>Studio</u> at Chris Park.



Linda Pace with son, Christopher Goldsbury, 1994. Courtesy of Linda Pace Foundation, Ruby City.

Conceived with the vision of honoring her son through art and nature, Pace worked with landscape architects Jon Aherns and Rosa Finsley to design a space that blends vibrant plantings, contemplative garden "rooms," and playful areas such as *Tumble Hill*, a grassy berm for children. The park also features poetic, site-specific artworks by artist <u>Teresita Fernández</u>, including *Starfield*, where tiny blue lights trace the constellation on the night of Chris's birth, limestone benches etched with passages from Chris's journals, and jewel-toned glass pavers of *Wednesday's Child*.

In her book, *Dreaming Red*, Pace wrote of being tortured by the Victorian nursery rhyme *Monday's Child*, the name of the original nursery rhyme, that only associated specific attributes or potentials with the children born on those days. "Wednesday's child", the day of Chris' birth, was "full of woe." Fernandez's reinterpretation of the rhyme, along with Pace's execution of the pavers which light up at night, associate Wednesdays with descriptors that match the full spectrum Chris's life and character, as it does for every child. Pace summed up the appeal and power of Chris Park by stating that it, "...is something growing, something living and forever, just like the imprint of somebody you love."

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Tumble Hill, located in Chris Park. Courtesy of Linda Pace Foundation, Ruby City.

Over the past two decades, Chris Park has become a beloved site of repose, play, and inspiration. With its wisteria-draped entrance, bamboo groves, and carefully curated plant species—from various native plants to Hong Kong orchids—the park continues to welcome thousands of visitors each year. Maintained privately for public enjoyment, Chris Park endures as both a living memorial and a cornerstone of Ruby City's mission to share the transformative power of art.

"Chris Park remains one of Linda Pace's most intimate and truly transformative gifts to San Antonio," said Elyse A. Gonzales, Director of Ruby City. "In 2001 Linda identified the plot of land and began realizing the Park with the idea that it would embody art, nature, and personal memory and create a space of healing, joy, and community. It's such a remarkable place, especially when you consider that in 2001, Camp Street was considered far away from the liveliness of downtown, somewhat dangerous and industrial. The Park, the STUDIO space in the Park, the CAMPstreet building, which Linda bought at the same time and turned into residences, and now Ruby City, were all realized by Linda and made this a lively neighborhood that privileges nature and art and anchors creativity and community in San Antonio."

About Ruby City: Ruby City is a contemporary art center in San Antonio, TX, dedicated to providing a space for the city's thriving creative community to experience works by both local and internationally acclaimed artists. Envisioned in 2007 by the late collector, philanthropist and artist Linda Pace, Ruby City presents works from the Linda Pace Foundation Collection of more than 1400 paintings, sculptures, installations and video works. The building which opened in 2019 is designed by Adjaye Associates and is part of a campus, which also includes a sculpture garden Chris Park, a one-acre public green space named in memory of Pace's son, and Studio, an auxiliary exhibition space which presents curated shows and programming throughout the year.

Ruby City is open Thursday through Sunday, 10am to 6pm. Admission is always free; reservations are recommended. Information and reservations are available at www.rubycity.org. For further information please contact: Head of Public Engagement & Communications, Patricia Morales at pmc10">pmc10">pmc10">pmc10" in the property of the p