

RUBY CITY

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Visitors examining work in *Open This Wall*, a solo exhibition by Daniel Rios Rodriguez on view in Studio at Ruby City through October 4, 2026. Photo by Jo E. Norris

RUBY CITY ANNOUNCES A YEAR OF CONNECTION, CREATIVITY & CONTEMPORARY ART

San Antonio, TX (DEC. 17, 2025) — Ruby City's upcoming winter/spring season offers a dynamic slate of **free**, community-centered programs followed by new fall exhibitions that invite visitors of all ages to engage with contemporary art in meaningful ways. Highlights include a special screening of **ASCO: Without Permission**, presented with **MonteVideo** at **Slab Cinema Arthouse**, followed by a conversation with artist **Kathy Vargas** and scholar **Dr. Ellen Riojas Clark** moderated by **Ruby City Director, Elyse A. Gonzales**. Monthly meditation sessions led by **Pamela Martinez** will also continue, offering a restorative start to each third Sunday.

Artist-focused programming includes a walkthrough and reception for **Bedroom Paintings** on view at Ruby City through May, 10, 2026, with artist **Joey Fauerso** and **Director Elyse A. Gonzales**, alongside creative workshops such as **dreamwork** sessions with **Leigh Baldwin** and a **Slow Looking + writing** program led by poet **Violeta Garza**. From February 4, through March 6, Ruby City will participate in **San Antonio's Ekphrastic Poetry Competition**, inviting writers to respond to **Daniel Rios Rodriguez's** painting **Norma**, on view in **Studio at Ruby City**, as part of his exhibition **Open This Wall** on view through October 4, 2026.



From left to right: Creativity Coach and facilitator of Ruby City's Dreamwork Workshops, Leigh Baldwin. Poet, Violeta Garza, who will lead a Slow Looking + writing workshops. Ben Luke, art critic, author & podcaster for *The Art Newspaper*, will offer two public programs early April, 2026.

For the first time, Ruby City will also participate in a weekend of art journalism and literary programming connected to the **2026 San Antonio Book Festival** in April. Ruby City will host **Ben Luke**, an internationally respected art journalist, broadcaster, and author known for making contemporary art accessible through thoughtful conversation. As host of *The Art Newspaper*'s podcasts *A brush with...* and *The Week in Art*, and author of *What Is Art For?*, he explores artists' creative processes, cultural influences, and lived experiences. His work closely aligns with Ruby City's mission to welcome broad audiences into meaningful engagement with contemporary art and the ideas that shape our world. The spring season will close with **Music in the Park in partnership with KRTU**, in May spotlighting contemporary jazz.

In the summer, (June) Ruby City will present a solo exhibition by internationally acclaimed Johannesburg-based artist **Tracey Rose** who is known for her fearless explorations of race, gender and power. The exhibition will feature 50 drawings by the artist.

The fall season will continue to offer free and engaging programs and events along with the opening of a **major group exhibition** in Ruby City's architecturally striking galleries. This large-scale group show will **feature works by female artists** who explore, and counter tropes associated with what has historically been defined as the feminine experience. Works will include loans and those from the Linda Pace Foundation Collection, Ruby City. Rooted in **Linda Pace's** commitment to championing women artists, the exhibition brings together drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, installation, and video .

The 2026 year concludes with ***Christmas***

Trees (2005–2006) by beloved now deceased San Antonio artist **Chuck Ramirez**, installed in **Studio at Ruby City**.

Commissioned by Linda Pace with the directive to make them excessive, stating, “More is more!” Ramirez’s exuberant artificial Christmas trees are decorated using lights, paint, beads, ornaments and unexpected found materials such as feather

boas or artificial plants. They blur the line between decoration and fine art, offering a joyful, humorous and thought-provoking reflection on transformation, excess, and the beauty of the everyday.



Christmas Trees (2005–2006) on view prior to the opening of Ruby as part of Chuck Ramirez: *All This And Heaven Too*, a 2017 exhibition at the McNay Art Museum. Photo Courtesy of the McNay Art Museum.

The public is invited to experience a year of connection, creativity, and contemporary art at Ruby City. **All programs are free, with select events requiring registration.**

A calendar overview is provided on the attached document. **For further information please contact: Head of Public Engagement & Communications, Patricia Morales at pmorales@rubycity.org**

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.

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Ruby City Public Programs | Winter–Spring 2026

Sat, Jan 17 | 6:30–9 PM

ASCO: Without Permission – Film Screening + Conversation

Arthouse at Blue Star

A community screening of the documentary on the groundbreaking Chicano art collective ASCO, followed by a conversation with artist Kathy Vargas and scholar Dr. Ellen Riojas Clark, moderated by Ruby City Director Elyse A. Gonzales.

Free with registration; space limited.

Sun, Jan 18, Sun, Feb 15, Sun, Mar 15, Sun, Apr 19 (offered every THIRD Sun/month)

9–10 AM

Monthly Meditation

Ruby City (check website for location indoor or outdoor)

A restorative, hour-long meditation led by Pamela Martinez.

Free; registration recommended.

Sat, Jan 24 | 2–5 PM

Joey Fauerso: Bedroom Paintings – Walkthrough + Reception

Ruby City

Director Elyse Gonzales and artist Joey Fauerso lead a walkthrough of Fauerso's immersive, video-centered installation.

Free.

Feb 4–Mar 6 | All Day

Ekphrastic Poetry Competition

Poets of all ages are invited to respond to *Norma* by Daniel Rios Rodriguez, on view in *Open This Wall* in Studio at Ruby City.

Free and open to all.

Sat, Feb 7 | 11 AM–12:30 PM

Dreamwork Workshop with Leigh Baldwin

Ruby City

A hands-on workshop exploring dream recall, symbolism, and interpretation.

Free with registration; space limited.

Sat, Feb 21 | 11 AM–1 PM

The Art of Slow Looking + Writing with Violeta Garza

Ruby City

A National Poetry Month workshop inspired by *Open This Wall*.

Free; registration required, all materials provided.

Fri, Mar 6 | 7–9 PM

Music in the Park with KRTU

Chris Park

An evening of live contemporary jazz and community gathering.

Free; no registration required.

Fri, Apr 10 | 6–7 PM

Author Talk: Ben Luke

Ruby City

Art critic and podcaster Ben Luke public talk

Free; registration required.

Sat, Apr 11

San Antonio Book Festival Panel

Ben Luke and Stephanie Elizondo Griest in conversation with Ruby City Director Elyse A. Gonzales.

Sat, Apr 18

National Poetry Month SA Celebration

Location TBD.

Ruby City Exhibitions | Spring–Fall 2026

May 2026 – May 2027 (Ruby City)

Solo exhibition of work by artist Tracey Rose (Title TBD)

Sep 2026 – Aug 2027 (Ruby City)

Group Exhibition by Female Artists (Title TBD)

Nov 2026 – Jan 2027 (Studio at Ruby City)

Chuck Ramirez: *Christmas Trees*