



# Public Art Collection | June 2025 Spotlight

June 24, 2025

East of the 101 Freeway

# Prometheus Gives Fire to Man

25-701: Attachment 1 - June 2025 Public Art Spotlight



**Artist:** Nicolai Larsen

**Location:** Caltrain Station  
(590 Dubuque – beneath the 101 freeway)

The mural, dedicated in 1996, was one of the City's first public art installations. The mural interprets the City's transformation from its industrial foundations to a future shaped by biotechnology and cultural progress. Spanning themes of labor, science, and

mythology, the work moves from depictions of Sugarloaf Hill and steelworkers to a central double helix galaxy and a golden Prometheus bearing the torch of life and knowledge. Funded by the City's Redevelopment Agency and the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, the mural was carefully restored in 2022 by Precita Eyes Muralists after sustaining water damage and graffiti. It remains a powerful symbol of South San Francisco's evolving identity and creative vision.



# Inspire



**Artist:** Ride Art Studio  
(Saori Ide & Jonathan Russell)

**Location:** Karyl Matsumoto Plaza - Caltrain  
Station (Grand Ave & Airport Blvd)

Dedicated in September 2024, INSPIRE is a 24-foot kinetic sculpture that welcomes residents and commuters with a vibrant celebration of innovation, science, and community. Created by Saori Ide and Jonathan Russell of Ride Art Studio, the brushed stainless steel piece features internally lit base pillars representing DNA, and wind-activated Mobius rings symbolizing water molecules; underscoring the vital link between water and life. Paired with complementary gear-shaped benches, the installation honors South San Francisco's industrial heritage while embracing its dynamic future.

# Wild Poppies in the Twilight Rain

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**Artist:** Shannon Amidon

**Location:** South San Francisco Conference Center (255 South Airport Blvd)

Wild Poppies in the Twilight Rain is a vivid cobalt blue heart sculpture created in 2014 by South Bay artist Shannon Amidon for San Francisco General Hospital Foundation's "Heroes and Hearts" fundraiser. Genentech purchased the artwork at the event and, in appreciation of its longstanding relationship with the City, donated it to the City of South San Francisco later that year. Inspired by the cyanotype photographic process, the piece features wild California poppies and reflects the artist's fascination with natural forms and alternative photography. Officially dedicated in 2015, the painted fiberglass sculpture is part of the City's permanent public art collection and is currently displayed at the SSF Conference Center.



# THANK YOU

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City of South San Francisco