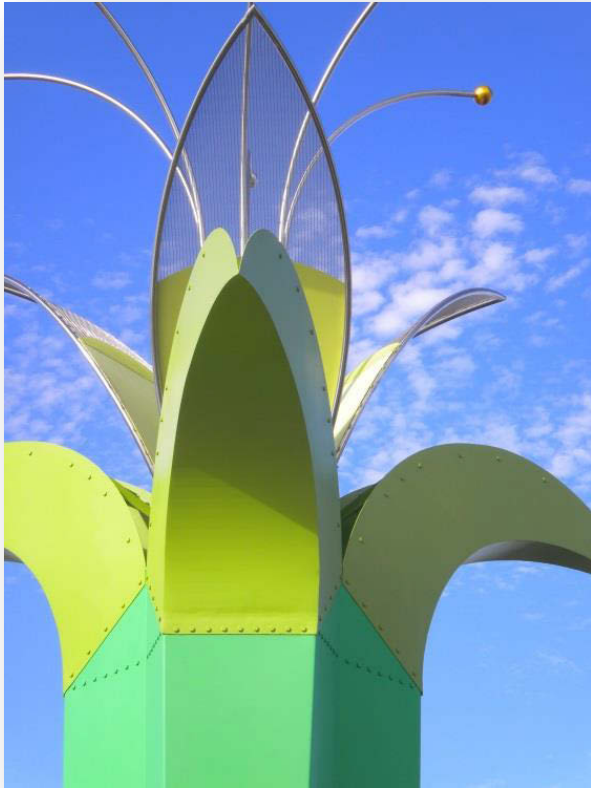


The Oracle Blossom

Grant Road Corridor Improvement Plan

Public Art for the Intersection Grant Road and Oracle Road



Artists:

Cynthia Patterson & Hank Saxe

Engineering Project Manager:

Tom Weideman, Tucson DOT

Public Art Coordinator:

Sally Krommes, Tucson Pima Arts Council

The first work of art to be installed as part of the Grant Road Corridor Improvement Plan is lighting up the night sky at the corner of Grant and Oracle Roads. Designed in compliance with dark-sky codes, the LED lights sequence through multiple colors, whose glimmering petals and stamens symbolize the birth of new life on Grant Road.

Called **The Oracle Blossom**, the sculpture celebrates the beginning of change for Grant Road: The roadway is now safer for pedestrians, improves traffic flow with the use of 'indirect lefts,' adds native landscaping and opens the roadway for better water harvesting.

For the Pascua Yaqui Tribe based in this community, flowers evoke a spiritual world imbued with natural beauty. In homage to the area's historic past as the gateway to Tucson, the artwork also recalls the iconic neon signs of an earlier era, one that combined fast cars with a slower pace of life. This public art represents the blossoming of a long awaited improvement that betters our city for all residents.

The Oracle Blossom was built in compliance with all road safety requirements for sculpture in the right of way. We would like to thank the community members that participated in the creation of the Public Art Master Plan for the roadway. Stay tuned for more public art as the improvement projects head west. For more information contact SKrommes@TucsonPimaArtsCouncil.org.

*The Tucson Pima Arts Council (TPAC) administers the **Percent for Art Program**, which oversees the development of public art for the City of Tucson. To learn about TPAC's efforts to foster artistic expression, civic participation and the economic growth of our diverse community by supporting, promoting, and advocating for arts and culture, visit www.TucsonPimaArtsCouncil.org*

