



To keep up on what's happening in our neighborhood, sign up for the RANA email newsletter at raynoldsneighborhood.org

... and find RANA on Social Media - on **0**: Raynolds Addi-on Neighborhood Associa-on and RANA Community Garden and on **instagram** at [rana_abq](https://www.instagram.com/rana_abq)

Want to read this newsletter online and in color? Visit raynoldsneighborhood.org Learn more about our community, share your ideas. Do you have computer skills and want to help with next year's RANA newsletter? Contact raynoldsneighborhood@gmail.com.

Thanks so much to all of you who put time and effort into making our neighborhood friendly and inviting. We see the real differences you are making -- big and small. They may seem to happen by magic, but we see you! Keep it Up!!

2024... What's new!

Bennie Hargrove Park had a small dog park added! Since the first day it appeared it has been thoroughly enjoyed by lots of dogs and their owners. Over 5 years ago RANA began requesting the city Parks & Recreation Dept. to add a dog park to our neighborhood and we are very happy to see it finally happen! The city added a new, needed streetlight at the SE corner of Bennie Hargrove park, too - thanks to more RANA members requests.

What's Still Happening?

RANA neighbor Nancy Kilpatrick is continuing to organize **RANA Rounds**. These small (6-8 people) social gatherings connect neighbors so we can get to know each other and build strong community. Volunteers host a gathering and provide drinks, and guests bring appetizers to share. If you want to receive invites to be able to participate, please email hmncancy7@gmail.com. The more the merrier - when neighbors know each other we create a better neighborhood.

RANA was a recipient in 2023 of a **NeighborWoods Program Tree Grant** awarded by ABQ Parks and Rec., supported by our then City Councilor Benton, and organized by Tree New Mexico. The program planted 100 new trees in our neighborhood near the street to provide shade and beauty, and also gave away another 100 younger trees for people to plant anywhere in their yard. If YOU are one of these proud, lucky new free tree owners, please remember to follow the watering and care guidelines from treeNM so all those new trees can grace our neighborhood in good health for many years to come. To learn more about them visit treenm.org



90+ people came for fun and food at our annual **RANA National Night Out** event. We provided food and games and a lovely time was had by all, even the APD horses! RANA catered a yummy nacho bar from La Mexicana, and many of you also brought delicious side dishes and desserts - thank you! Thank also to the Gamelan Encantada percussion ensemble for entertaining us with their music! We have so much talent in RANA!

Learn more about a few of our local artists later in this newsletter! Thanks to Mauro Perego, our 2024 NNO coordinator. Sadly, Mauro moved out of RANA - so we need a new coordinator for 2025. Please contact raynoldsneighborhood@gmail.com if you (or you and a friend!) can volunteer to organize the 2025 NNO, held annually on the first Tuesday in August. Organizing starts in early April, so let us know soon. We'll give you lots of help!



RANA BIKE VALET Going Strong at Downtown Growers Market Since 2012!

RANA is able to offer free bike valet services at the Downtown Growers Market thanks to many RANA volunteers signing up to do bike valet shifts during the market season (mid April through early Nov). Thank you to all of them! The bike valet is very appreciated by those who bike to the market, and it is free. Tips are gladly

accepted and then used for the benefit of the neighborhood, such as paying for the printing of this newsletter and food for all at our National Night Out Block Party. They also allow RANA to make donations to help other neighborhood treasures such as the Growers' Market, Washington Middle School, OffCenter Community Arts, Working Classroom, SWOP, bike racks in the neighborhood and more! Every year the number of bikes parked seems to grow, so we always need more eyes to watch those bikes. Please consider volunteering, even just as a "watcher". Everyone can volunteer, biker or not, RANA neighbor or not. **Be a bike valet volunteer by signing up at raynoldsneighborhood.org for shifts during market season, April through early November.**

RANA Community Garden



So many things have grown in the RANA Community Garden this year: arugula, beans, corn, daisies, strawberries, eggplants, fennel, garlic, herbs, peppers, tomatoes, raspberries and much more. The branches on the peach tree in the center of the garden were over-burdened with fruit this year, so a strong pruning will follow this fall with careful culling of young fruit next spring. Gardeners using their volunteer hours



helped put up 30' of green fence screening behind the compost stand, and also leveled and prepped the fence line in the alley for native plants coming in late October. The RANA Community garden is located along the alley between Gold and Silver & 13th and 14th. We welcome residents of the Raynolds Neighborhood to apply for plots, which are awarded by lottery every year by March 1 for the growing season. The cost is \$30 for the year, including drip line for non-freezing months. If you would like to garden at the RANA community garden, send a note to ranacommunitygarden@gmail.com.

RANA meets every first Thursday of the month at OffCenter, 808 Park Ave SW (Oct - April), or in Bennie Hargrove park (May-Sept). In August we have the NNO party in the park instead of a regular meeting.



RANA ANNUAL EVENTS CALENDAR: Be Part of Neighborhood!

OCTOBER - Become a RANA Board member. Elections are next month.

NOVEMBER - Social Hour and official Annual RANA meeting. Elections for RANA board members. New people encouraged! See announcements below of this page.

DECEMBER - Luminaria fold and fill potluck in the week before Christmas; set up, lighting, and take down on Christmas eve and day.

JANUARY - Bring an idea for a RANA rendezvous (neighborhood get together activities during the winter). Thinking about gardening? Add your name to those wanting a plot at ranacommunitygarden@gmail.com

FEBRUARY - Be sweet to your neighborhood, attend the monthly RANA meeting. (Sign up to be coordinator of our spring clean up in April!)

MARCH - Spring is coming, community gardeners get ready! Sow your ideas for RANA at the monthly meeting.

APRIL - Annual Keep Albuquerque Beautiful/Great American Spring Clean Up. Pizza lunch for all participants.

MAY - RANA provides Bike Valet at Downtown Grower's Market throughout market season. Sign up to volunteer at www.raynoldsneighborhood.org. All welcome! Making the market even better since 2012!

JUNE, JULY - Attend a RANA Round, small social gatherings in neighbors' homes and gardens to get to know each other and build community. We have these throughout the year. **Sign up for our email newsletters at raynoldsneighborhood@gmail.com to get info on dates/times - and keep informed all year long about what's happening in RANA.**

AUGUST - Bike Valet is in high gear, keep volunteering for parties! Annual National Night Out Block party on Friday Tuesday evening instead of a regular monthly meeting. Volunteers needed to help organize - email to raynoldsneighborhood@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER - Submit an article for the annual paper RANA Newsletter and/or Volunteer to help deliver it in the neighborhood at raynoldsneighborhood@gmail.com.

RANA ANNUAL MEETING, 6-8:30PM, w/BOARD ELECTIONS
Thursday, November 7, 2024 at OffCenter Arts, 808 Park Ave SW
Join in at our annual meeting! Everyone is Welcome!

Social hour at 6pm, come catch up with neighbors. Bring a desert or side dish if you like. At 7pm, we will review our 2024 accomplishments and elect new board members.

New Board Members encouraged!

Did you know since 2023 Abq neighborhood associations cannot require that members pay dues before voting or participating in neighborhood events? If you would like to contribute **voluntary dues** to RANA, you can use the form in this newsletter (or you can donate online on our website at raynoldsneighborhood.org). The form contains suggested amounts, but please give only what you can afford. Donations help us put on neighborhood events and are very much appreciated! If you own property or have a business or live within the boundaries of RANA, you are automatically a member of RANA - please use the form below to update your info for us. Please come to our monthly meetings to help us make this wonderful neighborhood an even better place for us all.

Renters, YOU are an important part of our neighborhood! RANA is not only for homeowners. Please join us!

Raynolds AddiWon Neighborhood AssociaWon Voluntary Dues Form

(Please Print Legibly)

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Address _____

Phone(s) _____ Email _____

____ Number in Household? ____ Rent? OR ____ Own?

Suggested Dues

Resident Tenants & Property Owners (~~\$15~~) _____

Non-Resident Property owner (\$20) \$ _____

Business Owner (\$20) \$ _____

Associate (All Others) (\$10) \$ _____

Dues support our neighborhood, but are not required for RANA membership or voting. Submission of this form confirms RANA membership.

Complete (Please Print) and return with cash or check payable to RANA.

Mail to: RANA Treasurer, 324 14th SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

Or JOIN US in person at the next monthly mee-ng with form and payment.

Or JOIN ONLINE at www.raynoldsneighborhood.org

RANA supports Downtown Albuquerque News (DAN), an online newspaper produced by Peter Rice, covering our city center and surrounding neighborhoods. Check out sample issues and subscribe at <https://downtownalbuquerque.com/>

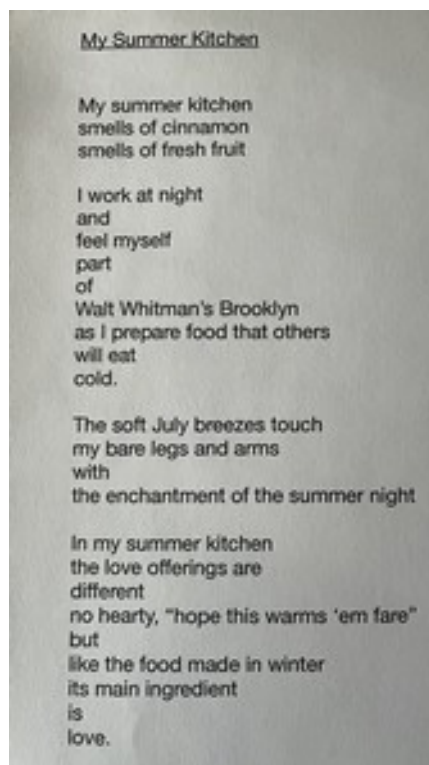
Please VOTE on November 5th! Register or change your registration at NM Voters (link). Elections matter. Participate in Your Democracy. NM Voter Information portal: <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/>

Creativity in Raynolds Neighborhood Albuquerque is full of creativity, and RANA has its share, maybe more! Let us tell you about our local free community arts center, OffCenter - it's been around over 20 years - and introduce you to a few of our talented neighborhood musicians. Thanks to Anita Treloar for gathering interviews with artists. Here are some poems for you to enjoy. Some are from an OffCenter exhibition and some from our neighbors, including this one from RANA President, Janet Manry, about RANA in 2024!

A new dog park that lit the spark
for the new street light at the park.
More trees along our streets
help us beat the summer heats.
RANA Rounds and RANA Rendezvous where
we meet neighbors we never knew.
National Night Out with our very own Gamelan Encantada band
people stay until their very last stand.
Community garden, in each row
friendships and peaches grow.
Every Saturday at our Bike Valet
full racks make a two-wheeled buffet.

And these two poems from RANA resident, Sheila Markson:

Took a walk
In Barnes and Noble
Yesterday
and
I noticed
a title
Men are Just Desserts
"ah", I thought
"oh", I thought
"so?, uhm, yes" ———
my first love was
 definitely
butterscotch pudding
my current love
thinks
he's a bit of mahogany
but
he's
really a-bit-of
chocolate cake.





OffCenter Community Arts Project has been providing *free* access to art making and social interaction for all in our city for over 20 years, and RANA is lucky enough to have them right in our own neighborhood at 808 Park Ave SW. Need a unique gift? Shop in their gallery for fine art, wearables, cards and more. Want to create yourself? Go during their open studio hours (Wed/Th 12-6, Sat 10-2) and use materials in the studio to let your ideas flow. Attend a regularly scheduled work group, such as Card Making or Puppet Crew. Or take an arts skills workshop! Learn all about them at offcenterarts.org

Want to donate to a great organization? Learn how at offcenterarts.org



A free community art studio in downtown ABQ.

OffCenterArts.org 808 Park Ave SW ABQ, NM 87102

Our Mission

Our Mission is to enhance the lives of all people in our community by providing a safe and supportive environment for art-making and social interaction.



"(OffCenter) has given me time for socialization when healing and growing. It has helped me to have a creative outlet when I needed one but had no access to materials."

-OFFCENTER STUDIO PARTICIPANT

Founded in 2001, OffCenter Arts was one of the very first Art Hives in the nation! An Art Hive is a community art studio that welcomes everyone as an artist.

HISTORY



Janis Timm-Bottos founded **OffCenter Community Arts Project** in 2001 after several years of experimentation with studio operating principles in her work at ArtStreet, at Albuquerque Healthcare for the Homeless. An art therapist, Timm-Bottos structured OffCenter Arts to be a **welcoming studio space that would center marginalized artists while fostering social connections across socio-economic barriers.** OffCenter remains true to that vision, and continues to operate a welcoming studio space that serves the full community with an **equal focus on art making and social connection.**

COMMUNITY

OffCenter Arts is open for **EVERYONE!** We serve families, individuals, groups, educators and students, elders, professional artists, and kids...of all ages!

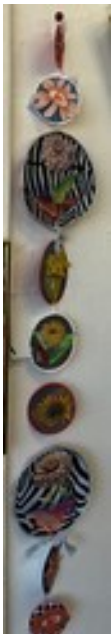
Our 2023 Community Survey showed:

- * Studio participant age ranges from 2-90!
- * 25% of participants come to OC with kids.
- * 35% of participants report income below the federal poverty line.
- * 19% of participants report being unhoused or have experienced homelessness in the past.
- * 40% identify as LGBTQIA2S+.
- * 19% identify as trans, genderqueer, and/or non-binary.
- * 55% identify as having a disability.



"OffCenter has kind-of saved my life these past few months by creating the space, time, community, and materials to make art. [...T]he community I have met there has helped me so much to work through these challenges and to find new friends and "family" here in Albuquerque."

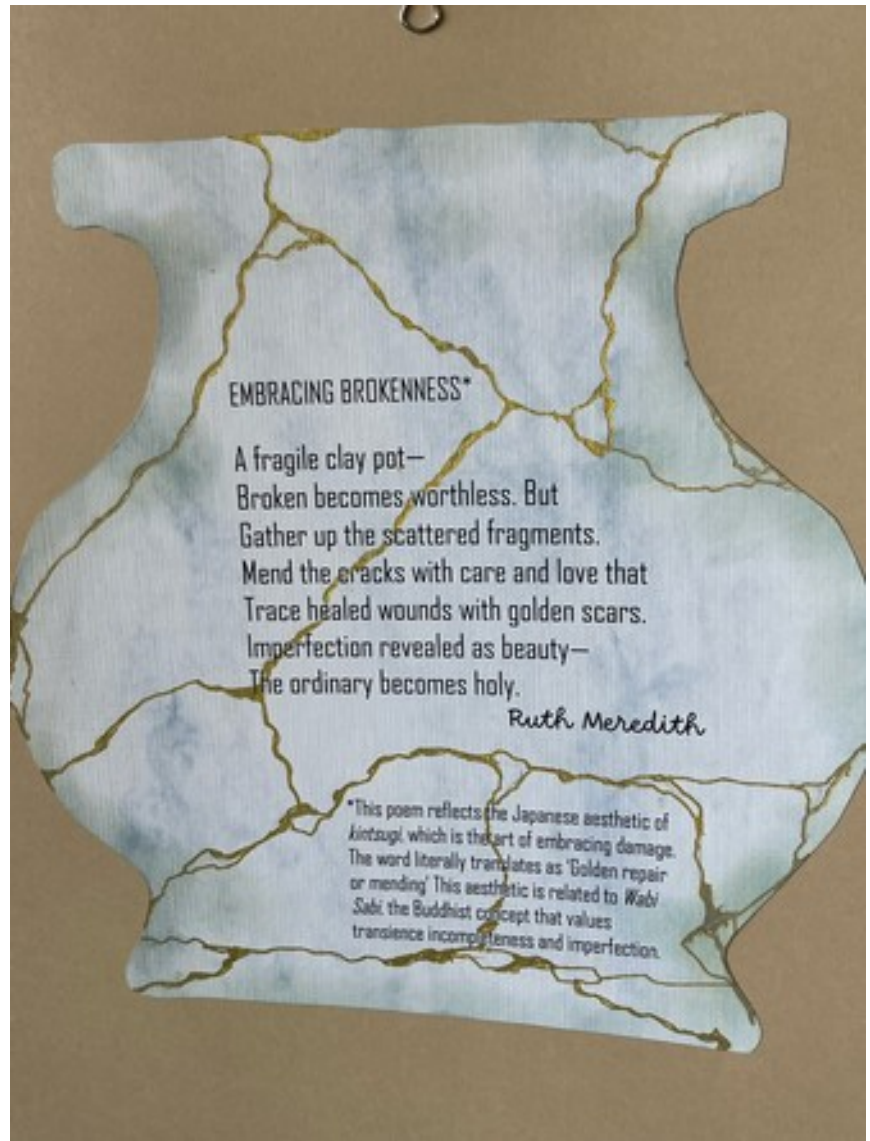
-OFFCENTER STUDIO PARTICIPANT



Karen Making Cards
 Making cards, making friends,
 making sense
 Cutting paper, cutting pie, cutting up
 Telling stories, telling truth
 Listening when voices speak
 and when they don't
 Creating art, family, and community
 Creating a life beautiful, the art of Karen.

Tribute to Karen Turner, originator of the OFFCenter Cardmaking Group and long time faithful OFFCenter supporter, participant, and advocate.

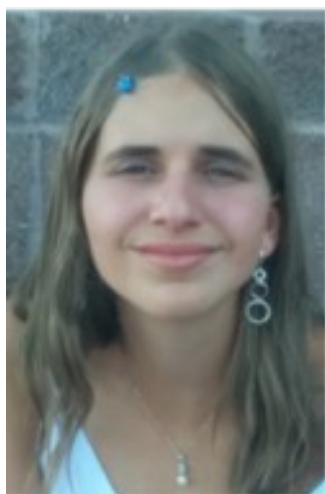
Poems in OFFCenter's recent WORDS exhibition



Musicians of the Neighborhood

The Raynolds neighborhood has an abundance of musical talent. As you walk through the neighborhood you might hear someone singing, the sound of piano playing through an open door, or the sound of mellophone being practiced on the Washington Middle School track. You might even hear a mariachi band playing for a neighborhood gathering, or singing for a backyard celebration. Or maybe you enjoyed an ensemble of musical instruments at the August 2024 Neighborhood Night Out! Meet a few of RANA's musicians:

Diana Tarkalanova was born in Plovdiv, Bulgaria and moved to Boston, MA when she was four years old. She and her family moved to Albuquerque's Raynolds neighborhood in early 2019, when she was twelve. She started playing the violin in the orchestra at Washington Middle School in the 7th grade and joined the mariachi group in the 8th grade. Joining these ensembles and learning to play the violin created her strong, passionate interest in music and she began taking private lessons. She currently plays and sings with the UNM Mariachi Ensemble while finishing her senior year in high school and taking dual credit courses at UNM. She plans to attend UNM for a degree in Music Education in hopes of becoming an awesome music teacher. She may be contacted at: dtarkalanova3@gmail.com



Muni Kulasinghe was born in Albuquerque to parents from Sri Lanka. When his older sister started playing violin, he immediately wanted to do the same and started playing violin about age 6. Violin has been a central part of his life, including playing in the Albuquerque Youth Symphony Program. He began playing in Le Chat Lunatique in 2005 and this group has remained his primary affiliation, and he also plays in a mariachi group, and with Rumba Flamenca group ReVóZo. In addition, he teaches violin in the Young Musicians Initiative after school program of the New Mexico Philharmonic, is school year Concert Manager for the UNM Arts in Medicine noon concert series, and gives private violin lessons. He and his family have lived in the RANA neighborhood for the past five years. He can be contacted at munikula@gmail.com.

Anita La Cour, originally from Wisconsin, was first introduced to music in her mother's womb, while her mother was singing. Both parents sang in the church choir, and her parents and four brothers sang part harmony for grace at the dinner table, on road trips to keep her dad awake, and during the Christmas season for family gatherings. She started matching the piano keys to her voice at age two, sang in church and school choirs, and played flute in school band and orchestra. She worked as a psychologist in various, often remote, locations and finally made time to return to music when she moved back to Albuquerque fifteen years ago. She has played piano for the San Felipe de Neri Sunday since 2001. She sings four-part harmony with the women's acapella Enchanted Mesa Chorus and with her quartet, Better Than Therapy. She is happy to claim fellow New Mexico musicians Katy Schacht and Hilary Schacht as her cousins. She may be contacted at anita.treloar@yahoo.com.



Thanh Reu, originally from Vietnam, came to live with his adoptive family in the Reynolds neighborhood when he was two years old. He heard his older brother and sister playing the piano and insisted on piano lessons when he was five. He learned the trumpet in the third grade, and in Washington Middle School added the euphonium, tuba, trombone, French horn, clarinet, saxophone and flute. His demonstrated proficiency inspired his teacher to invite him to teach other students. At Albuquerque High School he played clarinet in the symphonic band, mellophone in the marching band, and bass in the orchestra. He also played euphonium, French horn and bass clarinet in the Allstate Honor Band from the 9th to the 12th grade. During the summers of 2022 and 2023 he played mellophone in the Blue Knights Drum and Bugle Corps, where they placed twelfth in the world in Drum Corps International. For the last two years he has led worship at his church playing piano and saxophone, as well as singing for church services. He is currently a sophomore at UNM studying Music Education, playing euphonium in the Wind Symphony, is baritone section leader for UNM marching band and accompanies other students on piano for juries. His goal is to be a high school band director and teach marching band. He can be contacted at thanhdjreu@gmail.com.

Katy (Catherine) Schacht was born in Wisconsin and was introduced to music hearing her dad play the piano and organ. She learned piano from her dad at age four, started playing violin at age ten, started singing at fourteen, and pursued studies in piano, violin and voice. She learned the guitar in high school to accompany herself singing and has written and sung songs for voice and guitar. Katy attended Highland University, and when she was accepted into the Taos School of Music her parents got her a violin, made around 1780, which she still plays. She has played in the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Albuquerque, for the Civic Light Opera, the Santa Fe Symphony, and in multiple locations across the United States and Canada. She was a Music Director, accompanist and organist for five different churches for more than twenty years and has given lessons in violin and piano. She sang in the Desert Chorale in Santa Fe and was soloist for the Santa Fe Symphony and the New Mexico Symphony. Her own compositions include folk, sacred and art song, violin solos and duos. She formed Desert Song, providing music for special occasions, which includes various ensembles of violin, piano, cello, guitar and voice. She moved to the Reynolds neighborhood two years ago. She may be contacted at desertsong@mindspring.com.

Maryse Lapierre grew up in French-speaking Quebec. She learned to love singing through her aunt's infectious love of singing cheesy French love songs. She began her vocal training at 15 after begging her mom for voice lessons. With these lessons she had regular recitals and learned to perform, finding she loved to sing and perform. After four years with this teacher, Maryse was invited to help her teach for a year. Next she studied with a more classically trained teacher and, after qualifying for finals in some singing contests, was able to work with even more mentors. She volunteered for a camp in Massachusetts in 2001 and there became more fluent in English. In 2007 she moved to Albuquerque, met her friends Christopher and Margaret, and was introduced to the Reynolds neighborhood, where she moved in 2019. She began the music group Bebe La La with her friend Alicia fifteen years ago, with Alicia playing viola and Maryse playing an accordion that was once her father's. They sing mostly songs Alicia has written and French songs Maryse brought to the duo, including one she wrote that the band is named after. They have recorded two CDs, created a website and won multiple music awards. Maryse was Director of Harmonic Kids for ten years, teaching the Music Together curriculum, and taught weekly classes in vocal and wholistic toning. She is particularly interested in using sound healing with bodywork, including Therapeutic Massage, and use of the harmonium with vocal toning as a mindfulness practice and group offering. She continues to offer Wednesday Stories and Music in the Sky at the Balloon Museum. She may be contacted through her website at bebelalamusic.com.



Jenny DeBouzek was introduced to music through dance. At nineteen, she moved to New York City to pursue a career in modern dance, then a couple of years later moved back West to finish her undergraduate degree at UC Santa Cruz, where she had her first class in gamelan (gong music from Southeast Asia). After graduating, she continued her dance career in the San Francisco Bay Area, but when she hurt her back just as the company was about to go on tour, she was invited instead to play in the contemporary gamelan-inspired percussion group that served as accompaniment to the dancers. She continued to study and play both traditional Javanese and contemporary gamelan and, as a graduate student in Anthropology and Folklore at UC Berkeley, went to Indonesia to further study the Asian tradition. She moved to Santa Fe in 1988, commissioned her own set of instruments to be made, and started an ensemble primarily devoted to performing works by New Mexican composers, based on Javanese tunings and techniques of playing. She moved to the Reynolds neighborhood in 1993, drawn by proximity to Java Joe's and the bosque, and found a house with a large back room perfect for her instruments. Here she has continued to develop Gamelan Encantada, a professional ensemble of 8-12 people who rehearse weekly at her home. The group has played at multiple venues including the Outpost, Globalquerque, the Museum of International Folk Art, and Chatter, as well as various "pop-up" concerts like Neighborhood Night Out and the Downtown Growers Market. She may be contacted through her website (where you can also listen to samples of the music) at www.gamelanencantada.net.

