



THE FLOWER CHAIN (2014)

The Flower Chain was a public art and community art education project conceived and implemented by artist Michelle Glass. It rose out of a youth mural painting project in Inglewood's Darby Park. The City sought to engage 20 local teenagers in a paid summer activity to use the power of art to build collaboration among diverse youth groups.

Ms. Glass proposed *The Flower Chain* as a one day project resulting in temporary signage displayed on the Park's chain link fencing. Using the Park, Recreation and Library Services' motto, 'Parks Make Life Better,' Glass assigned one of the 19 letters to each youth and asked them to design then paint it on a precut octagonal plaque. The 20th youth was hired as project assistant. These artistic letters were attached to an exterior chain link fence and each was surrounded by five steel 'petals' to frame the youth's original artwork. *The Flower Chain* is a temporary project that has continued for years due to its beauty and popularity.

Michelle Glass

Michelle Glass is a visual and social practice artist and community arts

Artist:

Michelle Glass

Collection:

City of Inglewood Time-Based Projects

Medium:

Temporary public art

Material:

Acrylic paint on prepared steel octagons

Size:

20" x 480"

Darby Park Community Center
Parking Lot Fencing
3400 W. Arbor Vitae
Inglewood, California

advocate committed to working with rural and underserved communities. A citizen artist, she collaborated with Hataya Tubtim to replant the central California community of Arvin with native wildflowers that had been plowed under and paved. They establishing a ladies seed cooperative and met weekly to exchange seeds and fight agricultural pollution.

As Program Manager for the Palo Alto Center for the Arts, Ms. Glass developed community art and science gardens in East Palo Alto. As project manager for the Watts House Project, she co-produced a film about immigration. She has worked for Armory Center for the Arts and the City of Ventura Cultural Affairs programs. Michelle Glass earned her MFA from Otis College of Art and Design, her B.A. in Photography from Cal State Los Angeles.

