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A New Santa Fe Tradition Takes Shape: Inaugural Santa Fe Artists' Procession Set for October 10, 2026

September 9, 2026

Santa Fe, NM – On **October 10**, Santa Fe artists will take to the Santa Fe River Greenway for a new community tradition inspired by one of the city's most delightfully eccentric artistic legacies. **Theater Grottesco** in collaboration with **Santa Fe City** and **Santa Fe County**, artists, arts organizations and community organizations, announces '**The Inaugural First Annual Santa Fe Artists' Procession**,' a contemporary celebration of art, imagination, humor and community, in honor of America's 250th anniversary and Theater Grottesco's 30th anniversary in Santa Fe.

One hundred years ago, **Gustave Baumann** thought Santa Fe needed a good laugh, so he, along with other Santa Fe artists, created a parade that would be like "a cup of coffee in the afternoon of a busy day". Like Baumann's parade, The Procession will be a community event where the creativity and imagination of Santa Fe's diverse artists will be presented to surprise, engage, delight and inspire all New Mexicans and visitors.

The Procession: The procession will feature original work by a growing roster of Santa Fe artists and arts organizations, including **DKLA Studios**, **Hernan Gomez Chavez**, **Carol T. Woolworth**, **Jonathan Hertz** & **Linda Guenste**, **Pablo Ancona**, **Patrick Mehaffy**, **Sabrina Griffin**, **Alas de Agua y Proyecto Alebrijes**, **Theater Grottesco**, **Nancy Sutor** and others. Participating performing and walking artists include **Ati Atimaeir**, **Los Cien Gatos Brass Band**, **Kalob Martinez**, **Alex Reid**, **Abstract Picnic**, **No Man's Land Gallery** and more. Artists will bring an imaginative array of large-scale sculptures, puppets, contraptions, masked characters, performance, music and visual art to create a memorable and even astonishing experience for the entire Santa Fe community. All participating artists will receive a stipend to help cover the cost of materials and to honor their creativity.

The chosen route of the procession is along the Santa Fe River Greenway Path between **Romero Park** and the **Reunity Farm** in the **Village of Agua Fria**.

The Audience: The procession is a Santa Fe community event. All Santa Feans (and New Mexicans and visitors) are invited to attend, observe and enjoy. The Procession will end at Reunity Resources where

food and additional performances will extend the joy of the event.

Get Involved:

The Procession Committee is seeking volunteers and sponsors to support this project:

- Contact us if you'd like to volunteer. There are so many ways: fabricating (happening now!), crowd support, joining one of the teams pushing or pulling an art contraption.
- Contact us if you're an individual who would like to donate to this project or an organization that would like sponsorship information.

Date: October 10, 2026. Time 2pm

Procession Committee Members:

John Flax (Chair), Theater Grottesco

Nancy Sutor, Artist, County Arts Organizer

Janey Potts, Events Planner

Patrick Mehaffy, Artist

The project is a Santa Fe City/Santa Fe County collaboration partnering with numerous arts and community organizations.

About Theater Grottesco: Founded in Paris in 1983, Theater Grottesco is known internationally for visual and explosive physical productions. The Grottesco Ensemble rekindles interest in live performance by juxtaposing classical and modern theatrical styles with daring, poetic research of culture and imagination, giving voice to marginal elements of our contemporary society, and taking audiences to the brink of emotional wonder and soulful reflection. Theater Grottesco is a 2017 award winner of the National Theater Program. Find more information at www.theatergrottesco.org.

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