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**NEWS
RELEASE**

08/ 27/ 2024

City of El Paso International Airport Partners with Mexican Consulate in El Paso on Distinctive Exhibit

EL IMPERIO ANCESTRAL DEL XOLOITZCUINTLE

El Paso, Texas— The City of El Paso and the Consulate General of Mexico in El Paso invite the public to the unveiling ceremony for the exhibition ***El Imperio Ancestral Del Xoloitzcuintle*** at El Paso International Airport (ELP).

The ceremony is set for 10 a.m. Wednesday, August 28, 2024, in the airport's main lobby. The artwork will remain on display through November 1, 2024.

The unique exhibit, presented by the collective KALPIXKI-ART, features the work of 23 talented artists from Ciudad Juárez and Guadalajara, Mexico.

“We are honored to host ***El Imperio Ancestral Del Xoloitzcuintle*** at the El Paso International Airport. This exhibit showcases Mexico's rich cultural heritage and strengthens the artistic ties of our region,” said Mayor Oscar Leeser. “We are especially grateful for the partnership with Consul General of Mexico in El Paso Mauricio Ibarra Ponce de León, whose support was key in bringing this extraordinary display to our City.”

The exhibit features 31 fiberglass sculptures of the Xoloitzcuintle, a breed of dog native to Mexico that holds significant cultural importance. Each sculpture has been meticulously painted by the participating artists, offering a modern interpretation of this ancient and iconic figure. The sculptures were created through a collaborative process, with prototypes designed by sculptor Oscar Zamarripa and produced by artist Gilberto Ortega.

The exhibition has previously been displayed at the Museum of the Revolution on the Border in Ciudad Juárez and the Consulate General of Mexico in El Paso. It features the work of 17 artists from Ciudad Juárez and 6 from Guadalajara including notable artists Sergio Betancourt, Alfredo Espinoza, and Benito Santos, among others. The project was initially conceived by Mr. Manuel Tejada Gutiérrez, director of Casa Martino, in collaboration with Suny Agency Cultured & Real Estate SA de CV.

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