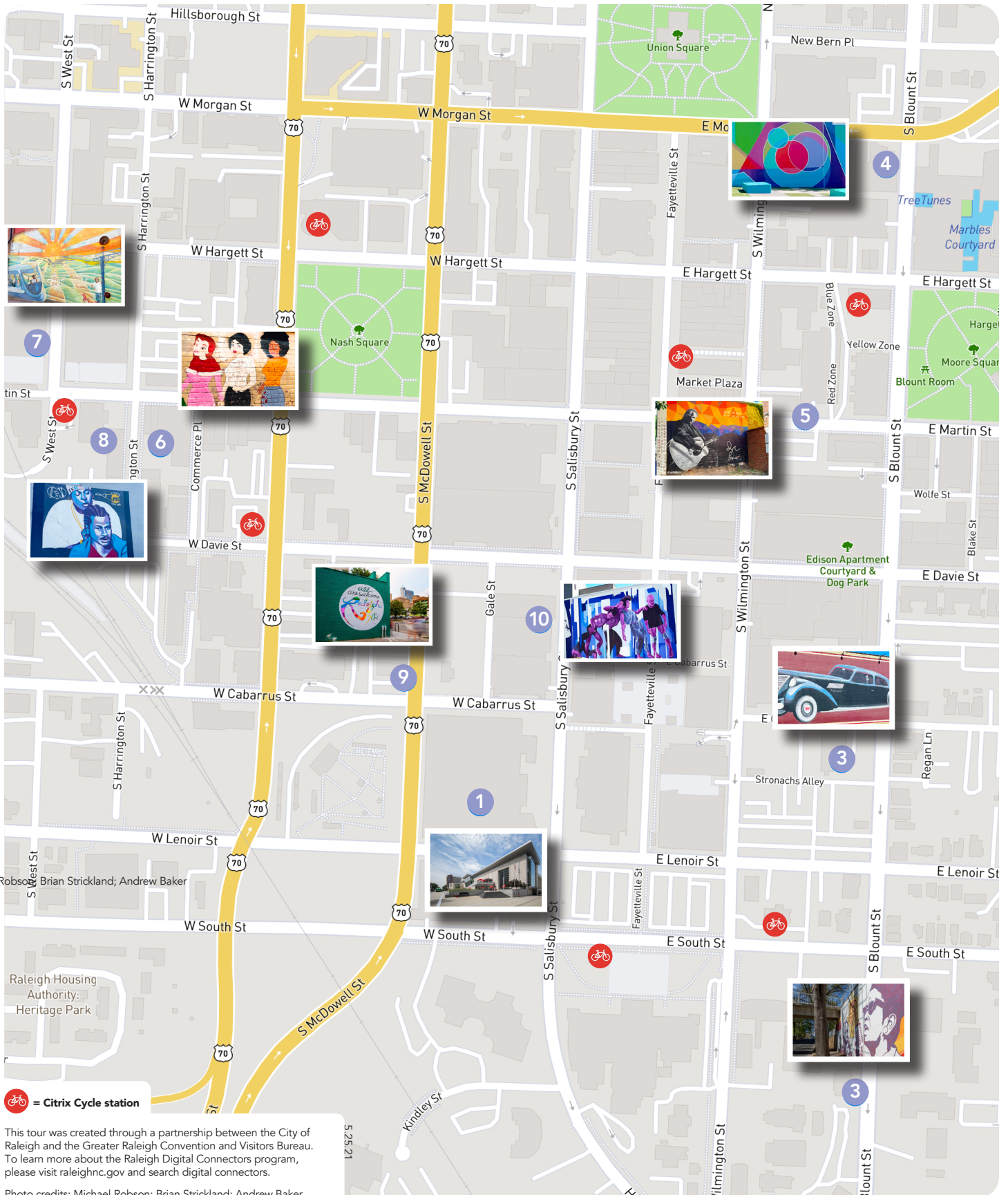


MURALS

A self-guided tour of downtown Raleigh

This tour was developed and narrated by the **Raleigh Digital Connectors** program, a nationally-renowned program providing technology and leadership training for youths ages 14-18.





1 RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER

500 S. Salisbury St.—Introduction

Welcome to the Murals Tour of Downtown Raleigh. In this self-guided tour, we will show you the murals along with the stories behind them.



2 SHAW UNIVERSITY 150TH ANNIVERSARY

720 S. Blount St. (0.6 mi.)

Installed in celebration of Shaw University's 150th anniversary, this mural incorporates the themes of technology, entrepreneurship and sustainability that mark Shaw as a proud N.C. institution of higher learning. Founded in 1865 as the first historically Black university in the South, Shaw University has a rich history steeped in tradition, leadership, service and activism. Shaw was also the first college in the nation to offer a four-year medical school and the first Black college in the nation to enroll women.



3 HONEST ABE

126 E. Cabarrus St. (0.4 mi.)

"Honest Abe" can be found on the Lincoln Theatre's west-facing wall. The theatre was built in 1945 and was originally an entertainment venue for African Americans. This piece took five days to complete and was painted by Clark Hipolito with assistance from David Eichenberger and Jason Johns. "Honest Abe" was a nickname that Abraham Lincoln embraced with pride. He believed in his integrity and worked diligently to maintain his reputation as an honest politician and lawyer—something that was not always easy in either of those fields.



4 COLOR POP CORNER

102 S. Blount St. (0.4 mi.)

Lisa Gaither specializes in murals, street/chalk painting, interactive and fine art commissions since the 1990s. Lisa has completed hundreds of murals and finishes, both large and small in scale. Lisa loves interacting with communities and is always looking for new ways to reach the public with her art. "Color Pop Corner" at Marbles Kids Museum delights the senses with its brightly-colored and eye-catching geometric shapes.



5 JOHN PRINE

107 E. Martin St. (0.2 mi.)

The Mural Shop is N.C.'s premier mural studio, specializing in the painting, installation and restoration of large-scale murals, signs and graphics. Artist Scott Nurkin painted this mural during the 2018 International Bluegrass Music Association's World of Bluegrass festival as a Grammy awards promotional push for John Prine. Prine was an American country-folk singer-songwriter who was active as a composer, recording artist, live performer and occasional actor from the early 1970s until his death in 2020.



6 NO DAMSEL

329 W. Martin St. (0.4 mi.)

"No Damsel" reimagines Disney princesses like never before and places them into

modern environments, seeking to explore and subvert their stereotypical roles. Though defined as unmarried women, damsels are often portrayed and associated as distressed and in need of help. This site-specific mural, painted by Dorian Lynde, was originally a part of the CAM Raleigh "No Damsel" exhibition showcasing more Disney princesses.



7 B.E.S.T MURAL

210 S. West St. (0.1 mi.)

The B.E.S.T. mural, an abbreviation of "Beautifying Emergency Spaces Together" was a collaborative effort between artists, residents and businesses who had the same goal of wanting to shape downtown through shared creative expression. The concept for the B.E.S.T. mural goes as follows: "We will begin by inviting children to add their handprints and body tracings to a design that will morph into a crowd boarding a train in front of a Raleigh skyline." Phase II of the mural expands into a sunburst as the Wright brothers' plane and other flying machines soar over the N.C. countryside.



8 ANN AND ALLEN IVERSON MURAL

409 W. Martin St. (0.1 mi.)

Allen Iverson played in the NBA for 14 seasons as a shooting guard and point guard. This mural was a part of CAM Raleigh's "Above Rim" exhibition that explored basketball through the lens of art from 16 international artists. The exhibition closed in February 2019, but the mural is still here to see. Stephen "ESPO" Powers recreated the scene from 1990s NBA history—Allen Iverson sitting on the bench during an actual game, while his mom braided his hair.



9 ALL ARE WELCOME RALEIGH

428 S. McDowell St. (0.4 mi.)

Originally painted in 2015 by Luke Buchanan, this mural has become the unofficial welcome sign to downtown Raleigh. This mural was painted on the side of chef Ashley Christensen's restaurant, Poole'side Pies. Christensen is an established local chef and restaurateur who commissioned this mural to promote equality for the LGBTQ+ community. Luke Buchanan was invited back to Raleigh to give this mural a makeover and create a new "All are Welcome" mural during the summer of 2019.



10 ABSTRACTED MOTION BY GOOGLE FIBER

410 S. Salisbury St. (0.2 mi.)

Created in 2018, "Abstracted Motion" is the first mural of its kind in the world, combining both art and technology to showcase an augmented reality (AR) art installation. Created by Raleigh artist Taylor White and sponsored by Google Fiber, this mural allows you to see as well as feel the art. Though the mural may seem like five figures in shades of purple and blue, all striking an array of poses, when viewed through a smartphone, the mural comes to life and leaps off of the wall in 3D. Viewers must use the AR app created by Google called "Abstracted Motion." Feel free to take out your phones, walk through the artwork and explore.