

Ask the experts

Kathy Cano-Murillo  
& Patrick Murillo

With Day of the Dead on our minds, we asked two popular **Phoenix** artists about places to find Chicano soul in their area

**Where do you go for an authentic taste of home?** **KATHY:** Barrio Café (\$\$; 602/636-0240), in Phoenix. Owner-chef Silvana Salcido Esparza's food is modern Mexican, and it hits all your senses. You can linger, and a Cuban duo plays on weekends. You've got to have the churro, a so-elegant version of this dessert, with goat-milk *cajeta* and a chocolate espresso sauce. **What about a night of dancing?** **PATRICK:** For a real salsa experience, go to Pepin (\$\$\$; [pepinrestaurant.com](http://pepinrestaurant.com)) in Scottsdale. It's a restaurant that later at night turns itself into a Latin nightclub with DJs. And the dancers! **Do you have a favorite source for cool objects to decorate your shrines?** **KATHY:** When I want something cultural, I go to Sueños Latin American Imports ([suenosimports.com](http://suenosimports.com)) in Phoenix. They have all the things you see

and can't live without when you're in Mexico—Frida Kahlo postcards, Day of the Dead purses, and work by local artists. **Where to find artful stuff and creative energy?** **PATRICK:** The Spanish Market at Scottsdale's Heard Museum (Nov 8–9; [heard.org](http://heard.org)) is where you see the latest work of some of the best artists in the region. **What's your favorite public celebration of Día de los Muertos (Nov 1)?** **KATHY:** The Vision Gallery (closed Sun; [visiongallery.org](http://visiongallery.org)) in downtown Chandler. They invite 10 artists to create shrines. Every altar is so personal and has such a strong individual message, but all together they drive home the meaning of the day. It's about honoring the ancestors and the dead, but in a joyful way, knowing that their spirits are alive and well. —RONNI LUNDY

Editor's picks

Albuquerque

**On our radar:** Church of Beethoven

**What we think:** The 10:30 a.m. Sunday service of superbly played classical music and poetry in the Filling Station, a gas station garage turned theater, is divine. Freshly made espresso drinks before and after the one-hour nonreligious service make the \$15 suggested donation a bargain. [churchofbeethoven.org](http://churchofbeethoven.org) —R.L.

Grand Canyon

**On our radar:** Shoshone Point

**What we think:** Love the canyon, hate the masses? After group reservations for the popular picnic area here end for the season (Oct 15), you're likely to be on your own during the easy, roughly 1-mile (one-way) hike from State 64 along the point that juts out over the abyss. \$25 per vehicle; parking area is 1.2 miles east of Yaki Point Rd. on the north side of State 64/East Rim Dr.; [nps.gov/grca](http://nps.gov/grca) —MATTHEW JAFFE

Near Kayenta, AZ

**On our radar:** The new View Hotel

**What we think:** Plan now to snag a room in the adobe-style View after it opens in November. Perched in the front yard of Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park, known for its sci-fi landscape and iconic red-hued sandstone formations that are the backdrop of many westerns, it's good for a couple of nights, but with nothing else around, keep it at that. From \$95; park admission \$5; [monumentvalleyview.com](http://monumentvalleyview.com) —LISA LUBIN

Near Tucson

**On our radar:** The Interstellar Light Collector

**What we think:** Hmm. On the western outskirts of town, the 52-foot-high array of 4- by 8-foot mirrors reflects moonlight, which bathes people seeking healing and infuses crystals available for sale. So Sedona, but the serenity of the Sonoran Desert and sheer impressiveness of the rotating 25-ton array justify the trip. On the car stereo: Van Morrison's "Moondance." \$25 donation suggested; call 520/323-3446 or visit [starlightuses.com](http://starlightuses.com) for notice of upcoming public events. —EDIE JAROLIM



FOR INFO ON THE COUPLE'S NEW HEARD MUSEUM EXHIBIT AND A HANDY LIST OF THEIR TIPS, GO TO [sunset.com/weekend](http://sunset.com/weekend)