

CONVERSATION OVERVIEW

On October 6, 2026, the Parikh Giving Alliance hosted Art in the Public Square: The Stories Our Spaces Tell, bringing together Vicki Landon, Orange County Arts & Cultural Affairs; Gisela Romero, Orlando Visual Artist; and Gareth Edwards, Founder of A Perfect Union Art Gallery.

Moderated by Dr. Beena Parikh, Co-Founder of the Parikh Giving Alliance, the conversation explored how public art, creative spaces and storytelling shape shared places, preserve cultural identity, encourage dialogue and strengthen communities.

KEY CONVERSATION THEMES

Art as a Reflection of Community

Public art tells neighborhood stories, celebrates cultural heritage and reflects local identities.

Creating Connections Through Art

Murals, installations and galleries can bring people together and encourage community pride.

Expanding Access to the Arts

Art beyond traditional venues invites broader participation in creative expression.

The Power of Creative Collaboration

Artists, governments, businesses and nonprofits can partner to transform public spaces.

INSIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

1. Explore Public Art in Your Community

Visit local murals, installations, galleries and cultural spaces.

2. Support Local Artists and Creative Spaces

Attend exhibitions and support organizations expanding access to the arts.

3. Elevate Community Stories

Encourage creative projects that celebrate local history and diverse perspectives.

4. Encourage Cross-Sector Collaboration

Build partnerships among artists, nonprofits, businesses and local governments.

RESOURCES & LINKS

Orange County Arts & Cultural Affairs – Local public art and cultural initiatives.

City of Orlando Public Art – Public art installations and exhibitions.

A Perfect Union Art Gallery – Gallery and community art experiences.

Gisela Romero – Visual Artist – Artwork and creative projects.

United Arts of Central Florida – Regional arts resources and opportunities.

Americans for the Arts – Research and tools on arts and community impact.