



Southern Nevada Graffiti Coalition

The Newsletter of
Southern Nevada's Graffiti Fighting Alliance

Winter 2013/14

Southern Nevada United Against Graffiti Vandalism

Local Kids Take the “No Graffiti Pledge”

Members of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department's Gang Crimes Bureau have partnered with the City of Las Vegas to provide anti-graffiti education to local 5th grade students. Recently students at McWilliams Elementary School received a presentation from Metro and the City of Las Vegas about the detriments of being involved in graffiti vandalism. Gang detectives explained why it is important to protect the community from graffiti and what happens when someone is arrested for placing graffiti. The event wrapped up with all of the students taking a pledge to not get involved in graffiti. The students then signed a large pledge banner which was then provided to the school for display.

**We Want to Thank the
Students of
McWilliams School
for taking the
“No Graffiti Pledge!”**



Nevada's Historic Landmarks Receive Extra Protections from Graffiti Vandalism

Our most recent legislative session saw the successful passage of Senate Bill 237. The bill, introduced by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, makes it a felony crime to place graffiti to any object or locations with the state of Nevada that is registered as state or federal historic location. The new law went into effect on October 1st.

With the passage of this new law there are numerous locations in Southern Nevada that will now be protected. These locations include the "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas Sign," the Mob Museum (our community's first post office), the Moulin Rouge property, the old downtown Las Vegas High School District, the Boulder City Hospital, the Huntridge Theater property and numerous schools and churches.

The introduction of this legislation was the direct result of local graffiti vandalism intentionally and increasingly targeting Southern Nevada's high profile and historic landmarks. The reason graffiti vandals target high profile locations is that it increases their status in the graffiti world, what they call "fame." They strive to place highly offensive and costly graffiti to elevate their graffiti and their personal standing among their fellow graffiti vandals.

With the new felony status of these crimes several mandated penalties now exist. These penalties include mandatory jail time, probation, community service removing graffiti, loss of driving privileges, large fines, and restitution for the damage they caused.



**IT IS NOW
A FELONY
CRIME TO
GRAFFITI
ANY
HISTORIC
LOCATION
IN
NEVADA**

GRAFFITI GUIDE

To Report a Graffiti Vandal in Progress:

Call 911. Do not approach the vandal.

Be a good witness for responding officers.

Assist the officers with information if/when requested once the vandal is in custody.

To Request Graffiti Removal on Public Property:

Call the *Southern Nevada Graffiti Hotline* at 455-4509.

For Graffiti Removal on Non-Public Property:

For graffiti on utility boxes you can contact the company which owns the box.

For your safety do not attempt to remove graffiti from these boxes yourself.

Graffiti removal on private property is the responsibility of the property owner.

If an arrest is made the owner may receive full restitution as ordered by the court.

If the graffiti is on property managed by a home owner's association the HOA is responsible for removal of the graffiti. The HOA must also make the police report.

To Receive Free Graffiti Removal Supplies for your Neighborhood:

Contact the county or city where you reside. Often these supplies can be provided if you and your neighbors are able and willing to remove graffiti in your neighborhood.

To Have a Police Report made:

Stop by your nearest police station.

You must own the property to complete a police report.

When a report is made a detective will be assigned the case for investigation.

To Report a Known Graffiti Vandal:

Contact your local police department.

To remain anonymous you can call or submit a tip online to CRIME STOPPERS at (702) 385-5555 or www.crimestoppersofnv.com.

Tips leading to a felony arrest or an indictment processed through Crime Stoppers may result in a cash award.



Take the Time to Stop a Crime!



To submit your ANONYMOUS tips:
Call (702) 385-5555

Available 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week. Hablan Español.

Web Tip: www.CrimeStoppersOfNV.com

Text **"CRIMENV"** + your tip info to **CRIMES (274637)**

Text STOP to 274637 to cancel. Text HELP to 274637 for help. Message & Data rates may apply.

Crime Stoppers provides citizens the vehicle to ANONYMOUSLY supply law enforcement with information about a crime or a wanted subject! Crime Stoppers is a non-profit organization that offers cash rewards to eligible tipsters for information processed thru Crime Stoppers that directly leads to a felony arrest or indictment. Crime Stoppers assist all Southern Nevada Law Enforcement Agencies.

¡Toma un momentito para detener un delito!



Para dar sus pistas ANÓNIMAS:

Llame al

(702) 385-5555

Disponible las 24 horas, los 7 días de la semana.

Por Internet: www.CrimeStoppersOfNV.com

Por mensaje de texto: envía **"CRIMENV"** +
su mensaje al **274637 (CRIMES)**

Envía **"STOP"** al 274637 para cancelar. Envía **"HELP"** al 274637 para pedir ayuda.
Cargos por mensajes y uso de transmisión de datos pueden aplicar.

Crime Stoppers permite que las personas provean información

ANONIMA a las autoridades del orden público acerca de algún delito o prófugo de la ley.

Crime Stoppers es una organización sin fines de lucro que ofrece recompensas en efectivo a informantes legítimos por los datos que se procesen mediante Crime Stoppers y logren el arresto por del tos graves o enjuiciamiento. Crime Stoppers apoya a todas las agencias del orden público del sur de Nevada.

The 7th Annual Anti-Graffiti Art Contest Wraps Up

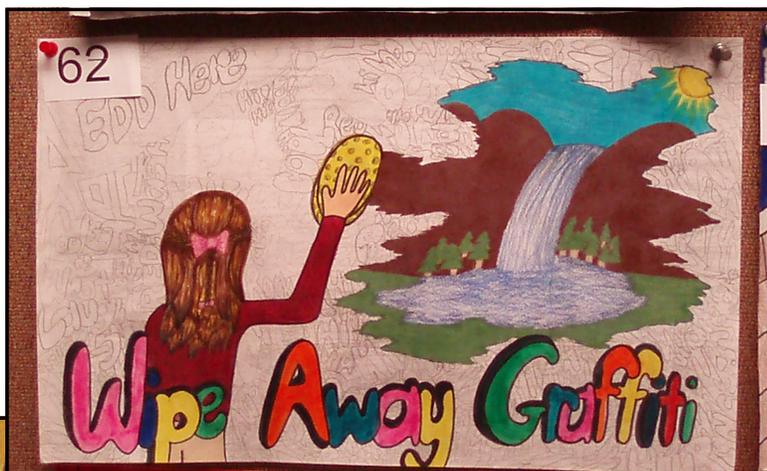
It was seven years ago that SNGC members from the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), Vector Media, and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department partnered to create an educational program that would provide a deterrent for young people to avoid graffiti involvement while publicly promoting a strong anti-graffiti message. It was from this partnership that the RTC Anti-Graffiti Art Contest was born.

With the addition of partners from Crime Stoppers of Nevada, Outdoor Promotions, the City of Las Vegas, Clark County and the Clark County School District this program has become a highly anticipated annual event.

This years event was the best yet with young artists from across Southern Nevada submitting artwork for consideration. The top two artists, as determined by online public voting, will have their artwork blown up and placed on an RTC public bus. In addition these two artists and the remaining eight artists from the top ten will have their artwork placed on large bus shelter poster ads which will be placed throughout the Las Vegas area.

It is only with the generosity of RTC, Vector Media, Outdoor Promotions and Crime Stoppers of Nevada that this event is a continued annual success.

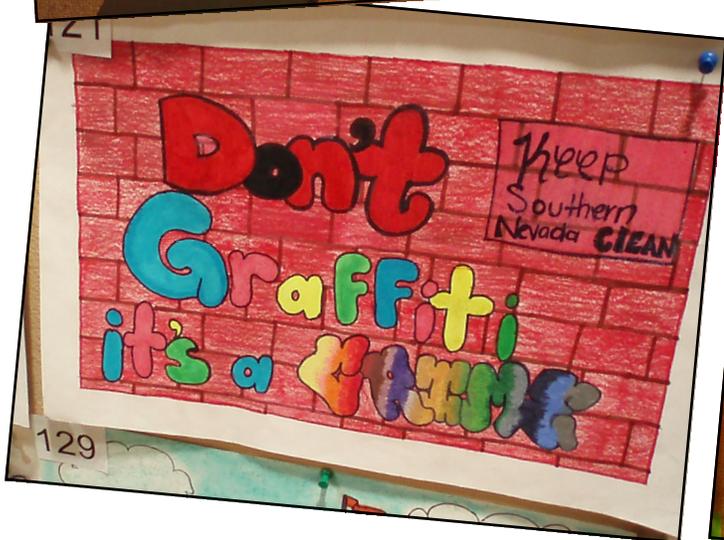
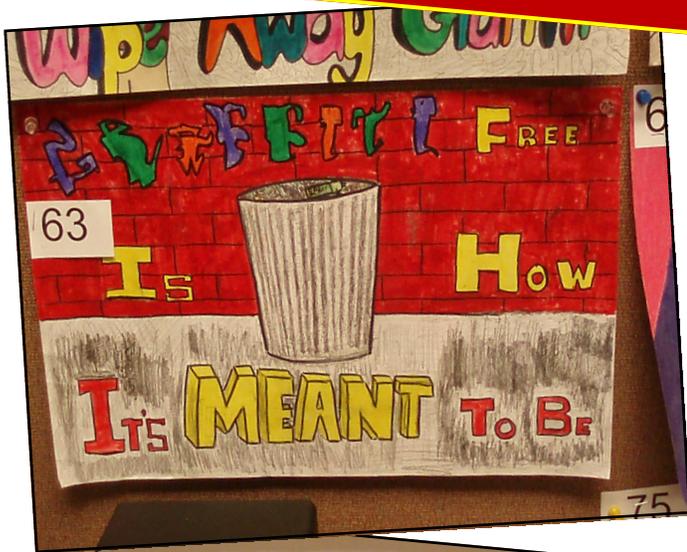
We will soon see this year's new anti-graffiti bus on our streets!



OUR SINCERE THANKS GOES TO RTC, OUTDOOR PROMOTIONS GENERAL MANAGER ANGELA NELSON, AND CRIME STOPPERS DIRECTOR JENNIFER VERSHALL FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THIS GREAT ANNUAL EVENT



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR
OUR TALENTED YOUNG ARTISTS!



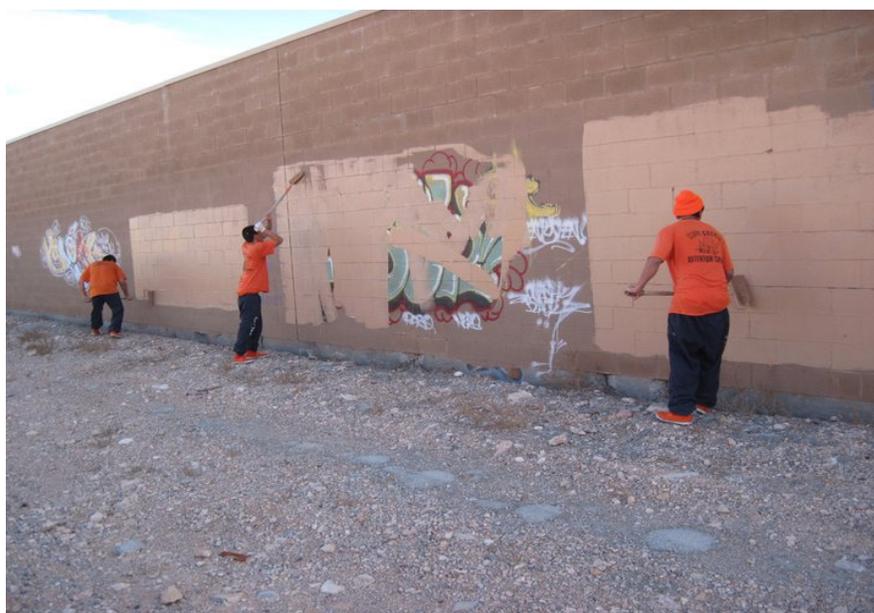
2013 saw the continued success of the LVMPD Graffiti Abatement & Investigation Program. This program uses inmate labor provided by convicted inmates housed at the Clark County Detention Center to remove graffiti in the community.

Under the supervision of LVMPD officers assigned to the Detention Services Division, inmates remove graffiti throughout our community using paint and materials provided at no charge by Clark County. Prior to removal, the graffiti is documented and photographed by officers. The photos are then provided to graffiti investigations detectives who use the photos to make arrests, enhance existing criminal cases, and build intelligence about active graffiti vandals.

The program is a cost effective means of fighting our community's most costly crime: graffiti vandalism. It benefits the community, our local law enforcement officers, and the inmates themselves because it provides them a means of serving their sentences in a productive way that helps the community.

In 2013 the LVMPD Graffiti Abatement & Investigation Program was recognized by the First Congressional District Nevada as well as by the Clark County Commission for it's benefit to Southern Nevada's citizens and businesses.

**SINCE 2010 MORE
THAN 6 MILLION
DOLLARS IN
GRAFFITI DAMAGE
HAS BEEN REMOVED
BY INMATES FROM
THE CLARK COUNTY
DETENTION CENTER**



A replica of a NASA space shuttle on display in Houston was defaced November 27th when vandals sprayed racial and political graffiti on the side of the full-size mockup. The offending markings were quickly covered over within hours of their being found. The graffiti, which included the phrase, "Houston, we are the problem," was limited to the side of the space shuttle that faced away from the center's parking lot. A bus driver was among the first to spot the vandalism and reported it to authorities early Wednesday morning.

Full Sized Space Shuttle Replica vandalized with Graffiti in Houston



Picasso Vandal Goes to Prison

A Houston Texas man accused of vandalizing a 1929 Pablo Picasso painting in a Houston museum – an act that was caught on cellphone video – agreed Tuesday to a two-year prison term as part of a plea deal with prosecutors.

Uriel Landeros had faced felony graffiti and criminal mischief charges accusing him of spray-painting "Woman in a Red Armchair" at the Menil Collection.

Emily Detoto, Landeros' attorney, said that after negotiating with prosecutors during a court hearing, her client agreed to plead guilty to the graffiti charge in exchange for a minimal prison sentence. The other charge was dropped. Landeros had faced up to 10 years in prison.

Detoto said Landeros, 22, wanted the criminal mischief charge dismissed because he believed "what he did to the painting was not criminal mischief, it was an artistic statement, an expression, much like graffiti art is."



NEW YORK'S FAMOUS 5-POINTS GRAFFITI MECCA ERASED OVERNIGHT

For over 30 years a building at NYC's "5-Points" was considered the Mecca for NY's graffiti community. But overnight it all came to an end when more than three decades worth of graffiti was removed by the buildings owner. It is believed by many of those who placed graffiti there that it was done to prevent some sort of legal action to protect the building from demolition. Many in NY's "arts community" believe that the owner had no right to repaint his own property due to the building's importance to local graffiti "artists."



DID YOU KNOW?



The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) maintains the second longest continually operating graffiti investigations details in the United States. Only the New York Police Department has had a full-time graffiti investigations unit longer.

Beginning in 1993 as part of the LVMPD's implementation of *community oriented policing* tactics, the LVMPD Graffiti Investigations Section is charged with identifying and arresting graffiti vandals throughout the Las Vegas / Clark County area. They conduct follow-up investigations of graffiti related arrests made by LVMPD officers, provide training and support for

officer from other agencies and states, and manage a variety of community based anti-graffiti projects that promote graffiti reduction and management throughout Southern Nevada. LVMPD graffiti detectives also work closely with the LVMPD's Office of Intergovernmental Services to assure that our local and state graffiti laws keep up with the changing nature of graffiti related crimes.

In 1995 LVMPD graffiti investigations detectives partnered with officials from Clark County and the city of Las Vegas to form the Southern Nevada Graffiti Coalition (SNGC). The SNGC has continued to serve the citizens of Southern Nevada by coordinating resources among our local governmental entities and law enforcement agencies to effectively and efficiently manage graffiti proliferation in our community.



This year the SNGC celebrates 20 years of successful anti-graffiti programs that have aided our public agencies and empowered our citizens in a unified fight against graffiti and the detrimental effects it has on our community.

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