Topographic Tunnel
A Mural Created by Joslyn’s Kent Bellows Mentoring Program

Artist Mentor Rebecca Harrison is a lead artist with A Midsummer’s Mural and a founding member of the South Omaha Mural Project. She creates community based public murals, ceramics, hand-painted signs, and private murals.

KBMP Lead Artists: Scar Connor, Chloe Johnson, Lauren Kalstrup, Melana Turley; Assistant Artists: Avery Davis (not pictured), Avery Weir; Volunteer: Lillian Storz

Topographic Tunnel is inspired by satellite imagery of Nebraska landscapes and includes patterns, symbols, and textures that we found in the Museum and abstracted to reflect our own personal styles and welcome visitors with a bright and colorful design.

Long West Wall—Group Collaborative Design
Derived from a photograph of the Elkhorn River, we used images of the flooding that occurred in 2019 to accentuate the volatility of this landscape. Climate change and environmental disasters are high concerns for our generation. This wall emphasizes the impacts of these crises on Nebraska waterways.

Long East Wall—Designed by Melana Turley
This wall shows Nebraska agriculture in a fun and colorful way. It contrasts with the natural flow of the river/flood mural (long west wall) and shows the domestication and human impact on Nebraska’s original landscape.

Short East Wall—Designed by Chloe Johnson
We used the historic 1936 map that once defined Omaha’s north and south sides. This map was used to systemically segregate and oppress communities of color through the real estate market, leading to much of the current disparity of wealth in different areas of Omaha and the people who live there.

Short West Wall—Designed by Scar Connor
Joslyn’s location was our inspiration for this final wall. We let the design of the interstate carry the visual interest. You can find the Museum at the bottom left corner—note the orange shape of the new building, currently under construction.