



Off the wall

by Steve Egiroire

What many consider vandalism, the evolution of graffiti into a new, more "sightly" form of street art has many cities reconsidering their strict anti-graffiti laws. Take Tucson, for example. This controversial form of expression remains illegal on public and private property in both Durango and Tucson, but walls donated to street art in Tucson encourage artists to hone their skills in a legal venue. A push for such a place in Durango some years back was rejected on the grounds that it was under-developed and received little public support. Alternative efforts, like the dumpster program that allows teams of high school students to develop an idea, request permission and post their art in the public eye is one way that the community creates alternatives to illegal "tagging". Public interest in a broader mural program may offer up a Tucson-style creative space. For now, here's a peek at what artists down south are spattering the walls with...

