



# ARTS & CULTURE



*From mural-blanketed neighborhoods to galleries and traditional artisan craftery, or post-Burning Man sculptures to odd-ball objects rising from the desert floor, there certainly is enough eye-catching, camera-hogging art to grace Nevada's urban districts, small towns, and even natural spaces with an exciting layer of flavor. Residents and visitors are inspired by Nevada's grand, 360-degree vistas and wide-open spaces and continually draw on that inspiration to create art and celebrate vibrant cultures.*

“ART LOOKS GOOD ON EVERY  
STATE... BUT IN NEVADA,  
IT JUST FITS.”





# OUR FAVORITE HIGHLIGHTS...



## BASQUE HERITAGE

Emigrating to Nevada first for the gold in the 19th century, and later to put their sheepherding skills to use in northern Nevada, The state's Basque culture is intertwined with other influences that shape the region. Basque men would work as sheepherders in the high desert mountain terrain, while the women held hospitality roles at the many Basque boarding houses. When the men returned for supplies or during the off-season, they headed for the familiarity of these Basque-run establishments. There are still authentic Basque boarding houses peppered across northern Nevada,

and stopping at any one of them guarantees a satisfying meat-filled meal served family style, with a Picon Punch to wash it all down.



***National Basque Festival*** This Congressionally-recognized festival is held every **July in Elko, Nevada**. Experience traditional dancing, music, handmade crafts, Basque rural sports competitions — like woodchopping, weightlifting, and tug-of-war.



## BUCKAROO HERITAGE & COWBOY POETRY

How many places can you encounter a ranch matriarch, American Indian poet laureate, pre-teen yodeling champ, and broc-riding free-verse slam poet, all in a single show? At the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering, you'll find all of that and more. The National Cowboy Poetry Gathering started in 1985 as a place where Western ranchers and cowboys could gather to share poems about their lives working cattle. The group has grown to now include Western poets, musicians, artisans and storytellers, sharing their stories of hard work, heartbreak, and hilarity.



***The National Cowboy Poetry Gathering*** is held every January, thousands from around the world flock to Elko, Nevada for six days of culture rooted in tradition but focused on today's rural West.







## STEWART INDIAN SCHOOL

The former federally run Stewart Indian School for Native American children is now a museum and cultural center located in Nevada capital city, Carson City. The Stewart Indian School cultural center and museum tells the complex story that spans the school's period of operation from 1890 to 1980. Visitors can learn more through a self-guided audio walking tour, listening as former students tell stories from their time at the school.

***The Stewart Father's Day Pow-Wow*** is held every year to celebrate Nevada's American Indian culture. Activities include competition dancing, art & crafts, food vendors, and educational opportunities.

*Explore more ideas at: [TravelNevada.com/arts](https://TravelNevada.com/arts)*



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