






# Lal Bolander

## Artist and Educator

Lal/a Bolander (he/she) is a multidisciplinary artist and storyteller whose work examines the human connection to the many worlds around and between us. Lal creates curious and playful art, ranging from page poetry to metal embossing to public installations. Lal's work is heavily influenced by his ancestors, Chicago/Chicagoans, and his identity as a queer and trans Chicano parent. Lal believes transformative art is always made in collaboration, whether that be with spirits or with community.

### CONTACT

 [lalanomada.com](http://lalanomada.com)  
 312-877-1235  
 Chicago, IL 60632

### EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Bachelor of Arts, 2015  
OMAI First Wave Scholarship  
Bayard Rustin Scholarship

### SKILLS

Fluent in English & Spanish

Visioning: goal setting, benchmarks, production timelines, budget management, partnership development, event planning, workshop design and facilitation

Poetry: writing, editing, book formatting

Visual and Physical Art: drawing, painting, mural design and execution, metal embossing, installation art

Direction: Team poetry and interdisciplinary stage productions

### AWARDS

August 2024 | Kuumba Lynx  
**JVN 1Luv Warrior Award**

March 2010 | Louder Than a Bomb  
**First Place**

### FEATURED ARTIST

Chicago Soul Poem El Wrap, Chicago | 2026  
North Riverside Park Mall 50th Anniversary, North Riverside, IL | 2026  
Poetry Making Playground TRAIL, Chicago | 2026  
Block Club Chicago Night of Storytelling | 2026  
Chicago Public Library Latinx Heritage Month Series, Chicago | 2025  
L'Cafecito Jumping Bean, Chicago | 2025  
Chicago Women in Trades Welding Gala | 2024  
Chicago Public Library Latinx Heritage Month Series, Chicago | 2024  
Argyle Street Market, Chicago | 2024  
Poetry Corner, Chicago Reader | 2024  
Kuumba Lynx' Poetry Making Playground, Chicago | 2024  
Día de los Muertos Altares, Smart Museum of Art Chicago | 2023  
'I Am' art exhibition, 2240 Gallery Chicago | 2022  
Logan Square Mural Project | 2021

### MURALS

Immigrant Solidarity Mural, Little Village neighborhood | 2024  
Archer Park Garage Door Mural Series | 2021, 2022, 2023, 2025  
The Port Ministries Community Center | 2022  
Anti-gentrification mural, Logan Square neighborhood | 2021  
Ayotzinapa Memorial mural, Pilsen neighborhood | 2020  
Cafe La Catrina, Pilsen neighborhood | 2015

### COLLABORATIONS

Welcome Home with Nico Segal, Steppenwolf LookOut Series | 2023  
Kebranto | 2022-2023  
Chicago Hip Hop Theater Festival | 2016  
Line Breaks Hip Hop Theater Festival, Madison WI | 2015, 2014, 2013