

The Taurus symbol can be faintly seen on the gable behind the trees above the security guard box. When viewed from the second floor the image of a goat can be seen. The two walkways leading from the parking lot to the fountain are horns. The fountain itself is the head outlined by the sidewalk. The two palm trees and now palm stump make up the goat's beard.

M2 ♉ Taurus Goat

Artes, the first sign in the Western Zodiac, was originally painted in the courtyard. Like Artes the rooster is first to rise in the morning.

M1 ♈ Aries Rooster

The lettering at the top is original, and the gable closest to the front gate facing Pleasant Valley shows the sign for Cancer. The entrance is designed to look like a temple playing on the word "Incan" that can be seen in the courtyard. This alludes to the role horses played in the Incan empire. The metal sculpture in the courtyard reads "stay here a while" in Romanian, playing on the two-door unit in the entry breezeway being the original office area.

M4 ♋ Cancer Horse

The metal grates around the windows create a cage effect, while the metal sculpture facing M4 is the symbol for Gemini.

M3 ♊ Gemini Rat

There is a dragon face built into the sidewalk that can be seen from the second floor. Additionally, the dragon mural, while repainted during the last revamp is the original design and placement

M6 ♏ Virgo Dragon

The entrance of the building facing the front gate is a snake head. "SSS" is painted on the top depicting the sound of a snake. The windows create the eyes, the diamond accents represent scales, and the Met logo "M" is placed where a snake's tongue would be. In the courtyard, a metal sculpture depicts a cobra with a S to mark the building. Another sculpture represents a snake trap. On the side of the building between the parking lot and grassy area a rattle-tailed cobra is painted. The letter "L" seen closest to the laundry room is a traditional symbol for cobra, as well as the zodiac Leo.

M5 ♏ Leo Snake

We, the residents of the Metropolis apartments, fear our voices as members of the community are not heard.

While we love that pool events foster the growth of our community's eclectic spirit, allowing us to meet our neighbors, and showcase our talents (whether it be music, art, or dance), the community does not solely live at these events. We also gather in units for band practice.

We gather in courtyards to grill food for each other. We gather on porches to talk about life and share a few drinks.

Many of us have chosen the Metropolis as our home for several years, and for those who are relatively new to the community, we often choose to stay because of our neighbors, the people who make the Metropolis, the Met.

We have noticed over the years that, we are the ones largely responsible for making the Met the haven that it is.

For instance, many of the palms have died due to excessive temperatures, only to be replaced by nothing. In their absence, it was residents who have rebuilt and cared for the gardens. Take the residents' gardens in buildings 1, 4, 7 and the new work accomplished by the residents of building 11 as examples.

The people who live here have built it up.

When the Metropolis first opened, a group of friends came together and created a Zodiac scavenger hunt. Though many of the original murals are now lost to time, some remnants remain around the complex. Over time new artists have cycled through the Met and left their mark. Many of the murals currently around the complex were created by our neighbors and all the artists that have walked through the courtyards over the last 30 years. While we are grateful that buildings are being made more safe and accessible, we are concerned that we may lose some of the artwork and culture that has inspired everyone who has come through the Met.

For these reasons, we propose that the community be brought into conversation about the changes that affect us.

Attached is a table that showcases only a part of the lore ingrained in the walls around us.



...there are arrows with the Ox - because it is also the building for Sagittarius (the hunter). - David Sewell McCann

M9 ♐ Sagittarius Ox

The building was previously painted with white tiger stripes

M8 ♏ Scorpio Tiger

Predominantly featured in metal sculptures, i.e. the metal sculpture closest to the laundry room resembles both bunny ears and a balance scale. The former metal sculpture on the northside of the building facing Pleasant Valley represented a merchant's cart, and the fig tree represents abundance that is often associated with rabbit symbolism.

M7 ♎ Libra Rabbit

M10 ♏ Capricorn Monkey

McCann noted this building once had a mural of the monkey "Pongo Pongo." A monkey-like face can still be seen in the sidewalk when viewed from the 2nd floor

M11 ♒ Aquarius Pig

Aquarius is known as the water bearer, the breezeway next to the gym once said "Swim Pig"

Clubhouse ♉ Pisces Dog

"The clubhouse is both the Dog and Pisces. If you look up at the ceiling, you'll see the fish. And Pisces is indeed the initiate of the zodiac. Spiritually advanced and also most dangerous." - David Sewell McCann