

so proud! It was the first time any black or brown people had come to the Roswell Museum. The planetarium, a new educational building adjunct to the Roswell Museum, opened about that time, too.

I'm not very good at being a full-time artist. I always needed something else. I moved to Chihuahuita, got drafted to work for the Community Action Program. You have to understand this was a time when Head Start was a Communist plot in the eyes of a lot of people. The Roswell Meals on Wheels program consisted of one woman, Norma Gómez, who cooked all the food, packed it up, and delivered it in her car. All these ideas were brand new and kind of suspect; the Cold War mentality was something mean and real: us or them.

The air base had closed, and all those people had moved away, leaving hundreds of empty houses. The Federal Housing Administration had all these guaranteed mortgages they were going to have to



The first group. 1970. Front Row: (L to R) David Reed, Judy Rifka holding John, Sally Midgette, Margaret Goodman holding Jessica. Back Row: (L to R) Gene Smith, Bill Midgette, Tom Stokes, Jane Kozuszek holding Walter, William Goodman, Larry Kozuszek. *Courtesy Roswell Artist-in-Residence Program archives.*