



**UC MERCED**

**BRINGING THE SEASONS OF YOSEMITE TO UC MERCED**

*A tribute to the grandeur of Yosemite, the wisdom of John Muir, and the spirit of the Ahwahneechee people — crafted in over 8,800 pieces of glass.*

## Permanently Installing William Poulson's Iconic Seasons of Yosemite at UC Merced

### The Artwork

William Poulson's "Four Seasons of Yosemite" is a breathtaking stained glass mural series capturing the natural splendor of Yosemite Valley across all four seasons. Standing 14 feet wide and 8 feet tall, each mural encompasses traditional leaded glass and copper foil techniques with steel reinforcement, demonstrating extraordinary craftsmanship and deep reverence for California's iconic landscape.

Each mural depicts the uniqueness of the season, including:

#### **Autumn – "Tissiack" (1989)**

Half Dome in golden fall light, inspired by Ahwahneechee heritage and previously displayed at the Ahwahnee Hotel and Yosemite Visitors Center in Yosemite National Park

#### **Winter – "The Chief" (2008)**

A luminous moon over Cathedral Rocks and El Capitan in a serene, snow-covered Yosemite Valley

#### **Spring – "Cascade Creek" (2016)**

A vibrant scene of waterfalls, blooming wildflowers, and wildlife awakening

#### **Summer – "Valley Life" (2022)**

A tribute to Yosemite's Indigenous history, featuring Native individuals and activities set against Sentinel Rock and El Capitan

The murals are currently on loan and have been displayed in the UC Merced Library since 2016.

## The Artist

William Poulson was born in Oakland, CA and raised in Castro Valley. After leaving college in 1962, he spent over 20 years as a journeyman carpenter in the building trade before founding his own studio and gallery in Arnold, CA in 1987. Over more than three decades, Poulson developed his unique artistry in stained glass, with works now displayed in homes, churches, and public spaces around the world.

## Why UC Merced?

As the fastest growing campus in the University of California system with close proximity to Yosemite National Park, UC Merced is uniquely positioned to

preserve and showcase these masterpieces. Acquiring the Four Seasons of Yosemite will:

- Honor regional cultural and ecological heritage
- Enhance the University's public art collection
- Inspire future generations of students, scholars, and visitors

## Your Support Matters

We are actively seeking donors to help secure the permanent acquisition of these iconic works, and hope that donors will consider a gift of \$5,000 or more. Gifts of that size, or larger, will be recognized with permanent on-site signage.



To help support the Seasons of Yosemite murals, visit [engage.ucmerced.edu](https://engage.ucmerced.edu), call (209) 228-4401, or email [giving@ucmerced.edu](mailto:giving@ucmerced.edu).



**Boldly Forward:** The Campaign for UC Merced will enhance the university's ability to meet our community's greatest needs and find solutions for pressing issues facing the Central Valley and beyond. Every gift made to UC Merced – regardless of who it is from, what it supports, or how large or small – counts toward the campaign's success.