

**TECH**

# Google Doodle honors Pacita Abad, prized Philippine artist who broke gender barriers

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Google's homepage got a refresh in the name of Pacita Abad, an artist and activist from the Philippines who broke gender barriers.

If you visit Google.com on Friday, you'll see a vibrant rendering or "Doodle" that depicts the late painter, who was also the first woman to receive the country's "Ten Outstanding Young Men" award for prized artwork. She was granted the award on July 31, 1984.

"Thank you, Pacita Abad, for painting the picture of a brighter tomorrow!" Google said in a statement.

Google also published a blog post offering information about the artist's life.

She was born in the Philippines in 1946 and later moved to San Francisco for graduate school. She was involved in the art scene there in the 1970s and went on to study painting before traveling the world with her supplies, according to the search giant.

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The places Abad visited had an impact on the work she produced, according to Google.

Over time, she used her artwork to raise awareness about societal issues. She developed a passion for public art and channeled that into her 2003 project "Painted Bridge" in Singapore. The artist covered the nation's famous Alkaff Bridge with an explosion of 2,350 colorful circles.

For over 10 years, Google has periodically replaced its search page logo with new images and graphics, dubbed "doodles," to mark special events and anniversaries.

"With Doodles, we aim to celebrate a diverse mix of topics that reflect Google's personality, teach people something new, and most importantly, are meaningful to local culture," the search giant said in a statement.

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