



Sacramento Poderosas sacpoderosas.org

April 24, 2026

Dear Community,

We take this moment to reflect with deep appreciation on the continued growth, visibility, and impact of the Sacramento Poderosas Mural Project.

At its core, our work remains rooted in a simple yet powerful vision: to use art as activism to uplift oppressed and historically marginalized Chicana/Latina voices, and to help build a more equitable, informed, just, and restorative society. Through our mural and accompanying programming, we honor the herstories of Poderosas, women whose leadership, advocacy, and relentless care have shaped communities across the Sacramento Valley and beyond.

Since its completion in May 2023, the mural has traveled to schools, colleges, and community spaces, bringing its message of empowerment and cultural affirmation to diverse audiences. It has been exhibited at the University of California, Davis for the MALCS conference, Woodland High School, Sacramento City College, American River College, Sacramento State, Luther Burbank High School, and TANA in Woodland. At the COLEGAS Conference in November 2025, the mural was projected prominently at the Sacramento Convention Center, where more than 600 attendees experienced its message. The COLEGAS' mission, to develop, elevate, and increase leadership from the Latina comunidad throughout the California Community Colleges, resonates deeply with our own commitment to liberation, justice, and cultura.

In each setting, and most recently at TANA, the mural has served not only as a visual centerpiece but as a catalyst for intergenerational dialogue, reflection, learning, healing, and growth. Students, educators, and community members engage deeply with the herstories represented, reinforcing the mural's role as a living and evolving tool for transformational change.

Our educational outreach continues to expand. We are developing workshops, storytelling spaces, and culturally responsive materials that center community knowledge and lived experience. At TANA, the exhibition paired the Sacramento Poderosas mural with artwork by intergenerational womxn artists, grounding the presentation in social justice, immigrant rights, community empowerment, and the long-standing tradition of muralism within the Xicana/o/x art Movimiento.



Students from Pioneer High School and Woodland High School were invited to TANA to create handmade immigrant rights posters using acrylic and tempera paints, supported by pre-generated image stencils to guide their designs and messaging. More than 60 students participated. Two scholarships (\$250 and \$100) were awarded to students who created immigration-rights posters for a scholarship competition, and their artwork was celebrated at the exhibition's opening reception.

We were also invited to present at the April statewide Association of Raza Educators (ARE) conference in Sacramento. Our workshop, *Art, Healing, and the Collective Resistance*, invited participants to create posters responding to prompts such as: What does justice look like to you? How do you envision a safe school environment for our families? How do we support our immigrant families? What does educational justice look like to you? Participants were also encouraged to create their own prompts to guide their art.

In addition, Ruby Chacón and Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz (Associate Professor, UC Davis) were selected as one of ten Artist-Researcher (ARx) teams collaborating to translate complex scientific concepts into accessible and engaging works of art. Their topic, Community Violence, aligns with our mission to transform local research into digestible concepts that increase advocacy for our imperiled communities and illuminate contemporary civil rights issues. The ARx Program, which began at the Phoenix Bioscience Core in 2022, expanded this year to UC Davis (Aggie Square).

Following the TANA exhibit, the mural will travel to high schools throughout the Sacramento City Unified School District. Elk Grove Unified has also expressed interest in hosting the mural.

These efforts reflect our commitment not only to accessibility, but to ensuring that our work is shaped by and inclusive of diverse voices, especially those historically underrepresented in arts and educational spaces.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our volunteer collective of artists, educators, students, and community partners. Sustained by "activist" energy and collective care, we are continually inspired by the passion and commitment each person brings to this work.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to expanding the mural's reach, strengthening community partnerships, and developing educational programming that empowers youth and community members to see themselves as agents of change. Through art, dialogue, and collective care, we will continue to honor stories that inspire, uplift, and transform, ensuring that the Poderosas



legacy continues to thrive. We remain deeply committed to amplifying underrepresented voices and advancing a more just and inclusive future.

With gratitude,

Sacramento Poderosa Executive Board

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