



## The Arts Council is changing lives through *Monterey County Gives!*

Dear \*{{Informal Name}}\* ,

To those who know him, visual artist Jose Ortiz is a modest hero and a guiding force for good in the local arts community. He founded Hijos del Sol in 1994 as an artistic haven for many local displaced children who, like him, needed a place to explore their creativity and discover the power of art.



For almost 30 years, Jose has mentored students at Hijos del Sol, housed at the Migrant Activities Center at Sherwood Elementary School in East Salinas. He uses art to help guide students towards a better path through collaborative murals - blending teamwork, creative skill, and mentorship.

Jose's students, proteges, and their students have created over 70 murals in the Salinas Valley. With bold, bright colors and a focus on nature and community, his projects do more than motivate his students, they bring the community together.

Jose is just one of the Arts Council's partners for our award-winning Arts as Healing program which is just one of many ways the Arts Council is working to support mental health through visual and performing arts.

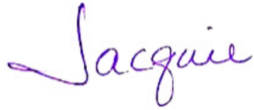
**Please donate now through *Monterey County Gives!* to support our Arts as Healing program with amazing people like Jose.**

GIVE NOW

Your gift helps keep cultural leaders and mentors in Monterey County and improves the lives of all of our program participants for at-risk youth, isolated seniors, and vulnerable veterans.

And, a huge thank you to our amazing Challenge Donors for making this possible!

With gratitude,



**Jacquie Atchison**  
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