

Keyla Salazar Memorial Mural

Artist: Jessica Sabogal

Completed October 2022

Mayfair Community Center / 2039 Kammerer Ave, San Jose, CA 95116/ Council District 5

ABOUT THE PROJECT

This mural project was created to memorialize Keyla Salazar, a Mayfair neighborhood teen who was a victim of the mass shooting at the Gilroy Garlic Festival on July 28, 2019. Keyla Salazar's family advocated to City Council for a mural memorial to her and received unanimous support. Bay Area Artist Jessica Sabogal was selected to perform the work.

Jessica Sabogal's colorful mural design prominently features an image of Keyla Salazar, with members of her family gathered at the base of her image and includes imagery of a range of things that were particularly meaningful to Keyla during her life and symbolic of her interests and concerns.



The vertical sides of the mural are banded with imagery of cultural patterns from Mexico and Peru, the cultures of Keyla's family. The artwork's colors are earthy in tone which aligns it well to the design of the Mayfair Community Center. There are several blocks of text: one is a quote from Keyla on a page that appears to be held up by her grandmother; another is a benediction in Spanish; and the third is a commentary on safe spaces.

The artist met extensively with members of Keyla Salazar's family throughout the mural design process and through these meetings they shared artwork, photos, and other imagery for use in the artwork design.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Jessica Sabogal is a queer Colombian - American muralist and printmaker from San Francisco whose large-scale public artworks attempt to document and disrupt. She births her creations from the following framework:

“As artists, it is our duty to uplift the sacredness of women, people of color, the differently abled, queer and trans folks, immigrants and the undocumented, and our indigenous siblings, whom continue to face ongoing oppression and marginalization. I believe in the right to our own liberation, unbounded by man-made borders, white supremacy, and misogyny.”

For the past 10 years, Sabogal has consistently reinvented what it means to be a muralist in a male-dominated medium. She has continuously pushed the boundaries as an artist by utilizing her medium for social change, action and empowerment. Her murals have been commissioned by Facebook, Google, 20th Century Fox, the University of Southern California, the University of California, The University of Arizona, and The University of Utah among many others. Sabogal’s work has been featured in national and international news and media sources including CNN, The Wall Street Journal, The Huffington Post, and the New York Times.

<http://www.jessicasabogal.com/>

ABOUT THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The City of San José Public Art Program seeks to build community identity by initiating artworks and exhibitions that enhance the civic landscape and experience. Through active community engagement, public art strives to reflect the City’s diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future.

The Public Art Program is part of the City’s Cultural Affairs, a division of the Office of Economic Development. The Public Art Program was established by a 1984 municipal ordinance that provides public art through funding from City capital improvement projects and eligible private development.

For further information and photos, please contact the San José Public Art Program at publicart@sanjoseca.gov.



Office of Cultural Affairs **Public Art Program**

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