“Make Your Next Step Your Best”

Mural painting by Solano Community College art class completed at county’s Juvenile Detention Facility

Solano County’s Juvenile Detention Facility will celebrate the completion of a thematic mural created by a Solano Community College art class. The summer course—entitled Mural Painting: History, Community, Practice (ART 30B)—focused on the vital role that murals play within a community. With insight from Superintendent Richard Watson, staff, and several youths in the facility, the Solano College students designed a mural to address this community’s diverse needs and concerns.

The mural will be presented at a special ceremony, to be announced soon. The Juvenile Detention Facility is located at 740 Beck Avenue, Fairfield, CA, 94533.
A mural for the community

Having studied the history of mural painting—from Mesoamerica to Diego Rivera’s San Francisco murals, and from the Italian Renaissance to the Harlem Renaissance—the Solano College class was excited by the opportunity to apply their knowledge of art history and skills as artists in a large-scale mural project. The students were also aware of their responsibility to represent the community, and create a worthy design that would reflect the community’s past, present, and future.

The mural speaks to the risks and challenges that we face in moving through life, and is named “Make Your Next Step Your Best.” Figures make their way through a surreal landscape; first walking a tightrope, then finding their way to more solid ground, the figures are faced with different paths and different doorways. They try to keep their balance, encouraged (and sometimes distracted) by the birds and butterfly, which make balancing look so easy. The mural underscores the importance of choices, the difficulty in keeping balanced in life, and the desire to move forward.

Event Details Coming Soon!

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