



Anastasia Sullivan, Sac State Student

Artist “Believe” Statement

Unity Through Diversity

At Sac State, we believe that trans BIPOC students and faculty are having real, human experiences. In Sacramento, 40% of our houseless youth are LGBTQ+. We believe that this is a failing of the system. It is essential to not erase or forget the lives of marginalized individuals impacted by systemic racism, bias, and phobias. We struggle and hurt in ways that cannot be measured by tools or scales from 1 to 10. When elitism and supremacy fuel the ire of hate crimes and violence, entire communities suffer. The youth and folks alive today are here now. They are more than a distant promise of the future, a projected calculation, or quota. The individual becomes part of the larger narrative of subjugated groups and mustn't be reduced to a lost name or number in a statistic.

Belief is the first step in establishing the grounds of friendship and true allyship because it can only exist when there is trust. To believe, is not the same as understanding, that is another step in the deep process of acceptance. When there is security in not knowing everything, and instead a curiosity that is fostered, we are freed to better understand ourselves and each other. We are freed to question dogma, axioms, and the supremacist structures in place that allow and breed oppression. Believing is the key and promise to a better future. With belief, yes, we can [si, se puede]: hope, dream, plan, and live a better tomorrow starting today.