



## Erik Oliver, Sac State Alumnus

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### Artist “Believe” Statement

I am a 27-year-old artist born and raised in Hidalgo, Mexico. At the young age of 12, I migrated to the United States with my mom and sister. I started drawing at a very early age while living in Mexico. I've always been a creative kid at heart.

After graduating high school, I enrolled at Sacramento State. In the spring of 2019, I received my undergraduate degree in studio art with a concentration in new media arts. I learned to create computer graphic art such as 2D, 3D and animation. I also learned to paint with oil and fell in love with it. Now, I live to paint and paint to live.

My life is the inspiration behind my work because coming from another country was a life changing experience that came with many unexpected challenges but I use this as a way to give my work a voice. I want to inspire those who come from similar beginnings and show that anything is possible no matter who you are or where you come from.

I want to share my experience as a Mexican immigrant who believed he could learn the language in under a year, who believed he could pursue higher education despite the odds, who believed he could graduate from a university and the first in the family to do so, who believed he could become an artist. I want to show that as long as you believe, you can accomplish anything in this life. I want to teach this knowledge and help other people accomplish their dreams no matter how far or impossible it may seem.