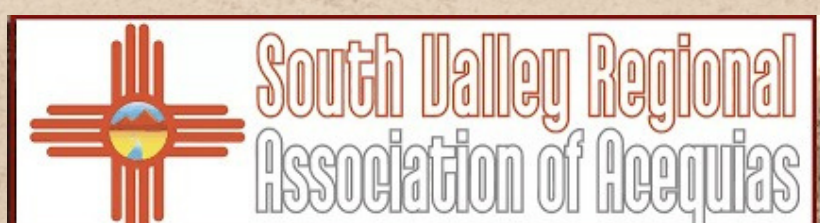




SPECIAL THIS EQUINOX

LA VOZ

2023





Letter from the Director

Dear Community:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the larger community for all the engagement at all the activities that we hosted this summer. Events like the Acequia Limpia and the Acequia Walk and Talks allowed us to not only bring the community together but also develop a deeper understanding of the complex and beautiful ways of the acequias and the overall history of Atrisco.

As we move into the Fall and Winter, we will be working with the youth leadership who are all seniors at Atrisco Heritage High School. The students will work on the Pajarito Landmarks project which aims at preserving the history that exists along the Pajarito Acequia. Additionally we are planning the deployment of the Ciclos de la Tierra curriculum, which is a culturally relevant curriculum that centers the People of the Land of New Mexico in the classroom. The curriculum beautifully weaves science, English, history, and math to emphasize the importance of the Earth's cycles so that we may collectively work to remedy climate change. In relation to the Earth's cycles, La Voz will now be published every season so we may be connected with the cycles of the Earth.

As always, our commitment is to bring consciousness and specific services that will contribute to support the need to think about water and the future challenges that we will continue to experience as water scarcity continues to affect everyone along the Rio Grande Region.

We look forward to serving you and our community.

Thank you,

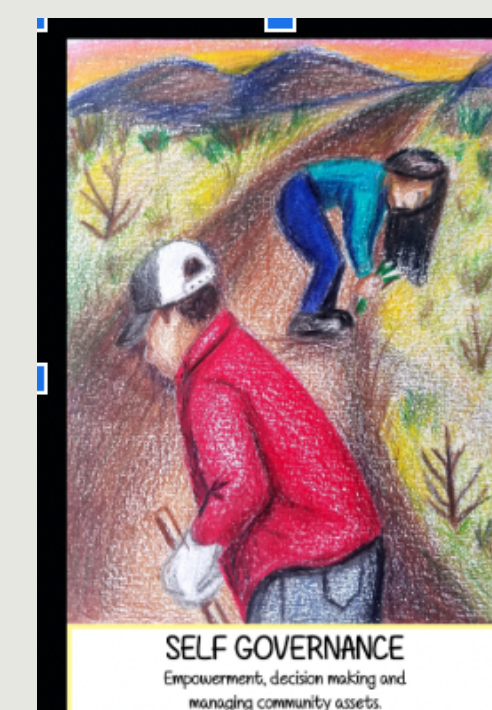
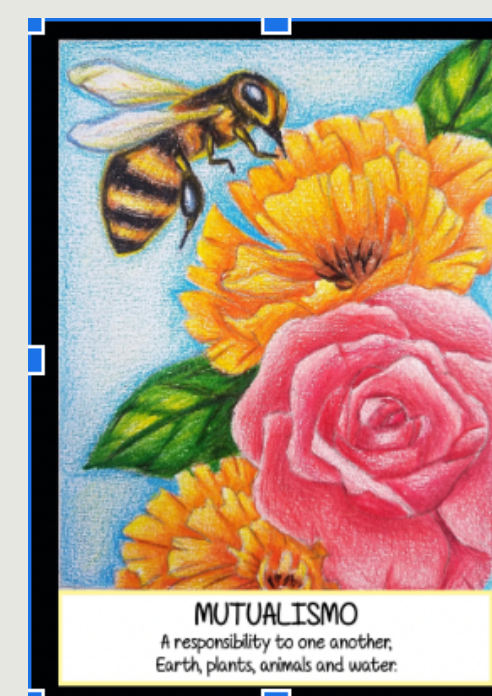
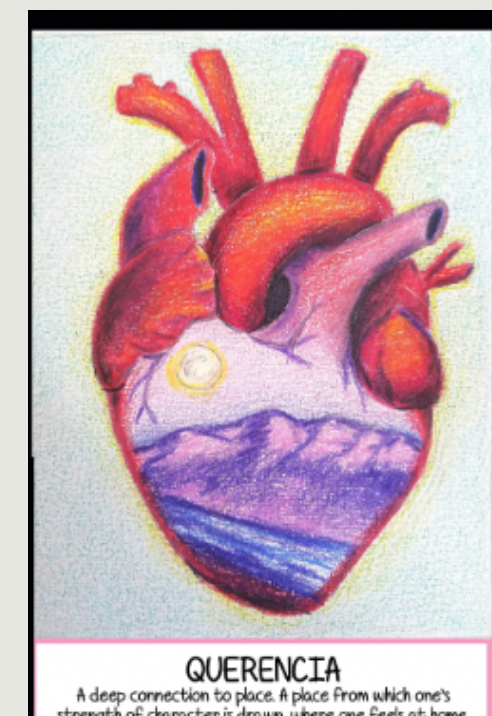
Jorge Garcia
Exec. Director



MORE INFORMATION AT INFO@CESOSS.ORG

SOMOS ATRISCO

EST. 1692



Ciclos de la Tierra Curriculum

We are delighted to present to you the Ciclos de la Tierra: Cultivating Querencia through Mutualismo Resolana and Self Governance. This curriculum represents an ongoing collaborative effort among community members, local organizations, and schools. This work originates from a collaboration of educators and organizers who felt that there was a need to create a school garden curriculum that was immersed in the local history and traditions of the Central Rio Grande Valley, in what is known now as the Valle de Atrisco, which is sitting on Tiwa land.

For more information please visit info@cesoss.org
Email: ciclosdelatierra@cesoss.org

MORE INFORMATION AT INFO@CESOSS.ORG



The Pajarito Acequia Landmarks Project

The Pajarito Acequia Landmarks Project: This project seeks to increase community accessibility, connectivity, safety, and visibility to acequias in the Pajarito Community of Albuquerque. For this project, CESOSS will work with Comisionados and the Mayordomo of the Pajarito Acequia to promote the area to the parciantes of that acequia as an educational journey through interactive signage and educational materials. In addition, CESOSS will develop the curriculum in close collaboration with acequia leaders and the South Valley Regional Association of Acequias to ensure that our project can be replicated in all five current acequias in the South Valley of Albuquerque. CESOSS will collaborate with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District on this community-based educational endeavor. In addition, CESOSS is collaborating with the U.S. Fish and Wild Life program to look at ecological restoration along acequias in the Middle Rio Grande. The Pajarito Acequia Landmarks project will enhance physical activity, intercultural acequia education related to cultural history, outdoor accessibility, ecological benefits, and natural and cultural connectivity for the Pajarito community and its Acequia Association. In addition, it will bring in young people to reenvision these community spaces while also learning about their history and traditional practices associated with land and water.

MORE INFORMATION AT INFO@CESOSS.ORG

Landmarks Project Community design workshop

**Saturday, October 7
11:30-1:30pm**

6029 Isleta Blvd SW,
Albuquerque, NM 87105

CESOSS will utilize the *Cultivando Nuestro Futuro Leadership Institute* to conduct archival research and interviews to create roughly 5 interactive signs along the Pajarito Acequia in the South Valley. Visitors may scan a QR code on the sign that leads to a page on the CESOSS website. The page will include educational resources, interviews with community members, and archival data about acequia culture and uses.

Mission	This project seeks to increase accessibility, connectivity, safety, and visibility of the Pajarito Acequia.
Goal 1	Enhance outdoor space in the Pajarito community
Goal 2	Provide culturally accessible acequia education
Goal 3	Foster a relationship between nature and people in the Pajarito community

Cultivando Nuestro Futuro

Leadership Institute

2023-2024

We are excited to announce this year's Leadership Institute. We welcome students from Atrisco Heritage Academy and Valley High School. The Leadership Institute is a community-based education program of CESOSS. The purpose of this institute is to take a proactive role in developing new generations of leaders in our communities to advocate for the preservation of acequias. Interns discuss and analyze the issues that impact the Valle de Atrisco (South Valley) and the larger Middle Rio Grande region. The institute curriculum is focused on designing and creating interactive signage on the Pajarito Acequia. Students from the leadership institute will be there to provide the research and the design of the sign. Our community partners and stakeholders will help lead the design by assisting students with research and guidance based on their expertise.

CESOSS is firmly grounded in the Valle de Atrisco and Middle Rio Grande communities, and we firmly believe in the interconnectedness of land, water, and tradition. Our goal is to help our interns understand alternative forms of leadership and activism. We want the next generation of leaders to break from typical Western notions of being a leader.

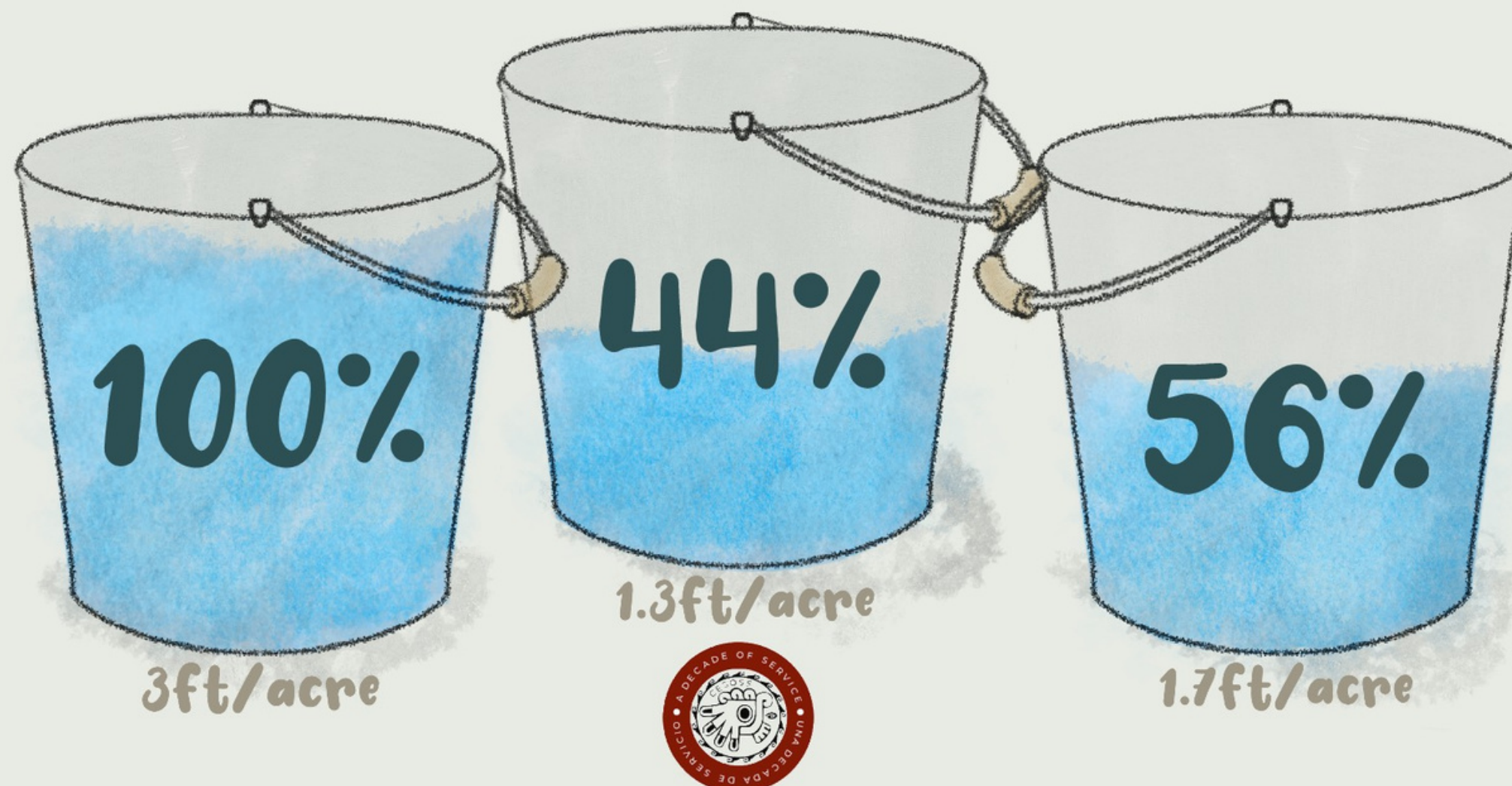
The CESOSS Leadership Institute is free to all interns. Donations of all sizes pay for program expenses so we can continue to educate young leaders at no cost.



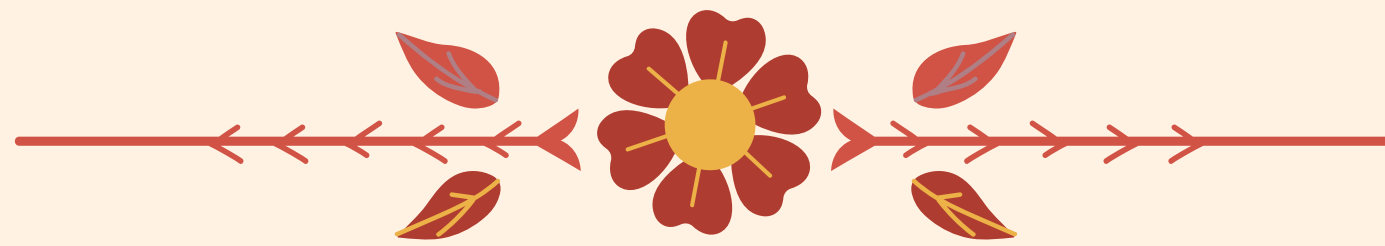


DID YOU KNOW?

that small farmers **contribute** to water **conservation** efforts by only using **44 percent** of the water that they put on their field when using flood irrigation? The other **56 percent** is returned to the shallow aquifer for someone else to use.



ARTIST HIGHLIGHT



In June 2023, South Valley Preparatory School worked with Working Classroom to design and paint a mural for the school garden. The students were Priscilla G., Leslie L., Gabby G., Elena G., Achilles N., Mia T., and Joshua M. They worked alongside artists Lisa and Joe to add a pop of color to their learning environment. Each student showed up and dedicated their entire selves to create beauty for their community.

The result was a beautiful mural that showed the interconnection between plants and pollinators. SVP's "Healing Garden" will be a space where the "Ciclos de la tierra" Curriculum will be utilized.

CESOSS sends our deepest appreciation to the young people who continue to create in this world that is riddled with destruction.



Image of the shed before students began to work on it



Students working on the mural with Xochitl the chihuahua



A Special Thank-You to Our Amazing Funders

Thank you to these organizations and individual donors. CESOSS would not be able to do the work without our funders, our donors, and the people that continue to show up to preserve and protect our water here in the South Valley.



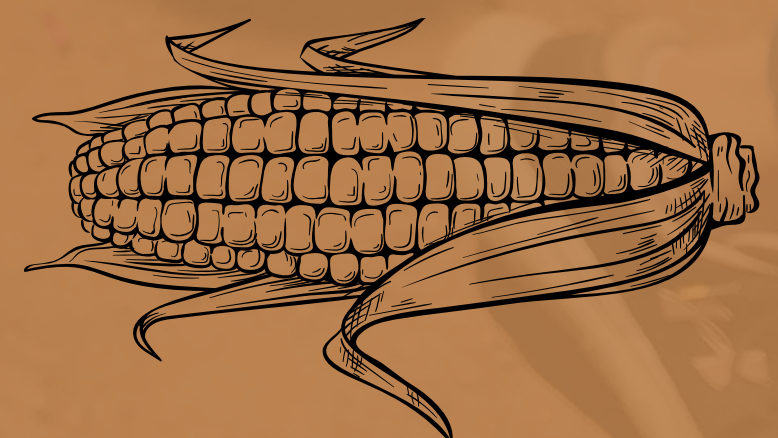
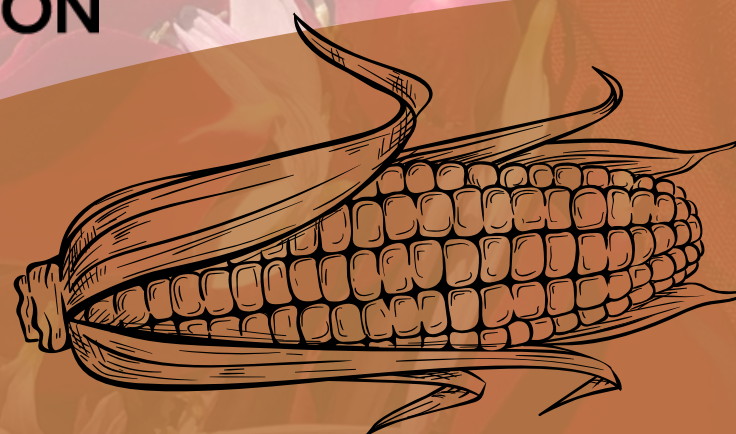
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NEW MEXICO
OUTDOOR RECREATION DIVISION



Scan the QR Code to support this year's Cultivando Nuestro Futuro Leadership Institute

