

Alicia Chavez
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Alicia Chavez-Arteaga has over 25 years experience as an Arts Administrator, Teaching Artist, Educator, and Social Worker. Alicia holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and a Masters degree in Women's Studies from San Diego State University.

She is a co-founder of Izcalli and is the organization's Director of Operations. Alicia is also a founding member, writer, and performer with Teatro Izcalli, whose original work focuses on the traditions, challenges, and opportunities related to the Chicana/x/Latinx and Indigenous communities. She is a Fellow of the California Arts Council/CORO Southern California Arts Leadership Program and in 2013 received the Union Tribune San Diego Latino Champions Award for "Artist of the Year" for her work with Izcalli.

In 2020, Alicia co-wrote a lead essay in the book "Applied Theatre with Youth: Education, Engagement, and Activism" that was published by Routledge. Other published works include an article on *Oral History and Girls Voices: The Young Women's Studies Club as a Site of Empowerment* in the Journal of International Women's Studies. Alicia approaches her work from a feminist intersectional lens that centers culturally rooted and Indigenous healing informed practices. Additionally, Alicia serves on the Advisory Board of the National Comadres Network that organizes and hosts annual retreats for women that integrate ancestral healing practices.



Macedonio Arteaga Jr.
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Mr. Arteaga is an indigenous educator from the Purepecha nation who holds a bachelor's degree in Ethnic Studies from UCSD. He has been the Executive Director of Izcalli, a local nonprofit organization for over 30 years.

His work with Izcalli's Tlahtolli "Circulo de Hombres" program focuses on the arts, mentoring, and restorative practices which has reached thousands of youth and adult males, including many distinguished San Diego civic and arts leaders. Under his leadership Izcalli has received state and national recognition for their work with youth and the arts. Mr. Arteaga has been part of the National Compadres Network for over 20 years providing various support. He has presented at International conferences as his work has appeared in documentaries in England, Canada and nationally on PBS.

Mr. Arteaga was a part of San Diego Unified School District Race/Human Relations and Advocacy Department and then the Restorative Practice team for over 22 years, training staff on Culturally Relevant Instructional Strategies, Cultural Proficiency, Restorative Practices, and Trauma-Informed Care. Mr. Arteaga has been given permission by his Native Elders to teach indigenous "Restorative" ceremonies. He has received a California Legacy Artist Award by the California Arts Council and most recently was recognized by the Conrad Prebys Foundation as a "Leader in Belonging" awardee.

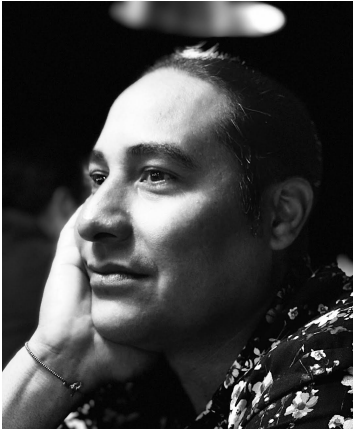


Dr. Ricardo Medina
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In his 25 years as an educator, Dr. Ricardo Medina has had the opportunity to teach at the elementary, middle school, high school, community college, and university level. He has worked within numerous roles as a teacher, dean of students, resource teacher, restorative practice facilitator, academic advisor, program lead, lecturer, and professor.

For most of his career, he has worked with adolescent students creating and facilitating culturally-rooted, healing-centered, and justice-oriented schooling experiences. He received a bachelor's degree in diversified liberal arts from the University of San Diego; a master's in curriculum development and instruction from San Diego State University; and a doctoral degree in education from San Diego State University and Claremont Graduate University.

Through his scholarly research, he focuses on: youth development; Indigenous pedagogy; critical pedagogy; transformational healing frameworks; educator ideological clarity and praxis; ethnic studies; and community schools. Dr. Medina currently takes on a leading role in unfolding K-12 ethnic studies in California, he is a Lead Education Specialist with the National Compadres Network where he has been designing, developing, and unfolding Transformational Learning, and he takes on multiple organizing roles with Izcalli, Tlahtolli "Círculo de Hombres".



Juan Carlos Nieblas
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JuanCarlos Nieblas was born and raised in San Diego, California. His family is from Sonora, Mexico and he identifies as indigenous whose roots are from the Tohono O’Odham people of Northern Mexico and Arizona. For the last 25 years JuanCarlos has led educational justice work providing multiple services in elementary, middle school and high school as a counselor, pupil advocate and Restorative Justice Practitioner.

His work with youth and their families that began at the age of 16 has led him to serve as a leader in the Restorative Justice movement. JuanCarlos continues to employ his diverse Educational experience to support student personal, social, emotional, and academic needs and is currently working with Educators Cooperative as a Restorative Justice Practices Leader in partnership with San Diego Unified School District supporting 20 schools with the implementation of Restorative Justice Practices Initiatives, including Restorative Discipline Policies.

JuanCarlos is a member of *Izcalli Círculo de Hombres* where he continues to honor his lifelong commitment to serve and mentor youth in the community as he was once a mentee himself. JuanCarlos holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in chemical dependency and a masters in Education and School Counseling.