



**Our mission** is to create a community that celebrates diversity and addresses social oppression, racism, and bigotry by encouraging interaction, understanding, and cooperation.

Breakthrough Project for Social Justice (BPSJ), a community-based nonprofit, was formed in 1998

after a cross-burning at Tokay High and distribution of KKK fliers on Lodi doorsteps. A group of concerned Lodians began working with local police to rid Lodi of racism and intolerance.

For 23 years, BPSJ has held a yearly celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, sponsored scholarships, led discussions, and teamed with Lodi PD to respond to hate crimes with compassion, assistance, and referrals to community services. Our goal is to prevent hate crimes, so we hold essay and art contests to help children think about and learn tolerance.

We are committed to helping every Lodi resident feel safe, accepted, and respected. Our ability to continue our mission depends on community generosity and the work of volunteers. Please lend your support to build a stronger and more inclusive Lodi. And consider joining us to make a difference.

## Contact Us

Breakthrough Project  
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- BreakthroughProjectLodi.org
- BreakthroughProjectLodi@gmail.com
- @BreakthroughProjectLodi
- @BreakthroughProjectLodi
- @BreakthroughPL

## Thank You

- California Islamic Center
- City of Lodi Arts Commission
- Community Partnership for Families
- Fuse Theatre
- Lodi Unified School District
- Lodi Police Department
- Lodi News Sentinel
- Sayla Music School
- St. Paul Lutheran Church
- All of you who work for peace and justice.



**2022:**

**The fierce urgency of NOW.**

## 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration of Unity

*Honoring the Peacemaking Legacy of  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Monday, January 17, 2022, at Noon  
California Islamic Center  
Lodi, CA



# 2022 Vision:

The fierce urgency of now.

## Welcome

Barbara Krengel

## A Word from the Police Department

Chief Sierra Brucia

## Art Raab Memorial Essay Competition

Presented by Barbara Peck

## “Urgency of Now”

Fuse Theatre Company

Coordinating Playwright: Elana Hershman

Written by: Lodi’s 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay Writers

Director: Stacey Arlelean

Cast: Carolyn Ross, Claire Augusto, Cody Jay, Dean Jay, Ellen Tanouye, Gian Jay, Lavinia Jackson, Malaysia Duvall, Neha Mohan, and Yesenia Lopez.

## A Call to Action

Ellen Tanouye

## Recognizing Our Peacemakers

Lusandra Vincent

## Closing

Taj Khan

Cover artwork by Lavinia Jackson.

Matthew Flores, of Lodi High

3<sup>rd</sup>



2<sup>nd</sup>

Aaliyah Gonzales, of Lodi High

## Enter the 2022 Art Scholarship Competition

Create a work of art illustrating the theme:

“Living Together in a Diverse Community”

First Place: \$700 - Second Place: \$250 - Third Place: \$100

Email [ljhammons47@gmail.com](mailto:ljhammons47@gmail.com) for the application.

The deadline for submissions is April 8, 2022.

## Programs and Events

The Legacy of Cesar Chavez

March 2022.

Lodi Peace Walk

October 2022.

## Board of Directors

Barbara Krengel Maria Elena Serna

Lusandra Vincent Bertha Castro

Nancy Mellor Linda Hammons

Ellen Tanouye Lynsay Nuss

Kathryn Siddle

## David Hill Art Scholarship Competition

The Breakthrough Project sponsors the annual David Hill Art Scholarship Competition for high school students. In addition to the scholarship prize, all entries are on display at the Double Dip Gallery throughout May in conjunction with the Lodi Art Hop.

### 2021 Winners



1<sup>st</sup>

**Mariko Hashimoto, of Tokay High**  
"Our Compassionate Resolution"

## Art Raab Memorial Essay Competition

Every year, Breakthrough Project sponsors an essay competition for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Lodi Unified students that addresses our theme for the Celebration of Unity. This year, students were asked to identify an issue that urgently needs to be addressed and to say how they and others could affect positive change now.

The script for the dramatic presentation includes thoughts from essays from Clairmont, Lawrence, Needham, Vinewood, Julia Morgan, Larson, Reese, Woodbridge, Wagner-Holt, John Muir and Ansel Adams elementary schools.

From hundreds of essays, we are proud to present these winners:

### Fifth Grade Winners

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Dawson Tracy</b>	<b>Larson Elementary</b> <b>Mrs. Vaccarezza's Class</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Zoe Tsampis	Larson Elementary Mrs. Allard's Class
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Audrey Garcia	Larson Elementary Ms. Reichert's Class
HM	Mireya Cazares	Lawrence Elementary Mrs. Sy-Prom's Class

### Sixth Grade Winners

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Nataly Alvarez</b>	<b>Reese Elementary</b> <b>Mrs. Martinez's Class</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Preet Dhillon	Larson Elementary Mrs. Breech's Class
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Syndey Grove	Woodbridge Elementary Mrs. Bechtold's Class
HM	Samantah Barber	Wagner-Holt Elementary Ms. West's Class



## Peacemakers

The Breakthrough Project is proud to honor people in our community who contribute to peace and justice in Lodi. We are grateful for the work they do. To nominate a Peacemaker for next year, please email [BreakthroughProjectLodi@gmail.com](mailto:BreakthroughProjectLodi@gmail.com).

### Johnny Coughran

Johnny is leading the 2022 Point in Time Count with extensive knowledge about Lodi's varied programs and organizations that assist the homeless population, streamlining the process to get help to those in need.

### Rodney Tipton

Rodney founded the Lodi Appellation Collective of like-minded winery owners and industry professionals with the sole purpose of helping to close the diversity gap in the wine industry.

### John Della Monica and Jennifer Rhyne

Both new to the City of Lodi, John (Community Development Director) and Jennifer (Neighborhood Services Manager) saw a strong need for affordable housing and assistance for the unsheltered in Lodi. Working with local committees and organizations, they pushed for initiatives including the Harmony Homes permanent supportive housing project and the Access Center - which will provide navigation services and shelter for those in need.

### Leila and Marques Morgan

Leila and Marques opened Chill Nutrition in East Lodi in 2018 with a mission to provide customers with convenient nutritional options, while bringing positivity to the community. They support donation drives, volunteering, and fundraising for children in need.

### Steve Maynard

Steve - born to an immigrant and Native American parents and as the parent of a bi-racial child - has personally felt the impact of racism. After serving in the Navy, he entered into law enforcement working in San Diego, then for the Lodi Police Department where he served for 21 years. He became their liaison to the Breakthrough Project until his recent retirement.

## Featured Performance:

### Fuse Theatre

Fuse is dedicated to creating theatre that inspires creative exploration, engages audiences in civic dialogues, and builds stronger communities. Creating accessible theatre is a keystone for the company; working to ensure access through language, cost, and location. We seek ways to incorporate multiple languages, free/low cost ticketing, and accessible neighborhood locations such as community centers, schools, and libraries.

During the past year, Fuse has also taken steps to create a more equitable organizational structure by developing our artist collective, Sparks, and expanding our board membership to diversify the organization. As a theatre company often working with themes of social justice we felt compelled to turn a critical eye inward and shape our future differently.

**To prepare for this afternoon, Fuse worked with us to create a unique community performance using a script developed from our student essays.**

