

Michael LeVell, Claremont Art Center Artist

The Faces and Numbers Behind Our Transformation



A Message From Our CEO... Each day, in the last 28 years that I've worked at Tierra del Sol, we have been in a state of transformation; a metamorphosis, really. We have watched the people who we serve open their hearts to us, and in doing so, they share their hopes and dreams for their future. As they grow, so do we. As dreams take on new colors and shapes, so do we. As stages and patterns of life shift, so do we.

In fact, over the last 28 years, I have witnessed an organization work at the speed of light to catch up to these ever-unfolding dreams! It is, and will always be, a dynamic ride, indeed!



Pet Therapy Volunteer, David Kim

Since my first day in 1990, Tierra has launched several award-winning services. Starting with just a few individuals scattered throughout our services, never could we have imagined how far we would have come with our Workforce Development, Careers in the Arts and our College to Career services... Let's fast forward almost 30 years...

(Continued on page 4)



(L-R) Irma Mora, Luis Martinez and Jeanette Tolentino; paid-employees at First United Methodist Church of Reseda

Three Cheers FORE! Tierra's 11th Annual Golf Tournament

On Monday, May 7th, golfers, guests, clients, and staff gathered at Angeles National Golf Club for Tierra's 11th Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Perfect weather, great food, and a sold out course made this year's tournament one of the best yet. Special recognition was given, during the evening program, to our incredible clients employed by Hamer Toyota, and to Cherrill Farruzi, longtime Tierra volunteer and supporter who retired from Hamer this spring.

Our deepest gratitude to all of our sponsors, supporters, and contributors whose generosity will help Tierra continue its mission of empowering people with developmental disabilities through Workforce Development, College to Career, and Careers in the Arts.



MAYER • BROWN



Los Angeles Daily News

2018 Employment Partner Reception



Tierra Employment Partners, clients, and staff gathered on Thursday, April 19th, at Valley Presbyterian Hospital for an evening filled with honors and gratitude. The message was clear, employment for the people we serve is a means to end dependence and poverty. Our incredible partners have hired Tierra clients and in turn, have gained reliable, valued employees. Awards were given to El Super, Cintas, Metro, and Metro Link. The final awards of the evening were given to Tierra clients, Melinda Zazanis (Lowe's), Julio Cesar Garcia (Lowe's), Baljinder Singh (Auto Gallery), and Jose Mercado (Hamer Toyota). Melinda, Julio, and Baljinder have each dedicated 10 years of service to their employers, and Jose has been a loyal employee at Hamer Toyota for 15 years! Committed, loyal, positive and reliable. That's what you get when you give Tierra clients opportunities, and that's how you play a part in changing how the world views individuals with disabilities.

Many thanks to our stellar employment partner, Valley Presbyterian Hospital, for once again hosting this year's Employment Partner Reception, and for always supporting and providing employment opportunities to the men and women we serve.

Tierra Artists Debut at the 2018 Outsider Art Fair

This past January, Tierra del Sol artists proudly debuted at the Outsider Art Fair in New York City, the world's preeminent fair for artists who have transcended the art world's traditional labels since 1993. This momentous event was a great success for all as Tierra's First Street Gallery presented for the first time at an internationally recognized art fair, representing five amazing artists from our progressive art studios, Sunland Studio Arts and Claremont Art Center. 15,000 collectors, gallerists, curators and artists from around the globe gathered to enjoy the Fair where they had the opportunity to discover and purchase work from established masters and emerging artists alike.



Untitled by Michael LeVell

Visitors to the First Street Gallery booth, which included paintings, drawings and ceramic sculpture, included Pulitzer Prize winning art critic Jerry Saltz and Director/Curator of White Columns, Matthew Higgs. Mr. Higgs was so taken by Michael LeVell's stunning work that he offered him a solo exhibition later this summer. This forthcoming exhibition will be the first major solo exhibition in New York City for Michael, who is a founding member of our Careers in the Arts Program, having been with Tierra since 1989.

Congratulations to artists Sarit Halo, Michael LeVell, Dru McKenzie, Helen Rae and John Peterson who all sold artwork and launched their careers to a new level of prestige and success. The addition of their artwork at the Fair proved to be a defining moment for their individual careers, as well as Tierra's entire Careers in the Arts Program.



Michael LeVell, Claremont Art Center Artist, sculpting in studio

Get Tierra Artsy this Summer!

Michael LeVell at White Columns, NYC

Previews: Friday, June 29th, 12-8 pm &
Saturday, June 30th, 12-6pm

Exhibition: June 29th - September 15th
New York City

Mother Nature's Enchanted Forest

Opening: Saturday, July 7th, 6-8 pm

Exhibition: July 7th - 27th
Claremont Art Center

Emerge – The Artists of First Street Gallery

Opening: Sunday, July 8th, 2-5 pm

Exhibition: July 1st - August 19th
Claremont Art Center

Block Printing Workshop

Saturday, July 20th, 9-11 am
Sunland Campus

Sunland Studio Arts Tile Show

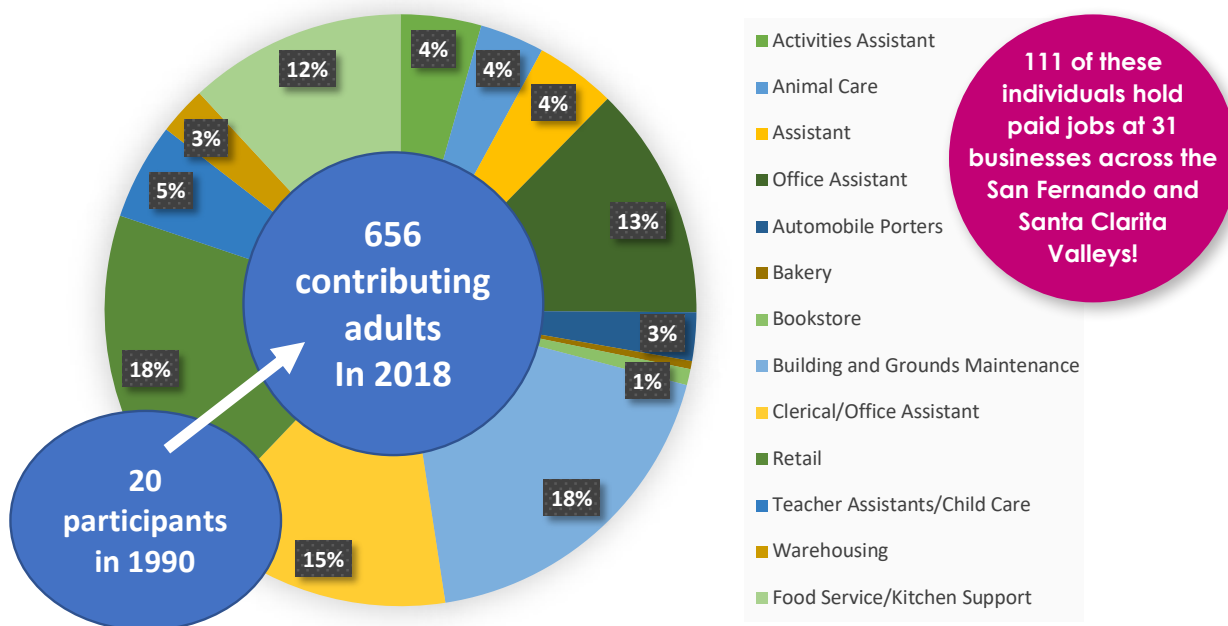
Saturday, August 18th, 9 am-1 pm
Sunland Campus

The Faces and Numbers Behind

“As you can see, we talk about this transformation in statistics, but I want to share the stories behind the numbers. Join me as we take a deeper dive into the lives behind the numbers. You will see the

Workforce Development

Over 150,000 hours of volunteer service provided to 140 local non-profits, impact more than ONE million lives each year.



Paid Employment



Congratulations to Adriana Lepe, Alejandro Godinez, Cipriano Trujillo, and Trammall McField for being hired at Six Flags Magic Mountain this summer!

Professional Volunteer Services



“You aren’t just hiring a cleaning crew, you are becoming part of something bigger. Tierra clients have a great reputation that even competitors recognize. We’ve been approached by other companies that provide similar services, but you can’t compare relationships and what we have with Tierra is irreplaceable.” —**Cecile Hwang**, Administrative Assistant, First United Methodist Church of Reseda

“When we first proposed Pet Therapy to several volunteer partner sites, most were skeptical, because it meant working with people with disabilities. However, once they gave our clients a chance, everyone benefited, especially the patients. Disabilities don’t even factor in anymore; our clients are people first, and they are valued, appreciated, and respected.” —**Elena Haddad**, Tierra Client Services Manager

Behind Our Transformation

es, but in fact, there are ever-changing faces behind the numbers.
the real impact of the work we do together.” — **Rebecca Lienhard**, *Tierra del Sol CEO*

Careers in the Arts



Through our two progressive studios, 75 artists advance their careers via sales, portfolio development, teaching art workshops, and showing their work at more than 50 local, national, and international exhibitions per year, including “Perceptions” in Ireland. In 2016, Tierra added textiles services, as a result of the skill of a new client who now teaches the course.



Sarit Halo, Sunland Studio Arts Artist

College to Career

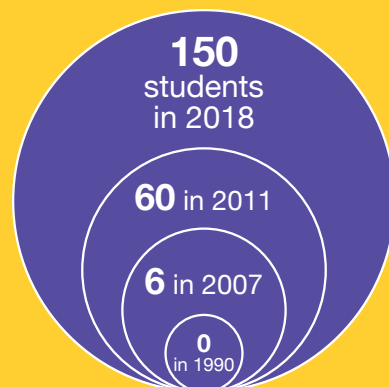


Congratulations to Nina Adel and Jordan Bell!

This May, Nina Adel and Jordan Bell graduated from California State University Northridge, officially making them the first NEXUS students to earn their degrees from a California State University. Nina earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology, and Jordan earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Arts. On behalf of everyone at Tierra del Sol, we wish these two inspiring individuals much luck in their respective fields and cannot wait to see the incredible work they will do.

**Supporting young adults,
18-28, at eight college
campuses:**

California State University
Northridge
College of the Canyons
Glendale Community College
Los Angeles City College
Los Angeles Valley College
Los Angeles Mission College
Pierce College
West Valley Occupational Center



A Legacy of Love from Armand and Diane Ouellette

Thanks to the foresight and generosity of Armand Ouellette, Tierra del Sol was the recent recipient of a bequest made possible through a Special Needs Charitable Remainder Trust.

Armand, a devoted and loving single father, always wanted the best for his only child, Diane, who was born with a developmental disability. When she entered adulthood, Armand realized that Diane needed a place where she could make friends and create a life of her own. Upon learning of Tierra del Sol, he knew that's where Diane was meant to be. Over the next two decades, Diane thrived at Tierra, making friends, learning to sew, and interacting daily with the caring and committed staff.

"Being here gave her a sense of purpose and belonging," recall's longtime Tierra staffer, Julie Snyder. "And, the camaraderie among the parents was good for her father too." "As an active member of the Tierra Parents group, Armand was often the head chef, who prepared the sauce for our annual spaghetti dinner fundraisers," remembers Shirley Sydow, President of the parent group for 15 years. "He also helped hang signs up and down Sunland Blvd. to advertise the monthly fundraisers and enjoyed doing whatever he could for his daughter and Tierra."

When Armand passed in 1994, Diane's needs were taken care of through a Special Needs Trust established by her father. Many years later, Diane passed, and the remaining funds in the Trust were left to the sole beneficiary, Tierra del Sol. Armand's foresight and planning ensured that both his daughter was taken of during her lifetime, and an organization that he believed in, Tierra del Sol, could continue its mission, years beyond his lifetime.

Thank you Armand. Your legacy of love will continue to help others, like Diane, lead a life of dignity, purpose and value.



Diane Ouellette

Invest in the values you cherish. Invest in Tierra.

Our Values:

- *Each and every human life has value and meaning.*
- *Regardless of the notion of disability, each person has the potential and the right to lead a full, productive, and personally meaningful life.*
- *A life with quality includes participation in the economic, cultural, civic, and spiritual affairs of the community.*
- *A life with quality includes loved ones and valued social relationships.*
- *Families and communities are stronger when all of their members are accepted and valued for their contributions.*

For most of us, our values define who we are.

At Tierra, our values have been the cornerstone of our success for 47 years. A success that lies within each and every one of our clients.

But what would life be like without Tierra?

What if the eight families who started Tierra, had not had the strength, courage and vision to invest in its future? Thanks to them and the dedicated families that followed, Tierra's work continues, and lives change.

With one in six children being born with a developmental disability each day, the future of Tierra is now. Won't you help us sustain our future and consider joining Tierra's Legacy of Love by making a planned gift?

Ways to Give:

- **Bequests from a Will or Trust**
- **Gifts of Retirement Plan Assets**
- **Gifts of Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds**
- **Gifts of Life Insurance**
- **Gifts of Real Estate**

For more information on becoming a Legacy donor, contact Cathy Galarneau, Chief Development Officer at 818-352-1419 x266



JOIN US

**Wednesday, August 29th
5:30 – 7:00 pm**

Learn more about planning for the future in an ever-changing financial climate when Tierra del Sol hosts a panel of experts.

Watch your email for details!

Proud graduates of Tierra's Life Planning Series - The Future is Now!

Ten Tierra families completed the first Life Planning Seminar Series, taught by certified Life Planning Instructors, Julie Snyder, 27-year Tierra veteran, and Jan Maseda, Tierra Board Chair and parent. "The experience was incredible," tells parent, Rosalee Bate. "We all learned so much, not only from the curriculum, but from each other. I would highly recommend that any parent with a son or daughter that has a developmental disability take this course. Developing a letter of intent that expresses your hopes, dreams, and plans for your loved one is not only important for their future, but also for your piece of mind."

The next series will begin in the Fall. Watch your e-mail for details.



Tierra del Sol: More Than Just a Place!

Whether you're shopping at the Sunland Farmers Market, or using the Sunland campus for your next event, you're making a difference for Tierra del Sol. All proceeds from our market and venue rentals support Tierra's mission to empower people with developmental disabilities through workforce development, college to career and careers in the arts.

Sunland Farmers Market

The Sunland Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM on the Tierra del Sol Sunland Campus. The market features local produce, artisan food vendors, artists, crafters, and more! Our market is the perfect place to bring the family along for a stroll, pick out fresh produce, and enjoy a delicious lunch under a shaded tree. The Sunland Farmers Market proudly accepts EBT, WIC, and Market Match, making fresh food available to everyone. We hope to see you on a Saturday, soon!



The Perfect Venue!

Did you know that Tierra has a variety of indoor and outdoor space available on our Sunland campus? We proudly open our doors to the community and offer plenty of affordable options for your next event. Interested? Check out our venue rental page on our website for more information, or contact Lucas Crowley at (818) 257-6600. We look forward to hosting your next event.





9919 Sunland Boulevard, Sunland, California 91040
www.tierradelsol.org

Invest in our clients' futures and change lives. Support Tierra today! Tierradelsol.org - Donate Now!

TIERRA DEL SOL PRESENTS:

CASINO ROYALE

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF GAMING, MUSIC, FOOD, FUN, AND PRIZES



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 13TH

DETAILS COMING SOON...

got email?

Amazing things are happening at Tierra!
Don't miss out on news, views and events.

If you haven't been getting our updates on the incredible accomplishments of our clients, entertaining events, advocacy updates and important messages from Tierra's leadership, then SIGN-UP today!

Go to www.tierradelsol.org/enews to register to receive our e-newsletter.

You don't know what you're missing!

