

Artist Statement — 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of Artists in Michigan Prisons

Artist Name: BARRERA.

MY NAME IS ALFREDO RECOVERED ALCOHOLIC WITH EIGHTEEN YEARS OF SOBRIETY, ART AND LANDSCAPES ARE MY THERAPY AGAINST ANXIETY PTSD AND DEPRESSION. THEY ARE ALSO A FORM OF INSPIRATION, A WAY OF EXPRESSION TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE WORLD AND SOCIETY.

AS ENCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL I CONSIDERED ART A FORM OF PROTEST AGAINST ABUSE AND DEHUMANIZATION OF PEOPLE IN PRISON, I REFUSE TO GIVE UP MY IDENTITY AND AFTER PAYING MY DEBTS TO SOCIETY I'M GOING BACK TO THE WORLD WITH THE HOPE TO HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES LIKE ANY OTHER HUMAN BEING.

I DO NOT MUCH ABOUT ART, I LEARNED IN PRISON, WHEN I PAINT MY IMAGINATION DICTATE THE COLORS AND SHAPES OF MY PAINTINGS.

I DO KNOW, THAT EVERY MORNING, WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REINVENT OUR SELFS AND BEGIN ALL OVER AGAIN, LIFE IS AN ADVENTURE.

I LOVE THE OUTDOORS, IS ANOTHER REASON WHY I PAINT LANDSCAPES, RESPECT OUR PLANET AND PROTECT NATURE THEIR ARE THE BEST FRIENDS WE HAVE,

DREAM BIG, NEVER SURRENDER, THE SKY IS THE LIMIT.

SINCERELY.

BARRERA.  
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