

Beyond Fronteras

Treasuring an Arizona Border Community's
Past and Future

"Reflection" by Iona Hernandez (pt. 1)

My feelings of living here next to a border are very simple its good and bad at the same time, the good things are that we connect with different cultures and races, I come from Costa Rica and the language over there is Spanish so coming here felt almost the same, one of my favorites thing of living near a border is having a different country 30 minutes away from my house, I can go to another country and see all the beautiful things they have there, like beaches, food, and culture.

I would like things to change a little more for kids because there is a lot of racism, violations, drugs, Immigrants, for kids that's not something good, they should be free not having to see how cruel this place could be, specially drugs nowadays a lot of people sale drugs to kids, not good at all because that's going to affect their future, kids should be living their lives playing in the yard or visiting nature. I would like those things to change so that way kids don't become corrupt.

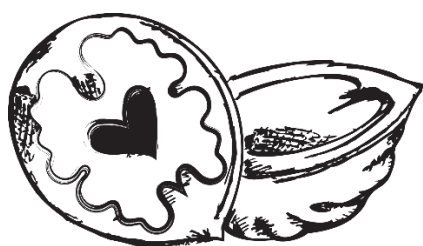
My favorite places to go with my family are Peña Blanca lake and the Anza trail, these two are my favorite because a lot nature and both of this have a lot of that, when I lived in Costa Rica it was a tropical place so coming here and not having much green was kind of sad, but these places made me feel like I was home.

“Reflection” by Iona Hernandez (pt. 2)

Peña Blanca is a special place for me since it has a beautiful lake with lots of green trees, same as the Anza trail - its a crystal clear river with lots of trees and plants everywhere, it feels like I'm in a Costa Rica forest.

Since I lived in Costa Rica for 15 years I came like at the end of the pandemic, but my experiences where a lot since I could go out with my friends or having any social life for a couple years, using the mask was a horrible thing I didn't like them at all so a had a couple arguments with teachers and the bus lady, I didn't like them at all, being in my house for years made me get bored of just being there, I would spend most of my time on the phone (not a good thing to do) but time past and I started painting and drawing which is a good thing because now I consider myself a good painter, I wish I would spend more time with nature but I didn't know how potential Arizona could have.

I was new to Santa Cruz County and I didn't know much about its places. One of the best experiences in Santa Cruz County has been spending time with myself and family.



***Iona Hernandez,
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