



CENTRAL AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER  
CENTRO DE RECURSOS CENTROAMERICANOS

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Bilingual Anthem Brings Attention to Humanitarian Crisis at the U.S/Mexico Border Due to “Zero Tolerance” Policy

**San Francisco, California, June 12, 2020** – In a demonstration of solidarity with families and children held in detention camps, a group of artists has come together to bring “Our Children Are Sacred” - “Nuestros Niños Son Sagrados,” a song that centers on children and their sacredness.

At a time when people of color are suffering in disproportionate numbers due to COVID-19 and historic social upheaval has spurred worldwide demonstrations calling for systemic change led by Black Lives Matter, “Our Children Are Sacred” brings attention to our children — who suffer the deepest consequences of unjust and racist structural systems of healthcare, policing, housing, education, nutrition and immigration, to name a few.

Written and performed by Diana Gameros, Francisco Herrera and Liliana Herrera, “Our Children Are Sacred” / “Nuestros Niños son Sagrados” was produced by Grammy Award® nominee Greg Landau and also features vocals by Juan Luis Perez, Maya Mam Children of Oakland and Nicaraguan-American rapper Deuce Eclipse. All artists involved have strong ties to the immigrant community and social justice and the song’s message is close to their hearts.

Talk of the project began collectively, as community artists, activists and advocates, outraged at the inhumane conditions being endured by caged children, the crisis of family separation at the U.S./Mexico border and the administration’s “Zero Tolerance” policy, felt that the power of the arts was missing from the resistance and that there needed to be a strong message that would reach the children.

“We want the children to hear this and know they are not alone. That we see them, we hear them, and that we are fighting for them,” says Maria X. Martinez, community leader, SF City Public Health official and Board President of the Chicana Latina Foundation.

Sung in the style and strong tradition of *Nueva Trova*, "Our Children Are Sacred" brings awareness to the more than 5,400 migrant children who have been separated from their parents by U.S. immigration officials and have suffered immeasurable trauma, including death.

"The system must stop monetizing human mobility and criminalizing children, families and individuals fleeing violence in their own countries. Seeking protection is not a crime, it is a right," says Lariza Dugan-Cuadra, executive director of CARECEN. She added, "The U.S. government must be accountable to children separated at the border by the Trump administration, who as we've clearly seen, has no regard for human rights, and so it is our job to work to protect such rights, until meaningful system reform is achieved."

Adds singer/songwriter Diana Gameros, "We seek to do this, by moving hearts and minds - celebrating the beauty of children while decrying the intolerable policy of family separation that led to thousands of children being warehoused by ICE in degrading and unacceptable conditions."

The song is accompanied by a powerful video produced and directed by Nicole Landau and offers an uplifting antidote to the xenophobia and dehumanization immigrants face during their trajectory North as well as in the U.S.

"We believe it is imperative to create art that activates and sustains public resistance and financial support for social justice movements, while at the same time sending a message to our children, youth and families that we love them deeply and will never abandon them," states singer/songwriter Francisco Herrera.

To watch the video of "Our Children Are Sacred" click on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2G0qWV6bfCg&feature=youtu.be>

### **Facebook Live Release Event - Artists & Activists Discussion**

**Special Guests Panelists include: Dolores Huerta, Olga Talamante, Lariza Dugan-Cuadra, Chelitz Lopez**

**Friday, June 26**

**3pm**

[https://www.facebook.com/events/747666612700378/?notif\\_t=event\\_description\\_mention&notif\\_id=1592964873901573](https://www.facebook.com/events/747666612700378/?notif_t=event_description_mention&notif_id=1592964873901573)

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