

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California**

Resolution No.:

Adopt Resolution recognizing **YOSAL Youth Orchestra Salinas**)
as a 2018 Monterey County Peace Award Winner.....)

WHEREAS, YOSAL was founded in 2010 by philanthropists Joanne Taylor Jonson, Lois and Don Mayol, and Superintendent of the Salinas City Elementary School District, Donna Vaughan; and

WHEREAS, YOSAL was inspired and modeled after Venezuela’s El Sistema, and is now spreading throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the original class of YOSAL was 40 students ranging from kindergarten to high school, and has now grown to 275 at-risk and underserved students and continues to expand each year; and

WHEREAS, students participating in the program are overwhelmingly from East and North Salinas, with over 95 percent being Latinos and 65 percent being children of farm workers, and many of which lack access to other after school programs and safe extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, Esmeralda Montenegro-Owen began as Executive Director of YOSAL in July of 2018, expressing her passion for music education and its benefits to youth, as well as her desire to establish stable funding for the program; and

WHEREAS, YOSAL runs year-round, with both school year and summer programs; and

WHEREAS, teachers of YOSAL strive to provide a range of opportunities for the participants to feel proud of their accomplishments, through performances, field trips, and camps, which results in an improvement in math and language skills, and school attendance; and

WHEREAS, YOSAL picks students up at 10 locations throughout Salinas via bus and allow time for homework and snack time, which eliminates barriers for youth to become involved with the program; and

WHEREAS, YOSAL provides the youth of Salinas with a positive avenue into academic and social success—keeping them away from gangs, violence and danger; and

WHEREAS, YOSAL promotes peace and education throughout Salinas by providing school age children with a safe environment to learn responsibility, collaboration, and respect through music; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all citizens thereof, recognize the exemplary accomplishments and dedication of the YOSAL Youth Orchestra Salinas as a recipient of the 2018

Monterey County Peace Award and their ongoing efforts to promote peace and community empowerment in Salinas.

PASSED AND ADOPTED upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____ and carried this ____ day of _____, _____ by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof Minute Book, ____ for the meeting on July 24, 2018.

Dated:

File Number:

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By: _____
Deputy