THE AJA PROJECT CONTINUES CHOP PROGRAM
WITH THAO HUYNH FRENCH OF MINDFUL MURALS
Partnership explores memory, food traditions, and collaborative art-making

[San Diego, CA] The AjA Project is happy to announce another cycle of CHOP, a food-centered partnership connecting San Diego Juvenile Court and Community School students with local cooks and artist Thao Huynh French for a 5-week workshop culminating in a large-scale mural and student recipe book.

In this summer’s iteration of CHOP guest cooks will join students at JCCS’s 37ECB school to share stories and teach the group to prepare dishes that hold personal significance. Centering traditions of fellowship and collaborative work, participants will earn credit towards graduation and build job skills in their fully functioning Student Cafe. Between cooking, students will plan and execute a mural for the cafe with mentorship from local multi-talented artist Thao Huynh French.

Thao Huynh French is an artist, muralist, and photographer. Born in Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, she currently lives and works in San Diego, Ca. She is best known for co-founding Mindful Murals™ with her husband, where together they’ve painted over 300 community murals for schools and public spaces all over California. In addition to painting murals, she develops projects that intersect social justice and also paints commissions and displays artwork in galleries.

San Diego Juvenile Court and Community Schools provide a fully accredited educational program for school-age youth who are either wards of the court or have been referred by social services, probation, or one of the 42 school districts in San Diego County. Services are provided to students who are incarcerated, pregnant or parenting, in foster care, expelled, chronically truant, in drug treatment centers and group homes for neglected or abused children, and experiencing homelessness.

View previous CHOP projects at www.theajaproject.org/chop and follow us on Instagram for updates.
The AjA Project is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization headquartered in San Diego, California utilizing participatory art to transform youth and communities. Since its founding over twenty years ago, AjA has provided long-term, community-based programming for over 2000 individuals, and has shared visual narratives with over 1 million viewers through large-scale public exhibits. Learn more at www.theajaproject.org

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the AjA project or our programs, you can speak directly to Community Engagement Director, Dinah Poellnitz (dinah@ajaproject.org), or Managing Director, Rizzhel Javier (rizzhel@ajaproject.org) via email.