

Esteli Barrera

Esteli Barrera, the daughter of Maria Barrera, will be attending Redlands Community College in the fall of 2022. Esteli is a graduate of Fairview High School. Her first language is Spanish. As a young child she would hear a sound but couldn't tell from which direction it came. She learned English as a kindergartener and decided that she could stop wearing her pink hearing aid. Esteli did well in school without the assistance of that hearing aid but was bullied in her senior year because of the "disability".

Her first job was as a waitress and she found that all the associated noise was very frustrating. Art was a satisfying hobby for Esteli because it didn't require contact with others. Because there were no art classes, beyond the one offered in 7th grade, offered in her high school, she tried band – not too successfully – and sports, with success. Esteli says that she has known, since the age of 7, that she would be an artist. To prove it, she has had the commission to paint 3 large murals, design T-shirts for several different organizations, and even create, by hand, custom monuments. Esteli will study business administration with a minor in art at Redlands Community College. She even plans to build her career around art by establishing a mural painting business. Esteli's philosophy is that art will help to inspire people and brighten their world.