

ICE IN THE HEARTLAND



•By Carolina Jones-Ortiz



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By Dalia Harris





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- **ICE in the Heartland**

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Artist statement by Carolina Jones:

During a lot of the meetings I had while creating the images for the “Ice in The Heartland” project, I was often urged to capture the “blue midwestern skies” of the areas where the events took place. The communities impacted by ICE raids are forever changed, but I wanted to pay tribute to what stayed constant, what could always be pointed to as a sign of “home.” In each state I provide a skyline and a darkened silhouette with some subtle nods of where some of the raids took place: Bean Station’s slaughterhouse, the powerlines in Sandusky, Ohio, etc.



•Zip Ties and Donuts

•By Carolina Jones-Ortiz

Artist's Statement by Carolina Jones:

In 2018, Corso's workers were lured into their breakroom by undercover agents offering them donuts, where they were soon rounded up and arrested in zip ties. For this illustration, we liked to play with the deceiving nature of the bait used by ICE officers. In the center stage we find the box with an assortment of donuts and zip-ties, and in the backdrop we find everyday objects that serve as warning signs that something is off. From the "waiting for you" sign to the mysterious sign-up sheet, we see how a common workplace can be transformed from a place of trust to a site of trauma. The orange and pink stripes on the donut box are a nod to Dunkin' Donuts, which was the brand actually used on the raid. Similarly, the colors in the coffee cup are in reference to 7Eleven, a major target of nationwide ICE Raids in 2018.



- **Separated Families**

- By Carolina Jones-Ortiz

Artist statement by Carolina Jones:

In April 5th, 2018, ICE arrested 97 undocumented immigrants at their workplace without asking for their immigration status first. 7 of those arrested sued ICE claiming to be racially profiled by the agency. White employees at the slaughterhouse where the raid took place were allowed to have a smoke while their Latinx co-workers were rounded up. I created this illustration hoping to convey the apathy and complicit behavior that bystanders engaged with in the face of injustice. I also wished to highlight how indifference is a tool of white supremacy.



- **They Took Us Away**
- By Dalia Harris

Artists' Statement by Dalia Harris:

For this piece, I wanted to capture the bittersweet moment that was described to me as relief of finding your loved one, yet uncertainty of not knowing where they might go.



•**Atentos a Todo**

•By Carolina Jones-Ortiz

Artist's Statement by Carolina Jones:

Inspired by the 2018 “Corso’s Flower & Garden Center” raid in Sandusky, Ohio, this piece illustrates Corso’s manager getting ice cream with her daughter a day before the raid. Covered by a blue Midwestern sky, the image depicts the calm before the storm. The scene guides us through a cycle of concern: while the mother faces the ICE bus, her daughter faces her, looking for an indication of whether to feel safe or anxious.



- **Too Scared for Soccer**
- By Dalia Harris

Artist's Statement by Dalia Harris:

For me, a large emphasis was placed on how this community was once lively and bustling with families, so much so that the empty streets after the ICE raid were off-putting. The images are supposed to exemplify such drastic change – beginning with the boy surrounded by friends and family, and ending with nothing but the ball the boy once played with.



- **La Iglesia**
- By Carolina Jones-Ortiz

“It’s not just the workplace affected by these raids. Their effects travel home, to school, to churches, to community spaces, Ortiz says.

After a raid, a church might become, as depicted by Ortiz’s stained glass window triptych, a food pantry, a place to mourn, and a place to organize and exchange information with legal professionals.

Lopez describes the people who seek the safety of churches: “These are the women and children who pick up the pieces in the aftermath of men disappearing in a raid. I say ‘disappearing men,’ as men tend to do the manual labor jobs where these raids happen.”



•Tareas

•By Carolina Jones-Ortiz

Tareas, which means “homework” in Spanish, represents the compounding labor created by raids. Suddenly, a family is down a breadwinner. Suddenly, there’s no childcare. Suddenly, a mother is filling out paperwork in order to meet with a lawyer after a long day of her own work. Meanwhile, the ongoing work of children’s homework, cooking dinner, and emotional caregiving continues and piles up in the background.

“I wanted these layered images to have conversations,” Ortiz says.

“The kid has homework, the mom has the homework of reaching out to lawyers, and the daughter is taking care of everyone. What doesn’t get done?”