

# Jicaro & Paper Beads

Our **jicaro** bracelets, candles, ornaments and boxes are made by young artisans who dedicate their time to sand, cut, varnish and utterly transform these fruit into art.



Made from magazine cuttings, **paper bead** jewelry, such as these bracelets, require countless hours to hand-roll, varnish, trim, match and assemble these one-of-a-kind treasures.



**El Puente**, meaning 'the bridge', is located in one of the poorest barrios of Granada, Nicaragua, bringing hope to the neighborhood. It provides education, alcohol and drug rehabilitation, youth programs, medical and nutritional programs and economic development, including the Jicaro Project. Additionally, El Puente hosts short and long term volunteer teams to serve the local community, bringing the message of love and redemption to the poor and the lost.



**The Jicaro Project and Jicaro Workshop are programs of the El Puente Mission Base**

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## The Jicaro Project



**El Puente Mission Base**  
Al fin de Calle Santa Lucia  
Granada, Nicaragua

# The Jicaro Project

What we do...



These handcrafts are made by the youth of Granada's barrios. Over 40 young people participate in the collection, design and creation of these unique crafts. Proceeds from their sale help to support these young artisans and their education, finance community improvement projects and keep the Vida Joven (Young Life) youth clubs thriving.

## The testimony of one of our Vida Joven leaders:

..Before I found myself at Jesus' feet, my life was chaos. At 10 I ran away to the streets where I got to know a world full of **HATE, DRUGS** and brokenness. I joined a gang and lived in crime, which got me 2 years in prison when I was only 14. One day when I was in JAIL CELL #6, the Enemy put in my mind that **the only way out of this was by taking my own life.** When I was about to do it, I noticed a strange feeling in my heart, and it brought me to my knees. I said this prayer "God, if you really exist, take me out of here". **He got me out** of that jail. No one could believe it. A friend later invited me to the **Vida Joven Club at El Puente.** I didn't want to go, but I went just to keep my end of the bargain with God. The Good Lord used that ministry to transform my life. I met Yener, who is the leader of Vida Joven in Granada. I've just finished an electrician's course and started High School again, and have some side jobs. **I am also a leader in Vida Joven,** and with the testimony of what Jesus did in my life, I'm helping out other kids, showing them the power of our God.

