

INK NEWS

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#BLM

The Ink People stand in solidarity with Black, Indigenous and People of Color in our community. We believe that Black lives matter, and we join our voices in the national call for equality and social justice. We recognize the suffering and injustice long endured by people of color in our communities and acknowledge that we can do better.

The murders of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, Tony McDade, Josiah Lawson, and so many others call us to action. We condemn police brutality and white supremacy, and we affirm that all forms of implicit or explicit racism are unacceptable.

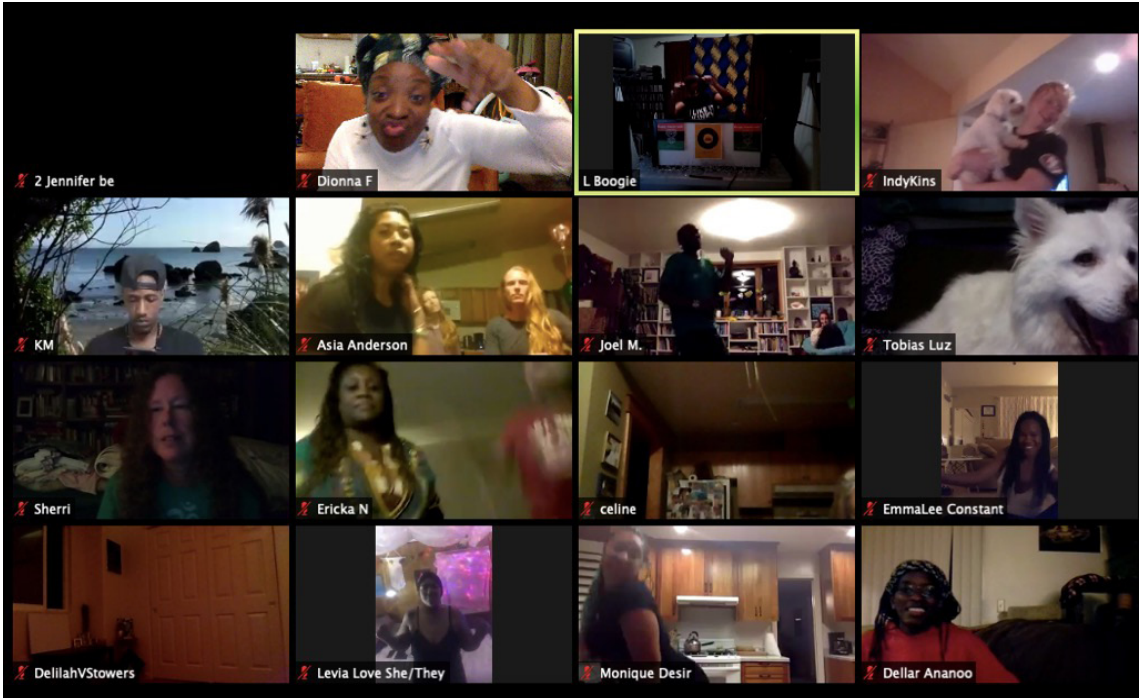
While we take pride in our history of supporting diverse creative perspectives, we acknowledge there is work to do. As a majority-white nonprofit, we recognize the need to check our privilege and examine our participation in systems of oppression. We are working to amplify BIPOC voices, learning more about systems of racial oppression, and contributing to causes that support ending racism, hatred, and violence.

Our message to members of Black / Indigenous / POC communities: We see you, we hear you, we are here for you. We pledge our support toward a brighter future built on justice, equity, diversity, inclusion and respect.

Through the arts and culture, we can collaborate and build a better future together. We invite you to join us in asking: What would the absence of racism look like? How can we foster creativity in ways that reflect the true diversity of this community? Can we imagine a world in which dreams are not deferred? How does your art address these issues?



JULY 2020 FEATURES



Humboldt County's Juneteenth celebration taking place on Zoom, June 19, 2020. Photo credit: Mo Harper-Desir.

Images on p. 7, p. 9, and cover: stills from "Albacore Tuna: the Tale of a Fish" (2020). Photo credits: Jennifer M. Bell.

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Mission Statement

The Ink People changes lives by connecting our communities with resources for cultural development. We encourage people to exercise their humanity, build civic discourse, and engage their creative potential.



Ink Spawn

What's hatching at the Ink People from Libby Maynard

Somehow it seems surreal that we have started the second half of the year, but it really is July!

Last month's Board meeting did not receive any new DreamMaker proposals. We discussed how best to frame our statement on Black Lives Matter, racial equity, and systemic racism. Ink People has a long history of being open to and supporting diverse arts and cultural peoples. A long time ago, I decided to use my white privilege to benefit others with less privilege. The Ink People has been an excellent vehicle.

We are excited to introduce you to our new Marketing and Resource Development Director, Gabrielle Gopinath. She started June 1st and has jumped right in. You may recognize her name from art reviews and articles in the North Coast Journal. She also teaches in the Creative Arts Department at College of the Redwoods. Welcome, Gabrielle!

Exciting new developments are brewing. Thanks to Humboldt Area Foundation's COVID-19 Fund, we are drawing up guidelines for a new artist relief program based on the concept of the 1930s Work Projects Administration (WPA), covering Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity County artists. Details coming soon!

Congratulations are in order to DreamMaker Black Humboldt for their wildly successful Juneteenth virtual event. Thanks also to Access Humboldt for technical support across all the virtual platforms.

The Ink People offices received authorization to re-open early in the game, but chose to take it slowly to be sure all our staff were comfortable with the process. We officially re-opened on June 23rd. We are open reduced hours Tuesday-Saturday from noon to 5 pm, by appointment, to control the number of people in the building. The MARZ Project is open, as well, by appointment, either in person or virtually. To make an appointment, please call us at 707.442.8413 or email inkers@inkpeople.org. We can also set up Zoom meetings.

We hope you are all well and happy in these times of seismic change.



Students aged 12-26 can now work with our
mentors online and in person one-on-one!



Learning must go on!

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arts are essential



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Stained glass by Colleen Clifford



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GO LOCAVORE!

Documentary filmmakers Jennifer M. Bell
and Jessica Eden take a deep dive into Humboldt waters

The newest documentary from independent filmmakers Jennifer M. Bell and Jessica Eden, “Albacore Tuna: the Tale of a Fish,” provides an in-depth look at the process through which tuna finds its way from the northern Pacific onto Humboldt plates.

This new release is the third in a trilogy of food-themed documentaries Bell and Eden have made. All are spinoff projects from “Food for Thought,” the DreamMaker project and long-running radio program the duo created for now-defunct public radio station, KHSU. Films in the series examine how food is produced in Humboldt County, providing an insider’s view of every stage of the farm-to-table — in this case ocean-to-table — process.

Dockside interviews make it clear that fishing in Humboldt is more a way of life than a job. Kathryn Vanderpool, who operates a commercial fishing boat out of Eureka with her husband, emphasizes the satisfaction derived from knowing exactly where your food comes from.

“I raised my children at sea,” she says. Those

children “understand that the clothes on their back, the food that goes in their mouth, and the nice little house that’s over their heads is there because we put a hook in the water, and we catch the fish, and we take the fish to town and we sell it.”

In the film’s opening minutes, this plainspoken summary gives way to drone footage that provides a gull’s eye view of the Eureka waterfront, with the camera swooping smooth as glass over opalescent currents. Even as interviews with fishing boat operators, scientists, and cannery executives demystify the tuna industry, intercut aerial footage communicates the ocean’s magic.

While working in radio for more than a decade, Bell realized that she wanted to tell stories that would pair audio with a visual dimension. After retiring from her job at Humboldt State University, she went back to school to learn about storytelling and filmmaking, reasoning: “I was already doing these stories. Just to put images with them... how hard could it be? A steep learning

Continued on p. 9

“Alone in Quarantine”

Susanna Gallisdorfer

I miss touch
not the touch of today's spring wind
sure and strong off the ocean
sending bird flight careening,
hurrying through grass all rushed
and flushed in silver,
whipping hair upward like flames
in a brushfire,

not that kind of touch.

I miss the way a hand
can open to another,
fingers soft like a wing
gently unfolding,
palm cushioned and warm,
its heart line shaped in the womb,
how a hand can tenderly send
a gesture, a caress, a comfort
across separation to join
in oneness,
if only as a handshake.

‘Behind the Mask: 40 Quarantine Poems from Humboldt County,’ a new chapbook edited by writer Anne Fricke and Eureka’s Poet Laureate David Holper, presents lyrical reflections by local poets on community, isolation, division, racial injustice, and social inequality. Copies can be downloaded from the “Poetry on the Edge” Facebook page maintained by Fricke and Holper.



curve clarified the answer to that question, she said, laughing ruefully. “Making films is the hardest thing I’ve ever done in my entire life!”

Fortunately, she and Eden have a working partnership that goes back more than a decade, and they were able to share the labor of producing, filming, and editing. “We don’t divide up the labor, like ‘you do this and I’ll do that.’ We just work as one.”

Big data has changed the fishing industry, and locating fish “starts with a computer now.” But these subjects’ stories illustrate the degree to which hardship and physical peril remain part of the job. We hear about what it’s like to enter Humboldt Bay in a storm, threading the narrow passage by the North Jetty that fishing people call “the jaws” under zero visibility conditions, while navigating waves “like freight trains, or mountains.”

The filmmakers devote equal time to the story of how the catch gets frozen, processed, smoked and canned, emphasizing local traditions and sustainable practices. Bill Carvalho, founder and president of Wild Planet Foods, explains that his company’s ap-

proach to canning was modeled on the practice of his Portuguese grandmother, who would buy fresh tuna at the Eureka docks “every weekend” and preserve it with salt in mason jars.

Bell advises wannabe locavores to look out for the hand-lettered signs that appear in Eureka alongside Highway 101 in summertime.

“You can go down to the docks and buy fish directly from the fishermen when it’s available. It’s easy, and it’s so much fun - it’s not intimidating at all.” Buying black cod, halibut or albacore straight off the boat does more than guarantee freshness; Bell points out that it also “leads to greater awareness in the community. People need to be tuning in to their local food cultures.”

“Food integrates so many topics, touching on culture, environment, sustainability, and relationships,” the documentarian summarizes.

“Even after producing over 300 editions of ‘Food for Thought’ for radio, people would say, ‘Aren’t you running out of stories?’ and I would say, ‘Nowhere close.’”

Watch “Albacore Tuna: the Tale of a Fish” at <https://vimeo.com/channels/foodforthoughthumboldt>

DreamMaker Profile: Black Humboldt Celebrates Juneteenth

Black Humboldt, a DreamMaker project of the Ink People Center for the Arts, joined forces with the Eureka chapter of the NAACP this June 19 to organize a virtual Juneteenth celebration.

The event featured live music by local artists and people of color, as well as a virtual BBQ. Breakout sessions touched on different aspects of the Black experience, from storytelling and a writer's workshop to multicultural skin care, hip-hop cardio and informal "Knowledge for Power" discussions. All took place on Zoom as at-home viewers shared the love, showering speakers and performers with emoji of hearts and clapping hands.

After the event one of the organizers, Mo Harper-Desir of Black Humboldt, exclaimed, "Everything went great!" even though the technical challenges associated with hosting a multi-platform live event for the first time also meant that "nothing went smoothly." People of color and allies Zoomed in to celebrate and show support in numbers, making the event a success. Black Humboldt will be using the funds raised to provide assistance to community businesses owned by people of color that have been unable to reopen due to the COVID-19 crisis.

"The community is really starting to come together and respond to the Black Lives Matter movement," Desir said. "The whole day had such a warm, positive feeling. It was so black and so brown and so beautiful."



Screenshot from a recent Black Humboldt "virtual meetup:" a songwriting workshop with Aundrea Stuckey, who performs as All Love Aundrea, in March. Photo credit: Mo Harper-Desir. For more information: blackhumboldt@gmail.com



HOW YOU CAN "DO" THE FESTIVAL THIS YEAR:

Daily Virtual Art Walks: 5:30pm
Live-Stream on Facebook
+ find videos on our website

Self-Guided Mural Tour
Grab a map from our website or around Henderson Center + wander the Festival area to see the murals being painted throughout the week.

...and while you're there...
support the businesses in Henderson Center!

*HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE: WEAR A FACE MASK,
OBSERVE PHYSICAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES,
AND STAY HOME IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL*



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and resources
Contact Deanna: dsander1@arcatanet.com

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no experience necessary.
Facebook: [Humboldt SINGS](#) for virtual song circles
humboldtsings@gmail.com

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