

# INK NEWS

Volume 41 Issue 12, December 2020



- Trajectory's "Monster Project" opens for a sixth season
- Approaching "SANTAmonium"



# INK SPAWN

*A note from Executive Director Libby Maynard*

No new DreamMakers in November, but I know we'll have at least one in December. New board member, Cati Gallardo, attended her first meeting as a voting member and was welcomed by all.

I have some sad news. In August, former board member and exuberant artist, Frances Boettcher, passed away. She had been living with her daughter near Clear Lake for several years. Her bright and colorful paintings and ceramics bring joy to so many, and her stories were always zany. She had been sending me art cards, drawings, and ornaments she was making in the last few years. I will miss those fat envelopes of wonder and delight. She used to have a feather boa in her car's back window because "you never know when you'll need one."

I hope you had a lovely Thanksgiving. I had a nice quiet one, like I usually do, but thanks to COVID, I got to Zoom with my brother and sister and her children's families. It was so nice.

As you may have noticed, we sent out letters asking you to become a member or renew your membership in the Ink People. We are also accepting additional donations to build up the Funds for Artists' Resilience, a WPA (Works Projects Administration) type program made possible by the Humboldt Area Foundation and the Wild Rivers Foundation, with additional support from the Rose Perenin Foundation and donors. We recently awarded five collaborative projects funding to realize their visions of ways to help our communities heal. A press release will be forthcoming.

Purple. Who decided that purple was a worst-case color? Purple is the crone's color – magic and wisdom. What an upside-down world. Here's to actually using Purple's beneficent qualities and getting back to Yellow.



# DECEMBER 2020

## FEATURES



- 2: Ink Spawn
- 4 *The Monster Project* opens for a sixth season
- 5: Approaching "SANTAmonium"
- 7: Introducing new board member Cati Gallardo
- 10: Art for the Young at Heart opens winter/spring session
- 10: Photo credits
- 11: Workshops & classes

### **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.



Trajectory's

# MONSTER PROJECT

opens for a sixth season this December

The Monster Project, a public artwork featuring contributions by more than fifty local artists, returns to view through December in the lot at the northwest corner of 3rd and G Streets in Old Town Eureka.

Now in its sixth year, the Monster Project was created and is facilitated by Bryan Schoneman of Trajectory, a DreamMaker project of The Ink People Center for the Arts. Through the project, participating artists choose collaborative partner(s) and plan their work together.

Over the past five years, participating artists have created paintings, costume designs, songs, poetry, ceramic sculpture, dance, and performance work. This year, because of the pandemic, they are creating paintings on panels that can be shown outdoors, making it easier for viewers to access the ex-

hibition from a distance. Some artists have chosen to work together while social distancing. Others have kept in touch virtually while sending artworks back and forth.

Schoneman chose the theme of "Monster" as a jumping-off point because of its breadth and the diversity of its potential interpretations. "The category of the monstrous incorporates not only creatures hidden in closets and under beds; it can potentially expand to encompass anything in life, exhibition organizer Kristi Patterson summarized. "Anything can be monstrous - fear, beauty, truth, nature, desire, inner struggles, other people." Artists taking part in the exhibition use the idea of monstrosity "to explore their deepest humanness. The most important part of the Monster Project is the balm it is for the way most of us feel right now."

“The pain of loneliness and isolation is very real right now,” Schoneman said. “The Monster Project gives people something exciting to work on while they build relationships with other artists. It really helps people to feel connected and not so alone.”

Leslie Castellano, an artist and Eureka City Council member who has been a part of the project since its inception, feels it has had an important impact on the Humboldt community. “Many of the artists involved are well known in our community, and viewers often leave inspired by the way a creative dialogue about monsters is conveyed through the art and through the project. While making work, the artists involved create relationships with one another. Many of these relationships continue, and the artists keep working together throughout the year. I am inspired by this project’s capacity to serve as a vehicle for restructuring and redefining social constructs within our community,” Castellano said.

Patterson anticipates that the Monster Project will grow and change over the several months it is installed.

*More information on the artwork and artists involved can be found at [www.monsterproject.squarespace.com](http://www.monsterproject.squarespace.com).*




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## Approaching “SANTAmonium”

This holiday season the Ink People Center for the Arts is partnering with local favorites Bandemonium to release the acclaimed holiday album “SANTAmonium.” Bayside-based Bandemonium, an Ink People Dream-Maker Project, has been described as “Humboldt’s premier activist street band” and “the best in human powered music for the Redwood Coast.” The community-based brass band led by world music composer and researcher Gregg Moore features a spirited group of students, amateurs and professional musicians playing Moore’s “deliciously deranged” versions of Christmas classics.

*Continued on p. 7*



INK PEOPLE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

JANUARY 2021

# METALLIC



JANUARY 9-30

*Copper and pewter. Steel and chrome. Traps and grills. Silver and gold. The bling and the mirage. The platinum level. The shiny crayons. It's industry and androids. It's the future and the past. It's the color of your skin...*

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*"Flash Dancer," by Jack Sewell. 2020*



Bandemonium's holiday album rolls out the traditional favorites with a world music twist, in keeping with the band's reputation for eclecticism. "The traditional holiday repertoire is taken to unexpected places," Moore explained. "'Good King Wenceslas' becomes a punk rocker, and 'Angels We Have Heard On High' is twisted into a Balkan hit. 'Silent Night' becomes anything but, and 'What Child is This' becomes a Hanukkah tune as well as a swinging jazz waltz"

"SANTAmonium" has garnered positive reviews since its 2018 release. Becky Liebman of the Artesian Rumble Arkestra based in Olympia, Washington, writes: "The brilliance of the arrangements is one thing, but also the understanding of the range of musicianship in the mix." Jazz pianist and band-leader Tony Heimer said it "revisits both the sacred and secular repertoire with brash humor, audacity and rhythmic imagination. "At first you might think OK, this is like a Salvation Army Band on acid — before realizing it sounded like the Sun Ra Arkestra plays a Disney album," Heimer continued. "Or no, it's more like an Andalucian pasodoble band, or maybe a crazed klezmer band, but then those anarchic splashes of atonality make it sound like the Dirty Dozen Brass Band plays Charles Ives for Christmas. At some point you stop trying to define it and just go along for the sleighride.

"Gregg Moore makes wide use of his extensive background as a musician in various European jazz, theater and comedy groups and long history as a brass band leader in this project. His arrangements are totally unique and sound like they are tremen-

*Continued on p. 10*



## Introducing new board member Cati Gallardo

**C**ati Gallardo joined the board of the Ink People Center for the Arts this month.

Gallardo and her family left San Francisco and headed for Northern California in 2017. She currently serves on the board of Helpers Community, helping to enrich the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities in the Bay Area, and serves as Equity Arcata's communications working group chair. When Gallardo is not volunteering, she enjoys spending time with her family and works as the Communications Specialist for the City of Arcata.

*Ink News* caught up with Cati to pose a few questions about what motivates her to work for arts and culture in this community.

*Continued on p. 8*

- *What makes the mission of the Ink People meaningful to you?*

I believe that having access to the arts and to diverse means of cultural expression is vital in every community, so the Ink People's ability to connect folks with resources for both cultural and artistic development is most meaningful.

- *How have you been involved in the arts?*

I spent most of my childhood and young adult life as a dancer, which really shaped me into the person I am today. Dancing in companies and having the opportunity to travel to performances are experiences I will forever be grateful for. I even danced in a few Two Left Feet Dance Project performances when I was in college here in the '90s, which is where I first learned of the Ink People. I also have a degree in apparel design, and I just love wearable art. I don't design or sew at all these days, but the art of clothing design and construction and the sociology of fashion will always fascinate me. What humans choose to wear on a daily basis carries many meanings, and I'm always interested in exploring that historically and culturally.

- *As an incoming board member, what are your priorities?*

As a board member, I want to help the Ink People achieve its goals in any way I'm able. My first priorities are to familiarize myself with the needs of the organization, so I have

a better understanding of how we can work together to ensure those needs are met. I'm excited to have the opportunity to learn more about all of the wonderful DreamMaker projects, and I'm also interested in exploring ways to share more of what the Ink People does with our community.

- *What motivates you in your work?*

My daughter inspires me to serve my community every day. It's important to me that she and all children grow up in a place where the arts and culture are not only valued, but are accessible to all people interested in pursuing those avenues of expression.

- *What works of art and culture resonate with you personally?*

There are so many, I really can't pick one. Some performances, written words or pieces of art, you can just feel.

A few more well-known artists who inspire me to feel a variety of emotions are John Waters, Vali Myers, Rza, Kenzo Takada, James Baldwin, Katherine Dunham, Alonzo King, Merce Cunningham, Lee McQueen, Rupaul Charles, The Mummies and Beethoven. I'm also not ashamed to admit that I cried tears of joy when I saw the Native Mural Project's murals that went up in Henderson Center during the Eureka Street Art Festival earlier this year. I love seeing the work of BIPOC artists being celebrated in our community.





# ARTISTS' CHALLENGE 2020

**December 4-19th**  
**Virtual Gallery @**  
**[inkpeople.org](http://inkpeople.org)**

For more information call  
(707) 442-8413 or email  
[inkers@inkpeople.org](mailto:inkers@inkpeople.org).

**25 Ink People Members** accepted the challenge to create **15 original works of art** during the month of November. This is an off-the-wall sale with 2/3 of the sale price going to the artists, and the remainder going to support the Ink People's programs.

**Sale prices are set by size:**

- [3"x5" = \$24 each]
- [5"x7" = \$45 each]
- [8"x10" = \$60 each]
- [11"x14" = \$75 each]



**Details at [inkpeople.org/tuxfordgallery](http://inkpeople.org/tuxfordgallery)**

Featured artworks from the 2019 Artists' Challenge are by Laura Keenan



## Art For the Young at Heart opens enrollment for Winter / Spring 2021

Watercolorist and arts educator Maureen McGarry and the Ink People Center for the Arts invite Humboldt and Del Norte residents ages 65 and up to register now for the winter/ spring session of “Art for the Young at Heart,” an on-line art class and social engagement group.

The 20-week course, taught by McGarry and co-facilitated by a local licensed clinical social worker, begins the week of January 11, 2021 and runs through May.

“Participants learn beginning drawing and watercolor painting skills while participating in a peer support group,” McGarry writes. “Classes are free for participants and are billed to Medicare. Participants can purchase all necessary art supplies for \$190 at the Art Center in Arcata. Participation requires access to the internet through a device with video and audio capacity. Downloading the free Zoom app is a

requirement for participating in the classes.

“Some low-income seniors are eligible for a scholarship which covers all material costs.”

Art for the Young at Heart is a Dream-Maker Project of the Ink People Center for the Arts and is funded by the California Arts Council, the Ink People Center for the Arts, Telebehavioral Health.us, the Ingrid Nickelsen Trust, the Humboldt Area Foundation COVID-19 Regional Response Fund, and local private donations. *For more information email [maureen@telebehavioralhealth.us](mailto:maureen@telebehavioralhealth.us), or call the Ink People at (707) 442-8413.*

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### **Approaching SANTAmonium** / *cont. from p. 7*

dous fun for the band to play. The players’ overall good vibe is obvious.

“Several soloists really stand out, notably Julie Froblom, who delivers a down and dirty tenor sax solo on “Silent Night,” trombonist Megumi Kallen, and the fabulously talented multi-instrumentalist Randy Carrico, who switches between brass and reed instruments with a mind-blowing facility. Moore keeps the whole thing rocking and rolling with his sousaphone.”

*Look for “SANTAmonium” in your favorite socially conscious local retailers this holiday season.*

*Order and/or listen to album tracks at <https://bandemonium.org/santamonium/>*

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*Photo credits and captions in this issue: Cover: Jaimal Kordes and Blake Reagan, “Monster,” 2020, part of the Monster Project. P. 3: Cindy Tirsbeck and Patricia Sennott work on their contributions to the Monster Project in Sennott’s garden. Photo credits: the Monster Project. P. 10: photo credit Maureen McGarry.*

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The Ink People  
525 7th Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

# INK NEWS

is published monthly by  
Ink People Center for the Arts

Executive Director

Libby Maynard

Administrative Director

Monica Topping

Administrative Assistant

Princess King-Burke

Marketing & Resource

Gabrielle Gopinath

Development Director

Alternative Galleries

Angie Valetutto

Technology Director

Karen Asbury

MARZ Project Mentors

Cory Goldman

J. R. Tilghman

Ink News Editor

Gabrielle Gopinath

