

# INK NEWS

Volume 42 Issue 6, June 2021



- **KC McLean on Arising Community**
- **N.B. Hankes on Veteran Artist Residencies**
- **Call for Artists: the Gestation Project**



# INK SPAWN

*A note from Executive Director Libby Maynard*

**L**ots of great news this month! In May, the Board adopted three great new DreamMaker projects: ACME Chamber Music Workshop, HAPI (Humboldt Asian & Pacific Islanders in Solidarity), and Maker's Apron. ACME Chamber Music Workshop's mission is to promote the enjoyment and participation in chamber music by adult amateur musicians. For more info or to get involved, please contact Terrie Baune at [acmechambermusic@inkpeople.org](mailto:acmechambermusic@inkpeople.org). HAPI (Humboldt Asian & Pacific Islanders in Solidarity): the mission and vision of Humboldt Asians & Pacific Islanders in Solidarity (HAPI) is to build and empower our community by amplifying, supporting, and encouraging diverse voices and perspectives to foster a more engaged and inclusive community. For more info or to get involved, please contact one of the members of Team HAPI: Terry Uyeki ([terryuwiki@gmail.com](mailto:terryuwiki@gmail.com)), Amy Uyeki ([akuyeki@gmail.com](mailto:akuyeki@gmail.com)) or Marylyn Paik-Nicely ([marylyn.paiknicely@gmail.com](mailto:marylyn.paiknicely@gmail.com)). Maker's Apron is like if the Art Center and Pierson's had a baby, and it was a thrift store. See more at [MakersApron.org](http://MakersApron.org). This is the reincarnation of SCRAP Humboldt, conceived and run by Kati Texas. For more info or to get involved, please contact Kati Texas at [makersapron@inkpeople.org](mailto:makersapron@inkpeople.org).

Ink People, like a lost puppy, has found its forever home at 627 3rd Street, Eureka! We will be moving very soon. If you would like to help us pack or unpack, please contact Monica Topping at [monica@inkpeople.org](mailto:monica@inkpeople.org) or 707.442.8413.

And, if that isn't enough, Arts Alive is starting a soft reopening with some Old Town venues. The official reopening will be held July 3rd (assuming COVID doesn't resurge). Because of our impending move, we are staying virtual until further notice. Nevertheless, our current virtual exhibition, *Fixing the Earth 2021*, curated by Julian Lang, will stay up at [inkpeople.org](http://inkpeople.org). It is a truly wonderful show.



# JUNE 2021

## FEATURES



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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.





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## DreamMaker spotlight: *Arising Community* as told by co-founder KC McLean

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- ***How Arising Community got started:***

“Arising Community got started when KC McLean, Patrick Walsh and Alexia Ammon were all working together at a spa as massage therapists. We were all very interested in social issues and healing and art and creativity. We had these things in common, and we wanted to create a healing environment in Humboldt where people could come and create as a community. That meant healing physically as well as spiritually. So we did sound healing and breath work and yoga, but we also organized parent meeting groups, children’s groups, PoC groups, queer groups, consciousness raising groups. We sponsored poetry readings

at Northtown Books for a while; we organized live music events; we did Arts Arcata. We tried to include consciousness raising and holistic healing together, because we felt like all of those things were healing for our community in some way. It’s all about addressing the whole person, right? Not looking at any one part in isolation.”

- ***On the founders’ motivation:***

“We felt like people were missing the ability to stay connected and to get to know their community. During Arising’s first two years, people would come to us and say things like, ‘Through this parenting group, I found someone to take care of my kids so I could

finish college.' Or, 'I came out here and didn't know anybody, but I came here and I found a place to live.' This one guy who was coming to meditation said, 'I really wasn't looking for a men's group, but I went to men's group and it's been a super amazing thing, and now I have all these friends.' People were getting connected and getting to know each other in all these different ways, so we wanted to continue."

- ***On rebounding after the pandemic shutdown and the loss of Arising's brick-and-mortar space:***

"We're currently looking for another space, and meanwhile we're collaborating with other groups. We're about to apply for a grant to see if we can get a little help from the city. And we've been working to make ourselves more available as an online resource, putting yoga and meditation classes online. We hope to organize a week-long city-wide meditation event where people can go to different venues and learn about meditation. This would culminate at the end of the week with an event where everybody from the community meditates together. Studies have shown that community meditation can reduce the crime rate and improve the overall wellness of the city."

- ***On Arising Community's new YouTube channel:***

"We've been doing these 15-20 minute interviews on our YouTube channel where we speak with someone in the community who's doing healing modalities, or raising consciousness by doing creative art that's healing. Then we're archiving (those interviews). We have four out now, with new material coming out weekly. Eventually, there will be a community archive. If you just moved to town, or if you just want to know what people are doing, you can go and see what kind of organizations, groups, events, are going on."

- ***On collaborating to create content with audio and video mentors from the MARZ Project:***

"MARZ is also an Ink People project. When we schedule an interview, the MARZ mentors come in and set up the sound. We have the interview and then (MARZ video mentor) Jay Tilghman edits everything and does this beautiful job - he's magical! Actually, last week we interviewed Cory (Goldberg, audio mentor for the MARZ Project) and found out so much more about the MARZ

Project and what they do, and how much they do. So if somebody wants to know more about the MARZ Project, they can go and watch Cory's interview on our YouTube channel. We've interviewed some really interesting musicians and artists so far: AJ Ross, Corbin Skyberg, Shemaia Skywater, KaliShakti Khandro, and Broderick Brown, who's trying to create a permaculture ecovillage. I've been surprised to learn how much these people are doing, and how inspired they are, and why they are inspired to do it. One of our first questions is always, 'How did you end up in Humboldt?' and the answers to that question are always really interesting."

- ***On how she came to Humboldt:***

"I was living in Yosemite, and this guy I was climbing with every day told me about Humboldt. He said it was like the only other place he would want to live, the only other place where nature has that power and beauty. It was the first time I had heard about Humboldt. I grew up in what I thought was 'northern California' — which is not really northern California! It's middle California. When I was growing up, I didn't know anything was north of northern California. I had never come up here. But yeah, the nature up here keeps me well. I stay inspired by getting that feedback and making these community connections. I've probably met hundreds of people in town through Arising, and the conversations have inspired me. It's easy to get down about the world, but when you see these people in the community trying to create their own wellness and trying to heal other people, trying to do something good, I just — it makes me want to smile, and also to cry, right now. That keeps me going. When I'm able to connect to people and help people find a resource or make something happen for somebody else that I know is full of heart, that does it 100% for me. When you're doing this work, whether it's yoga, or meditation, or healing work or whatever, there is an amplification that takes place with other people that can take you to the next place in your own evolution."

*Learn more and get involved at [arisingcommunity.com](http://arisingcommunity.com). Arising Community is on Facebook at Arising, on Instagram @arising.arcata, and on YouTube at Arising Community.*



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# VETERAN ARTIST *Residencies:*

*A humble origin story by founder* **N.B. HANKES**

I bought a fixer-upper in Northern California. It's the type of place you don't feel good about having your parents visit. The heater didn't work and the roof leaked. The carpets had well-worn game trails winding from room to room, stained brown from decades of tenants and neglect. Clearing a blackberry bramble revealed a garden shed on the corner of the property, and rats had made the mother-in-law unit their own. Despite its lackluster curb-appeal, I knew that I could turn this place into something special.

I spent the first summer under the house replacing rotten beams and pouring cement for piers. At one point I got so sick of pushing buckets of cement through the 18-inch crawl space that I tore the floor out of the spare bedroom so I had better access. My only regret was not doing it sooner.

I didn't consider sprucing up the inside of the house until I got the roof repaired and replaced, which took about a year. Patching, paint, fresh floors, followed soon after. My girlfriend's decorating aesthetic quickly made the space feel like a Boho Chic catalogue cover. We had a home we could be proud of.

Whatever the failings of the house, they were only flesh wounds compared to the utter disrepair awaiting me in the studio. Gophers had mounded wet dirt up to the bathroom subfloor, requiring a total replacement. The slab foundation of the main room tilted four inches off plumb. The insulation in the ceiling smelled like a rat bathroom at bar time.

I got to work gutting the place. I sweat copper, ran sewer lines, poured concrete, hung and patched drywall, installed a bathroom and kitchen. I leveled



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*“The vision is to provide a space for post-9/11 veteran authors to come and complete a manuscript. Writing is not only good for the veteran’s health, but can serve as a way for Americans to understand the veteran experience, helping both communities in the process.”*

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the slab and laid down a new floor. If I ever got over my head, I'd call on friends for guidance and help.

I categorize these projects based on the audiobooks I listened to while completing them. I made it through the 62-hour tome, *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, finishing around the time America's own capital building underwent another failed putsch attempt.

Somewhere along the way, I started getting the non-profit part of the vision into motion. I met with the board of directors over at the The Ink People Center For the Arts non-profit, and they agreed to take this mission under their proverbial wing, making the Veteran Artist Residencies (VAR) a DreamMaker project. This meant that the VAR mission now had non-profit status and an experienced group to help answer any of my questions along

*Continued next page* 7



the way. The vision continued to coalesce into reality.

By the time the studio bathroom had running water, Joey Paz, a devout yogi living the life of a Holy man in an era that has little interest or use for one, agreed to move into the studio and help with projects in exchange for a free place to live. He's not the type of charismatic saint that makes it into the history books, but he is a saint. He's so unattached to the things of this world that I fear he might float away. Perhaps this is what's meant by ascending into heaven?

The postures of yoga are designed to challenge the body to the point that the mind becomes silent. I'm not sure what Joey had to work through on his path to sainthood, but judging by his advanced practice, I'm guessing he had plenty to sort through before conquering his mind.

With Joey's help, the project gained momentum. Instead of sporadic bursts of productivity every other weekend, the project moved forward day by day. He did yeoman's work with plaster and paint. I did my best to keep one step ahead, ensuring he had as much work as he wanted.

So here we are. The studio is 95% complete, and we're to the point that we're slowly bringing in furniture. The space is officially ready for its first veteran artist, and now the next step of the mission is to fund raising and finding talented writers that happen to be post-9/11 veterans.

## How You Can Help Support the Mission

What is the funding used for? The majority of funds will go straight to the veteran-artists staying here. The living stipend will get paid out monthly and is intended to reduce some of the survival anxieties associated with modern living. Some of the funds will help cover the cost of utilities used by the studio. And The Ink People Center For the Arts gets a 15% cut for their role in handling all the financial and legal requirements of running a non-profit.

They're doing the Lord's work in the community with some of their other projects, and no one likes paperwork, so we're happy to have such a partner.

In a perfect world, the financial breakdown will look like this for each veteran:

- \$2,000 per month stipend (x 5 months)
- \$100-300 per month utilities (x 5 months)
- 15% cut to The Ink People

So, math would conclude a total of approximately:

- \$13,225 per veteran, with a monthly operating cost of about \$2,645.00.

A subscription to this member-supported blog costs \$20 per month, so if you and 131 other good people like you are intrigued enough to find out how this journey progresses, we'll be operational. 132 patrons is totally doable. And even better, the subscription is considered a donation to the non-profit. So at the end of each year, you'll receive a donation receipt that you can share with whoever it is that prepares your taxes. Here's what you can expect from the subscription:

- Exclusive content sent directly to your inbox every week. Some writings will come from me, others from our veteran artists.
- Every chapter of the book *Waking Up On the Appalachian Trail*, which will include never before seen photos and an embedded audio player with the audiobook chapter included. I'll release chapters one at a time.
- Work in Progress drafts and musings from veteran-artists. I will personally be sharing my progress on my Tao of Einstein project and plan to begin writing essays regarding consumer-driven activism to explore the possibility of creating a full manuscript.
- Audio interviews with residents and more.

Sure, this is a non-profit mission, but we want to earn your support and bring you along on this journey as we reimagine the veteran experience. And hopefully we can get some amazing art and ideas out into the world. Visit us at [www.veteranarts.org](http://www.veteranarts.org) to donate and find out more.





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*Joey Paz sharing a photo and quote on Instagram @joeypaz: "Tapas is the heat that creates goodness in the body...Any self promise or principle observed with determination is called tapas. Tapas purifies soul as well as body. It is 5% bodily purification, 95% soul education. It is not necessary to go into the forest with a 3 ½ foot beard and 2 inch long fingernails to do tapas. It can be as simple as resolving to give up coffee or wear only white. Any form of self-promise is yogic penance. Any promise made to yourself with the purpose of developing body or soul is called tapas. Tapas is controlling the mind. Tapas is purification, self-discipline, and austerity." -BNS Iyengar*





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## CALL FOR ARTISTS: THE GESTATION PROJECT

Hey artists! Would you like to exhibit artwork that revolves around themes like child rearing, climate change, overpopulation, eugenics, or other related topics? The Gestation Project is looking for work related to child rearing in the 21st century. Submit your entries by August 1st to join the Gestation Project exhibit this September at the Jefferson Center in Eureka, CA.

Please send photos of your work in the form of a .pdf attachment to [taylorsnowberger@gmail.com](mailto:taylorsnowberger@gmail.com) and include the following information about each piece in this format: Your Name; Piece Title; Media; Size; Date Produced; Price. Contact [taylorsnowberger@gmail.com](mailto:taylorsnowberger@gmail.com) for more info. The Gestation Project is made possible through a grant from Funds for Artists' Resilience (FAR) and Ink People Center for the Arts. Pictured: *Pregnant Ladies Versus Tigers*, by Taylor Snowberger.



# Fixing the Earth 2021

A Virtual  
Exhibit

Brenda  
Tuxford  
Gallery

*Thru September 2021*

**Ink People Center for the Arts**  
[www.inkpeople.org/tuxfordgallery.com](http://www.inkpeople.org/tuxfordgallery.com)

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**CREDITS & CAPTIONS:** Cover: A yoga class takes place at Arising Community in 2020, pre-pandemic. Photo credit KC McLean. P. 3: An installation by Nancy Tobin blows in the wind at the Outer Roominations exhibition organized by Synapsis at Table Bluff over Memorial Day weekend. Photo credit Ink People Center for the Arts. P. 4: People gather at an Arising Community event held at Redwood Park in Arcata, 2020. Photo credit KC McLean. P. 6: N.B. Hanks mid-renovation: "The prison jump suit felt way too appropriate." P. 7: interior and exterior views of the Veteran Artist studio, before and after renovation. P. 9: photo of Joey Paz. Photos pp. 6-7 and 9 courtesy of N.B. Hanks.

### ARISING HOLISTIC CENTER

Yoga videos and meditations. YouTube: Arising Community. Facebook: Arising

### ENGLISH EXPRESS

English Language Classes for Adults / Clases de Inglés para adultos. ONLINE: Tuesdays and Thursdays 7-8 pm, Saturdays 11:00 am - 12 pm. Classes are FREE. Join anytime. For more information/Para más información: englishexpresshumboldt.org. Facebook: English Express. (707) 443-5021

### HUMBOLDT UKULELE GROUP

Learn to play in a relaxed group setting. Facebook: Humboldt Ukulele Group

### KARUK LANGUAGE CLASSES:

Thursdays 5:15 - 6:15 pm ONLINE. Facebook: Karuk Language Project

### HUMBOLDT SINGS

Come sing in a relaxed, non-performative group setting — no experience necessary.

Facebook: Humboldt

SINGS.

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# INK NEWS

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