

INK NEWS

Volume 42 Issue 9, September 2021



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INK SPAWN

A note from Executive Director Libby Maynard

Oh Happy Autumn! Can't you feel it in the air? It's a little nipper, and you can smell the smoke from people's chimneys. Oh, wait, that's from the wildfires. And the smoke haze is what's making it cooler. Ah, well, times are a-changin'. But we're not letting that get us down. No sir, the Ink People is moving and shaking. The new building is starting to take shape. Our wonderful landlords have managed to find contractors to do the work to fix up the building. Our MARZ Project is growing and changing. MARZ mentors are currently working with Alder Grove Charter School students, and this summer they helped students at Northcoast Preparatory Academy write, direct, film and edit a short movie. We did not accept any new DreamMaker Projects in August, but we're expecting several for September. Geez, where has this year gone? I'm trying really hard not to be a short-timer. It will be exciting to see who applies for the Executive Director job and what new vision they will bring.

Now, for the sad part. On June 3rd, we lost an enthusiastic supporter of the Ink People and longtime advocate of what we do. Skye crossed over after 97 years of art and mischief-making in the arts. I only knew her as Skye, but she did have a given name: Eileen Bolz. She was one-of-a-kind, a leader in the arts and crafts movement and a teacher at the California College of Arts & Crafts. She was proud of having been the first person to appear nude in Life Magazine — as the model for life painters at Esalen Institute. There is a marvelous obituary at <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/times-standard/name/skye-bolz-obituary?pid=199953291>. While looking for Skye's obituary, I saw that earlier in the year, Francine Tuft Peterson had passed away as well. She was a founder of the Humboldt Light Opera Company and was working to stage professional operas in Eureka in the last few years. I found her obituary on the *Lost Coast Outpost*.

The people who paved the way for us are passing. We stand on their shoulders. This is the changing of the guard, and not necessarily a bad thing. Life goes on. Hopefully, we learn from others and from our own experiences. The earth is changing, as well. We must adapt, learn and get better: better at being creative. Better at forgiving and loving. Better at compassion. Better at being better human beings.



SEPTEMBER 2021

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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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Only Skin Deep

returns to the stage



Only Skin Deep, the dance series created by Rachel Sanders, returned to the stage this month with a third revue structured as a “hybrid” between live and online performance. Dancers performed live in front of a masked and socially distanced audience at Redwood Raks in Arcata. The performance was also livestreamed and made available for nonsynchronous audiences via recording.

Challenges associated with the pandemic and with California’s climate crisis inspired Sanders to create an event that would give collaborators an opportunity to meditate on the theme of love. “I was asking myself these questions,” she explained: “What does it look like to love ourselves? What does it look like to love one another? What does it look like to love the earth, and to take care of it? What are we willing to do to obtain love, and what does it look like when our life is devoid of love? A whole universe of human experience

opened up in relation to this theme.”

Event preparation was made more difficult when Sanders had to evacuate from her Willow Creek home in August — twice — because of the Knob fire. Meditating on love became “a welcome distraction” under these circumstances. In the end, the dancer and choreographer said, “We managed to pull this off! My attitude was: life is gonna go on, and we’re gonna make this thing happen.”

The opening performance featured six dancers using movement to explore traditional West African spirituality through the figure of Obatalá, father of the orisha spirits, who is associated with purity. This became an opportunity for dancers to imagine “a love that’s pure and not distorted,” Sanders explained, and to dramatize “the process of coming

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Rediscovering Eureka's Chinatown

HAPI sponsors a new mural by David Young Kim, "Fowl"



Pedestrians take note: the previously drab Eureka alley between 4th and 5th and E and F streets just got a lot brighter. "Fowl," a new mural painted by Oakland-based artist David Young Kim, catches eyes from a distance with a blast of sunny yellow and ocean blue. Up close, the image teems with allusions to a vital local history that had previously been almost forgotten.

A colorful Mandarin duck struts alongside a photorealistic portrait of decorated army veteran Ben Chin, the first Chinese immigrant to legally

return to Eureka in 1955 after the 1885 expulsion event, when more than 250 Chinese immigrants were forced to leave their Eureka homes. The swooping black forms that structure the composition form the Chinese character for "hometown." The title has a double meaning: it refers both to the ducks that Eureka's Chinese immigrants were stigmatized for keeping in their homes, and to the prejudicial stereotypes associating Chinese immigrants with disease, dirt and uncleanness that bigoted white Eurekans of the 1880s mustered to justify their decision to expel their city's

Chinese residents at gunpoint. The alleyway location was selected because it was the site of the Chinatown that appears on Eureka maps of the 1880s. This is the literal site of the hometown from which Chinese immigrants were once driven. Humboldt Asians and Pacific Islanders in Solidarity (HAPI) is the DreamMaker Project of the Ink People Center for the Arts that sponsored Kim's mural, along with members of Chin's family and other members of the Asian American community. Members of HAPI are now helping to rediscover this history.

"The thought process represented in the mural is amazing," Vicki Ozaki, one of HAPI's founders, said of Kim's work. "And the community response has been really positive." Programming around the mural has included monthly Chinatown walking tours organized by HAPI in collaboration with the Clarke Historical Museum. "We've been organizing walking tours of Chinatown and exposing visitors to the story behind it. Now, the mural is going to add so much more to that experience, because we can stop there and talk about it and the representations it includes." A self-guided walking tour brochure is in the works, and HAPI is planning events and tours next February to commemorate the anniversary of Chinese immigrants' 1885 expulsion. Within the next month, two interpretive panels bearing information about Chinatown's history will be positioned in the alleyway, and a monument is projected to be erected next year.

"We're currently locating sites with the help of the city of Eureka," Ozaki explained. "They have been really generous in working with us and providing space for two panels, which are projected to go up in the near future. One is projected to be on the life of Eureka's Chinese immigrants, and the other will be on their expulsion." The alleyway that runs between Coast Central Credit Union and the buildings to the

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A new MARZ studio



The MARZ Project is a free community program at Ink People Center for the Arts that pairs creative young people ages 12-26 with mentors in audiovisual production to make digital art, animation, motion graphics, and music. The name stands for Media & Arts Resource Zone and, since the Ink People's recent move to a new location at 627 3rd Street in Eureka, resources available to creators in this zone have been significantly expanded.

Jay Tilghman, MARZ video mentor, took a break from the dusty job of unpacking to comment on the state of the MARZ arts. "When the dust settles, we'll have expanded audio and video facilities that will allow us to do more with our students. We now have an acoustically treated live room in addition to our audio control room, which lets us capture better audio and functions as a secondary workstation. A large additional space will function as a video studio complete with its own control room, as well as housing our computer lab. "There will be more opportunities for groups to work together as our space and



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Rediscovering Chinatown /

cont. from p. 7

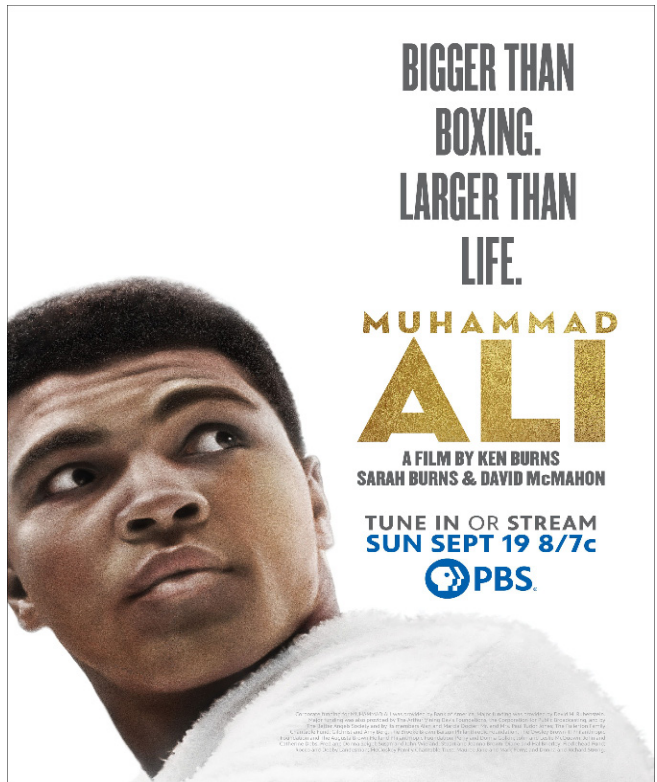
immediate north, near the center of historic Chinatown, is currently going through a process of being named to reflect this history.

HAPI members hope to make “Fowl” even more accessible to viewers in the near future by putting a QR code on the wall next to it. Viewers will be able to scan it with their phones, “and it could launch to a short video of the artist, David Kim, talking about his mural,” Ozaki said. “I think that he delivers a really positive message in speaking about this artwork.”

When the mural was unveiled, Kim “talked about the sun and the moon represented in the mural indicating the passage of time, and how the passage of time can heal. Celebrating the return of Chinese-Americans and Asian Americans to Eureka and to Humboldt County communicates a powerful message.” Kim’s mural celebrates the resilience of people who remained uncelebrated and underrepresented in their lifetimes and yet managed to persevere, making a life for themselves and their descendants in the United States in spite of the bias and malice they encountered.

“We’re reclaiming history, and for me, this has been such an interesting learning process,” Ozaki said. “We’re talking about the untold stories, those gaps in history that you never hear about.” In Humboldt newspapers of the 1880s, “you don’t hear the Chinese people’s perspective, or their voices. It’s been really great to delve into that history and learn a little more.”

HAPI’s final Chinatown walking tour for 2021 is scheduled to take place on September 25. Learn more at www.hapihumboldt.org. Follow HAPI on Instagram and Facebook @hapihumboldt



Only Skin Deep / cont. from p. 5

from a place of self-loathing to one of self-love. Each performer expressed their own personal love story through the movements that they entered with; then, the dancers came together and found unity through this shared experience.”

Only Skin Deep is a DreamMaker Project of the Ink People Center for the Arts. You can support the development of Only Skin Deep programming by downloading the performance recording today. *Learn more at Facebook - [theonlyskindeep](https://www.facebook.com/theonlyskindeep) or onlyskindeep@inkpeople.org*

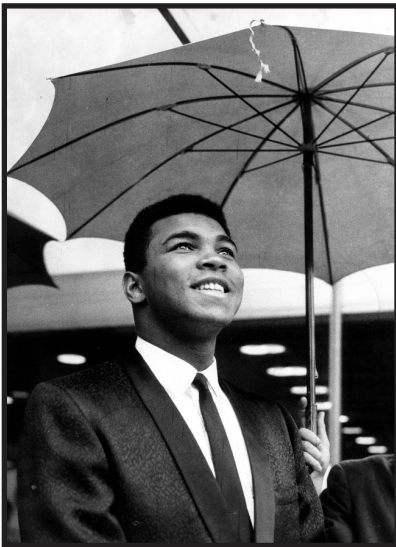
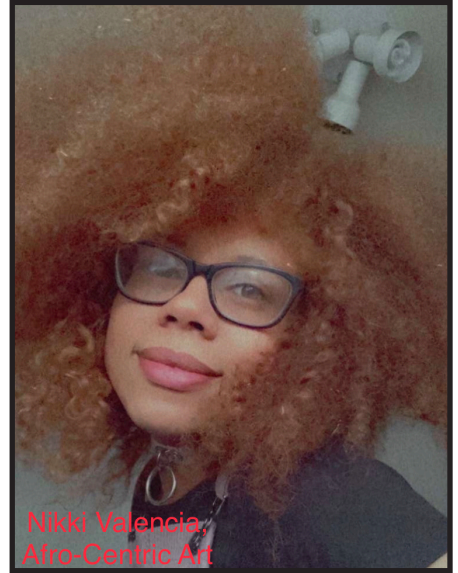
A New MARZ Studio / cont. from previous page

tech expand. We’re already filming interviews, doing our weekly live stream, teaching small classes, and recording music projects.” Long-term plans call for development of the new studio into an all-in-one lab for audio, video, editing, motion capture, and virtual reality, housed in a single collaborative environment. *Learn more at www.inkpeople.org/MARZProject.*

OPPORTUNITIES

HC Black Music and Arts opens Fall Session

HC Black Music and Arts is offering free programs for youth ages 5-18 and their parents during our Fall 2021 Session, September 13th-November 15th! Wednesdays: Embodied Word: Bilingual Theatre with Oscar Nava, 4-5:30 p.m. on Zoom. Thursdays: Afro-Centric Art with Nikki Valencia, 4-6 p.m. on Zoom. Thursday Evenings: Ujima Parent Support with Valetta Molofsky: a restorative circle and open conversation for parents. Saturdays: Book readings on the Arcata Plaza with Drea, 12-1 p.m. Fall Sister/Brother Mentor Program: inquire for details. Contact Youth Coordinator Lorenza for more information. We hope to see you this session! HC Black Music and Arts is a DreamMaker Project of the Ink People Center for the Arts. info@hcblackmusicnarts.org, www.hcblackmusicnarts.org



“Stand Up and be Counted:”

Art and Poetry Inspired by Muhammad Ali

Attention community artists! In partnership with KEET-TV, Ink People Center for the Arts, Humboldt County Library, and Word Humboldt are seeking works of visual art and poetry for an exhibition entitled “Stand Up and be Counted:” Art and Poetry Inspired by Muhammad Ali. Artworks and poems should draw inspiration from one of Ali’s six core principles: Confidence; Conviction; Dedication; Giving; Respect; and Spirituality. Youth and Adult submissions will be accepted digitally through Nov. 19. Learn more about this opportunity at www.inkpeople.org.



The poster for English Express Fall 2021 features a green chalkboard background. At the top, it says "ENGLISH EXPRESS" in white, followed by a logo of two speech bubbles (one green, one blue) with "English Express" written inside. To the right, "FALL 2021" is written in white. Below the logo, the words "UNDERSTAND SPEAK READ WRITE" are written in white. In the center, there are four small portrait photos of women. Below the photos, the word "ENGLISH" is written in white. At the bottom, there is a red banner with white text: "ONLINE CLASSES SEPTEMBER 14-DECEMBER 11", "English Express: T/TH 7-8pm", "English Express Beginners: SA 11am-12pm", and "Pop Up Conversation: Follow Us for Days & Times". Below the banner, the Zoom meeting ID "707-443-5021" and password "464816" are listed. At the bottom right, there is a small photo of Mary Ann Hyman, Program Leader/Teacher. At the bottom left, there are logos for "englishexpressempowered.com", "707-443-5021", and "English Express Empowered". At the bottom, there are several small logos for partner organizations: Humboldt County Office of Arts & Culture, California Arts Council, Humboldt County Office of Arts & Culture, HAPI, SOHUMULTI, and Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation.

ARISING HOLISTIC CENTER

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

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English Language Classes for Adults / Clases de Inglés para adultos.

ONLINE: Tuesdays and Thursdays 7-8 p.m., Saturdays 11:00 a.m.-12 p.m. 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 p.m. ONLINE. Facebook: Karuk Language Project

HUMBOLDT SINGS

Come sing in a relaxed, non-performative group setting — no experience necessary. Facebook: Humboldt SINGS. HumboldtSINGS@gmail.com

CREDITS & CAPTIONS: Cover: A scene from “Finding Love in Humanity,” choreographed by Veenadari Lakshika Jayakod for Only Skin Deep, Redwood Raks, Arcata, Sept. 5, 2021. Photo credit: Veenadari Lakshika Jayakody. P. 3: Cast members Lily Hodges, Jane McCaffrey, and Oliver Tagliamonte from the MARZ 2021 student film “Out of Order” talk about their project on the MARZ Studio livestream in early August. Photo credit Jay Tilghman / MARZ Video. P. 5: Rachel Noel Sanders, Asia Anderson, Jose Moreno, Rocío Cristal, Keishanne Whitworth, and Isadora Frances Sharon dance in “Obatalá” as part of Only Skin Deep. Photo credit: Jay Tilghman / MARZ Video. P. 6: “Fowl,” by Dave Young Kim, 2021. Photo credit: Ink People Center for the Arts. P. 7: Photos of “Fowl” in process courtesy of Vicki Ozaki and HAPI. P. 8: Top: mentor Cory Goldman and MARZ student Rolando Gonzalez work on a music project surrounded by packed books from the Ink People library post-move, in late July. Bottom: the new MARZ Studio in June, with moving boxes stacked wall-to-wall. Photo credits: Jay Tilghman. P. 10: Photo of Nikki Valencia courtesy of HC Black Music and Arts Association. Muhammad Ali smiles as someone holds an umbrella for him in Frankfurt, Germany, Sept. 2, 1966. Photo credit ZUMA Press, Inc./Alamy Live News.

New Address!

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