

INK NEWS

Volume 42 Issue 12, December 2021



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- **Brenda Tuxford Gallery** reopens for live viewing with "Artists' Challenge"



INK SPAWN

A note from Executive Director Libby Maynard

November was a busy month for DreamMaker visions. The Board accepted three new projects: Homeless Voices, Brave Arts, and A.R.C. (Art Representation Culture).

Homeless Voices is an independent, stakeholder organized, run, and operated project that utilizes shared lived experience of mental health challenges and homelessness to make a difference in Humboldt County. To learn more or to get involved, contact Vernon Price at vernnpri@gmail.com.

Brave Arts is encouraging individuals and community groups to experience artmaking outdoors on hike-and-sketch tours of places of local interest. It is engaging locals and travelers in artmaking adventures that: enhance school field trips for environmental stimulation and artmaking; reveal the joy of artmaking outdoors to special groups; offer travelers unique environmental art adventure tours; and encourage people who say they are “not artists” to explore their creative side. To learn more or to get involved, contact Margaret Kellerman at bravearts@inkpeople.org.

The mission of A.R.C. (Art Representation Culture) is to provide the under-represented communities of Humboldt County in the public school system a platform to connect to their cultural ties through artistic self-expression. Local school clubs will design, create and assist a local artist in painting a mural. To learn more or to get involved, contact Naomi Doherty at arc@inkpeople.org.

You may have heard the news that Leslie Castellano is my successor as Executive Director of the Ink People! We are in the process of transitioning and downloading my brain. Ink People is in great hands moving forward. Our wonderful staff and Leslie will lead Ink People to new heights!

After the happy news, some sad news: Marianne Pennekamp, indomitable and passionate advocate and activist for our youth, has crossed over after a long and amazing life. She has inspired many people and improved the lives of countless young people.

Here's wishing you the happiest of holidays and a wonderful new year.



DECEMBER 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.

2021



Ink People Members are challenged to create **15 original works of art** in just 30 days for one big art sale! All 15 pieces of art must be **NEW** and created between November 1 and November 30, 2021. An Ink People Members Only show.

Sale prices are set by size:

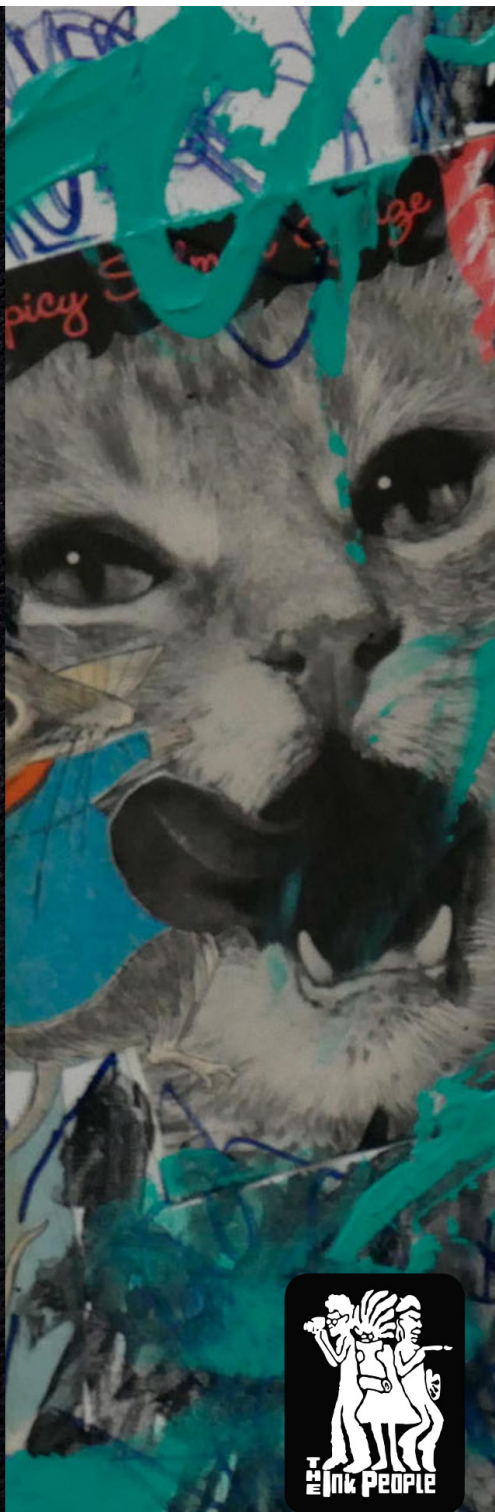
[3"x5" = \$24 each] [5"x7" = \$45 each]
[8"x10" = \$60 each] [11"x14" = \$75 each]
All art will be displayed and available for sale at the Brenda Tuxford Gallery

**Virtual @ [inkpeople.org](https://www.inkpeople.org)
or by Appointment
DEC. 6th-18th, 2021**

**For more information or to
make an appointment to see
the show, call (707) 442-8413.**

ART BY: Tess Yinger & Soni Epperson

ARTISTS' CHALLENGE



*Introducing new
Executive Director*

Leslie Castellano



Ink People Center for the Arts is excited to announce Leslie Castellano as its new Executive Director! Castellano will succeed Libby Maynard, who is retiring this December after 42 years leading the organization.

Leslie Castellano's name will be familiar to members of the arts community through her work as an educator, artist, business owner, organizer, volunteer, and Eureka city councilmember. Trained as a dancer, she serves as executive and artistic director of the performance group Synopsis Collective. As an arts

administrator, she worked with collaborators to organize the inaugural outdoor land art exhibition Outer Roominations during the pandemic. She works as an instructor at Trajectory, a career development program in Eureka for visual, performing, and literary artists and fine artisans. As a current member of the Eureka City Council, representing Ward 1, she advocates for the arts and culture as instruments of community well-being and civic engagement.

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Creekside Arts

announces a new artists' residency

Creekside Arts announced its inaugural Artists in Residence Program this fall. Conceived by John Heckel, Tanya Bullwinkle, Janet Patterson, Rich McCutchan, Calder Bullwinkle, Oliver Bullwinkle, Joey McCutchan, and Marceau Verdiere, this new DreamMaker project is currently accepting applications for a residency program that will bring artists from different disciplines and backgrounds together in the coastal redwood forest for an intensive, six-week-long creative experience.

Project organizers envision attracting artists, photographers, musicians, composers, writers, educators, filmmakers, and other creative minds to a six-acre retreat center on a shared Freshwater property “in the heart of the

Creekside Arts

cont. from previous page

redwoods.” There, residency participants will have the opportunity “to reflect, create and explore away from the hectic demands and constraints of daily life,” connecting with peers and building relationships through performances, workshops, shared meals, and opportunities to explore the coastal redwood forest.

“I’ve been to residencies that were such wonderful experiences that they changed my life,” painter Verdiere, one of the residency organizers, said. “We want to make that kind of experience possible for others at Creekside Arts.”

In addition to the residency program, a forthcoming workshop series will bring artists, scientists and cultural practitioners to the Creekside campus to share their knowledge over shorter periods of time. Events planned for upcoming seasons include one-person shows, poetry readings, theatre productions and fundraisers.

Several Creekside organizers are deeply involved in the region’s performing arts — Tanya Bullwinkle is one of the founders of Synopsis Collective, and Heckel is a director and retired professor of theatre and film at Humboldt State University — and the residency’s graciously proportioned public spaces were clearly designed with performance in mind.

On site, mulched garden paths connecting residency buildings ramble past intimate performance venues tucked in amongst towering redwoods. As for the studio spaces, no two are alike. Mostly constructed by members of the Creekside team, these small

buildings exude atmosphere in their forested setting, with architectural stylings that draw on traditional modes of Japanese and European vernacular building in addition to midcentury modernism (one live/work space is a meticulously restored, vintage Airstream trailer).

The forested valley acreage known as Creekside Commons was both impetus and source of inspiration for the residency’s development. Rich McCutchan explained that Creekside Commons came about when several families living on contiguous rural properties in this redwood valley decided to take down the fences between their properties to create an uninterrupted, multi-acre forest space that was rich in natural biodiversity, and ripe with potential for shared wandering. Soon, their act suggested other possibilities for working collectively to benefit the common good.

According to organizers, “the simple act of removing a fence between neighbors” revealed an expanded conception of community, and a new relationship to the land. “Soon community garden spaces and outdoor eating areas emerged; meals and visions were being shared.

“We share a belief in the magic of this land. We love where we live, and what we are in the process of creating.”

Creekside Arts’ upcoming artists’ residency will take place May 15 – June 5, 2022. The application deadline is January 15. Visit creeksidearts.org or contact info@creeksidearts.org for details.



Brenda Tuxford Gallery *reopens for live viewing with* **“Artists’ Challenge”**

The art exhibition that just opened at the Brenda Tuxford Gallery, “Artists’ Challenge,” represents a double “first.” It’s the first exhibition to be mounted in physical space at the gallery’s new location at 627 3rd Street in Eureka, and also the first exhibition available for viewers to experience by appointment in the last year. Ink People staff are excited to provide viewers with an opportunity to view art “live” once more at the Ink People’s newly expanded space.

In October the Ink People issued an artists’ challenge online and on social media: create 15 original works of art during the month of November, then exhibit them at the Brenda Tuxford Gallery during December. The pressure was on, but no fewer than 23 area artists rose to the challenge: Robot Adams, Haili Asbury, Ami Campbell, Joseph Carter, Roxanne Darby, Mairead Dodd, Jenny Downs, Soni Epperson, Julie E. Hodge, Kjerstine Jennings, Laura Keenados, Devany Klein, Reuben T. Mayes, KC McLean, October Mintey, Vivian Mitchell, Lydia Morris, Mia Page, Patricia Sennott, Monica Topping, Tess Yinger, Wendy White, and James F. Woglom. Exhibition artworks range from photorealistic portraits to graphic posters to colorful illustrations, and from luminous abstract paintings to wall reliefs to whimsical ceramic mugs. Prices for this exhibition are set by size: 3” x 5”: \$24 each; 5” x 7”: \$45 each; 8” x 10”: \$60 each; 11” x 14”: \$75 each.

“I’m thrilled with the results of the 2021 Artists’ Challenge, in this new space,” Ink People Administrative Director and Challenge coordinator Monica Topping said. “Last year, with

a similar number of artists, we had to borrow moveable walls to accommodate everyone, but this year, we had space for everyone on our very own existing walls! Every year, I love to see returning artists, and am excited to welcome new artists to the challenge. This year, I believe nine of our participating artists are new to the Challenge, and we hope to welcome them back next year.”

The Ink People’s two-story, 6,400-square-foot new headquarters represents a major expansion, and the Brenda Tuxford Gallery’s new location, at about 360 square feet, is more than 1.5 times its previous size. Multiple upgrades were made in order to reconfigure the space for exhibition. “In the time since we moved to 627 3rd Street, we removed old wood paneling, added a pocket door between the two rooms that make up the gallery, added an additional layer of drywall to both rooms, and applied a fresh coat of paint,” Topping explained. “New lighting remains on the to-do list, along with lighting improvements for the whole building.”

“Artists’ Challenge” can now be viewed online at inkpeople.org/tuxfordgallery and in person at 627 3rd St., Eureka through December 18. The exhibition is available “live” by appointment only. Appointments for individuals and small groups are available Tuesdays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with masking and social distancing restrictions in effect. Call (707)442-8413 to schedule.



THANK YOU

to all the friends and community members who voted
INK PEOPLE CENTER FOR THE ARTS
into the lead of the nine organizations chosen
to participate in the North Coast Co-Op's 2022
Seeds for Change event!

This year the event had more applicants (36) and more voters
(882) than any before. The Co-op raised over **\$105,000** in
round-ups for community organizations in 2021, and we're
hoping that this year will be even bigger.

**Support the arts and culture by rounding up
your purchases at the North Coast Co-Op during
the month of January!**



A Ten Day Collective New Year Meditation Experience

January 2-12, 2022

Meditations will be offered at 6:30pm each night

**A final event on January 12, 2022
D. St Center in Arcata 5:30-7:30pm**

sound healing, meditation and other practices

If group meditation can help
raise the consciousness of an
individual,

Together



imagine what it could do
for societies at large.

This is a free community event for all levels.
More info at Humboldt Collective Meditation on FB
IG @humboldt.collective.meditation

To find out about other offerings through the week
check out Abbey of the Redwoods, Crystalline Collective,
Om Shala and Arising Community.



Art for the
Young at Heart

Online art class offerings for
people 55 and older!

The California Arts Council
provides funding for low-
income seniors at no charge.

Other participants pay a fee of
\$200 per 10-week course.

Other classes run from January
through March 9, 2022 (one
meeting per week).

Contact us to sign up at
laureen@inkpeople.org

Or call The Ink People at
707-442-8413

Course offerings include:

**Beginning Watercolor
Tuesday 10 to 11:30**

**Beginning Watercolor
Tuesday 1 to 2:30**

**Drawing and Design
Wednesday 10 to 11:30**

**Storybook Workshop
Wednesday 1 to 2:30**

Supplies and materials will be
provided for participants who
are low-income eligible.



2021

24HR FILM DEC. 18-19 | NOON-NOON CHALLENGE

MARZ STUDIO

627 3rd St, Eureka

Open to NEW or CURRENT

MARZ STUDENTS

**WORK WITH YOUR TEAM
TO WRITE, FILM, & EDIT
ON A TIME LIMIT!**

\$20 Registration Fee Per Participant

REGISTER NOW!

www.inkpeople.org/marzproject



Castellano's involvement with and support of Ink People projects is longstanding. Prior to accepting a position as Executive Director, she served as member and later, as vice-president of the Ink People Board of Directors for a total of 15 years. As director of Synopsis Collective and a longtime employee of Trajectory, she has worked directly with two DreamMaker projects and is familiar with the scope and complexity of the DreamMaker program, with its more than 100 separate independently directed, community-initiated ventures.

In her role as executive director of Synopsis, Castellano taught dance and acrobatics to children, youth, and adults, in addition to writing grants that made it possible to fund free community-based art programs, an accessible dance program, a street festival, and a community mapping project. She spent three months performing with Carpetbag Brigade Physical Theater in Monterrey, Mexico at the United Nations World Cultural Forum. She also danced in Karl Frost's "Great Bear Wilderness Project," which had performers spending several months filming in the Canadian wilderness in order to bring awareness to places that would be impacted by oil spills and pipelines. Through *feralferal*, her ongoing collaboration with Kevin Dockery, she creates original dance pieces that explore concepts including otherness, society, and the wild.

She ran successfully for Eureka City Council in 2018 with a slogan of "Together We Thrive," listing a robust and ecologically sound economy, housing, youth programs, and neighborhood safety as key priorities. "Caring for people and building community has been at the core of all my work," she said at the time.

"After a competitive recruitment process, we are very excited about the selection of Leslie Castellano and are assured by her creative vision to develop the organization's legacy," board member Robert Sataua said. "Leslie has already contributed so much to the Ink People as a culture worker, community organizer, and artist. We are confident she can build on our strengths to reimagine how we champion culture and art."

Maynard, who co-founded the Ink People in Eureka in 1979, expressed confidence that Castellano is the right person to take the organization into the future. "Following a well thought out and fair process, the

Ink People Board of Directors has chosen Leslie Castellano to succeed me as Executive Director, and I couldn't be happier," she said. "Leslie has a great vision for the future, is thoughtful and kind, and has new ideas to lead the Ink People into the next 40+ years."

"Now that I am Executive Director," Castellano said, "my hope and my excitement is to bring my passion for people and for cultures to the Ink People, building on its strong foundations to take the organization forward into the future." A top priority will be continuing to work towards diversity, equity, and inclusion. "I realize that Libby has made significant efforts toward diversity, equity, and inclusion work within the Ink People and throughout California, and I know that continued efforts are necessary as we acknowledge the ongoing impact of colonialism on BIPOC and underrepresented peoples' lives. I plan to further develop cultural strategy work within the Ink People and in partnership with other organizations."

Another top priority will be working closely with DreamMaker leaders. "I value and recognize that our members and DreamMakers are integral to the mission of the Ink People," Leslie said. "I am thrilled to work with you and look forward to getting to know you better!"

As Executive Director, Leslie will work closely with staff and board members to ensure that the organization can continue adapting to serve people of this region by finding new ways of weaving the arts into the fabric of our community. A California native, she grew up in the Florida panhandle and has lived in Humboldt County since 1998. She studied anthropology and sociology at New College in Florida, and studied dance and postmodern performance through intensive work with Sara Shelton Mann, Karl Frost, Keith Hennessy, Diego Piñon, and others. She lives with her husband Derek Shaw, two cats, and a dog above the stage of the new Synopsis performance space in Eureka.





CREDITS & CAPTIONS: Cover: *Untitled cyanotype photogram on paper* by Patricia Sennott, 11" x 14", 2021. P. 3: Burt VIII, watercolor painting on paper by James F. Woglom, 8" x 10", 2021. This and the cover artwork are on view online and by appointment at the Brenda Tuxford Gallery in "Artists' Challenge," through Dec. 18th. P. 5: Executive Director Leslie Castellano at the Ink People headquarters at 627 Third Street, Eureka, December 2021. Photo credit: Jay Tilghman / Ink People Center for the Arts. P. 6: Artists gather during a recent workshop held at Creekside Arts. Photo courtesy Joey McCutchan and Creekside Arts.

Workshops and Classes

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 p.m., Saturdays 11:00 a.m.-12 p.m. Classes are FREE. Join anytime. For more information/Para más información: englishexpresempowered.com Facebook: English Express Empowered.

(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

New Address!

The Ink People

627 3rd Street

Eureka, CA 95501

INK NEWS

is published monthly by

Ink People Center for the Arts

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Electric Company®

