



nimbus news brief

2019 SPRING/SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

NIMBASH 2019 - a record year despite the rain!



More than 410 art lovers from across the Napa Valley were dazzled and delighted at the 10th annual NIMBASH on May 18. Held for the first time at our home base at 649 Main Street, NIMBASH 2019

celebrated the theme of HOME through interactive art experiences, lavish art installations, the incredible NIMBASH fashion show and a delicious home cookin'-style dinner.

NIMBASH raised over \$660,000 - a record year for our annual fundraising event! NIMBASH directs a portion of this income directly to working artists in our community as wages and commissions, ensuring that art remains available and accessible to everyone in our community.

Importantly, our fund-a-need raised over \$130,000 for arts programming both at Nimbus and throughout the community, and for studio improvements and equipment to support expansion of our popular metal arts programs.

Thank you to all the artists, donors, art lovers, volunteers and sponsors who participated in and supported NIMBASH 2019! We are deeply grateful for your time, energy, generosity and creativity.

More information can be found on our website: nimbusarts.org/nimbash/

Mark your calendar for NIMBASH 2020 - Saturday, May 9!

Hometown Grant Awarded

The City of St Helena awarded Nimbus Arts a nonprofit grant of \$6,000 to support free community-serving art programs and activities. These fun-filled sessions scattered throughout the year bring people of all ages and backgrounds together to learn about and make art as a community. These programs and events are educational, enlightening, and entertaining - and importantly, serve as a way to bring our community closer. A few of these special events, partially funded by this grant, are our annual Día de los Muertos Celebration in late October, our Open House in November that includes several interactive activities, and the annual "Hands on Fire" sale of original artwork from our acclaimed ceramic artists and students.

Hundreds of Hands #005: Our Community Mosaic Portico revealed

On May 11, more than 500 residents from across St. Helena and nearby communities came together to enjoy the inaugural alfresco Neighborhood Table dinner. Part of a wonderful collaboration with the St. Helena Hospital Foundation, the St. Helena Chamber of Commerce, and Nimbus Arts - the Neighborhood Table underscores our commitment to a "healthy community" strategy that includes art as part of a nourishing and community building lifestyle. Our fifth *Hundreds of Hands™* initiative, The Portico Project, was revealed as part of the event.



Developed in response to the 2017 wildfires in Napa and Sonoma Counties, each massive portico is covered with mosaic elements made by community members at events and gatherings across the Napa Valley. Combining the mosaic elements together reflects the connections we share across our communities and the therapeutic power of art. Join us at one of our free community mosaic workshops to create elements for the current

portico (number one of three) at the Nimbus Studio on Main Street in St. Helena. All are welcome; check nimbusarts.org for dates and times.

Summer Camps



Nimbus Arts kicked off summer with its largest-ever slate of camps for kids to teens. Camps will be held at the newly expanded Nimbus Arts studios on Main Street, and several will return to the "Barn" on College Avenue. Themes

include mainstays like "Float Camp" where campers build a float for the July 4 Calistoga Parade, and new offerings like the Sticks & Stones & Dinosaur Bones Camp where youngsters learn about paleontology while creating dino-mite themed art. Go to nimbusarts.org for the full Summer Camp schedule and to apply for scholarships or financial aid.

Year 3: Nimbus Arts' Juvenile Court & Community Schools Art Program adding MORE!

Nimbus Arts just completed its third academic year serving Napa County's Court & Community School



students with an innovative Fine and Industrial Art training program. Many of the students in the program are in the juvenile justice system, are truant, or have had troubled academic careers. The Nimbus program has helped train these young people in art processes and project management as a means to develop job and career options. The results have been impressive, and each year has seen an expansion of the Nimbus Arts curriculum.

Nimbus Arts was recently awarded its 2nd grant of \$44,807 through the California Arts Council to help expand and improve the Court & Community School program. The funds will be directed to improving ventilation in our metalworking studio so that more students can be trained in this popular learning track, and to increase the frequency of instruction for the 150 students enrolled in the program.

"Our students tell us being at Nimbus makes them feel capable, empowered, and creative, and that art activates a richer sense of purpose and meaning. We knew we needed a more extensive art program, but we didn't realize how therapeutic art could be for our students. Nimbus Art has been transformative for so many of our students."

-Caroline Wilson, Director, Juvenile Court and Community Schools, Napa County Office of Education

Nimbus Artist Profile: Ed Edwards

Fused glass baskets are a specialty of Nimbus Teaching Artist Ed Edwards. Created by layering strips of glass of different color, texture, and thickness, the baskets are



deeply personal and highly usable creations. Ed has led fused glass classes at Nimbus Arts since 2018 and has been a teaching and working artist in the Napa Valley and in Mobile, AL for decades. The addition of Ed's amazing fused glass classes and workshops has substantially elevated and expanded the quality and diversity of Nimbus Arts offerings.

Ed's work extends to stained glass windows and other kiln-fired fused glass creations. Nimbus is honored that Ed also serves as an artist-instructor for our Court & Community School fine and industrial art education program, transferring his knowledge, expertise and artistry to at-risk youth in the juvenile justice system.

Exciting, entertaining, educational, and rewarding - please check out Ed's fused glass classes at Nimbus Arts.

Vineland Station on Main Street is our HOME



Nimbus Arts recently entered into its first long-term lease at our current 3-studio location. Our original main studio has expanded to include two new studios housing

specialized instruction areas and more space for our expanding slate of classes, camps, and workshops, for a new total of more than 5,500 square feet. Through a \$30,000 Napa County Arts & Culture Commission grant, we're adding shade structures and awnings behind the studios to create more usable space for outdoor instruction, live-fire pottery and other uses, as well as other upgrades and improvements to our studios.

Nimbus Arts Heads South!

Over the years we have nurtured our relationships with schools and community groups throughout the Napa Valley, with the goal of expanding our work to serve all of Napa County. Recently, we've deepened our relationship to schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, and the Arts Foundation in American Canyon, and we're thrilled to be providing after-school arts programs during the school year at two American Canyon public schools, Napa Junction and Donaldson Way.

In the fall 2018, we launched our sixth Hundreds of Hands™ (HOH) mosaic mural project through a Napa Valley Arts Council grant and community funding through the American Canyon Arts Foundation. This



project is unique; it's a "hand off" where our partner takes the responsibility to manage and guide the project to completion. This represents the achievement of a

longtime goal for Nimbus Arts and our HOH initiative; teaching and transferring our HOH community-building and art-making model to other organizations to implement, in and for their communities!

We are thrilled to see our goal for this project come to life in partnership with the American Canyon Arts Foundation and Boys and Girls Club. This special mosaic mural is being created by the entire community and will adorn the entry walls of the American Canyon Boys and Girls Club's new building. Designed by Anne Pentland, this mural expresses a range of ideas, celebrating south Napa's beauty and the diversity of its residents, landscape, and wildlife. We are so excited for this opportunity to expand our HOH program and engage new hands!



nimbus · arts

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