For 15 years, Nimbus Arts has been making a difference across Napa Valley and throughout our community. Our mission is to make art accessible and available to people of all ages and abilities, and to leverage the power of art to improve lives.
**nimbus: arts | 2020 highlights**

**Nim+BUS: ETA 2021!**

At Nimbus Arts, we have long dreamed of having a van or bus, fully stocked with art supplies and equipment so that it is at-the-ready to deliver art education and activities to community schools, events and private parties. The pandemic and recurring wildfires in our region have demonstrated the need for us to improve our capacity to deliver art activities beyond the walls of our three studios, and so the Nim+BUS will soon be moving from dream to reality.

Long-term Nimbus teaching artist and Board member David Garden recently designed a prototype of our Nim+BUS “studio-on-wheels”. When completed, Nim+BUS will deliver a wide variety of art activities and formats, including painting and drawing, pottery and sculpture, mosaic, and a range of mixed media arts and crafts. It will also carry movable and adjustable single workstations that can serve students from toddlers to seniors, at whatever distance is required or appropriate.

Nim+BUS will enable us to bring hands-on art activities and artist-led programs directly to all communities we serve across Napa Valley and provide the proven social, emotional and therapeutic benefits of art, especially at times of great need.

We need your support to get this bus movin’! Your donation, large or small, will support our first steps to make Nim+BUS a reality.

**Support our Talented Local Artists via the NEW Nimbus Arts Online Art Gallery**

Since Nimbus Arts was founded 15 years ago, one of the key pillars of our mission is support for our local artist community, particularly those artists who also serve as teaching artists at Nimbus. This November, we launched a new way to do so: The Nimbus Arts Online Art Gallery. This online art sales platform enables art patrons both from our community and around the world to access works by our talented local artists, and support both the creating artist and Nimbus Arts through their purchases.

Our local artists are a vital to our community, and their creativity and willingness to share their art inspires and enriches lives. Not only do these professional artists spend countless hours creating in their own studios, they also generously share their time, skills and knowledge with Nimbus students during regularly scheduled classes, summer camps, special workshops, and our new online offerings. Click on the “Gallery” tab at nimbusarts.org to start shopping!

**Hundreds of Hands™ — Building on our tradition of Community Art**

The positive powers of art include strengthening personal wellness, bridging cultural and social divisions, expanding learning and understanding, and connecting us to one another. Our Hundreds of Hands program generates these benefits by getting as many people involved with hands-on art as possible, each time with the goal of creating a large-scale community-made public art installation. Over the years, our projects have increased in scope and scale, literally involving many hundreds of hands, and this year our projects needed to be modified for social distancing and the impact of the fires.

But our vision for Hundreds of Hands continues uninterrupted—to bring diverse groups of people together to learn, connect and create meaningful art installations that bring joy, beauty and strength to our community.

Since 2011, our Hundreds of Hands™ projects include:

- #001 Memorial Mosaic Sculpture 2011
- #002 Tree of Life 2012
- #003 Mariposa Mural 2013/14
- #004 Dragon Imagination Station 2015/16
- #005 Portico Public Art Project 2017/18
- #006 Peace Park Collaboration 2019-21 (Underway!)
- #007 Enhancing Health + Wellness through Art in 2020

Creating topical, fun and engaging socially-distanced art such as the Wassily Kandinsky-inspired community mural, ‘Goat Art Challenge’, ‘Art of Gratitude’ post-fire thank you to fire fighters & first responders, Día de los Muertos Mask Wall and the Floating Pumpkin display.

**Art Kits To-Go—Keeping art accessible in the time of social distancing**

To keep art education and activities available to people throughout Napa Valley, Nimbus Arts provided more than 500 free “Art Kits To-Go” through the Boys and Girls Club of St. Helena and Calistoga, St. Helena Preschool for All, The UpValley Family Center, Hunt’s Grove, and Napa County Court & Community Schools, all through the generous support of Nimbus Arts, Arts Council Napa Valley, and many other donors. We are also deeply thankful to the community at large for their support, participation and enjoyment of the moving and beautiful Día de los Muertos mask installation.

We also offer a large variety of Art Kits To-Go for sale on our website, under the “Shop” tab. Nimbus Art Kits To-Go support continued art engagement with families, adults and seniors, and are sometimes offered with coordinated online programming. While originally designed for use while our studio use is restricted or limited, our Art Kits are so popular that we will be expanding our “To-Go” offerings in 2021 and beyond.

Follow Creativity!

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