



nimbus news brief

2020-2021 FALL/WINTER HIGHLIGHTS

Our gratitude to the Napa Valley Vintners

Nimbus Arts was recently awarded a grant from the Napa Valley Vintners (NVV) and its annual community fundraiser, Auction Napa Valley (ANV) to support our ongoing work of bringing the joy, engagement and healing powers of art to people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities throughout our community. We are deeply honored to have been selected for this grant and are very grateful to the NVV and ANV and its Board of Directors and members for their generosity and recognition of the importance of our mission. We are excited to direct this timely and important grant towards our primary mission — making art available and accessible to all — especially during this time of great need. Click [here](#) to read the full article published in the *Napa Valley Register* about the latest grants from the Napa Valley Vintners.



napa valley vintners

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Nimbus Arts Pop Up + Farmstead's Community Farmers' Market

The talented team of Nimbus artists continues to create beautiful and original artwork that's perfect for adorning your

homes and as gifts for others! The Nimbus artist marketplace, operating at the Farmstead Farmers' Market and on some week-ends as a pop-up at Nimbus Arts, offers art kit sales as well as original works created by Nimbus artists. The Farmstead Farmers' Market has been extended through April so stop in and check out the great art. Every purchase supports art and artists in our community.

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15 Years of Art together

Our commitment to the community has never been stronger. The role of community nonprofits comes into clear focus during times of need and stress — and 2020 provided plenty of challenges. Since our founding 15 years ago, Nimbus Arts has grown from a small series of art camps for young people to a full-blown Napa Valley-serving art center. Our belief that art improves lives and strengthens communities continues to be validated by our work and the support we receive from throughout the communities we serve. We are also proud to support local working artists through engagement, employment and commissions — allowing art and artists to thrive in our community.

After a decade and a half, we're continuing to expand our vision and artistic creativity across Napa Valley! Thank you to all our local artists, patrons, and supporters and to everyone throughout our cherished community. We look forward to another 15 years making art together!



Collaborating and Supporting our community during the Holidays

Nimbus Arts, in collaboration with the Howell Mountain Vintners and Growers Association, assembled and distributed 100 free holiday ornament-making kits. These kits were directed to families in need, especially those who lost homes in the recent wildfires. Each kit included everything needed to make charming and joyful holiday ornaments. In tandem with at-home art kits, Nimbus extended and expanded its scholarship program in response to the wildfires and social distancing requirements so that art activities and education remain available, especially for those families highly impacted by the 2020 wildfires.



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More + More Art Kits To-Go for our Community



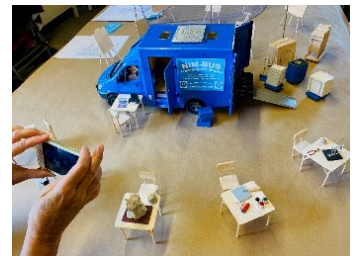
Do you need a new at-home activity—something to help inspire creativity and start 2021 off right? Nimbus Art-Kits-To-Go are just what you need! Pick up a kit for your at-home art fix — we are creating new kits weekly just for you! You can even enjoy some cheer for Valentine's Day and beyond with other art lovers by joining one of

our online art programs. Sip n' Paint is a continuing favorite and join up with the Nimbus Art Club online to connect with other community artists. Check the Nimbus Arts website for options and more information, place your order online or by phone, and then pick up your kit behind Studio 2. What a simple and wonderful way to bring the joy of art into your home!

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Nim+BUS: Let's get our "studio-on-wheels" movin'!

We've long dreamed of taking Nimbus Arts on the road — by creating a mobile studio 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. Recent events, including social distancing restrictions and wildfires, demonstrated the need for us to deliver art activities beyond the walls of our three studios. To meet this need, our Nim+BUS will soon be moving from dream to reality. Long-term Nimbus teaching artist and Board member David Garden designed a prototype of our Nim+BUS "studio-on-wheels" that we're working hard to activate. When completed, the Nim+BUS will deliver a wide variety of art activities and formats, including painting and drawing, (CONTINUED)



Nim+BUS (CONTINUED): 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. We need your support to get this bus movin'! Your donation, large or small, will support our first steps to making our Nim+BUS a reality.

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NIMBASH – new date for 2021!

Napa Valley's Arty-Party, NIMBASH, has been scheduled for Saturday, September 11, 2021. The early fall date is new for NIMBASH and will likely be coupled with an exciting new format. We anticipate creative restructuring will be required as we all move forward with a renewed focus on health and happiness. NIMBASH is the single largest fundraiser for Nimbus Arts and is vitally important to our mission. Please mark your calendar for the 11th NIMBASH fundraiser!

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Nimbus Artist Profile: Margaret Dennett



Margaret Dennett taught high school Art and Drama for 20 plus years in the Napa Valley, and created the Art and Drama programs at New Tech High. After she retired from NVUSD in 2017, Margaret found herself sorely missing her daily contact with teens, so she volunteered to work with Court and Community (C+C) students at Nimbus. After a few months

of volunteering, Margaret took over ceramic instruction for our C+C program, and she's become a passionate teacher of both C+C programs and Nimbus studio classes. Margaret says, "This is a dream come true for me as I love ceramics and love working with teens. Sitting and creating with these teens can be both tough and magical; it's such a pleasure to watch them explore clay. Nimbus is giving them a safe place to test and challenge themselves, connect to working artists, and learn process and patience through wheel throwing and hand-building ceramics."

Margaret has also been inspired through teaching to delve more into her own art practices, including painting, printmaking and ceramics. Her art is ever-evolving, and her love of nature and place are major personal themes she continues to explore.

"The joy I get from art keeps me wanting to learn more. I have felt welcome at Nimbus from day one when I first volunteered. I hope to continue working with teens and also with the many children and adults who come to Nimbus, eager to create."

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Our 2019 Annual Report Released

2019 carried an important theme for Nimbus Arts—HOME. Our 2019 Annual Report, available now on our website, documents our work and provides a detailed look at all that Nimbus does to make art accessible and available to people of all ages and backgrounds across the Napa Valley. Little did we know that HOME would also dominate 2020! Please visit nimbusarts.org and check out our recently published 2019 Annual Report, and learn about how we continue to serve our community—our HOME—through even the most difficult times.

Our Día de los Muertos Community Celebration



Due to COVID restrictions, our annual Día de los Muertos Community Celebration, co-produced with the UpValley Family Centers, transitioned to a remote community art event. Nimbus Arts created and distributed more than 250 free art-kits-to-go to the community and created a large-scale art installation featuring the work of dozens of community members and artists. The installation, sited at the corner of Main and Spring Streets in St. Helena, used the traditional

Día de los Muertos motif of masks to celebrate Mexican-American heritage and the life and memory of our family members. The Día de los Muertos activities were made possible by the sponsorship of the Walker Building Company, the John J. Griswold Foundation, the Damian Maldonado Memorial Foundation, and the Napa Valley Vintners.

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Our Hundreds of Hands™ #008 – “Taking Liberties” Community Art Mobile Installation

Nimbus Arts began 2021 with “Taking Liberties”—a Mobile Mural displayed in St. Helena from Jan 19th - February 8th. Individual community artists each created their own interpretation of the Statue of Liberty, using their artistic voice to convey their hopes and aspirations, frustrations and fears, as we moved into the new year and inaugurated a new President. These individual artworks were then assembled into our community art installation.

Reflecting on the past year, many of our liberties have been restricted and we all miss time with friends and exploring and enjoying new experiences. Despite these restrictions to our liberties, **Our Lady Liberty Stands Tall!** and our community art mural will honor this symbol of our Democracy. More community art programs to engage and connect our community will continue through the year, thanks to the community support from people like you. The mural project was made possible through funding from the Napa Valley Vintners and Walker Building Company. Also, a special thanks to Laura Rombauer and Vintage Home for the use of their wonderful display space.



nimbus arts

Follow Creativity!

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