



nimbus news brief

2023 SPRING/SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

Nim+BUS: Our mobile Art Studio hits the road!

Our **Nim+BUS** made its debut at NIMBASH! Supported through previous NIMBASH fund-a-need donations, grants, and general Nimbus Arts donations, the Nim+BUS is our mobile art studio, created to bring Nimbus Arts programs and activities to even more locations across Napa County. The Nim+BUS gets rolling this summer to deliver art programs to public schools, parks, and community events. Our inaugural Nim+BUS event will bring art activities to Phillips Elementary School in Napa on July 12, and we'll continue the artmaking on July 14 at Shearer Elementary School in Napa.



If you have an event or gathering you'd like to propose for a Nim+BUS visit, please contact us. We're eager and enthusiastic to activate our Nim+BUS and extend art education and activities across Napa County.

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Reaching At-Promise Youth through Art: New Mural Project at Crossroads, Napa County Juvenile Hall

Our work with Napa County's Court and Community Schools and Juvenile Hall began years ago with a small group of middle and high school students. "Art education and mentoring by trained Nimbus artist-instructors continues to provide a means for self-expression and transferred art fabrication skills that can be built into a career," said Kent Bolts, Juvenile Hall Superintendent. He continued, "this innovative and engaging initiative has evolved into a program with dozens of at-promise young people finding ways to improve their lives through the power of art."

Extending our programs to include incarcerated youth at Juvenile Hall continues to produce positive results and improved outcomes. A new initiative at Juvenile Hall will brighten and enliven the walls of the outer courtyards with a mural depicting landmarks spanning the State of California. Working with Nimbus artists, incarcerated students will start work soon on this massive project and will gain important art project management and production skills.



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Nimbus + Mentis collaboration

Nimbus Arts is teaming up with Mentis, Napa Valley's center for mental health services, and Teens Connect, its wonderful youth wellness program, for our Hundreds of Hands #017 program that really 'stacks up!'



We've activated community members to join us in creating a massive community art installation that celebrates the ancient, meditative, and spiritual activity of stacking stones into "cairns." Stone stacking's focus on balance and stability parallels emotional health, symbolizing one of the collaboration's goals — to make more people aware of the programs and services available through Mentis, especially young people ages 12-22.

Teens in the Mentis **Teens Connect** program are leading programs for community members across Napa County to create personal mosaics for assembly into large-scale stone forms. Over the next year, the mosaic-adorned stones will be collected and then stacked into twelve-foot-tall cairns as a public art installation. These impressive mosaic stone stacks will be surrounded by natural stones, serving to educate and inspire others to seek balance by creating their own cairns.

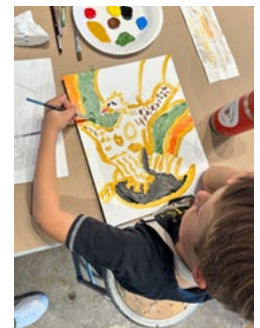


Nimbus Arts **Hundreds of Hands™** community art programs are free and open to all. Spanning nearly two decades, we've strengthened community and activated artistry of people of all ages and backgrounds through more than one dozen Hundreds of Hands community art initiatives. The installations produced through these initiatives beautify and enliven our communities and serve as a visual reminder of the strength we gain by working together.

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Community Partnerships!

Nimbus Arts collaborated with **Children's Museum of Napa Valley** and produced a free workshop at the Nimbus studio on May 30, to support their Phoenix Rising program. Twenty-four students ranging in age from 6 to 12 produced personal masterpieces that will be published in the second edition of their art book, *Creating in Place: Phoenix Rising*.



The St. Helena Library will offer two open studio art classes for teens taught by Nimbus artists on June 30 and July 19.

On June 6th, Nimbus Arts hosted "Tacos for the Arts," a meet up and networking event attended by 40 local working artists. Envisioned by local artist and former Nimbus' Arts instructor Mikey Kelly, the event was designed to extend and strengthen the artist community in our area and serve as a place to share new ideas and projects, as well as make new bonds and friendships in the community. For more information about future Taco Tuesdays contact Mikey Kelly at mk@mikeykelly.com.

Camp NIMBASH 2023 – we want s'more!

The 14th annual NIMBASH fundraiser on Saturday, May 13, brought together more than 400 art lovers and raised over \$700,000 to support local artists, community art programs, and the ongoing operations of Nimbus Arts. Of special note, the fund-a-need set a record and raised over \$190,000 to support our programs and community outreach activities.



Returning to Charles Krug Winery in St. Helena, NIMBASH celebrated the coming of summer, and remembrances of the long warm evenings of childhood through its “Camp NIMBASH” theme. Guests explored the “campground” and participated in themed art activities such as camp t-shirt screen printing, woodburning, mosaic, watercolor postcards, archery led by local Troop #1 Boy Scouts, and Raku pottery s’mores. Dinner, the inimitable Fashion show by the Ehlers Society, and dancing were also part of our magical night!

Providing employment and income for local artists is a central part of the Nimbus Arts’ mission. NIMBASH delivered 50% of art sale income to working artists in our community and beyond.

We are grateful for the continued support of our board, leadership circle, sponsors, and donors (large + small) that make this evening possible. Save the date for next year; **May 11th, 2024!**

Napa County Arts, Culture & Heritage Grant Awarded to Nimbus

Community support is vital for Nimbus Arts to meet its mission and it underscores our deep connection to the entire Napa community. An important resource for community support is The Napa County Arts & Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC), a volunteer group that annually disburses funds in the County’s Community Investment Fund. We’re deeply grateful that the committee selected Nimbus Arts as one of the recipients of Napa County’s 2023-2024 Arts, Culture & Heritage Grant Award. Their support is vitally important to our free community art programming and will support our latest Hundreds of Hands collaboration with Mentis and its Teens Connect program. The grant also provides support for important training programs.



Teen Tuesday Open Studio 2023

Teen Tuesday continues following its successful launch at the beginning of the year, providing a safe, healthy, affirming, and creative outlet for teenagers throughout our community. We’re using free group artmaking activities in an open studio format to help strengthen and renew interpersonal connections and communication among young people 12-19 years old, a group that’s been heavily impacted by pandemic restrictions and reduced options for healthy and positive activities. Led by the dynamic-duo, Melissa and Mercedes Baker, Teen Tuesday provides instruction and guidance on artmaking across many media and styles.



Summer classes + camps are in full swing!

Summer is here and that means the return of **Nimbus Summer Camps!** Designed for young people ages 5 - 13, the Nimbus team leads a variety of fun and educational activities all summer long. Check out our website and enroll for old favorites or new options—or both! Scholarships and financial aid are always available for those who want to participate. Our scholarship and financial aid request form can be found online with Camp enrollment forms. Please remember, our most popular camps book up fast so make your selections and enroll soon!



Nimbus Artist Profile: Kari Martin

Kari Martin grew up in Southern California and moved to Napa Valley in 1992 to attend Pacific Union College. In 2012, Kari became the Art Director for the Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Helena and Calistoga. Student artwork produced through her programs and submitted to the Boys & Girls Clubs of America’s Local, Regional, and National Fine Arts Competitions won multiple awards over the years. In 2016 Kari was recognized as the top Art Director in the Nation for Boys and Girls Clubs of America; a significant achievement!



HEMLOCK-HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHY, INC.

Kari joined Nimbus Arts in February of this year and loves teaching our “Ro Sham Bo” program for our youngest Nimbus artists, as well as becoming a strong addition for our summer camp team!

With a teaching style that makes art approachable and exciting to any age group, Kari is a great addition to the Nimbus Arts team. When not teaching art, Kari enjoys cooking, roller skating, gardening, tending to her chickens and dogs, and hiking, camping, and boating with her family. We welcome Kari to the Nimbus family!

Legacy Giving

Make community art your legacy. Many people across Napa County appreciate and value all that Nimbus Arts brings to our community. If you have a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) and wish to support Nimbus Arts, we have an exciting and productive option to share: Make a commitment to spend down half of your DAF by September 29 and your investment will be eligible for matching funds up to \$50,000. That means a \$100,000 commitment to Nimbus Arts might yield \$150,000 in funding! Learn more at www.halfmydaf.com.

Please visit our [planned giving page](#) for more information on the program and the many options available to join the Nimbus Arts Planned Giving Program.



Follow Creativity!



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649 Main Street, St. Helena, CA 94574 | 707.963.5278
nimbusarts.org | info@nimbusarts.org

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