

HCAR

Member Newsletter

Issue
04



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Fall 2025

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear HCAR Community,

Happy Fall 2025! We had a great summer and hoped you did too. The big news over the summer was implementing new rates of reimbursement for services. HCAR has welcomed the state-wide rate reform process that was implemented by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). This means more funds are being directed towards HCAR. As costs raise, these extra funds allow us to continue to offer client materials, staff trainings, good wages, and health benefits. With the growth in rates, I am proud to say that all our services have grown in the number of people served over the past year.

This summer was filled with fun. One of our most popular summer events was the BBQs held at Bay Center. The Studio and Summit Support clients joined in with the Bay Center BBQs. The Canvas and Clay Studio participated in a community event this summer called North Coast Open Studios. Every June, the North Coast Open Studios welcomes visitors to view art, talk with local artists, and learn about an artist's creative process. Several local artists and interested community members got a chance to see the incredible work completed by HCAR's artists close and learn more about their 2-D art and ceramic work.

We are now in the process of enjoying the fall and readying ourselves for winter. Hard to believe how fast the year goes!

Wishing you all the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Wash". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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CANVAS & CLAY

SUMMER ADVENTURES

Studio clients travel all around Humboldt County for artistic inspiration

Canvas + Clay Studio artists and staff have been enjoying the beautiful summer days and with them great chances to get out of the studio space. We started the summer adventure with field trips to do Plein Air painting at the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. Artists enjoyed using various mediums for their Plein Air work and then afterwards, artists went to Phoenix Fire and Ceramic Supply to browse and make purchases of ceramic supplies.

A group of artists went to see the Suk Choo Kim photography exhibit at Humboldt Arts Council's Morris Graves Museum. Kim's photographs were wonderful to see and inspirational in thinking about photography in new ways. We have enjoyed HCAR's membership with HAC and the opportunities it provides.



Two artists had shows up and open for Arts! Alive this summer. David Caylor had his show, Imaginary Realms, up at a pop-up gallery in the historic Healy Building on 2nd Street and Nicole McKinney's self titled show at the Old Town Art Gallery. We hope everyone got a chance to get out and see these showings in Eureka's Cultural Arts District, which is one of California's 14 Cultural Districts. It is wonderful to live in an area so rich in art where peer groups amongst artists and patrons are so vibrant and engaging to all.

Our friends at Humboldt Bay Keeper took us out on the historic Madaket for a Humboldt Bay tour. This has become an annual event that we are very thankful for. The narrated tour is always amazing and educational. A few folks even dressed like pirates for a bit of revelry! We saw seals, herons, egrets, pelicans and more while learning about the history on and around Humboldt Bay.



SUMMERTIME BBQS AND YARD SALES

The Bay Center holds their annual monthly BBQs and yard sale fundraiser.

Every summer, the Bay Center hosts their monthly BBQ for clients and staff from June through August. Folks from the Canvas + Clay Studio and Administration offices often travel over as well. Bay Center Director, Wes Patterson, manned the grill providing burgers and hot dogs. Clients had the chance to ride the center's surrey bike, a hooded two-person pedaled vehicle.



Every year the Bay Center also holds an annual Summer Yard Sale Fundraiser. Items collected and donated over the year at the center are sold to raise money for future client-centered activities. The yard sale doubled as a great learning opportunity for clients too; exercising both financial, management, and socializing skills. In the three days the yard sale was hosted, the Bay Center raised over \$320 dollars! HCAR looks forward to seeing what new activities the Bay Center comes up with next.



MEET HCAR'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Learn about the organization's Board of Directors

Every non-profit is required by law to have a Board of Directors, and HCAR is no exception. Since our establishment in 1955, we have been an organization built and maintained by the caring and passionate folk who make up our board. A board originally consisting of mothers whose very concern for their disabled children created HCAR, today our board consists of educated community members, previous HCAR workers, clients, clients' family members, and more.

Board representatives are firstly folks who are official members of HCAR, who's yearly donation help keep us running. Representatives are voted in by members and serve 3 year terms. Specialized positions include our President, Vice President, and Secretary.



Our previous Board President was Marilyn Cottrell. Voted for and installed 2022, this August was her final month as president.

A retired social worker, active community member, and animal lover; we asked Cottrell what inspired her to join HCAR's Board of Directors?

"Kim Nash inspired me to join the HCAR Board!" she said "I have known and worked with Kim in the community, in various capacities, for over 20 years. After I retired in 2015, I took a break from social work to focus on volunteer work. Then in 2022, I chatted with Kim and learned that she was the Executive Director at HCAR. As I still remembered HCAR, relevant programs and case management services, I wanted to offer my services as a HCAR board member."



PINTS FOR NON-PROFITS

On July 16th, HCAR came together with local Humboldt brewery The Redwood Curtain to host a Pints for Non-Profits. For every pint of ale bought that day, a dollar would be donated to our organization. Proceeds going to further fund activities and opportunities for clients across all programs. Live music was provided later in the evening by the local rock band Red Hot Shame. The event brought in friends, family, supporters, and interested passerbys alike. By the end of the night we had raised a total of \$130 dollars all thanks to our generous community.



HCAR HIGHLIGHTS

LOCAL ARTIST

Peruse and purchase art from Iesha Short

This month HCAR's main building on 1707 E Street in Eureka features purchasable art pieces from local artist, Iesha Short. All funds raised from the gallery are go directly back to the artist. Short's pieces utilize a range of mediums from photography, to hand-drawn, mix media, and more. Inspired by her woodsman father and visual impaired uncle, Short's art focuses on themes of nature and textures that engage both sight and touch.



CCS SUCCESS AT LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CCS Client Jack Rhodes gets highlighted in the latest issue of the Humboldt Historian.

The Humboldt Historian spotlighted CCS client Jack Dillon Rhodes in their latest issue this summer. Through the assistance of Employment Specialist Emma Miller, Rhodes has worked over a year as The Humboldt County Historical Society paid intern archivist.

"It feels really empowering to be part of something bigger than myself," Rhodes explained. "Especially in a more historical societal stance.... I do wanna use my archiving skills to move forward and start helping out my community in larger amounts."

Member Spotlight Jack Dillon Rhodes

I must tell you, the readers, that I am not native to Humboldt County, California, having recently moved to Arcata in December of 2022. I was born a Floridian and raised a Michigander, graduating from Pinckney Community High School in 2022. In my youth, my family would always tell me stories of how they lived in the times they grew up in and in their early adult lives. I remember being entranced by their stories of the culture and times they were a part of. In my mind, the cultural time capsules they presented seemed like another world. And thus began my love of history.

During my high school studies, despite less-than-ideal-grades, I excelled in Creative Writing and History. I was enamored by the extraordinary and



various styles of clothing, cultural systems, and music that evolved over the course of our 249 years as a country. So when I was recommended to the Humboldt Historical Society for an internship as an archivist, I was elated to take the opportunity.

As of this writing, I am currently archiving the inventory of the various files and documents in this building for a much larger project of a comprehensive floor plan. I will also be involved in the Humboldt Bay Maritime Museum with a similar project. I have greatly enjoyed my time in this field, and I am honored to have spent these previous months being a part of an establishment that takes pride in honoring and archiving the past.

My main priorities are pursuing a degree in nonprofit management and working hard enough to become a philanthropist and humanitarian. I personally believe it is vital that we progress our societal and political climate to focus on those that are less fortunate. Thankfully, I believe this partnership with the Society might be more beneficial with these matters than I initially realized.

The "Member Spotlight" is a regular feature of the Historian. Join us as we celebrate our members. ~ Ed.



SPOTLIGHT: THE LANTERMAN ACT

In 1977, the state of California passed The Lanterman Act, a law proposed by the then Assembly member Frank D. Lanterman. The Lanterman Act is HCAR's fiscal backbone, by law the act states that individuals with developmental disabilities are entitled to the governmental and financial support needed to live more independent and normative lives. The law created the Regional Center systems that dot California today and provide local non-profits (like HCAR) with the support needed to continue providing our services with little to no cost.

The Lanterman Act also declares that individuals with developmental disabilities have the same legal rights as all other California residents, and charged the Regional Centers with advocating and protecting these rights.



NEW DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Our incredible Human Resources Director, Debi Hatfield, has left HCAR after 33 years to spend more time with family and friends. Debi was an integral part of the agency for many decades and gave her best to those we serve and the agency. She helped to create a legacy of excellence that carries through today. HCAR greatly appreciated all the support Debi offered the many employees over the years. As the Executive Director, I dearly miss working with Debi. We all wish her the best as she starts her next chapter.



This summer, HCAR welcomed our new Director of Human Resources, Leif Kamrud. Leif brings a wealth of experience and education to this position. Leif has a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership from Humboldt State University, a master's degree in human resources management, and a SHRM – CP credential. We are excited to work alongside Leif!