



Camphill California's Monthly Community VOICE



William and Rose with painted faces!

A Gathering of Extraordinary People

This month was the 13th annual Gathering of Extraordinary People. Community members from across the county came together at Harvey West park to celebrate life together through music, games, talent and friends. The gathering is an opportunity to empower the developmentally disabled community through service, advocacy, and fun. Camphill California partnered with Monarch in manning the tie-dye booth, where people of all ages got to create

funky, fun t-shirts as a token to remember this spectacular day. There were hula-hoops, soccer balls, drones, and face painting to keep the extraordinary crowd entertained. The Camphill community sang as a group in the talent show, followed by a solo performance by Matthew, who sang his original song about girl scout cookies.

One of our new coworkers, Sarah, who started working with Camphill California last month, said the gathering was an eye opening experience to see how many people are involved and committed to this community. "Everyone is supported in their differences and it was wonderful to see the honor and respect given to each individual for their unique abilities."

If you'd like to view Camphill California's performance in the talent show, check out the video [here!](#)



Anya and Scotia working the tie dye booth!

Music Performances from Camphill

Summertime is exciting in many ways. The sun bathes us in its warmth while nourishing and preparing the crops for fall picking, we start to see the changing of the earth's color around us as it transforms into the harvest season, and it's also a time when we discover the skills and unique

qualities that each of the new coworkers bring into our community.

This summer, we have been blessed with two more amazing musicians. Minh Vinh and Sebastian, both from Germany, participated in a community performance within a couple of weeks of arriving at Camphill California. Minh Vinh, who came to Camphill California with no prior experience in a lifesharing community, said how great it was to "see all the friends listening and happy. This is a new atmosphere for me but within a couple of days I already felt included." He shared how he has never felt like a foreigner or outsider upon arriving to Camphill California and was happy to share his gift in music with the coworkers and friends who have made his transition into this new place so easy and pleasant.



Gaya, guest Ronald Parish, Minh Vinh, and Sebastian.

Kathryn writes this of the performance: "We were treated to an afternoon of beautiful music on Sunday when local friend and fellow choir member of The Santa Cruz Peace Chorale, Ronald Parish, volunteered to play classical piano music. Playing alongside him was also our own coworker Gaya, who played an amazing Tchaikovsky piece called Autumn. Two of our newest coworkers gave a rousing performance of Autumn Leaves, with Minh Vinh on the violin and Sebastian on the piano. We plan to have regular concerts like this one and include the talents of other coworkers as well as the Camphill resident friends who play musical instruments. We will invite Ronald again, and hope to hear other local musicians in the coming months here in Paloma Hall!"

Keep a lookout on our [Community Calendar](#) and upcoming newsletters for future performances!



Caroline, Rose, Kathleen, Gaya, Sarah and Katie.

bridging our imaginations with the enchanted realms that foster creativity and expression. The felting projects created in her workshop by the friends have been sold at many Camphill California events, are used to decorate our community spaces, and of course make appearances in bringing spoken stories to life.

With Kathleen's support, the friends have gained confidence in expressing their artistic abilities through felting. "I've enjoyed making things for holidays, crafts and dolls, and working with the colorful wool. I'm more comfortable now with the felting needles," says Caroline.

Katie says "the felting class has been fun and challenging. I have to work hard to concentrate and block out distractions. I've learned a lot of new things and have made many

Needle Felting

Felt is the oldest textile fabric dating back to 6300 BC. Felt is created by continually piercing wool with a needle point until it becomes matted into a fabric. Felting has been used to create clothes, hats, blankets and all other kinds of goods. Here at Camphill California, Kathleen Avalon offers her gift and expertise in needle felting to create art and to bring the magic of storytelling to life. For Kathleen, felting is a conduit in

wool creations, like dolls, angels, animals and more."

And Rose, known for her stylish fashion here in the community, said that she's "enjoyed expressing myself in the wool doll making, especially when I create fashions for them. I have my own style."

Camphill California is thriving especially due to the continuous interest and support from you all, and it is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much, we couldn't do it without you!

Click the button below to check off an item from he wish list - if you wish!



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