Celebrating Michaelmas and Kaspar Hauser
by Penny Baring

Camphill Communities California celebrated Michaelmas by not only honoring our land in this harvest season and turning to the Archangel of Courage and Strength, Michael, but also as the birthday of Kaspar Hauser, followed by a three-day conference in his name. The subtitle of this conference was A Touchstone for Humanity.

Kaspar Hauser is well known as the youth who appeared out of nowhere at the age of 16 in a town square of Nuremberg in Germany on May 26, 1828; a youth who could barely walk or speak but who radiated pure goodness. For five years he was educated and eventually was able to describe the conditions of a twelve-year incarceration in a dark underground cell, deprived of any human contact. Since his death in 1833, when he was murdered, thousands of articles and books, even films, songs and poems, have been written about him and his 'unknown birth and mysterious death'. He is truly an inspiration to the Camphill and Anthroposophical movement.

Our guest speaker, Eckart Boehmer from Germany, gave three lectures on Kaspar Hauser, his historical importance and his contemporary significance as a teacher of humanity. He conveyed a message of love, of childlike wonder, of empathy and forgiveness.

To support these talks we had two dramatic performances. Glen Williamson performed his one-man play, The Foundling Prince, and Coleman Lyles produced a reading of Carlo Pietzner's ...and from the night, Kaspar read aloud by Camphill Communities California coworkers and friends.
Scrip is a great way for families and friends to raise money for Camphill California simply by changing their method of payment. There is no extra time, money or energy needed to contribute to this fundraising program as scrip can be easily integrated into your everyday life. The basic concept of Scrip is that a person uses giftcards to make purchases rather than your former method of payment. There are a myriad of retail options ranging from restaurants, grocery stores, shopping, gas cards, and many more. You can purchase giftcards for yourself or for a friend, it doesn't matter who is using the card as long as it was received through Camphill California's Scrip team.

Scrip can seem a little tricky in the beginning, but once you sign up and make your first giftcard purchase, you'll be amazed at how easily you can start raising money for Camphill California!

When you sign up for Scrip, you will create an account using Camphill California's enrollment code. This unique enrollment code will add you to Camphill's fundraising team, and any purchases you make through Scrip will rebate Camphill California. It's that simple!

With the holidays approaching, now is the perfect time to join. If you have any questions about enrollment, please contact Marjorie at marjorielangdon@camphillcalifornia or visit the Scrip website. You can see the full list of retailers, along with the rebate percentage that goes to Camphill California, by clicking here.

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**Frederica von Stade is music to our ears!**

On Sunday, October 30th, Frederica von Stade filled Paloma Hall with sounds of grace and harmony as she performed a benefit for Camphill California. The Mezzo-Soprano opera singer left everyone's ears chimming in awe as she and her co-singers, Christobel Nunou and Vivienne Stover, who performed solo songs as well, sang the guests through the afternoon. Pianist James Meredith supported the singers, creating a melodic union of sound in Paloma Hall.

The sun came out just in time on this autumn day and guests were able to enjoy a reception on the back patio of Marimi House where they were able to meet the artists. It was a relaxing afternoon of music, talent, good company, and warm spirits. We look forward to more concerts expressing the unique talents of individual artists at Camphill California.

"The concert was fabulous and it was really nice to see Frederica again," Said Bryan.

Sasha standing with musical guest Frederica von Stade and his signed autograph
"It was special," said Minh Vinh, "Especially having guests there who not only appreciate classical music but also support Camphill."

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!

We have added new items to our Wishlist! Check it out below

![Wishlist](image_url)

**Edit from last Community Voice:**

Regarding the article "Anthroposophy and the Lyre", it is actually the **Celtic Lyre** that the Anthroposophical movement is credited for playing a role in helping create. The Lyre, in general, is a musical instrument dating back to ancient Greece.

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