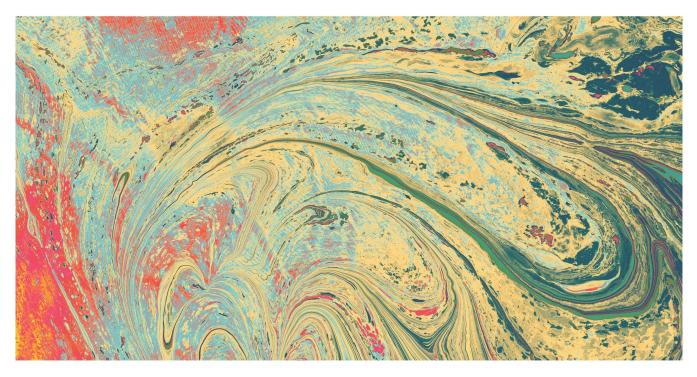
# ARCH 30TH 2023

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE WORK OF EXCEED PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS FROM THE "ART IN THE PARK" SESSIONS!

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3:30-6:30PM



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THE EXCEED "ART IN THE PARK" SESSIONS ARE SPONSORED BY THE CITY OF HEMET, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

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# The Art in the Park Project

The Art in the Park project began in July 2021, through a successful grant application for the City of Hemet Community Development Block Grant.

We sought funds to provide a meaningful art experience for adults with disabilities, to foster inspiration, community integration, and good health.

Art is a viable way of expressing emotions and feelings, especially when someone isn't able to do so through traditional means. As a result, most people with developmental disabilities respond very well to artistic activities.

This project stresses the importance of the process and expression, rather than the technical aspects of the final product and is intended to foster communication, cognitive and manual skills, self-esteem, a sense of autonomy, and develop social interaction in a community setting.

This program promotes the belief that everyone has the potential to use art materials and to be creative and expressive regardless of training, experience or talent.

The project sessions have been held at Mary Henley Park, weather permitting.

This art show is an exhibition of the works that were completed during these sessions.

A special thank you to our art facilitator, Nancy Espensen, for her dedication and commitment to our program participants. She has worked tirelessly to help them unlock their creativity and this exhibition would not be possible without her hard work.

















# The Artwork

### Alcohol Ink on Yupo

Alcohol ink markers are relatively new to the art scene and becoming increasingly popular among artists and crafters. This was a freestyle project using their imagination and thoughts applying designs to the Yupo paper. Once that stage was completed, they reactivated the alcohol ink using isopropyl alcohol. You can see how their designs flowed after reactivation!

Feature Participants: Chris M., Salvatore L., Ronnie C.

### **Inspired by Friedensreich Hundertwasser**

Friedensreich Hundertwasser was a European artist whose artwork is whimsical and imaginative. He created his own "fantastical world" guided by his dreams and has left a legacy of bright colors, curved lines, and swirls, which reminds us that art can be attractive and imaginative. Our program participants drew their own "fantastical world" of buildings and landscapes, keeping his style in mind and using the swirls, curves and towers, that he was popular for. Even though everyone watched the same video on Hundertwasser, you can see how everyone interpreted his work differently! *Feature Participants: Melissa B., Frank W.* 

### **Stamped Hearts**

Program participants used acrylic paint on canvas panel, using cut down paper towel rolls that they formed into hearts, dipped the edge in paint, then applied to the canvas. *Feature Participants: Christina P., Cassidy M.* 

### **Geometric Shapes Inspired by Kadinsky**

Participants were given cutouts of a variety of geometric shapes and then had discussion about the differences between organic and geometric shapes. They then traced their shapes onto the canvas on board and then applied color to their shapes. They then layered their shapes to create perspective and created the illusion of space between the shapes.

Feature Participants: Cristian D., Elaine M.

### Red, Yellow & Blue (Color Mixing)

Program participants spent a month learning about color! During these exercises everyone was given only red, yellow and blue color to work with, be it watercolor, pastel or acrylic.

# Red, Yellow & Blue (Color Mixing) Cont'd

On the first color mixing exercise everyone was instructed to paint one red circle, one blue circle, and one yellow circle, using watercolor. They then practiced mixing red, yellow and blue on their paint pallets to make new colors and were instructed to place their findings inside the circles.

Feature Participants: Jose F., Pamela T.

For the next exercise in red, yellow, & blue, the participants enjoyed a brief introduction and a short slide show of the abstract work of Wassily Kadinsky, the group focused on his painting titled "Squares with Concentric Circles". After this introduction, the participants were given a piece of watercolor paper folded in four and using red, yellow, and blue water soluble oil pastels, began drawing their concentric circles. They then activated the oil pastels with water and brush, their colors mixed in the most wonderful ways. *Feature Participants: Gerardo R., Bernardina M., David S.* 

With the color mixing gnomes, participants drew out their own gnomes and were instructed to color their gnomes with red, yellow and blue and then mix those colors to make the secondary colors for other parts of their gnome. We think they all turned out wonderful!

Feature Participants: Candace N., Randall F.

### Freestyle Mixed Media

Participants were given a multitude of different mediums to experiment and develop their own personal style and favorites. *Feature Participants: Cesar S., Cinnamon E.* 

### **Sunflowers**

The sunflowers were a guided drawing using oil pastels. *Feature Participants: Jacob C., Shauna S.* 

### Story Birds

Using already made background paper, we cut out strips to make the birds. The participants were asked to create a story around their birds to create their collage, using a variety of other materials. These are the cutest "Story Birds" ever!

Feature Participant: Ernestina W,

### Fall Leaves

Participants scratched out their design using a specially formulated foam to make a print plate mimicking the relief print making technique. Once the print plate was made they applied their ink using markers, pre-misted their paper and pressed their paper onto the plate. *Feature Participant: Jamie F.* 

# Watercolor Reindeer

Participants followed along to draw their reindeer, applied their watercolor paint and then outlined their reindeer.

Feature Participants: Michelle T., Cristian D., Pamela T.

# **Stencils**

Acrylic paint and sponges were used to apply the paint through the stencil.

Feature Participants: Dean S., Angelo B.

### Hearts Inspired by Jim Dine

Jim Dine is an American artist whose work includes painting, drawing, printmaking (in many forms including lithographs, etchings, gravure, intaglio, woodcuts, letterpress and linocuts) sculpture and photography;

Participants completed their first impression using the relief print making method, and then cut out their featured heart from the same print plate to add another element to their design inspired by Jim Dine.

Feature Participants: Glenda R., Tamara B.

# **Freestyle Alcohol Ink Minis**

This was a freestyle introduction to alcohol ink using various tools and technics.

# Multimedia Collage

Program participants spent one class making background paper using gelli plates and used various tools to create designs within the paint. They cutout trees using the background paper and used a variety of other materials to create their personal collage.

Feature Participant: Tionna H.

# Inspired by Dale Chihuly

Dale Chihuly is an American glass artist and entrepreneur. He is best known in the field of blown glass, "moving it into the realm of large-scale sculpture".

Our program participants were introduced to the unique work of Dale Chihuly through video and books. During this time they were inspired to create their own work in the style of Chihuly and collaborate with each other to create these beautiful chandeliers using plastic water bottles.

# Batik Inspired by Anna Blatman

Participants were introduced to the ancient art form of Batik which originated in Indonesia using wax resistant dye on fabrics. They studied the work of Australian artist Anna Blatman, and were particularly excited about her Magic Poppy and Adelaide Hills pieces. They had extensive discussion about here particular style and the different shapes represented in her work. From this exercise, everyone got very excited to start working with their own fabric and their own interpretation of her works. This project took 3 sessions and was very labor intensive. We are particularly proud of our participants and their focus and stamina to complete this project! *Feature Participant: Darlene F., Dante V.* 

# **Dandelions**

Participants painted their background wash using water color. While the background was drying, participants cut one end of a paper towel tube and then opened it to reveal their stamp for their dandelion.

Feature Participant: Allana W.

# Weaving

Participants learned about the basics of weaving and being the ancient way to make fabric. They learned about lines and patterns as an element of art and the various parts of the loom. This was a freestyle project using a variety of fabrics, ribbons, and yarns.

Feature Participants: Brian C., Fernando R, Jose B., Candace N.

# Alcohol Ink Tiles

These tiles were developed using alcohol ink from the bottle and then creating different translucent effects by adding isopropyl alcohol and/or a blending solution.

Feature Participant: Patrick L.

# **Gnomes on Board**

This was a guided exercise in drawing the gnome, creating a background of trees using triangle trees, and then used water soluble oil pastels to color their gnomes. Outlining the gnomes in black pastel created the finishing touch!

Feature Participant: Maricruz J.

# **EXCEED PROGRAMS**

### **COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

(Throughout Riverside & San Bernardino Counties)

### Supported Employment

Provides job matching, placement, and individualized training and support services to enable clients to work independently and successfully in the integrated employment settings of their choice.

### **Adult Work Experience**

Provides program participants an opportunity to explore competitive integrated work experiences in a variety of real-time work settings, to develop and/or enhance work skills, and orientation to work environments.

### **External Situational Assessment (ESA)**

Provides an evaluation of a clients functional capacity for community based employment, identifying strengths and barriers, and possible on-the-job supports necessary for the client to be successful.

### Vocational Assessments (VA)

A Vocational Assessment is designed to determine the vocational goals of clients that are interested in employment.

### **COMMUNITY INTEGRATED SERVICES**

*Provides community-based person-centered services and individualized supports, to enable adults with disabilities to live quality lives as productive and active members of their community.* 

### **EXPLORATION & ENRICHMENT SERVICES**

Provides person-centered services and individual supports, both on-site and in the community, that enable participants to maximize their independence and self-sufficiency.

### ADULT DEVELOPMENTAL CENTERS

The Adult Developmental Centers (ADC) in Hemet and Perris provide activities and training that enable adults with developmental disabilities to reach and maintain their highest potential and level of independence, and maximize their opportunities for personal choice and self-advocacy.

### **RESIDENTIAL SERVICES**

The Casa del Valle residential facility provides long-term housing, care and training to adults with developmental disabilities in a 4,400 square foot, 14 bed facility on approximately 0.9 acres in San Jacinto, CA.

### **TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

Provides safe on-time ADA accessible transportation for EXCEED program participants from their residence to their program, work and community integration sites. Training includes safe boarding/disembarking, transportation courtesy, vehicle safety and bus schedules.

### ABOUT EXCEED...

EXCEED is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which has provided advocacy, educational, vocational, job placement services and life skills training to adults with disabilities since 1979.

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www.weexceed.org