Build it, push it, age it, light it up, make it moveable

If you think about it, where else in Santa Cruz can you extract hidden tools from your iPhone to unleash its creative powers, work with bee’s wax, create a Gum Bichromate print, take field trips to prepare for large scale, indoor landscapes, create wearable art based on your wildest creative fantasies, put everything you know into a pile to make a beautiful print or push it, build it, age it, light it up, make it moveable for Burning Man in just two weeks? Cabrillo College, of course.

Cabrillo Arts Summer Workshops is in its eighth year and provides opportunities for both working artists and those new to the craft to push themselves in new directions. The program is a collection of workshops, each with a special focus. This opportunity allows both new and old to their artistic exploration a chance to work with experts and fellow artists in an intensive learning environment.

For the past eight years this unique program has received rave reviews from both established artists and beginners looking to investigate their creative opportunities. The program offers six two-week workshops and two one-week workshops. At the end of the class, the works go on display in one of the most diverse and exciting exhibits in the county. To give you a taste of this summer’s offerings, instructors include Kim Anno, Patrick Stafford,

Karen Thuesen Massaro, Hedwig Heerschop, Erin Goodwin Guerrero, Rose Sellery, Dan Burkholder, Wendy Akin, Judy Stabile, and Daniella Woolf.

Artists Janet Fine and Lynda Watson have been at the heart of organizing this Summer program for years. Janet works in the photography department and Lynda has been an instrumental force in the advancement of the 3D department at Cabrillo. Together, along with the support of the Cabrillo Art Department, Lynda continue to provide exciting and provocative courses for their Summer workshops and an opportunity for the rest of us to be wowed by what the students create.

I caught up with Janet and Lynda outside the Art Department at Cabrillo to talk about this year’s Cabrillo Arts Summer Workshops.

KIRBY SCUDDER: For those that don’t know, what is the Cabrillo Arts, Summer Workshop program?

JANET FINE: It’s like art camp for adults. It’s completely fun and a chance for all types of different people to explore a wide range of mediums with guest instructors from all over the country. Because the workshops happen in close quarters with each other, you get to share and learn from what is going on with the other students. It’s a chance to use these great facilities when they are not being used by the regular semester classes on an incredible campus. Every summer we like to offer a nice mix of ideas and mediums taught in the workshops, so we look at lots of requests and proposals. We look at instructors from outside the area as well as from Santa Cruz to offer a choice for workshop students. Each year we like to bring in some of the most exciting local instructors and because the summer program is no longer part of the curriculum we have been able to expand the pool of instructors that are eligible. For example one of the workshops this Summer is taught by Rose Sellery who along with Tobin Keller runs the Cabrillo

Lynda Watson: I know what class I am going to teach at this Summer. We have so many talented instructors in their chosen fields, each workshop will be a great learning experience. Every year the students come together and have an intensive workshop experience learning from the instructors and learning from each other. Then on June 28 students get to present their work at the public at the closing exhibition. Every year is different and exciting, and we always hear such great stories about the time spent together.

For more information about Cabrillo Arts go to www.cabrilloarts.org

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