

For immediate release

Taffy Stockton, NCOS Coordinator

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I have many more images, tons of information and a lot of artists interested in being interviewed. Please let me know if I can connect you with participating artists, attendees, etc. The complete list and additional info are on our web site www.northcoastopenstudios.com. Thanks for covering this community event.



10th Annual North Coast Open Studios Coming Soon

Two Weekends: May 31-June 1 & June 7-8, 11 am to 5 pm

What: North Coast Open Studios, 100+ artists, galleries and cooperatives open their studios to the public

When: Two Weekends: May 31-June 1 & June 7-8, 11 am to 5 pm

Where: Various locations throughout Humboldt County, Guide and Map to the studios will be available in the May 24th edition of the Times-Standard, at the Ink People Center for the Arts, and other venues throughout Humboldt County. Or, preview online at www.northcoastopenstudios.com

Tickets: This is a free community event

Info: (707) 834-6460 or www.northcoastopenstudios.com

The Tenth Annual North Coast Open Studios (NCOS) will take place over two weekends, Saturday and Sunday, May 31-June 1 and June 7-8, 2008 from 11 am to 5 pm. NCOS showcases local artists and art businesses, drawing thousands of local and regional visitors to more than 100 studios, workshops, galleries and businesses.

Visit the places where art is made as Humboldt County artists open their studios and their creative process to you. North Coast Open Studios provides a unique opportunity to meet the artists and catch a glimpse of their creative processes.

"Open Studio has provided me with the wonderful opportunity to see the nuts and bolts of what each particular artist surrounds themselves with to create their creative environment. It also provides the rare opportunity when the hosting artist can visit with me in a more relaxed atmosphere. I'm looking forward to the next tour!" said Maggie Stimson, NCOS Attendee.

This is your chance to meet the artists firsthand... explore types of work that are both familiar and new to you... and purchase work directly from the artists!

"North Coast Open Studios gives our community a time to pause and reflect on the creative ways we can see life around us from new perspectives. I am continually awed at the quality (and quantity) of artistic expression we have here on the North Coast and that is what Open Studios shares with us each year." Said Carol Wiebe, NCOS Attendee and Co-founder of Westhaven Center for the Arts

Visitors to North Coast Open Studios will be treated to displays of art in both traditional and non-traditional spaces throughout Humboldt County. During this free showcase for the arts, mid-career and emerging artists working across a broad spectrum of fine art styles and craft media – including painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, glass, fiber, jewelry, furniture and ceramics – will display and sell their work to the public.

Ten Years of Open Studios in Humboldt County

North Coast Open Studios was founded in 1998 by two local artists, Sasha Pepper & Susan Fox. Sasha had been involved in open studios events in larger metropolitan events, and wanted to bring this grassroots effort to Humboldt County's artists.

The response was immediate, artists signed on and pooled their fees to make the event happen. Since then North Coast Open Studios has grown from 45 participants to over 100 Humboldt County artists. The artists are spread throughout Humboldt County – from Trinidad to Redway, and everywhere in between.

In celebration of the tenth anniversary of North Coast Open Studios, we are returning to our roots. The event this year was once again coordinated by a Volunteer Steering Committee made up of working artists and art supporters. The event is funded entirely by artist fees, event supporters and community members who give their time, energy and money to provide an opportunity for the public to meet local artists in their studios and learn about their diverse creative processes and techniques.

For more information, contact Taffy Stockton, 2008 NCOS Coordinator by email at contact@northcoastopenstudios.com, or by calling (707) 834-6460. Find more information on our website at www.northcoastopenstudios.com.

Attached Images:

NCOS_Logo: *Event logo*

NCOS_FoxSusan_InStudio

NCOS_FoxSusan_Painting

Susan Fox, artist and co-founder of NCOS, in her Dows Prairie studio. Fox, NCOS artist # 5, will open her studio the weekend of June 7-8.

NCOS_GomesJohn_InStudio

NCOS_GomesJohn_Painting

Painter John Gomes at work in his Eureka studio. Gomes is NCOS artist # 57, his studio will be open the weekend of May 31-June 1.

NCOS_MestNaomi_AtWork

NCOS_MestNaomi_Furniture

McKinleyville furniture maker Naomi Mest at work. Mest, NCOS artist # 28, will open her studio the weekend of June 7-8.

NCOS_O'LearyKathy_AtWork

NCOS_O'LearyKathy_Painting

Eureka painter Kathy O'Leary working on location. O'Leary, NCOS artist #74, will be opening her studio the weekend of May 31-June 1.

NCOS_SanbornAlan_InStudio

NCOS_SanbornAlan_Painting

"This is much more fun than gallery exhibits. In Open Studios you get to see the whole deal – the just finished pieces, the failures, the sketches, the mess – and the old bargain bin stuff. Open Studios is sort of like the Farmers' Market of art. It's local. Any money spent supports your neighbors and stays here in the county. Like the organic vegetables at the market, the art comes from the fertile ground of this community -- and some of it still has a little bit of dirt on it." Alan Sanborn, NCOS Participating Artist #30, pictured in his Arcata Studio. He will be opening his studio for both weekends of Open Studios.

NCOS_SewellJack_InStudio

NCOS_SewellJack_Sculpture

"I enjoy showing people around my work space who have never seen the processes involved in making sculpture," says Jack Sewell. Sculptor Jack Sewell pictured in his Eureka studio, at work on a commissioned concrete statue. This is one of several pieces that he presently has under way. Sewell's studio, which he will be sharing with photographer David Boston, NCOS artists #81 and # 48, will be open the weekend of June 7-8.

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