

PRESS RELEASE

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AT
THE

Community Space



Redwood City Parks and Arts Foundation/Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI) Announce New Art Exhibit at CZI Community Space Aimed at Building an Inclusive Community

7 community members working or living in San Mateo County selected to share wide-ranging works of art

REDWOOD CITY, April 18, 2022 – Today the Redwood City Parks and Arts Foundation and Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI) announced the opening of a new art exhibit aimed at forging an inclusive community at the CZI Community Space. This exhibit came from a community-wide call for artists of all ages and abilities, living or working in San Mateo County, California. Seven artists were selected to exhibit their wide-ranging, thought-provoking and engaging artwork.

“Art inspires new ways of thinking about the world, breaks down barriers, and forges community bonds. Our sense of community is an important part of being human. The act of creating a bridge to other humans, regardless of our differences, helps us to grow and learn more about each other and ourselves. We can create a more inclusive, diverse and vibrant community through art. Activating this dedicated CZI Community Space for community artists and the public to come together is at the heart and soul of this effort,” said Pamela Estes, President, Redwood City Parks and Arts Foundation. “The Redwood City Parks and Arts Foundation’s purpose in this endeavor at the CZI Community Space is to promote local artists’ work and provide an opportunity to promote education, awareness, and community understanding.”

“We are so excited to support the Redwood City Parks and Arts Foundation in exhibiting the amazing work of these local artists,” said Andrea Jones, Director of San Mateo County Partnerships at the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative. “We’re looking forward to our continued partnership on community-led events and programming like this one in our Community Space to support a more diverse, inclusive, and vibrant community.”

The exhibit includes works from the following artists:

Jose Castro (also known as Castro) grew up in North Fair Oaks, San Mateo County, He seeks to inspire community members to embrace their roots through artwork that celebrates cultural diversity and shared history.

Elizabeth Gomez is a professional artist born and raised in Mexico City, residing in the Bay Area since 1991. Her art searches for images that convey a somewhat utopic coexistence between humans (usually women) and their environment: an ecology that ultimately does not exist.

Winsor Kinkade is an artist and community mental health social worker. Viewing art as a therapeutic process that aids in healing trauma, Kinkade has been working on oil paintings that feature different people's hands.

Pedro Rivas Lopez uses art as a way to speak truth to power and uplift oppressed voices to amplify social change. At the age of five, his journey as an immigrant pursuing his Dreams began. From selling oranges at street corners, to picking watermelon in the fields, Pedro worked his way to find himself writing and directing plays and creating artistic opportunities for communities across the Central Valley and the Bay Area.

Manuel Ortiz is a sociologist, visual journalist, and professor with more than 18 years of experience in issues concerning social justice, migration, and environment in many different countries. His photography will focus on the migrant essential workers in San Mateo County who are usually invisible.

Maria Sanchez has been creating art for over 25 years and is an advocate for art as therapy. Her painting style is intuitive, primitive and contemporary.

Laurie Satizabal is a graphic designer and illustrator influenced by organic shapes, mostly from different types of plants. She also draws inspiration from bold layouts complemented by hand lettering and typography.

Exhibition hours are from 11:00am to 1:00pm on the last Thursday of each month – with three days advanced registration required. For more information: <https://bit.ly/3x443Cz>



[The Redwood City Parks and Arts Foundation](#) (RWCPAF) created an Arts Programming Plan for the CZI Community Space to help set a vision for ongoing creative community engagement. RWCPAF will work with the Art Advisory Work Group, composed of 6 local community members from different backgrounds, to implement the Arts Programming Plan which includes selecting the exhibition theme, choosing the art to be displayed, conducting community outreach and hosting semi-annual art exhibitions.

The main purpose of the art exhibitions is to promote local artists by exhibiting their artwork at the CZI Community Space and to provide an opportunity to promote education, awareness, and community understanding. Members of this first Art Advisory Work Group include: Ashley Asaro, Ana Avendano, Jorge Calderon, Alondra Lopez, Dylan Roberts, and Irma Zoepf. The Redwood City Parks and Arts Foundation, established in 2012, is a 501(c)3 public charity. The Foundation's mission is to advocate, advance, and develop support for parks, recreational programming, community services, cultural activities, and the arts in Redwood City and surrounding unincorporated areas. The board works closely with the City of Redwood City's

Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services and provides technical, volunteer and financial support for entertainment and community events which enhance our quality of life.

[Chan Zuckerberg Initiative](#) (CZI), a Redwood City-based philanthropic organization, operates the CZI Community Space, and is dedicated to helping solve some of society's toughest challenges - from eradicating disease and improving education, to addressing the needs of our local communities. CZI's mission is to build a more inclusive, just, and healthy future for everyone. Located in downtown Redwood City, the CZI

Community Space offers convenient, high-quality meeting and event space to local organizations based in and serving San Mateo County, free of charge. Through dedicated space for organizations to connect, collaborate, and host a variety of community-led events and programming, the CZI Community Space aims to support a more diverse, inclusive, and vibrant community.

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Images of artwork available by request