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CELEBRATE NATURE AND CREATIVITY AT THE FIRST-EVER ART IN THE PARK EVENT AT WILDER RANCH STATE PARK

Experience the park in a whole new way Saturday, April 26

April 21, 2025—SANTA CRUZ, CA — Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks and California State Parks will debut Art in the Park, a new community event celebrating creativity and the natural beauty of Wilder Ranch State Park, on Saturday, April 26, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Set against the stunning backdrop of coastal bluffs and winding backcountry trails, Art in the Park will be a day of art, inspiration and outdoor exploration. Visitors are invited to experience Wilder Ranch through the eyes of local and regional artists. This immersive event will feature a diverse lineup of creators who draw their inspiration directly from nature, offering live art demonstrations, exhibits and opportunities to connect with the artistic process.

“Wilder Ranch is such an iconic and inspiring place,” said Bonny Hawley, Executive Director of Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks. “Art in the Park is a unique way to experience the park while supporting local artists and connecting with nature in a creative, meaningful way. Come out, get inspired and see Wilder Ranch in a whole new way!”

More than 20 painters, photographers, mixed media specialists and more will be participating in Art in the Park, including several who will lead workshops. Cathy Brewington, a Natural Bridges State Beach docent, will teach an origami butterfly mobile class. Francis Ge, who specializes in linocut prints and sewing, will lead a workshop on making felt bug stuffies, and Megan Gnekow of Seven Ravens Studio will teach a watercolor tutorial.

Admission is free. Parking is \$10 and helps Friends support the park. To learn more about the artists and activities featured at Art in the Park, visit <https://thatsmypark.org/event/wilder-ranch-art-in-the-park/>.

About Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks

Established in 1976, Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks (Friends) is a vital partner with California State Parks, creatively working to ensure our cherished local parks and beaches are thriving and available to all. Friends’ innovative and collaborative community partnership provides support and investment for education, equity and inclusion, conservation, facilities improvements, historic preservation and cultural events. Friends currently operates a robust online ParkStore offering nature- and history-themed merchandise for sale to benefit local parks and beaches. Friends also operates ParkStores at Natural Bridges, New Brighton (seasonal), Santa Cruz Mission, Seacliff and Wilder Ranch. Learn more at www.ThatsMyPark.org or via [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#) and [YouTube](#).

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