



Marin Ventures' New Printing Press

Our Creative Arts Director and visual arts instructor Tim Park is, among other things, a printmaker, having worked extensively in woodcut, linocut, and monotypes of several sorts.

Visiting a program he used to teach at, he discovered that their old printing press was laying fallow, collecting dust. When Tim lamented the device's abandonment, the staff at that program volunteered to gift it to Marin Ventures.

Several client artists have already begun work with a couple methods of printmaking. Pictured here are Tim M. working in a relief print, cutting away the parts of a rubber sheet that he does not want to print. The surface is inked with a roller, the rubber plate placed on the press, covered with dampened printmaking paper, and run through the press, which applies significant pressure to the surface to transfer the ink to the paper.



Tim M. ready to look at his print!

Peter T. is working with an engraving, wherein he engraves the lines and texture he wants to print into a metal plate with hand tools, in this case a metal scribe and an electric etching pen. The ink is rolled onto the plate, wiped off with a coarse cloth, and the ink remains in the grooves created by the tools. When run through the press, the pressure forces the dampened paper down into those grooves to receive the ink.

We will be using the press for a number of other print methods over the coming years: collagraph, woodcut, linocut, paper lithography. Tim is very excited to bring these mediums to the Creative Arts Program. He has long felt that pulling the paper back off a plate and having the sudden impact of the revealed image is one of the strongest creative experiences he has seen with the artists with developmental disabilities in his classes.



Peter T. Satisfied Print Maker!

Marin Ventures Awarded Two Years of Funding for Home and Community Based Services Project



In 2014, new Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) federal rules become effective which describe how certain services for people with developmental disabilities must be provided when using Medicaid funding. About 40% of the funds which pay for community services for our clients come from Medicaid. Thus, programs like Marin Ventures must be compliant with the new regulations. To ensure programs for people with developmental disabilities in California are compliant by March 2022, the implementation deadline, the Department of Developmental Services has received \$15 million in the 2017 and 2018 budget years to distribute to organizations whose project proposals are selected.

Providers participated in an application and selection process. Throughout the state, 134 out of 310 proposals were selected. Marin Ventures is one of three projects funded in the Golden Gate Regional Center catchment area this year. We received \$270,000 over two years for our project. This funding has a specific scope of work and must be spent within the guidelines of our project.

An integral part of the new HCBS rules is that people receiving services do not feel as if they are in an institution. They can report that they have the option to live in the community and participate as typical people—they are not segregated. Our project emphasized training for staff and clients, to enable better understanding and implementation of a person-centered philosophy. This includes developing improved understanding of our how clients make choices and what those choices are. Overall, we are trying to move from an organizational culture of care-giving to a culture of person-centered thinking.

Our project award funds a part-time Instructor Specialist who will work in the day program, modeling and guiding staff. We also hired a Project Manager to assist with the administration, logistics, and training. A smaller portion of the funds will be used for training materials and consultants.

You can see a list of all projects funded in the state at the Department of Developmental Disabilities website: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/HCBS/providerList.cfm>



What is Person Centered Thinking?

Person Centered Thinking is a set of principles that guide work with the person receiving services. This approach honors the right of the individual to choose what is important to them and what is important for them. Furthermore, the approach means the people connected to the person—staff, family—respect the choice of the person. If choices are unclear due to communication challenges, person centered thinking means we work to find out how the person communicates choices. For example, coffee every morning is important *to* Mary. She communicates that by standing by the coffeepot and pointing to it. What is important *for* Mary is that she drinks her coffee without sugar because she has diabetes. A new staff, who doesn't know Mary, may direct her to sit down or leave the kitchen without trying to understand what Mary is communicating.

Art in the Community

Outings to observe and appreciate art and music in the community are regularly offered. Once a month groups travel to San Francisco to visit art museums. Recent new additions to our list of destinations are the Walt Disney Family Museum and lunchtime concert series “People in Plazas.” Marin Ventures artists volunteered to help with a public art installation called Spirit Nest, which is meant to educate the public about wildfire fuel reduction.



Learning about Walt Disney.



Volunteering to build Spirit Nest.



Peter T. Finsihed work!



Peter T engraving the metal plate

Staff Appreciation Week

September 10-14 is Direct Support Professional Recognition Week! This is a week-long celebration to recognize the engagement, dedication, and proficiency of outstanding staff and their vital contribution to the people we serve. Marin Ventures showed their appreciation through planned daily treats for all staff. This included breakfast, gift bags, games, prizes, and massages from massage therapist Francoise.

Thank you for all you do!



Staff members in their new Marin Ventures shirts!

January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018 Donors

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Change in Newsletter Publication Dates

We have changed from a December and June schedule to a Fall and Spring schedule. We are trying to do more communication with email and through social media. If you'd like to receive an email newsletter instead of paper, please send your email address to jennifer@marinventures.org

Choosing Fitness!

Meet David, pictured here at one of his favorite new spots: the College of Marin Adapted PE class in General Conditioning. David has a health condition that makes exercise important for him, and for some time has been unable to find engaging opportunities to work out. Now, all that has changed!

David is a newly enrolled student in the Adapted PE classes at College of Marin, and has been loving every minute of his choice to spend time there. In his class, David is able to mix with other members of the community, while using a variety of gym equipment, under the supervision of trained College of Marin instructors.

The atmosphere is social and fun, with lots of activity and music playing in the background. David says his favorite thing to do in class is to ride the exercise bike, which he has been doing with great enthusiasm! He lets us know that he misses class when it is not in session, and looks forward to it when it resumes the following semester. Still, his words are just a confirmation of what he tells us every time he participates - it is his ear-to-ear smile that really says it all.



Congrats to David for choosing fitness!



2018 Marin Ventures Picnic





Peter T. operates the printing press.



Tim M. ready to look!



Peter T's first look at his work.

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