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Next Level Pre-Conference Recording Session Winner: Jimmy Cramer

New to the Next Level Music Industry Conference in 2017 was an opportunity for musicians to submit demos to compete for spots in Pre-Conference sessions on Recording and Songwriting. From nearly thirty submissions to the Recording session, Jimmy Cramer was chosen to record his song, "Make It Right."
Cramer, a singer-songwriter, was notified that he had won the opportunity a week before the session was to take place. Recording engineer and producer Glenn Lorbecki, who has worked with diverse artists from the White Stripes to Green Day to Dizzy Gillespie, discussed options with Cramer in the days leading up to the session during the compressed pre-production phase. Lorbecki and Cramer added a live drummer, back-up vocals, and additional percussion to realize their creative direction and desired sound.

The recording session took place on Saturday, May 6. Lorbecki re-mixed and mastered the track overnight, and the final result was revealed on Sunday, May 7 during the Next Level Conference.

Click the Learn More button to listen to the the original track that Cramer submitted and the re-recorded final product.

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**Arts Education Survey Preliminary Findings Released**

Thank you to the 316 teachers, 280 parents, 37 district and school administrators, 32 arts organizations, and 8 funders who completed the arts education in Sonoma County schools survey!

Assessment consultant Juan Carlos Bojorquez from WestEd spent the day with the Arts Education Alliance on May 23 and presented the preliminary survey findings in a public event held at the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts.

The full report will be published and shared later this summer, but some of the preliminary findings include:

- 86% of teachers said that considering all priorities, arts is "extremely important" (50%) or "important" (36%) to them.
- Parents chose the subjects that they believed had the most positive impact on students' future success as Mathematics (74%), English language arts (66%), and Visual and Performing Arts (64%).
- 58% of the Districts and Schools reported that funding for the arts is included in their Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP).
- Approximately one-third of parents reported there are barriers to their family participating in the arts due to financial limitations and geography/transportation issues.

The event also included excellent performances from Analy High School's student-led jazz group Rusty Suspenders, the Elsie Allen High School Drumline, and Windsor High School's student-formed band Crescent City, along with words from Windsor senior Erika Stewart to introduce the screening of her arts education advocacy film (which won 1st prize in the statewide California Alliance for Arts Education's Student Voices film contest - watch the film below!).
WHAT WE'RE READING:
Developing Your Creative Practice: Tips from Brian Eno

Throughout his career, musician, composer and producer Brian Eno has explored ways to ignite his own creativity as well as the creativity of his collaborators. This article touches on the neuroscience of creativity, and emerging ideas about the various phases of the brain while innovating. While there is no scientific way to launch creative ideas, there are ways to develop a creative practice. Eno said that "the point about working is not to produce great stuff all the time, but to remain ready for when you can." Here are his five tips from the article:

1. **Freeform capture**: "Grab from a range of sources without editorializing."

2. **Blank state**: "Start with new tools, from nothing, and toy around."

3. **Deliberate limitations**: "Before a project begins, develop specific limitations."

4. **Opposing forces**: "Sometimes it's best to generate a forced collision of ideas."

5. **Creative prompts**: "In the '70s Eno developed his Oblique Strategies cards, a series of prompts modeled after the I Ching to disrupt the process and encourage a new way of encountering a creative problem."

To read the full article and learn more about these tips, click the Learn More button.
GET KNOWLEDGE: Trainings and Conferences

Creative Sonoma Workshops and Events

NEXT LEVEL MUSIC GRANT INFO SESSIONS
Date/Time: Tuesday, June 6, 2017, 12-1:30pm or 5:30-7pm
Location: Creative Sonoma, 141 Stony Circle, Suite 110, Santa Rosa
MORE INFORMATION & RSVP

USING PINTEREST FOR CREATIVES
Date/Time: Wednesday, June 14, 2017, 5:30pm-7:00pm
Location: Finley Community Center, 2060 W College Ave, Santa Rosa
Presenter: Kerry Rego
Cost: Free
REGISTER FOR JUNE 14 (PINTEREST)

USING INSTAGRAM FOR CREATIVES
Date/Time: Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 5:30pm-7:00pm
Location: Finley Community Center, 2060 W College Ave, Santa Rosa
Presenter: Kerry Rego
Cost: Free
REGISTER FOR JUNE 21 (INSTAGRAM)

COFFEE & CONVERSATION MEETINGS
Come chat with us - we want to know what you are doing and how we can help. Click on each location for full address and to RSVP - we hope to see you there!

- JUNE 5: Sebastopol Center for the Arts, Sebastopol, 12-1:30pm
- JUNE 12: 180 Makerspace, Santa Rosa, 6-7:30pm
- JUNE 21: Occidental Center for the Arts, Occidental, 2-3:40pm
- JUNE 26: Jenner Community Center, Jenner, 1-2:30pm
- JUNE 26: Monte Rio Community Center, Monte Rio, 5:30-7pm
- JUNE 28: Cloverdale Arts Alliance, Cloverdale, 12:30-2pm
- JUNE 28: Francis Ford Coppola Winery, Geyserville, 4-5:30pm

Visit Upcoming Activities on our website for descriptions of all of the above and for registration links.

If you have suggestions for workshops that could support and advance your creative work, please email your ideas or requests to creativesonoma@sonoma-county.org.

Conferences/Professional Development

2017 Americans for the Arts Convention
For the 2017 Annual Convention, Americans for the Arts and our members are heading to San Francisco to explore this iconic arts destination and to discuss the pressing issues of equity, accessibility, and community building. June 16-18, 2017.
GET CONNECTED: Creative Calls, Grants, Jobs & More

Calls to Creatives

IT'S SUMMER FESTIVAL SEASON!
Check out this article from SonomaCounty.com. Great Outdoor Music Concerts and Summer Festivals, and then check out our online Marketplace for our roundup of CALLS TO VENDORS and exhibitors, including calls from Valley of the Moon Vintage Festival, Petaluma Art & Garden Festival (pictured above), and more.

CALL TO ACTORS: Raven Performing Arts Center
Two male roles are still open for 'Much Ado About Nothing' with The Raven Players in Healdsburg - rehearsing now!
More Information

CALL TO DANCERS: Shakespeare in the Cannery
Shakespeare in the Cannery is seeking dancers for paid positions for their adaption of a Midsummer Night's Dream: "Fairy Worlds". Dancers of all ages are encouraged to attend. Auditions are Sunday, June 11th from 11:30am-2pm.
More Information

CALL TO ARTISTS: Arts Guild of Sonoma
The Arts Guild of Sonoma is celebrating 40 years as a nonprofit artists' collective in the heart of Sonoma wine country. That's the power of art. We invite you to share the power of your art in this National Juried Open Show. Submit by July 22, 2017.
More Information

Check out MORE Calls to Creatives in Creative Sonoma's online Marketplace.
Grants & Awards

Creative Sonoma: Summer Arts Youth Program Grants
Summer Arts Youth Program Grants are designed to support our creative organizations who are fostering creativity in our local youth while giving them opportunities to maintain learning while school is out of session, as well as providing opportunities to attend high quality cultural arts summer programs. **Deadline June 23, 2017.**
[More Information]

Creative Sonoma: Next Level Grants for Musicians
This program, funded by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, will recognize five Sonoma County bands or musician. Awardees will receive a $2,500 grant in support of their proposed project, along with 10 hours of one-on-one consulting time with professional experts in areas that align with the applicant's grant activity request. Information sessions take place on Tuesday, June 6 at either 12-1:30pm (RSVP) or 5:30-7pm (RSVP) in the Creative Sonoma office. **Deadline June 30, 2017.**
[More Information]

Investing in Tomorrow Organizational Grants
As part of the Center for Cultural Innovation’s (CCI) efforts to support new arts leadership with support from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Investing in Tomorrow Organizational Grants is a new, one-time grant program that will invest $105,000 in bold ideas by individuals at California nonprofit or fiscally sponsored arts organizations that have the potential to re-shape the future of the arts sector in exciting and important ways. **Deadline July 12, 2017.**
[More Information]

Check out MORE Funding Opportunities in Creative Sonoma's online Marketplace.

Jobs & Internships

Sebastopol Center for the Arts: Facility & Event Services Coordinator
SCA seeks a dynamic Facility & Event Services Coordinator to build on a record of significant accomplishments and to lead its facility to the next level of prominence. If you enjoy serving the public, want to work in a fun environment where every day is different, and you love the Center for the Arts, this may be the job of your dreams. **More Information**

Robindura Unsworth: Jewelry Maker/Production Assistant
Robindura Unsworth is seeking a jewelry maker / production assistant to join their team. Prior jewelry making experience (crimping, wire wrapping, wire shaping, etc.) is a requirement. You must possess the ability to replicate our designs with consistency, speed and at the highest quality level. **More Information**

Check out MORE Jobs/Internships in Creative Sonoma's online Marketplace.

Volunteer Opportunities
Volunteer for the Railroad Square Music Festival (June 11)
The mission of the Railroad Square Music Festival is to expand our local music community by bringing more music to new people, to encourage our local performers to shoot for the stars, and to show that the North Bay is a vibrant cultural and artistic hub.

More Information

Volunteer Ushers needed for Country Summer Music Festival (June 16-18)
The Festival needs service-oriented people who are willing to be on their feet and in the sun for a minimum of 5 hours per day. Volunteers will usher ticket holders to their seats, maintain aisle ways and provide other guest services. Volunteers will receive one meal per shift, water and a complimentary t-shirt.

More Information

Check out MORE Volunteer Opportunities in Creative Sonoma's online Marketplace.

WITH SUPPORT FROM

The mission of Creative Sonoma is to support and advance the creative community of Sonoma County. We define the creative community as individuals, organizations and businesses whose work is creative at its core. This includes artists, nonprofit cultural organizations, and creative enterprises such as design firms, galleries, recording and video studios, and more.
The e-newsletter CURRENTS is published on the first Thursday of each month: please submit potential items a week in advance to creativesonoma@sonoma.county.org.

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The PDF version of this newsletter issue is attached HERE.

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