



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOURTH ANNUAL EBB & FLOW RIVER ARTS FESTIVAL RETURNS JUNE 1 & 2

Free family-friendly weekend celebrating the San Lorenzo River, to include First Friday celebration, March for the River and Festival at Tannery Arts Center

SANTA CRUZ, CA — UPDATED May 7, 2018 — Santa Cruz County will come together June 1 and 2 to celebrate and deepen the community's connections to the San Lorenzo River, a vital natural resource and wildlife habitat that runs from the Santa Cruz Mountains to the Monterey Bay.

Led by Arts Council Santa Cruz County, Ebb & Flow is a two-day, family friendly festival that will kick off with First Friday artmaking and performances on Cooper Street—followed by an evening dance party with DJ, new public art and fire dancers adjacent to the Riverwalk. The revelry will resume on Saturday with a March for the River along the Riverwalk and a Festival at the Tannery Arts Center, which is located adjacent to the river. All activities are free and open to the community. Drop in for one or participate in the whole thing.

Ebb & Flow was launched in 2015 as a collaborative project between arts and environmental groups interested in bringing new attention to the river as our community's primary source of drinking water, as well as a city park, recreational corridor, and home to more than 200 species of birds, fish and other wildlife.



Ebb & Flow partners include the City of Santa Cruz, Coastal Watershed Council, Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History, Radius Gallery, Tannery World Dance & Cultural Center, Santa Cruz City Arts, Downtown Santa Cruz, First Friday, Tannery Arts Center, Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History, local artists, musicians and dancers.

“Santa Cruz is a creative community, and I love that Ebb & Flow works with local artists to reconnect citizens to the river,” said City of Santa Cruz Mayor David Terrazas. “Ebb & Flow introduces new activities every year to engage people of all ages with the Santa Cruz Riverwalk, and increase awareness about how to become better stewards of our water supply and watershed. The City is thrilled to partner on this festival.”

“Ebb & Flow has helped change the conversation about our river,” says Laurie Egan, Outreach and Development Manager of the Coastal Watershed Council. “It’s been transformational in connecting artists, river enthusiasts, and community members in enjoying this beautiful natural corridor that runs through our city, and inspiring people to commit to being a steward of the watershed.”

“Ebb & Flow is a celebration of intersections - between artists and environmentalists, between the Tannery Arts Center and the river, between our whole community and extraordinary artists from near and far. Every year I get inspired watching attendees enjoy the river and get their socks knocked off by the creativity on display,” said Michelle Williams, Executive Director of the Arts Council. “There’s something for everyone.”

New this year, we’re adding to the night-time lineup by shutting down River Street next to the Soquel Bridge, hosting firedancers and a DJ and new public art from local artists Aron Altmark & Rachel Stoll. Saturday’s all-ages March for the River is an opportunity for river-lovers to publicly proclaim their love of the San Lorenzo by dressing up like their favorite river species, making signs, or just walking with and cheering on other marchers. World-renowned vertical performance pioneers **BANDALOO** will be performing new work Saturday afternoon at the Tannery.

Ebb & Flow is funded by the California Arts Council’s Creative California Communities program and the City of Santa Cruz’s Economic Development Department.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY JUNE 1

5:30-8:50 p.m. First Friday Artmaking & Performances

Artmaking for all ages and performances at First Friday (Cooper Street & Abbott Square). Enjoy live music and dance, booths and food in Abbott Square. We'll have an artmaking station to make signs for Saturday's march, and much more. Confirmed Friday performers include Blue Summit, DJ Sparkle, Samba Stilt Circus, Senderos, Iman the Clown and Post Street Rhythm Peddlers. More will be announced in mid-May.

8:50 p.m. Procession to the River with the Post Street Rhythm Peddlers

Meet at the corner of Abbott Square and Cooper Street, bring flashlights or glow sticks. Join in a procession led by the Post Street Rhythm Peddlers from Abbott Square to the Riverwalk.

9:20-11p.m. Bridge Public Art and Dance Party

Experience the river at night in a whole new way. Firedancers, DJ and public art unveiling of a commissioned piece by local multimedia artists Rachel Stoll and Aron Altmark.

SATURDAY JUNE 2

12 p.m. March for the River (meet under the Soquel Avenue Bridge, on the East Side of the river)

Show your love for the river! This is an all-ages one-mile march. Participants are invited to come as they are or dress up like their favorite watershed critter. Signs, costumes are welcome but not required. Roller skates, one-wheels, skateboards and bicycles are welcome but the march will move at a walking pace. All participants please arrive at 11:45 a.m. to sign-in and so that we can line folks up.

12:30-4 p.m. Tannery Celebration (free parking available, and valet bike parking)

Artmaking, food trucks, and performances featuring vertical performance pioneers BANDALOOOP.