

The Human Element Project

The Human Element Project helps with disaster relief for hurricane Harvey and Maria in Houston and Puerto Rico.

Last year so many people were affected by devastating hurricanes. Hurricane Harvey in Houston and Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico and the neighboring islands called on all humanitarians to step up to the plate to make whatever difference they could to help the thousands of victims. The Human Element Project's founder Lori Shocket and her husband Neil, both physicians, deployed to both Houston and Puerto Rico to offer much needed medical care to the victims. Read more at: <https://www.thehumanelementproject.com/humanitarian-work.html>



The Human Element Project and the Homeless Winter shelter invites guests to participate in collage and portrait art.



Dean Triggs School for the disabled hosts Expressive Art Workshops.



The Human Element Project held an Expressive Art Workshop with the students at Dean Triggs School in Ventura County. These incredible kids with severe to moderate disabilities loved watching the blending of colors as they, with the help of their amazing teachers, create beautiful pieces of art. Their collective work will be displayed at the Ventura County office of Education.

This year, The Human Element Project is collaborating with Lutheran Social Services and The Samaritan Center in Ventura County to invite guests at their winter shelters to engage in *Expressive Art Workshops*. Each guest is given a canvas, chalk pastels, markers and a choice of hundreds of text strips and asked to compose a visual story about themselves. Our sincerest gratitude to all the participants that have allowed us to the opportunity to tell your stories. An exhibit of the entire project will follow.

<https://www.thehumanelementproject.com/winter-homeless-shelter.html>

***Expressive Art Workshops* offer transformative art experiences to the community.**

The *Human Element Project* believes that creating art is a vehicle for transformative expression of feelings that are hard to express verbally; bullying, physical challenges, homelessness, domestic violence, anxiety and fear. Our 90 minute creative, confidence-building, no-stress workshops allow participants to explore creative self-expression and story telling using a variety of art mediums. *Expressive Art Workshops* help to build resilience, pride and self confidence in adults and children. Let us help you design a program for your unique community. To learn more visit: thehumanelementproject.org



Upcoming in February: A collaboration with California Mens Colony Prison.

The objective of the project is for the offender to attempt to illustrate themselves and their victim on the same canvas - acknowledging their crime's affect on both their lives, their physical and emotional differences as well and the commonality between them. While creating split portraits, fully body mural and illustrating shoes, the participant will visually share their canvas with their victims. The final piece will ultimately reflect themselves side-by-side with their victim. The project culminates with assemble of the three parts; face, body and shoes and an opportunity for the participants to tell the story of their final work to their classmates - describing the process of introspection and connection to their victim. This is an intense, thought provoking and healing process that will hopefully invite more creative exploration of themselves and their victims.

The Human Element Project begins a series of *Expressive Art Workshops* with senior residents at The Commons at Woodland Hills.

Senior residents at the Commons in Woodland Hills held their first of four *Expressive Art Workshops* using alcohol inks and Yupo paper, the residents enjoyed blending colors and creating unusual effects with the colored inks. The each created a painting of their own as well as a tasseled bookmark. Our next session will be a Memory Reconstruction workshop where the residents will collage using photos and words to tell their personal stories.

Future projects: Our goal is to continue the discussion about racism and crimes against humanity.

The possibilities are limitless and the potential for engagement and community involvement is huge. We are hoping to make contact with a variety of possible partners. In addition to working with refugees, Holocaust survivors and victims of genocide, we are hoping to reach a grass roots level of engagement with aging veterans, young adults who experience bullying and discrimination, victims of the economic and healthcare crisis, the challenges facing rural U.S. communities, domestic violence and adults and children with disabilities to name a few.



If you would like to learn more about our projects, please contact us via email at: lori@thehumanelementproject.com or by phone at: 818.424.7845. Please visit our website at: thehumanelementproject.org and "LIKE" us on Facebook.

UPCOMING/CURRENT 2018 CALENDAR

March/April - The Human Element installation at the Community Memorial Hospital, Ventura CA.
FAFG Guatemala - Pending installation.
Jewish Holocaust Center, Melbourne - Pending installation.
Homeless shelter workshops continue.
The Commons workshops continue.