

ACTIVE ART

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Kristina Tate.

More than 30 artists will participate in week-long celebration in Seaview

BY KATHERINE LACAZE

The Sou'wester Historic Lodge and Vintage Travel Trailer Resort has long played host to a variety of artists who have sought space to cultivate their creativity.

But now, the lodge is gearing up for a week-long artist residency takeover that encapsulates the lodge's very essence and purpose.

During the Sou'wester's inaugural ARTS WEEK, to be held March 8-16, the campground and lodge will be taken over by more than 30 artists and art groups. The event will culminate with a weekend of open studios, performances, music, and installations on March 13 and 14.

Sou'wester owner Thandi Rosenbaum and arts coordinator Dawn Stetzel are the driving forces behind both the event and the Sou'wester Arts organization, established in 2016.

"We share a real love of facilitating other people's process and expression," Rosenbaum said. "That's really what is awesome about running an arts organization."



Erica Trabold.

Nurturing the whole self

The Sou'wester's artist residency program has showcased more than 600 artists.

"(It's left) intentionally vague, democratic and inclusive because it's based on the idea

that everybody has an expressive instinct or an expressive impulse," Rosenbaum said.

During ARTS WEEK, the resident creators will include writers, painters, dancers, fashion designers, fiber artists, photographers and sculptors. Some devote themselves professionally to the arts, while for others, expressing themselves through creativity is more personal and explorative.

The week-long residency will give participants an opportunity to connect with other artists. During their stay, they'll have access to amenities like a garden spa, aromatherapy, a Finnish sauna, a tea trailer and live music.

"Things like walking to the beach really feed their being, their complete being, which is what we are interested in, not only providing a space where they can make artwork distraction-free, but to have all those other things that feed us as a whole person," Rosenbaum said.

Favorite places to be

Essayist Erica Trabold, who has completed residencies and hosted workshops at

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