

ART FOR THE SKY

Volunteers can become the art at Cannon Beach Earth, arts festival

BY ZOË BUCHLI

Hood River-based artist Daniel Dancer has a unique way of getting the community to notice his environmental art, he puts them directly into his pieces.

The artist is teaming up with the organizers of Cannon Beach's upcoming Earth & Ocean Arts Festival to create his next massive piece, the world's largest sea star. To pull it off, he's going to need hundreds of volunteers on Sept. 18.

The piece is part of "Art for the Sky," a program organized by Dancer to bring sky art projects to areas across the globe. Driven by a passion for raising environmental awareness, Dancer said his projects emerged out of his desire to inform communities about a changing environment.

"Ever since I was a little kid, I've been steeped in environmentalism and looking at human impact on the earth," Dancer said.

Dancer has completed more than 300 projects, spanning across 44 states and eight countries, with the help of roughly 150,000 participants.

"A lot of the teachings of this art form are about learning to see the big picture," Dancer said. He added that Art for the Sky's aim from the beginning was to teach humans to have a new relationship with the sky.

Dancer said every image created by Art for the Sky serves as a "thank you," and also an apology to the Earth.

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Daniel Dancer

An Art for the Sky project in Kansas included 500 volunteers who served as the beads on the headband of a Native American. The art was created with the help of field artist Stan Herd.

Participate in Art for the Sky

Wear clothing that is red, or a shade of red.

Meet at the end of Second Street in Cannon Beach at 3:45 p.m. on Sept. 18.

Register for the event at cbgallerygroup.com.

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Daniel Dancer manages his Art for the Sky projects from above.

