ILAN-LAEL
FOUNDATION
CONNECTING PEOPLE, ART & NATURE

Post Office Box 1221
Julian, California 92036

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN DIEGO, CA
PERMIT NO. 2256

Tours are back!

Visit James and Anne Hubbell's acclaimed home and art studios in Julian, California.

We offer small-group docent-led tours in spring and fall. Please join us and hear the story behind the art and architecture, family life and inspired art created by artist James Hubbell.

Retreats & Events

Work, play, think and create in the inspiring atmosphere of Ilan-Lael.

Meeting spaces, art studios, amphitheater, hiking trails, gardens, a chapel, and more. Enjoy indoor and outdoor dining areas, abundant nature and inspiring views. There's room to dance and perform as well as places to be quiet and reflective. Ilan-Lael can set the stage for your next meeting.

Weekend Workshops

Classes and workshops are offered for a variety of artistic expressions, including mosaic, metal arts, and stained glass, just to name a few. Check the schedule on page 7.

PHOTOS: JOHN DURANT

Experience Ilan-Lael

A place like no other!

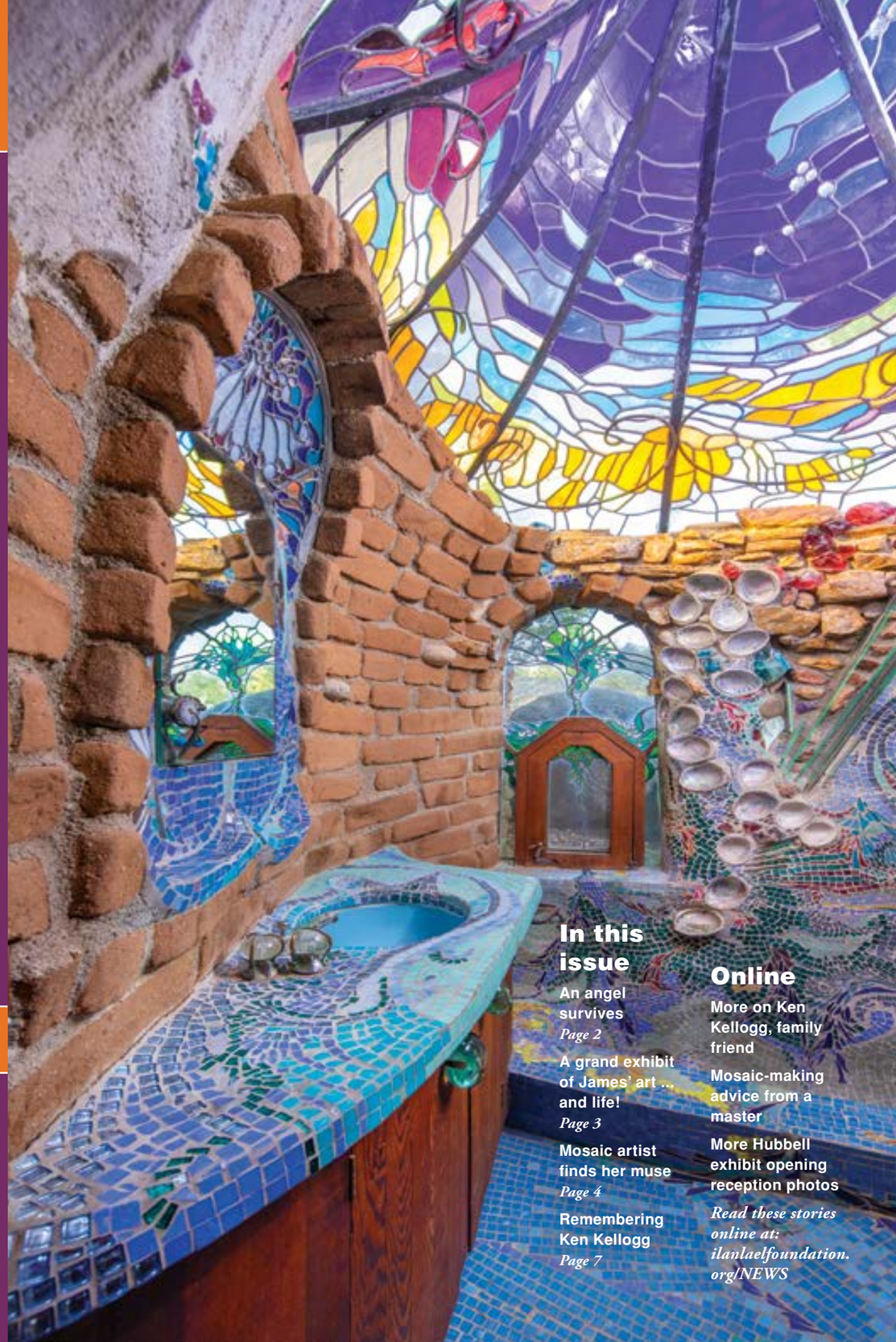
connecting people, art & nature

HIDDEN LEAVES

VOL 11 - ISSUE 1

SPRING
2024

A publication of Ilan-Lael Foundation



In this issue

An angel survives
Page 2

A grand exhibit of James' art ... and life!
Page 3

Mosaic artist finds her muse
Page 4

Remembering Ken Kellogg
Page 7

Online

More on Ken Kellogg, family friend

Mosaic-making advice from a master

More Hubbell exhibit opening reception photos

Read these stories online at: ilanlaelfoundation.org/NEWS

Our Galaxy and Our Smile

Have you watched millions of stars hang in the sky on a moonless night, or seen the wind waver over a field of grass, or noticed dust at play in a shaft of light, or felt the warmth of another's hand … someone you cared for? This is where architecture must come from. It must take measure of all that it is to be human. Somehow it must count our galaxy and a smile equally, and learn to express this new world in walls, doors, and roofs.

Economics and function are not unimportant, but they no longer express who we can be. We must add our love, our history, our metaphysics. We must add the wind, the sun, and the call of the hills. Our buildings must learn to convey all of this. Astronomers talk about the music of the spheres. I have heard this described as a song of jubilation. Perhaps this is a phrase for our coming age: a time of coming together, of coming back to the whole. We need an Architecture of Jubilation to sing of it!

— James T. Hubbell

CRAIG TOOLEY

HIDDEN LEAVES
VOL 11 - ISSUE 1
SPRING 2024

Cover
Boys' House, Ilan-Lael, Julian, CA
PHOTO: John Durant

Editors
Peter Jensen & Marianne Gerdes

Contributors
Laurel Costa
Laurie Dietter
Rhona Duffy
John Durant
Katie Gardener
Marianne Gerdes
James Hubbell
Peter Jensen
Dennis Reiter
Craig Tooley

Graphic Design
Laurie Dietter

Printing
Neyenesch Printers, San Diego

JOHN DURANT

ILAN-LAEL FOUNDATION
PO Box 1221
Julian, CA 92036
760.765.3427
ilanlaelfoundation.org

Ilan-Lael is a 501 (c) (3)
tax-exempt organization
EIN #95-3826760

Board of Directors
Kyle Bergman
Vicki Bergstrom
Wayne Donaldson
Gundula Dunne
John Howard
Brennan Hubbell
Drew Hubbell
Torrey Hubbell
Peter Jensen
Chuck Lang
Laurie Madigan
Mike Madigan
Rebecca Morales
Michael Pinto

President Emeritus
James Hubbell

Directors Emeritus
Anne Hubbell
Lauren Hubbell
Carolyn Owen-Towle

Executive Director
Marianne Gerdes

In Our Hands Now

LAUREL COSTA

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARIANNE GERDES

I am basking in the glow! More than 350 people turned out at the San Diego Main Library Gallery, March 9, to celebrate James Hubbell's art, drawings, influences, and ideas — especially his lifelong efforts to bridge cultures and borders through art. The interest in his work has never been greater. Ilan-Lael — our foundation started by James and his wife Anne — has become one of our region's great cultural assets, and a growing network of caring individuals like you preserves James' art and vision for future generations. We have created a community much the way he did —building success upon success, with beauty as our compass and friendship our north star.

We have an oft-told tale. When the Cedar Fire burned through Ilan-Lael, a ceramic maquette of the Angel Gabriel — residing in a wall niche in the Living Room — made it through intact, standing in its place, minus only its hands (left). Jim and Anne marveled at this small miracle.

"He used to have hands," Anne says, "but they were burned away."

Many years later I was giving a group tour of the restored living room and shared the story of how the statue survived but sacrificed its hands. A tour guest remarked, "I suppose the responsibility to care for this place has been *handed* to us. Ilan-lael is in our hands now."

And so it is. We thank you for your gifts of support and your helping hands.

The Sea Ranch Chapel under the Milky Way (above). Angel Gabriel at ILF (left).

When news arrived that San Diego and Tijuana would be the first binational designation in World Design Capital program history, Ilan-Lael jumped at the opportunity "to help discuss and shape the future of our region through the power of design."

Yet at first many — even those of us who had worked on James Hubbell projects in both San Diego and Tijuana for decades — asked, "What is World Design Capital (WDC)?" One word will start the discussion: prestigious!

Prestigious if your organization is invited to participate.

Prestigious if your organization is dubbed to play a major role in the launch of World Design Capital San Diego Tijuana 2024, as we have done in partnership with San Diego's Public Library system.

Prestigious if your work is considered worthy of WDC's mandate to showcase our region as "a global hub for design, innovation, arts, and culture [to] foster lasting economic, social, cultural, civic, and environmental impact."

That's the power of design!

We chose one of James' favorite mantras as the exhibitions' overall theme: architecture should be an act of jubilation. We celebrate James's lifelong work in fine art, architecture, community building, and international relations at four locations: the Central Library, and branch libraries in Otay Mesa, Mission Valley, and Scripps Miramar. **We suggest you visit the largest exhibition in the Central Library first, and from there "branch out."**

We are grateful to the WDC and San Diego library system for this opportunity, and feel that these four exhibitions come closest to telling the remarkable story of James Hubbell, the Ilan-Lael Foundation, and our entire region's ongoing awakening to the power of design.

PHOTOS: KATIE GARDENER

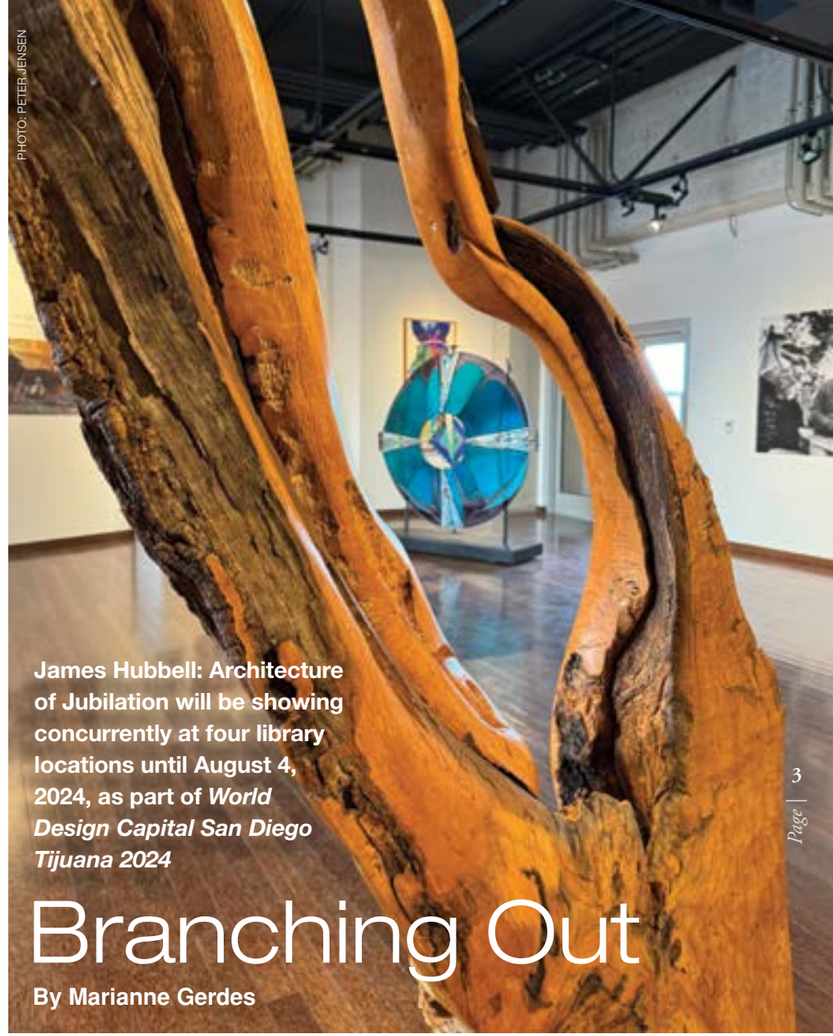


PHOTO: PETER JENSEN

James Hubbell: Architecture of Jubilation will be showing concurrently at four library locations until August 4, 2024, as part of *World Design Capital San Diego Tijuana 2024*

Branching Out

By Marianne Gerdes

Touring the Exhibits
Now through August 4, 2024. Open during normal hours at each branch. ***www.sandiego.gov/public-library/visualarts***

Central Library and its rooftop gallery showcases James Hubbell: Architecture of Jubilation, his life and work in the largest of Hubbell's four exhibitions.SD Central Library,9th Floor Gallery, 330 Park Blvd. San Diego 92101; (619) 236-5800.

Scripps Miramar Ranch Library features Hubbell Mountain Home & Studios near Julian—his source of creativity—where thousands make the pilgrimage to Ilan-Lael to walk the tranquil naturescape and marvel at Hubbell's architecture.10301 Scripps Lake Drive, San Diego 92131; (858) 538-8158

Mission Valley Library tells the story of Pacific Rim Project: Hubbell's vision that nations located on the Pacific Rim can find common ground through art. 2123 Fenton Parkway, San Diego 92108; (858) 573-5007

Otay Mesa-Nestor Library focuses on James Hubbell's work in northern Baja California, working side by side — *Lado a Lado* — building a school in Tijuana, a *Kumeyaay Museum* in Tecate, and the sacred space *Kuchumaa Passage,* Hubbell's first experiment in community-built art parks.3003 Coronado Ave., San Diego 92154; (619) 424-0474

Upcoming Events at the San Diego Central Library

April 22nd at 6pm Dave Hampton, author of *San Diego's Craft Revolution: From Post-War Modern to California Design,* presents *James Hubbell at Midcentury: His Early Years in the San Diego Art Community.*

May 21st at 6pm A talk by Keith York, Creator of *Modern San Diego* and author of *The Sensuous Environment.*

The breadth of James Hubbell's work is astonishing, from rustic to exquisitely detailed. All photos here from Central Library main exhibit.

Kim Emerson working in her San Diego studio (top).

Finished mural, Adams Avenue Recreation Center in Normal Heights, San Diego. (above)

Kim assembling "Kaleidoscope of Butterflies" on background cartoon (right).

"Kiss of Klimt," two panels 18x36", 2016 (far right).

KIM EMERSON: PICKING UP THE PIECES

By Rhona Duffy
Photographs by Dennis Reiter

San Diego's own master mosaic artist describes her work as her calling. Her career began by volunteering on Hubbell's school projects in Mexico.

While she realizes it might sound a bit clichéd, Kim Emerson is convinced that mosaic art chose her. "It wasn't something that I had planned to do or study, but now I know that it was always there waiting for me," she explains.

A pivotal moment came in the early 1990s while working for a historic preservation architectural firm in San Diego. Kim met James Hubbell and became involved in building a school in Tijuana.

"Working according to James' design, our team of volunteers built his signature organic style, with grand curvilinear forms, walls and floors embellished with mosaic, hand-forged metal elements, all inspired by Antonio Gaudi. For years, I volunteered, crossing the international border to work on weekends and my days off. I remember my first day of installing mosaics on a wall in the girls' restroom in March of 1991, and I haven't stopped since."

Inspired by nature, travel and art

Kim's artistic inspiration is deeply rooted in nature, with her earliest creative sparks ignited by the natural world. Further enrichment came through her backpacking travels in Europe as a student while earning her art history degree. The influence of several artists, including James Hubbell, Ilana Shafir, Tom Hardy, Niki de Saint Phalle, Verdiano Marzi, Giulio Menossi and Dino Maccini, resonates in Kim's work.

"I am also inspired by my contemporaries, my mosaic artist friends who are wonderful people and who create amazing works," Kim continues. "And if you can, it's hugely beneficial to go to Italy, or travel beyond your confined limits, to see ancient and contemporary mosaics."

If you're new to mosaic, Kim also advises taking a workshop with a classically trained instructor. "It's important to learn well and follow the general rules of *andamento,* or classical guidelines, that the ancient mosaicists perfected. You can't break those rules until you learn them, but knowing the rules sets you free, especially as you develop your style and language in mosaic."

Over the years, Kim's work has been diverse. "What I have done the most in my career is not necessarily my favorite work," she adds.

In fact, Kim's favorite projects are her personal works in abstract that tell her story or express whatever she wants to say about the world around her. She loves working with *smalti* (glass), as well as pigmented thinset. Her preferred tools are the traditional hammer and *hardie.*

On the topic of techniques, she says, "It's all about finding the right solution to solve the problem or challenge of the project. I enjoy directly placing and setting the hand-cut ***tesserae*** with tweezers into wet, juicy adhesive, according to my own expression, design and divine wisdom, depending on the moment."

The unexpected benefits of mosaic

Creating mosaic art helps Kim in other areas of her life too. "It keeps me sane," she says. "Long ago, I accepted that I can't always control what is broken or what is wrong with the world. I adopted the idea of making something different and fresh from something that has been broken.

"Mosaic materials are also difficult to direct exactly the way I intend, they sometimes have a mind of their own, and I need to pay attention to what they want to do. I believe that some things look 100% better when broken than when they were whole, or is that just my making the best of life?

"I love this metaphor and I could talk forever about life's disappointments and circumstances related to mosaics, or repairing or rearranging what was lost. It's a personal choice to pick up the pieces and make something anew. For the sake of repairing one's life or the world — other cultures may call it *tikkun olam, wabi-sabi* or *kintsugi* or something else — it's all good and healing!"

Kim believes that, throughout our lives, every one of us "becomes broken" in one way or another. "So why hide our cracks? Besides, it makes us who we really are. The durability of our souls resonates with the timelessness of the mosaic design, lines put back together in broken tesserae, which is also enduring and everlasting."

For her technical tips on mosaic-making, and details about her current project for Adams Community Center in San Diego (butterflies!), go to *ilanlaelfoundation.org*

For more of Kim's work, see *kimemersonmosaics.com.*

This article first appeared in Mosaic & Glass magazine, *mosaicandglass.com.*

NEWS *from the* HILL & BEYOND

For more stories visit ilanlaelfoundation.org/NEWS

LAUREL COSTA

EMILIE LEDIEU

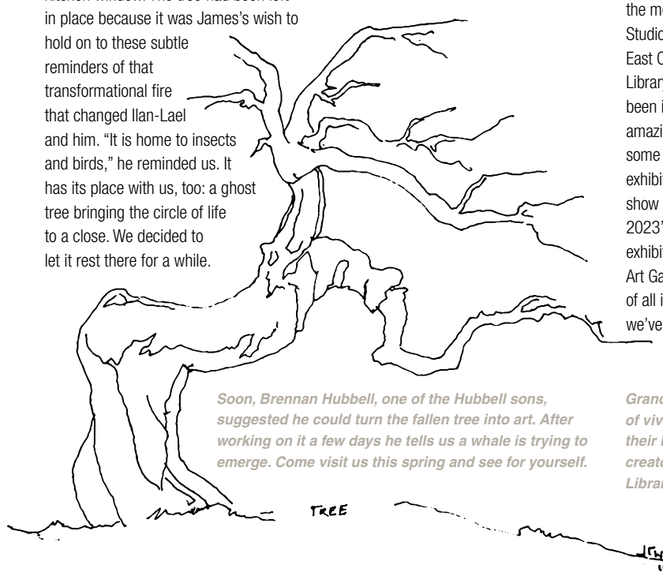
PHOTOS: HTTPS://WWW.KELLOGGDOOLITTLEHOUSE.COM/STAY-HERE

LAUREL COSTA

Of Ghost Trees and Seedlings

Letting an "ancient one" rest

The ground was soft and damp from heavy winter rains as a small army of volunteers fanned out to work on the property. Grass was greening and patches of snowdrops were pushing up towards the sun. Soon, we discovered the rain had brought another surprise: an ancient oak, 20 years dead from the Cedar Fire, had lost its hold on the soft earth and fallen not far from Anne's kitchen window. The tree had been left in place because it was James's wish to hold on to these subtle reminders of that transformational fire that changed Ilan-Lael and him. "It is home to insects and birds," he reminded us. It has its place with us, too: a ghost tree bringing the circle of life to a close. We decided to let it rest there for a while.



Soon, Brennan Hubbell, one of the Hubbell sons, suggested he could turn the fallen tree into art. After working on it a few days he tells us a whale is trying to emerge. Come visit us this spring and see for yourself.

We're Overjoyed

Pine family donates a remarkable table!

Tom and Audrey Pine commissioned a gate from James in 1980 for their Rancho Santa Fe home and later bought a stained glass piece and a coffee table. Tom died in 2010 and Audrey just recently. Their daughters, who had all moved away from San Diego, decided to donate the coffee table to Ilan-Lael's permanent Hubbell Art collection. We have very few pieces of furniture in our collection, and we were overjoyed to receive this generous gift from the Pine daughters. You can see it on display at the Architecture of Jubilation exhibition at the downtown Central Library through August 4.

MARIANNE GERDES

LAUREL COSTA

Libraries Love James Hubbell

Art for the people

Join us on Saturday, April 13, at 1 p.m. at the Alpine Library for the unveiling of the newest Hubbell art installation in our County library system. This 40-foot stained glass window is the most recent James Hubbell/Hubbell Studios creation. And while you're in East County, drive on over to the Julian Library where the Palma Doors have been installed in their final home. These amazing doors came to Ilan-Lael for some sprucing up and then were off on exhibition at Hubbell's Helm's Bakery show in Los Angeles in 2022, and at 2023's From The Archives exhibit at Santa Ysabel Art Gallery. The best part of all is the friendship we've made with Charry and Ruth Palma.

Grand arched panels of vivid glass with their Hubbell Studios creators at the Alpine Library.

RICK ACCURSO

Summer of Love Dollars at Work

Repairs underway

Thanks to the generous contributions of our community during the Summer of Love campaign last year we are able to make the major repairs necessary for structural preservation at Ilan-Lael. This past January, during a dry spell of good weather, we embarked on the Big Studio Roof Repair (above). Both the Hubbell family and the Ilan-Lael staff climbed atop the massive vaulted roof to repair and recoat with a special waterproof coating. So far we have experienced a significant rainy season and the repair is "doing great!"

WORKSHOPS

Stained Glass with Cindy Mushet-Shriver April 20th and 21st, 12pm-5pm

A 2-day, 5-hour class of hands-on instruction with Cindy Mushet-Shriver in the famous "Big Studio" of Ilan-Lael. You will receive basic instruction in technique and color theory, and then will create a small stained glass light-catcher to take home.

Blacksmithing and Metal Arts with Brennan Hubbell April 27th, 12pm-4pm

Learn blacksmithing and metal art from artist Brennan Hubbell, expert in the ancient art form of the Iron Age. Create a forged metal coat/towel hook to take home.

Stained Glass with Cindy Mushet-Shriver June 10th and June 11th 1pm-6pm

A 2-day, 5-hour class of hands-on instruction with Cindy Mushet-Shriver in the famous "Big Studio" at Ilan-Lael.

Glass Mosaic Intensive with Emilie Ledieu May 4th and 5th, 9:30am-4:00pm

During this weekend-long intensive workshop, we will explore various glass mosaic techniques while envisioning your own design and creating a mosaic to take home! Because of the longer, two-day format of this workshop, students will get to delve deeper into the sensitivities of mosaic design and will have an extended time for the creation of this design.

Two-day Nature Crafting Workshop Series September 7th and 8th

Details coming soon!

Register today, Space is limited!

IlanLaelFoundation.org/events

Remembering Kendrick (Ken) Bangs Kellogg 1934-2024

San Diego Champion of Organic Architecture

We've lost one of the great visionaries of organic architecture, and longtime friend of the Hubbell family, Kendrick Bangs Kellogg, architect. James and Anne Hubbell and the Kellogg families have fond memories of spending leisurely days together on the sands at Mission Beach, site of Kellogg's first residential project. In one highlight of their long relationship, Ken, James, and Wallace Cunningham were featured in a landmark exhibit at the Mingei International Museum, "Three on the Edge."

We asked the Kellogg family to share their memories of Ken. Please visit ***ilanlaelfoundation.org***'s home page, which will link you to a complete memorial text. A strong photographic survey of his work can be viewed at ***usmodernist.org/kellogg.htm.***

The Kellogg Doolittle House in Joshua Tree, CA (above), designed in the 1980s by Ken Kellogg. Its livingroom (above right) features organic shapes around existing boulders.

Kendrick Bangs Kellogg (below).

COURTESY BRYN KELLOGG

Ken's architecture in California, Hawaii, and Japan always took flight on nature-inspired wings, literally and figuratively, to transcend the temporal. We mourn his passing, but know that his creativity and vision live on and will inspire many generations to come.

Artist, dancer, and Ilan-Lael volunteer extraordinaire Charlene Penner (below).

LAUREL COSTA

Are You a "Builder"?

Help build the legacy of Ilan-Lael

Supporting the Ilan-Lael Endowment and our Annual Giving paves the way for us to touch the lives of present and future generations through art & architecture, nature, and beauty, just as James and Anne Hubbell have done throughout their lives. Each level offers various membership benefits, recognition, and our sincere gratitude!

Annual Gifts
Help Ilan-Lael with a once-a-year pledge.

Studio Society
For all who wish to give $1,000 or more annually in addition to a regular annual pledge.

James and Anne Hubbell Legacy Society
This society honors estate gifts (for annual support and endowments) to support the future growth of Ilan-Lael.

JOIN US May 22nd at 10:00 a.m. for a presentation about Estate Planning and Charitable Giving by Hal Abrams, estate tax attorney and charitable giving specialist. Email Marianne Gerdes at ***ilanlael@mac.com*** for more information, or **call our office at 760-765-3427.**

Learn how you can support Ilan-Lael at any level. Please email Marianne Gerdes at ilanlael@mac.com, or give us a call at 760-765-3427.

Her Radiance, Charlene Penner

Who IS she?

Photograph and story by Laurel Costa

Amazing (that's who she is)! Ilan-Lael volunteer extraordinaire Charlene Penner dances through life to the beat of her own drum.

Don't miss a fine story and photographs on artist Charlene and her beautiful, whimsical adobe house (and lifestyle) in Ramona, California at ***ilanlaelfoundation.org/news.*** You'll be radiant, too.