PRESS RELEASE

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Mountain Bike Tribal Trail Alliance (MBTTA) Receives Grant to Bring Art into California's Parks

California State Parks, California Arts Council and Parks California's Arts in California Parks bring creativity and community connection to local parks

Blue Lake, Calif. — **Mountain Bike Tribal Trail Alliance (MBTTA)** today received **$75,000** in grant funding to join Arts in California Parks, a partnership between California State Parks, the California Arts Council and Parks California to support artists, culture bearers, California Native American tribes and local groups in creating art and cultural experiences in outdoor spaces.

Arts in California Parks has awarded more than $5.4 million since its launch in 2024 in community grants to enable local nonprofit, community and tribal organizations to bring music, dance, storytelling, visual art and cultural programs into parks, transforming them into vibrant spaces that foster creativity, honor cultural heritage and strengthen community connections. This year, **Mountain Bike Tribal Trail Alliance (MBTTA)** joins 29 organizations across California that were awarded grants ranging from $28,000 to $150,000. These funds, totaling more than $2.4 million, will help expand access to the arts in nature and help parks remain welcoming, inspiring and inclusive for all Californians.

"We are thrilled to join the Arts in California Parks network," said **Shaun Fyfe, Chairman, Mountain Bike tribal Trail Alliance (MBTTA)**. "At **MBTTA**, we understand the importance of helping more Californians connect with nature, with one another and with the shared stories that make our state so special."

“At Parks California, we believe that access isn’t just about getting to a park — it’s about feeling a sense of belonging once you’re there,” said Kindley Walsh Lawlor, CEO and president, Parks California. “Arts in California Parks helps make that possible by connecting people, stories and cultures to the landscapes that define our sense of place. These projects reflect our shared vision of public lands as places where creativity thrives, communities gather and every Californian can see themselves represented.”

Throughout the year, **MBTTA** will:

- **Implement this project in partnership with the City of Blue Lake Parks and Recreation Department.**
- **Voices of the Land: Tribal Art at Blue Lake Bike and Skatepark, will bring Indigenous art and cultural storytelling into the developing Blue Lake Bike and Skatepark.**
- **MBTTA will work with tribal artists to design and install public art such as murals, sculptural elements and culturally inspired artistic features within the park.**
- **Project activities will take place between October 2026 and September 2027, aligning with the grant implementation period.**

Learn more about the funded projects at **ArtsInCaliforniaParks.org/Projects-Map**.

About Arts in California Parks
Arts in California Parks aligns with statewide initiatives including Governor Gavin Newsom’s Outdoor Access for All, the California Natural Resources Agency’s Outdoors for All and California State Parks’ Reexamining Our Past Initiative. The program supports artists, culture bearers, California Native American tribes and communities in creating art, installations and cultural programming in state and local parks as catalysts for sustainable community connection, health and well-being. Initiated by a one-time general fund allocation that extends through 2027, the program is a partnership between California State Parks, the California Arts Council and Parks California.

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Mountain Bike Tribal Trail Alliance (MBTTA)
We are a group of mountain bikers, trail builders, and advocates dedicated to fostering a vibrant and inclusive mountain biking community. As a Veteran-led and culturally rooted organization, we passionately advocate for and share the joys of mountain biking and trail building with all members of our community. We take youth out to teach them the benefits of mountain biking and maintaining equipment. Our initiatives include providing Veteran rides, youth rides, building trails throughout Humboldt County, creating opportunities for personal growth, and promoting the spirit of camaraderie.

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***The California Department of Parks and Recreation,** popularly known as State Parks, and the programs supported by its Office of Historic Preservation and divisions of Boating and Waterways and Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation provides for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state’s extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most*

valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation. Learn more at parks.ca.gov.

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About California Arts Council
Culture is the strongest signifier of California's identity. As a state agency, the California Arts Council supports local arts infrastructure and programming statewide through grants, programs and services. The agency's mission is to strengthen arts, culture, and creative expression as the tools to cultivate a better California for all. Learn more: arts.ca.gov.

About Parks California
Parks California is the official nonprofit partner to California State Parks, created by the state legislature to expand the reach and impact of the parks system. As a public-private partner, we work alongside State Parks, tribal nations, community and nonprofit groups to design solutions that make parks more inclusive, climate-resilient and welcoming. Together, we're advancing a new partnership model that supports healthy communities and ecosystems and helps parks evolve to meet the needs of a changing California. Learn more: parkscalifornia.org.