



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073

(831) 454-2000 WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US

CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Jason Hoppin

jason.hoppin@santacruzcounty.us

MAH, PUBLIC HEALTH JOIN TO PROTECT AND HONOR COMMUNITY

The Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (MAH) and Santa Cruz County Public Health are proud to present a community-based vaccination clinic and art project on Friday, July 23 from noon-4 p.m.

Located in the Secret Garden area of the MAH, 705 Front St, Santa Cruz, the event will help deliver vaccines to the community in a convenient downtown location, raise vaccine awareness and provide a safe space for all those impacted by the pandemic to share their stories. No appointment is necessary.

"Vaccines facilitated the reopening of many of our fine arts and cultural institutions, including the MAH," Santa Cruz County Health Officer Gail Newel said. "The MAH has always been an innovator when it comes to partnerships that demonstrate the role art plays in addressing social issues, and the COVID-19 pandemic is no different. I couldn't be happier to join with them for this event."

"From addressing senior isolation to documenting the experiences of foster youth, the MAH is always seeking to expand the role of museums in their communities, and we value our relationship with the county," MAH Executive Director Robb Woulfe said.

"Turning part of our space into a community-serving vaccination clinic while honoring the experiences of all who lived through the pandemic continues that tradition."

County Public Health will offer Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) and Pfizer vaccines at no cost to visitors 12 and older. Both vaccines are safe and effective against all variants of COVID-19.

The event includes the Tree of Hope, a project giving voice to the experiences of locals who lived through the pandemic, whether they are seeking a vaccine or not. Patrons will have the chance to fill out a slip of paper with the prompt "I hope...", which will then be hung on a tree outside the Secret Garden. The MAH will also be collecting audio content for an upcoming podcast.

Members of the press are invited to attend, with remarks by County Public Health and MAH leadership scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Under California law, popup vaccination clinics are protected under HIPAA regulations, and members of the press are asked to refrain from photographing patients without their consent.