

Outside Arts: Light and Dark

Lead Organization: Playhouse Arts

Sector: Arts, Culture & Tourism

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Outside Arts: Light and Dark is a celebration of art, nature, and community in Arcata's public parks, supported through Arts in California Parks. From November 2025 through August 2026, Playhouse Arts is bringing artists and culture bearers into public parks to create site-specific performances, installations, workshops, and community events. The project highlights parks as places for creativity, connection and discovery.

The project has included **11 events in 8 Arcata parks**, including storytelling, dancing, weaving, shadow plays, seed planting, book making, film screening, and more. *Hear Here*, a series of outdoor soundscape listening posts, extends the project across five additional park locations.

Outside Arts also supports cultural tourism by creating experiences that encourage visitors to explore Arcata's parks, arts, and natural environment. These free and accessible programs offer another reason to spend time in the community while showcasing the region's creative talent and unique sense of place.

The project concludes with **IllumiNature**, a full-moon celebration at Carlson Park on **August 28**, bringing together art, nature, and performance. Additional projects include an art installation at the Community Center walkway and a public sound archive for the *Hear Here* uploaded recordings.

Intended Outcomes

- Expand access to arts and culture in public spaces
- Support local artists and culture bearers
- Connect art with Arcata's parks and natural environment
- Encourage residents and visitors to explore local parks
- Strengthen the connection between arts, community and place

Ways to Engage

- **Join the Playhouse Arts Mailing List**
- **Attend IllumiNature on August 28!**



Contact

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