

Friends of the Hidden Garden Steps

The Wait is Over: Tile Laying to Begin at December 1st Workshop

If you've been waiting for a chance to help build the Hidden Garden Steps (HGS), your wait is over.

On Saturday, December 1, 2012 from 1 - 5 p.m., artists Aileen Barr and Colette Crutcher will lead the first of three free public mosaic workshops for anyone interested in being part of the HGS project.

Held in San Francisco's Inner Sunset District at Christ Church Lutheran (1090 Quintara Street @ 20th Ave.), the event requires no previous experience working with tile or mosaics—just a willingness to join the dozens of volunteers who have been working toward completion of this effort to create a second (148-step) ceramic-tiled staircase in the neighborhood.

"You will get the chance to see the mosaics being created and help lay some tile," Barr noted. "Meet the organizing committee and see how you can become a part of this exciting community art project!"

Participants can show up throughout the afternoon. There will be work stations for up to 16 people at any given time and plenty of opportunities for all attendees to learn more about the project and the progress Hidden Garden Steps supporters have made.



Poppy design element that will ascend 11 steps



Artist Colette Crutcher at work on HGS tiles

In the Pink: Help Put ISPN on the Hidden Garden Steps

Vibrant and striking, the Indian Pink is a stand-out flower in nature and will be equally stunning as a six-step floral element on the Hidden Garden Steps. Inner Sunset Park Neighbors (ISPN) is sponsoring the \$5,000 Indian Pink element. Successful completion of the \$5,000 fundraising effort, which is already underway, will provide a permanent reflection of the ISPN presence in the Inner Sunset District.

Our Inner Sunset Park Neighbors colleagues have been tremendous partners on the Steps project since we started working on it a couple of years ago, so we're looking forward to having them represented on the completed ceramic-tile mosaic designed by artists



Aileen Barr and Colette Crutcher. It's a great fit for everyone: Steps volunteers routinely support ISPN activities, and ISPN members

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Calendar:

- **December 1—Cancelled**
Monthly Organizing Committee meeting
- **December 1, 1-5 p.m.**
Mosaic Workshop—Come and help create the tile steps. Christ Church Lutheran 1090 Quintara Street @ 20th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94122



Stumped for a holiday gift idea?

Consider purchasing a tile as a lasting tribute to family and friends. Now is the perfect time. Sales of HGS tiles have been moving so fast that we have opened up two new opportunities to accommodate 150-200 names. HGS Friends can now purchase tiles that will be part of two large-scale elements: a 26-step salamander and a 16-step fern. **They are moving fast, so please be sure to get on the Steps soon!**



A Project of San Francisco Parks Alliance & a Department of Public Works Street Parks Partner

Hidden Garden Steps c/o San Francisco Parks Alliance, 451 Hayes Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94102

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In the Pink

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have helped us reach our neighbors throughout the Inner Sunset District as the Steps project has moved forward.

ISPN, as a neighborhood volunteer-driven advocacy group representing the Inner Sunset District here in San Francisco, operates within an area extending from Arguello and the University of California, San Francisco campus on the east to 19th Avenue on the west, between Lincoln Way and Golden Gate Park on the north to Moraga Street on the south. Residents of the neighborhood and other parts of the Bay Area benefit from ISPN activities through various projects including the Inner Sunset Farmers Market held every Sunday morning throughout the year; the Inner Sunset Sundays street fairs scheduled monthly this year from September through December on Irving Street between 9th and 10th avenues (the final event for 2012 will be held on Sunday, December 9, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., followed by an outdoor orchestral concert beginning at 6 p.m.); and occasional potluck dinners designed to bring neighbors together to socialize and to discuss ways to improve our neighborhood.

For more information about ISPN, please visit the website at <http://www.inner-sunset.org/>. To contribute to the Hidden Garden Steps/ISPN campaign, please visit the Hidden Garden Steps website at http://hiddengardensteps.org/Donate_ISPN.html or contact Steps organizing committee co-chair Paul Signorelli at 415.681.5224. Checks in support of the Hidden Garden Steps/ISPN Indian Pink image can be made out to the San Francisco Parks Alliance and mailed to the Alliance office at 451 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 with a note indicating the check is directed toward the Hidden Garden Steps/ISPN effort.



E-Newsletter Production:

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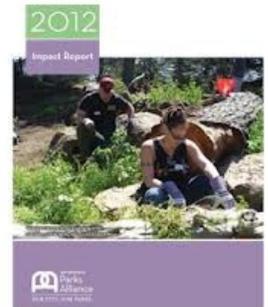
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San Francisco Parks Alliance: A Natural Match for the Steps

Touring around San Francisco provides an exciting glimpse into how the San Francisco Parks Alliance is transforming ignored and blighted spaces into community gems. “People come to us when they have an area that’s blighted”—a situation that causes people to avoid the space, says Maria D’Angelico, the Alliance Park Partner Account Manager. D’Angelico believes that a project like the Steps contributes to the beautification of the neighborhood and sends a message that our public spaces “are loved.”



DOWNLOAD

The Steps project has been a natural match for the Parks Alliance. Its predecessor (the San Francisco Parks Trust) served as fiscal agent for a similar project—the now-famous Moraga Street steps that are located between 15th and 16th avenues and were completed in 2005. The Hidden Garden Steps site is “a corridor that a lot of people use,” observed San Francisco Parks Alliance Stewardship Manager Julia Brashares. “There are artists and education about native plants. It’s a connection to nature, a place to relax. Hidden Garden Steps operates on a number of different levels,” which is why she and D’Angelico are so pleased to be involved in the HGS project.

Agreeing to play the same role for the Hidden Garden Steps, Parks Alliance staff members provide tremendous administrative and technical support; help connect Steps organizing committee members with colleagues in other San Francisco Department of Public Works Street Parks Program projects; and provide technical assistance with fundraising, marketing, and other business aspects of our work so that donations are tax-deductible.

Alliance efforts, as documented on their website (<http://www.sfparksalliance.org>), extend throughout the City/County of San Francisco and provide an umbrella under which community-based groups can quickly begin operating successfully without the time and expense required to develop their own business infrastructures. It joins with the San Francisco Department of Public Works, through the Street Parks Project program and San Francisco residents, to develop and create community-managed spaces on public rights of way such as tree medians, traffic circles, and, of course, areas around public stairways.

Brashares notes that “once the space is adopted by a group and the site is being cared for, all of the negatives such as graffiti and vandalism disappear.” Hidden Garden Steps supporters are looking forward to the day when the Steps project becomes one of the gems in both the Alliance’s and City’s collection of treasures.

Our deep appreciation and thanks to the Friends of the Hidden Garden Steps for helping to transform our community one step at a time

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