



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
August 6, 2019

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Young Artists Transform Trash into Art

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) teamed up with the Hill Country Arts Foundation (HCAF) and Riverside Nature Center to highlight the prevalence of trash in our waterways and give litter a new life through art. During UGRA's 16th Annual River Clean Up on Saturday, July 27th, instructor and artist, Phyllis Garey, staked out the garbage drop off area in Flat Rock Park to grab interesting items that could be used by young artists during an assemblage workshop from the 10,695 pounds of trash collected. This activity was an extension to the public education component of the Annual River Clean Up aimed at increasing awareness of the amount of trash found in the watershed.

The workshop was held on the mornings of July 29th – August 2nd at the HCAF. Four intrepid young artists worked diligently during the week to create both collaborative and individual pieces. Garey encouraged the students to evaluate the items for their shape, texture, color, and size and guided the artists through a variety of age appropriate techniques to create wall hangings, free standing pieces, and mobiles. A reception to view the final pieces of art was held at the HCAF at the conclusion of the workshop where one of the collaborative pieces was sold through a silent auction. Several of the pieces were then moved to the UGRA lobby and will be on display for the entire month of August. Please stop by the UGRA office at 125 Lehmann Drive anytime Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. to view the artwork.



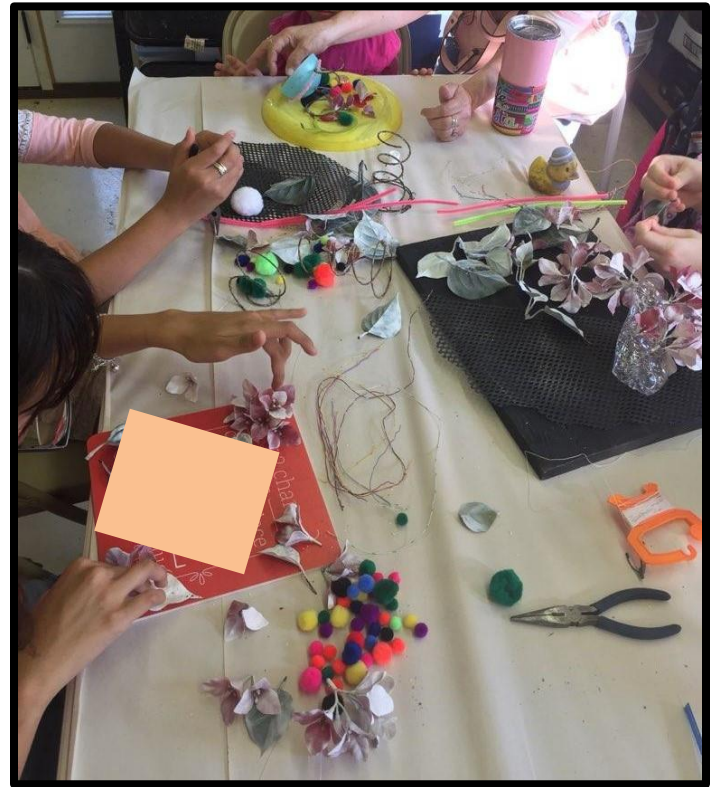
An additional follow-up activity to the Annual River Clean Up was held on Thursday, August 1st at Riverside Nature Center as part of their weekly summer Nature Night series. UGRA and HCAF hosted families with children ranging from toddlers to teenagers and challenged them to work with items collected during the River Clean Up to create art in just one hour.

Let's Keep *Our* River Clean

Artwork created during the Assemblage Workshop is currently on display in the UGRA lobby.



Assemblage Workshop reception held on August 2, 2019. Pictured left to right: Workshop instructor Phyllis Garey, and participants Madelyn Eddy, Darren Dang, Ella Davis, and Victoria Santoya.



Numerous families worked with items found during the UGRA Annual River Clean Up and other repurposed materials to create art at the Riverside Nature Center Nature Night on August 1st.