

SANTA CRUZ BURNERS PRESENTS

# UNSCRUZ LAND

11TH ANNUAL UNSCRUZ AFTERBURN REPORT

## TOC

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**THANK YOU! 27**

Special Thanks to our photographers Jon Chown and Ari Edelman

# PRODUCTION

What a fantastic year! After losing our former venue (Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds) we were forced to make a hard pivot two weeks before we launched all the things. This included finding/ securing a new venue, re-defining all of our OSS contracts, building an entirely new ticketing platform in addition to the lengthy CHP and local Calfire permitting processes in a very Red community.

The team pulled off a spectacular job of making all the things work! In one short event cycle, we managed to develop our internal staff structure even further as well as create a trusting relationship with local LE and community members.

There were many challenges that came with the move, all of them navigated with grace and efficiency. The new venue is amazing and now that we've passed our initial "test" with the locals, we will absolutely continue to develop these new relationships with the San Benito County Fairgrounds and the community of Tres Pinos.

The re-structure of staffing to bolster all of the departments with competent staff members worked wonders and we will continue to support this project, with the goal of being a fully staffed event, vs. the short term volunteers who seem to have a propensity for not showing up.

We will be working closely with fairgrounds management to make facility upgrades that will benefit everyone. This includes, repairs & upgrades to failing infrastructure, ratification of the ground squirrel problem (in safe and humane ways), upgrading the fairgrounds perimeter and partnering with the fairgrounds for other potential events.

The greatest challenge we faced this year was with unruly & disrespectful children who were largely unattended by their legal guardians. We received an alarming number of reports from artists who's installations were damaged by these little kiddos. We will be changing several policies with regards to bringing children to unSCruz.

Of course there are many other areas for improvement and we will be working with our team to meet these goals. We received wonderful feedback from our participants (we sent out post-event surveys) and their suggestions will help guide us to a better unSCruz next year.

~Frosty Paws and Vince  
unSCruz Producers

# FINANCIALS

Attendance 3470  
 Ticket Sales & donations \$537,910.00

## Production

Security	\$20816.00
Medical & Ambulance	\$12799.49
Venue	\$42416.20
CHP Event Permit Fee	\$5066.19
Parking Shuttle	\$8220.00
Infrastructure (DPW, effigy, firewood, etc.)	\$161071.01
Fire Extinguisher Certs	\$199.00
Golf Carts & Heavy Equip.	\$44393.66
Freezer rental & ice	\$2070.00
Radio rental	\$4154.52
Website/Printing/Publicity/WWW, etc.	\$6049.28
Box Office	\$6791.92

total \$314,047.27

## Volunteers

Hospitality	\$15,000.00
Volunteer "thank you" BBQ	\$3,500.00
T-shirts & Schwag	5,000

total \$23,500.00

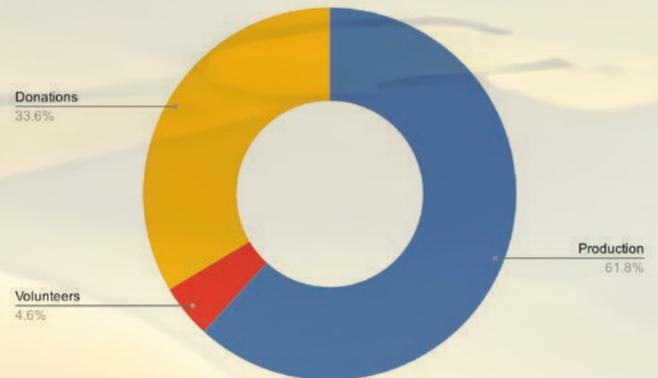
## Donations

The Burning Man Project (formerly BRAF)	\$500.00
unSCruz Art Grants	\$155,358
Fire Art fuel	\$14,672.72

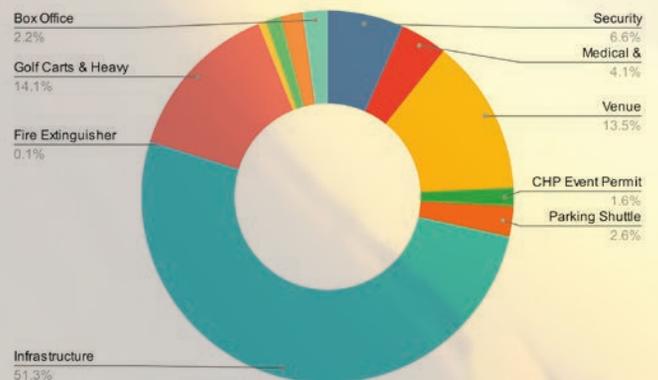
total \$170,530.72

Total Income	\$537,910.00
Total Expenses	\$508,077.99

Net Profit saved for unSCruz 2024 \$29,832.01



EXPENSES BY DEPARTMENT



PRODUCTION BREAKDOWN

## QUICK STATISTICS

- \* In 2023, we had 3252 people attend, 366 more than in 2022.
- \* Of those 238 were under 12.
- \* We placed 122 Placement submissions: of which 25 were Mutant Vehicles and 57 were art installations. And registered 2 mobility scooters, 17 e-bikes, 15 one-wheelers and one e-scooter



## DEPARTMENT LEAD REPORTS

### Box Office

Hava Brown

The event was amazing. I loved the new venue and appreciated how everything was on one level. The family-friendly atmosphere was kinda carnival-like.

I believed there were just too many will call tickets. My suggestion for that is to have someone at gate with power for a computer and internet connection in order to determine a ticket was placed under that person's name and another way to state that ticket had been used.

There should be more box people. We were spread too thin and in the case of no-shows, the leads had to work over time. All in all a success, but we do need to tighten up the teams working the entry point.





## Commissary

We had a great team this year, but will do more team training for next year.

We were able to execute our excellent meal plan with great team work and our great crew had a wonderful time.

### Things to improve for next year:

- Rent a big truck to grab everything at once.
- It's time to shift to commercial cookware. We are mostly there, just need a few pots and big pans. Using the throw away pans is going great. (This will also help with the quality of the food coming out since we are making such large amounts.)
- The absence of the fridges out front changed how much was consumed. (It was harder to find things when the staff wasn't present.)
- Definitely getting a cart for next year
- MORE DECORATIONS (Already found a bunch that we will love)
- Buy more storage totes for the new things
- Buy a portable washing machine. This is the 1!!!!
- We will need a good water filter.
- Trying to shift dinner to be more "homemade" next year. This will happen naturally due to returning team members that understand what we are doing and what we are looking to provide to the unSCruz team. The limitation of having 2 burners will influence the menu in the future. Flat top also has issues but can be worked with, the ovens worked perfectly!
- Make some other things fresh as well: Pickles, Blacken Jalapenos, Hummus, Dressings, Flavored water, Italian Sodas, Fresh OJ

- Maybe have an omelet station (1 Day, as a tester and see how it goes) . I liked working at the omelet station back in my day.
- pooz's Eggs Benedict Bonanza was top notch and crazy to get ready for, but it happened on time and was well received.
- NO FRESH MADE BREAKFAST AFTER THE BURN, More of a LATE BRUNCH. The kitchen was a wreck after being left open during the burn. Not really too much we can do about it, but definitely was a big factor in my next suggestion.
- Find a way to get a second fridge for the dining area for leftovers and 24-hour access.
- Start buying dry goods and packaged condiments earlier next year.
- Make an ordering form for Fluffers to take to the various posts or have them at the central area where all Rangers/Medics/Security can grab and fill out for fluffers to pick up. (Made a lot of food waste at the start)

## Creativity Grants

Meggie Pina, Amber Coutts, Leslie Berman, Jen Dugan, Cat Rathbun & Shelly Pate Best

### Volunteer Team:

We had an engaged, committed and supportive creativity grant team in 2023. Jen, Cat, and Shelly joined the team in 2023. Their contributions, positive attitudes, and commitment to integrity were invaluable. We worked well together and provided support to the team and lead artists.

We recommend having a creativity grant team of 5-6 people in 2024. We hope that the creativity grant team in 2023 will return in 2024.

### Overview:

unSCruz received \$241,106 in submission requests from a total of 95 proposals in 2023.

unSCruz awarded \$92,738.00 in grants to 57 projects in 2023.

- 6 art cars / bikes received grants
- 11 Installations
- 1 Documentary Art Project
- 1 Educational Project
- 3 Fire Installations
- 6 Food Gifting/ Service Projects
- 8 Interactive Projects



- 4 Performance Projects
- 2 Fire Performance Projects
- 3 Sacred Spaces
- 11 Theme Camps
- 1 Visual Project

**2023 Art Grant Mission:** can be found at [Creativity Grant Mission](#) on our website.

- The mission of the unSCruz Creativity Grant Program is to support artistic projects created for and/or presented at unSCruz. Creativity Grants are designed to help artists realize their unique creative vision and to promote projects that are participatory and/or interactive in nature.



### **Creativity Grant Application**

- Submission Deadline was January 2nd, 2023.
- Applicants were notified with decisions by January 16th, 2023.
- Grant Disbursements were issued beginning January 17th, 2023.

Takeaways from working with Lead Artists:

- It would be best to change the categories for 2024 to help advise grant recipients on fire, food and DMV requirements before the event.
- The ticketing and payment process was confusing, frustrating, and unnecessarily complicated for lead artists and creativity grant liaisons. The confusion required copious extra follow-up with lead artist and ticketing lead.
- Some grantees continue to be confused about the deadline for setting up their creativity grant project despite numerous communications regarding this. This needs to be clearly communicated on the 2024 contract.
- Some of the lead artists did not apply for placement in a timely manner and needed email and phone call reminders to apply for placement for their art and art support camp.
- We also had lead artists who said they were placed with/in other camps which made it confusing to confirm if they had applied for placement.
- We recommend that the grant recipients apply for placement at the same time as their creativity grant. We could make it so they can't finish their creativity grant application without applying for placement.

- There was also confusion on gift tickets for theme camps and art grants as some that were in a theme camp and got an art grant assumed they got 2 gift tickets for their theme camp and 2 gift tickets for their art grant.
- Artists were confused whether or not they were able to camp in General Population on Wednesday after they set up.

### Operations / Department Requests:

- It was helpful to have two golf carts for our team again in 2023. We recommend having a third golf cart so that we can all fit in the carts. We had a team of 5 people and we had to ride three in a golf cart in 2023 at some points.

### Equipment:

- We could use more cable ramps to keep up with the growth of the event, the power locations and roads.

### What Went Right

- We provided an abundance of financial support to the unSCruz Burning Man community.
- We supported artists with their questions.
- Lead artists really appreciated the swag.
- The art at our event was interactive.
- We believe that food is art and our artists showed up in a big way.
- There was definitely a lot of gratitude from participants about the varied levels of art and interactivity.
- Having more liaisons to coordinate and communicate with artists was very beneficial.
- Having access to multiple golf carts assisted us in getting where we needed to be.
- Our team worked well together on Wednesday to place early arrivals, and rallied to assist Placement in theme camp placement.



## What Could Use Improvement

The following is a list of what could be made better for Creativity Grant Team:

- The ticketing process needs to be improved in 2024.
- Have the contract updated for 2024 to include important deadlines and requirements.
- If the grant team was more in-tune with the placement team, we would be more helpful in answering questions from our artists who have placement, and placing people at the gate. More golf carts for placement would help at the gate too!
- Having the shuttle running on Wednesday after the gate opens to get artists back from the parking lot in the time that we request of them. The process and amount of questions we had to field from lead artists who were onsite on Wednesday was a challenge.

## DMV

Overall the DMV was a success at unSCruz this year. There is always room for improvement though.

### What worked:

1. Location of DMV was easily accessible for mutant vehicle owners, one-wheelers and e-bikes. Also a good spot to flag people down who need to register. Great BIG ol' DMV sign helped a lot! (thanks Ziptie and Vince) We were also an unSCruz information station!
2. DMV Binder with all info and rules, extra registration and for tracking
3. Stickers: One wheeler stickers and e-bike tags. Also used one wheel stickers for electric mobility vehicles

### What did not work:



1. D-Lot Did not know we had to d-lot vehicles and direction on if/ how long we can hold vehicles and who can d-lot. We improvised

2. LED surfboard guys refused to register before when they were asked to before and during the event. Stopped them a few times at the event and asked them nicely to register. The guy said "We can talk about it" I then asked them to register for the safety of all of our

unSCruz family and participants. The guy scoffed rolled his eyes and said “ok we will bring over all 15 boards” and never did.

3. Need more one-wheel and e-bike stickers, we ran out of one-wheel stickers and ended up cutting extra licenses up. Only 2 one-wheelers pre-registered and we had 24 we registered onsite. Need to make some size adjustments to fit e-bike tags and one-wheels next year.

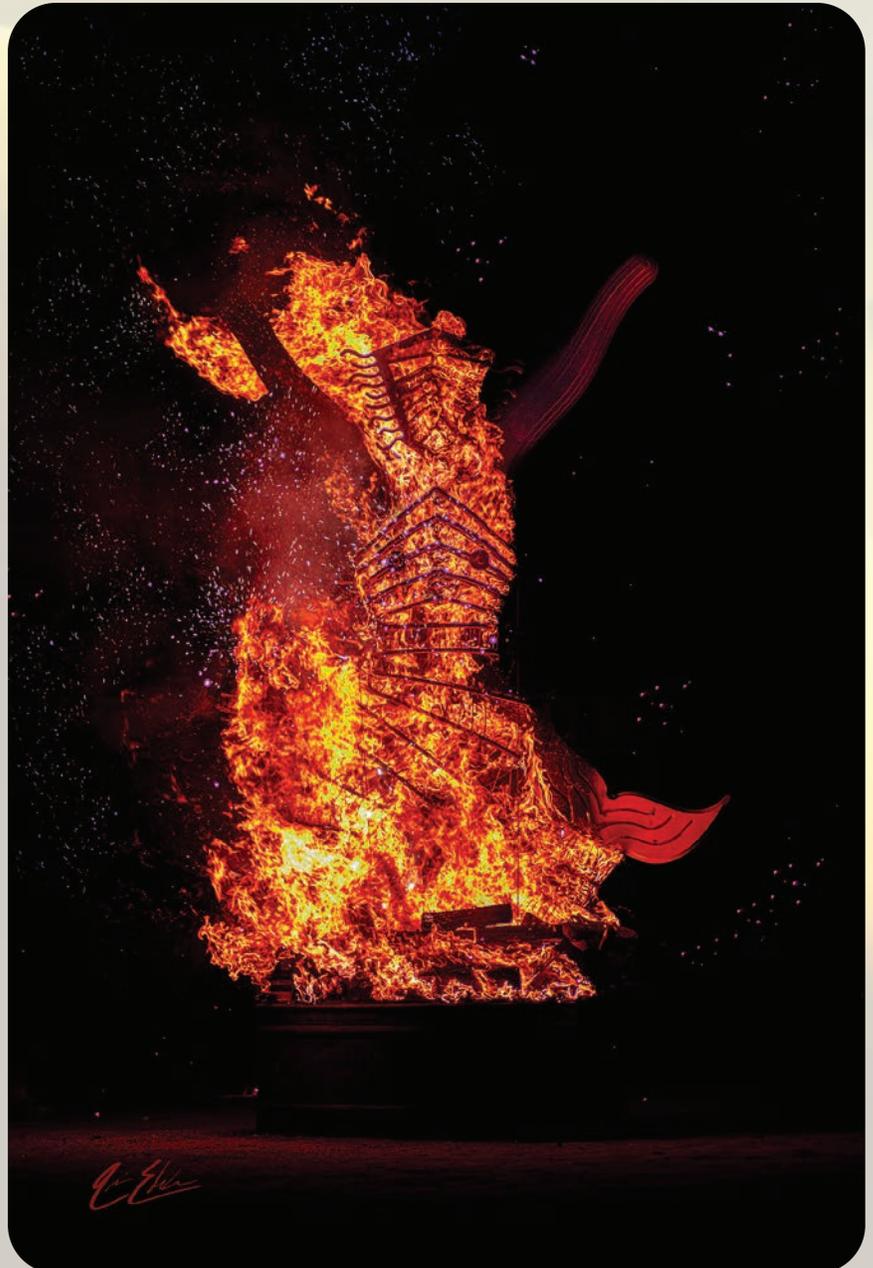
**What we can improve on next year:**

1. Posting speed limit signs as a reminder and also warnings that vehicles can and will be D-lotted
2. Designate a D-lot vehicle area at the event, setting a process for storing and releasing D-lotted MVs, one-wheels, e-unicycles
3. Designating and posting DMV hours to better schedule volunteers and serve the public
4. Need a couple more volunteers to help with shift changes
5. Creating specific e-bike, One-wheel and mobility vehicle forms
6. Making some adjustments to the MV intake form and adding specific dates and info

**Effigy**

**Fry, Vince, Bruce**

The Merman was designed by Fry and the components were cut by Vince on his CNC Router. Together we assembled the Merman at Vince’s shop. Bruce is our



pyrotechnic who was in charge of making sure burn night was safe. We took safety to another level with his help!

The effigy got soaked with the few small rain showers we had the week leading up to the event. This caused the burn to last longer than expected and because of swelling we were unable to raise the arms during the burn. You could see steam coming out of the sides of the effigy during the burn! We overcame this problem by pinning the arms up and letting them fall.



Next year we will put a tarp over the effigy if it looks like rain and use linseed oil to try to keep water from soaking into the wood. Despite the setbacks this was the coolest Effigy we have built to date and the burn was beautiful and everyone enjoyed it.

## FAST After Action Report (AAR)

Bruce Sherrod

### Flame Effects

With CalFire we reviewed the following flame effects: The Serpent Mother, Bounce Car, Nova, Frankenpoofer, and Mezmerize. All flame effects were approved by CalFire; afterwards, I gave them laminates to operate during the event.

Special thanks to Maverick who did a great job taking detailed notes during the CalFire inspection

and following through on all of the punch list items: adding fire extinguishers within 75' of each of the four generators, grounding the stage and generators, upgrading to outdoor rated extension cords and plugs where needed, adding cord protection, and then taking photos and texting them to CalFire.



I additionally approved and laminated two hand-held flame effects: Francisco Mena's flaming top hat and trident, and Payton Schwartz's fire whistle. Burning Man typically does not regulate hand-held or bicycle mounted FE, so these were not included in the permit. However, I did review the pieces for safety and gave the operators laminates so that Ranger interactions would be smoother (and to remind folks to have a sober and attentive operator).

Empyrean Gate brought a "UL rated" fire pit, that had been heavily modified with 1" high pressure hose and no regulator, when the original UL rated appliance was rated for 1/2 PSI. I asked for some improvements to their fire safety plan (additional extinguishers and a sober and attentive operator at all times) and then approved and laminated them. Given that the fire was contained in a metal fire pit and had a chain link fence around it, I determined this to be safe enough to operate.

### Effigy Burn

Overall, the burn went smoothly, safely, and on schedule. The electric ignition didn't work and required further testing. The burn was slower than anticipated, which can be mitigated next time with more fuel load (such as more firewood, paraffin soaked burlap, or low volatility liquid fuel) and/or intentional hobbling of the structure. CalFire was present and on radio, and was overall satisfied with the process.

During the burn, the state fire marshal was very concerned about embers casting towards the building. It was fortuitous that we had two ember chasers with sprayers and could immediately deploy them to his satisfaction (even though he was not the Authority Having Jurisdiction).

Special thanks to Maverick in the key safety role during the burn.

### Considerations for next time:

1. We have a few folks on staff who own full turnout gear, but I didn't know it. They were deployed on the fire hose, and as ember chasers, when we could have better used them in the burn zone.
2. Fuelers should have better protective gear (not a flammable nylon jacket) and should be able to completely change clothes after fueling. Ideally a nomex suit that can be easily peeled off. Note that Maverick owns a nomex suit.
3. Pouring liquid fuel from the top of the ladder coated the ladder in fuel, and everyone who handled the ladder then got fuel on their hands and either needed change of gloves or could not re-enter the burn zone.

### Specific requests by Cal-Fire and responses:

1. Extension cord covers over high traffic areas
2. Fire performance stage grounding and outdoor connectors
3. Bounce Art Car Propane tank strapped down. Request to encourage similar strapping for all propane tanks in event
4. Nova "Simon Says" fire display, cover exposed power connectors when raining
5. 4 towed generators from Crescoe
6. Place fire extinguisher and ground each one
7. Cover building exit signs that are not in use
8. Make building exit pathways open to main roadway
9. Move Aurora display extension cord against wall
10. Bungy/zip-tie gates open in covered camping area
11. Be safe and have fun



# Fire Conclave

## Celsius Maximus

### THINGS THAT WORKED THIS YEAR:

- Writing out a safety plan that integrated timing count down to the burn was helpful
- Having a helmsman also a great add to smooth the flow
- A larger inner circle felt better for performer ease of movement
- This year we started with 2 duets (instead of just 1) on either side of the effigy that filled out the space better visually.

### THINGS THAT COULD IMPROVE ON NEXT YEAR:

- Conclave could easily be lengthened to 30-35 mins instead of 20 mins.
- When the effigy took a long time to fall and the music started back up, that would have been a good opportunity to have the fire dancers come back out until a call to the helmsman halted the performers to drop the perimeter. Performers coming back out was something that was done the year before, and would be a nice option if needed like the situation we had this year.
- When we got the call to end the Conclave, we still had a couple of performers that were dipped but had not lit up yet and didn't get to perform. I would probably radio in a request for

a bit more time to finish them off.

- Confirming where our audience would be around the circle would be good. It was misunderstood where our performance frontage would end. We found out that there was an extra arc of the circle, where our VIPs were that did not get performed until part way through the Conclave performance. Confirming first and being able to relay that to performers ahead of time would be good.



# Fluffers

## Things That Worked:

- Fluffer Manager completing a spreadsheet with Amazon items for Frosty to purchase.
- The kitchen staff (Rikki) were FANTASTIC!! Generous / Kind / Responsive / Excellent!
- The 2 sizes of Cooler Bags worked: The big bag for box meals (dinner) / the small bag for lunch sandwiches and such. On Saturday, we needed both large bags for dinners
- Having 4 leads and 4-hour volunteer shifts worked better than last year
- The chip display worked really well; people were able to see the snacks we had and were able to choose what they wanted.
- Lisa Williams donated a car cover that covered the entire golf cart so we didn't have to empty it every night.
- Hot chocolate was a HIT! People loved it at night! Sometimes even during the day because it was so cold!
- Having one person to clean up and pack up on Sunday was really helpful!

## Fluffer Things To Improve:

- Order slightly less snacks next year (there were some leftovers)
- Kitchen was almost an hour late for each dinner which made everyone wait until the Fluffers were done. As a result of cumbersome dinners (and them being late), all Fluffer Leads needed to show up to put together dinners. We need to work out a system to prep dinners better.
- The basket display case didn't work out. The bed was too small (last year's was 6' long; this year it was 4') and it was a bit top-heavy. No way to secure it to the bed. I'm going to research display cases that have lids that we can open for volunteers to see inside easily rather than the fluffer having to recite all the things available (i.e., types of teas, types of chips, etc.)
- We need the list of volunteer contacts earlier. I emailed Yummy twice for the list and again when he sent the wrong one. I would like to reach out to the volunteers earlier to:
  - remind them of their shift (get confirmation)
  - let them know the name of their lead and give them a phone number so they can text before or after they get a radio in case of problems



- what is expected of them:
  - driver's license and clean driving record
  - Be sober
  - delivery to the offsite parking lot
  - where to show up (Commissary) after they have checked in with Volunteer
  - Coordination and picked up their radio from the Office
  - what to do in case of emergency
- ▶ Parking lot delivery is sloppy. We would like to leave a cooler at the shuttle stop (labeled "Parking Volunteers Only") that we can fill with ice, top with water, and deliver with breakfast in the morning, for the parking lot attendants to use all day/night. This can be delivered in a car (that will be left in the office parking lot). Lunch can be delivered via shuttle, but dinner will need to be delivered via a car again (and the cooler picked up). I think we need a garbage can there too, but how can we prevent participants from using it????
- ▶ I shared the Fluffer Lead Daily Tasks document with the leads and had it printed and available onsite, but I should go over it in detail with the leads again!
- ▶ We need to purchase a wagon for next year. Carrying items is not in compliance with OSHA protocols!
- ▶ We need signs that say "REMEMBER TO PUT THE TAILGATE UP BEFORE DRIVING" we learned this one the hard way!
- ▶ We have a list of volunteers that we would like to invite to sign up early next year who earned the title of ROCK STAR!



## Gate

### What worked well

- I really liked the new organization structure with department managers and teams. When I wasn't actively working, I could enjoy the event without being worried about gate, knowing it was in good hands.
- With very few exceptions, the staff at gate was amazing, firm but kind and understanding, well organized and generally a pleasure to work with.

### What didn't work

- Not all team members showed up knowing what to do, some department managers could do a better job of preparing their team so they can hit the ground running when their first shift starts.
- Some corner cases of check in were not very clear (example: Rangers) as a result there was some confusion and some conflicting instructions.
- As usual, about half the volunteers didn't show up and some of the one that showed up were not great for the job. We should try to recruit volunteers more carefully, for example require some kind of vouching or at least phone screening. We may also consider opening the sign up later, when people are sure they are coming, rather than months in advance. We spent some time to create a checklist for volunteers, but of course that flew off the window the moment gate opened. We should keep the 'training' session with volunteers so they can ask questions.

### What we can do better

- We could have communicated gate hours a lot more clearly. Yes they were available, but just because something is available doesn't mean most people will read it or internalize it. Next year we should over-communicate gate hours and make it clear there are no exception (or exceptions need to be arranged in advance).





## LNT

Teri aka MilkMaid

What worked:

1. volunteers!! They were great! I only had one no show.
2. signs -beautiful and useful
3. golf cart!!!! Yay, made it so much easier for me to cover the grounds. I felt useful being able to transport injured folks to medical and folks going my way to shorten their trip. :-)
4. MOOP tins, folks really liked them, especially the ones a volunteer brought with tiny unSCruz tickets on top. I will imitate this next year!! People liked having an event related itemv
5. MOOP Fairies it is fun and volunteers seem to enjoy it.

Where Improvements are needed:

1. trash cans in bathrooms were used for other than paper towels. Signs r obviously not enough.
2. I found out where extra tp was for the indoor dance place after the event. I knew where it was in the building by the arena and was able to keep tp in the ladies rooms there.

3. MOOP fairies can use buckets or old milk jugs instead of plastic bags. I will save some and provide for next year.
4. I need to ask for more! signs
5. my request for a shade structure for our table got lost in the shuffle again this year. IDK what I am not doing correctly... Thank you to Hava for letting us use hers.
6. my request for paints was not fulfilled so my painting supplies were limited. Again, IDK what I did wrong in asking or if it was denied.
7. I think a night time MOOP sweep of dance parties and bathrooms would be helpful.

Thanks for a great event!!!

## Off Playa Info

### Wristy

New Venue, New Location, New Labor Model.

The new Venue at the San Benito County Fairgrounds worked out very well, and the Participants really seemed to like it. The new location for Off Playa Info worked very well also; we were located near the Rainbow Trike Track and the Pavilion, so we got a lot of foot traffic and that is a good thing.



## DEPARTMENT LEAD REPORTS CONTINUED

We did have people coming by for answers, but mostly for Ice and Lost & Found. The weather was cool, so we didn't use as much ice as we would during a warm year. We continued the tradition of asking Participants to entertain us in exchange for Ice. We saw a lot of smiles and laughs, so we will probably continue this going forward.

The colorful signs provided by the Sign Team were great and really represented and communicated well.

We had a couple of 11x17 sized Laminated Maps to help point out things, and they worked well. It would be nice to get at least one Poster sized Map next year to help people find things.

The new Labor Model worked very well; we did not have any issues of people missing shifts, showing up late or sneaking away during their shifts. All of the Staff and Volunteers were great this year. The new Timecards were a bit of an adjustment to deal with since the VC desk was so far away.



The only real area that needs improvement is with the Operating Days. We cut back the number of shifts and eliminated Sunday for Off Playa Info and that was a mistake. At least two thirds of the Items turned in to Lost & Found were dropped off on Sunday. We really should schedule more shifts on Sunday so that we can have people available to Log all of the Found Items turned in. The new online Form that Twisty created for uploading Found Items with Photos worked well, but it was difficult to fill in the form while still serving the public.

In general, 2023 was a very good year for Off Playa Info, and we are looking forward to 2024.

## Placement

Frosty, Vince, Fry, Pandora, Sharkbite, Handsy Pants, Militia, Fat Face, Ariella, Rut Roh, Leigh



Placement for unSCruz has continued to evolve over the years. This year we not only had a new venue to work with, but we had more applicants request placement than in the past. Out of 154 camps who requested placement, we were only able to accommodate 122. Priority was given to camps that have brought the creativity and energy that the participants of unSCruz have come to expect over the years. Placement has been misunderstood by some who just want to park a bunch of RVs next to each other, that is not what this event is about! Interactivity vs. space request was a key factor in deciding who was placed.

Placement consists of 3 main groups, Placing, Mapping, and Placers. The process starts with Mapping creating a scale map of the grounds and a preliminary layout. Then Placing digs through all the applications and places the camps on the map. Last, we have Placers at the gate that escort folks to their places. This recipe has proven successful and we will continue to evolve this method for the next burn.



For the last 2 years Mapping has devised a city layout with a logical order to the camps. This year, because the space was more connected, we used a numbers and rows method that helped Placers (and Rangers etc.) easily find camps by knowing the space number like B12 for example, Row B (West side on the

main road) and 12 spaces North. We will continue to use this method and should use ONE map so there is no confusion.

This year we had reserved RV spaces for theme camps and that worked quite well. We will also be implementing this strategy for gen-pop RVs next year. RVs were not placed inside theme camp footprints so that we could comply with fire restrictions and also to maximize the “fun” zone for our festival. Allowing people to drive up to their camps and unload worked quite well except for the few people that tried to leave their cars in their camp, or the ones who parked in reserved RV spaces and made us hunt them down so that the process could continue smoothly. One major problem with placement was only selling “vehicle passes” and not knowing the vehicle lengths.

In summary we nailed placement this year! The venue was awesome and kept all the fun nearby with just a few hidden areas that everyone ended up finding. We will learn from what went right and what didn't go right and continue to build unSCruz into the well organized experience that keeps our fans coming back every year!

## Production Envoy

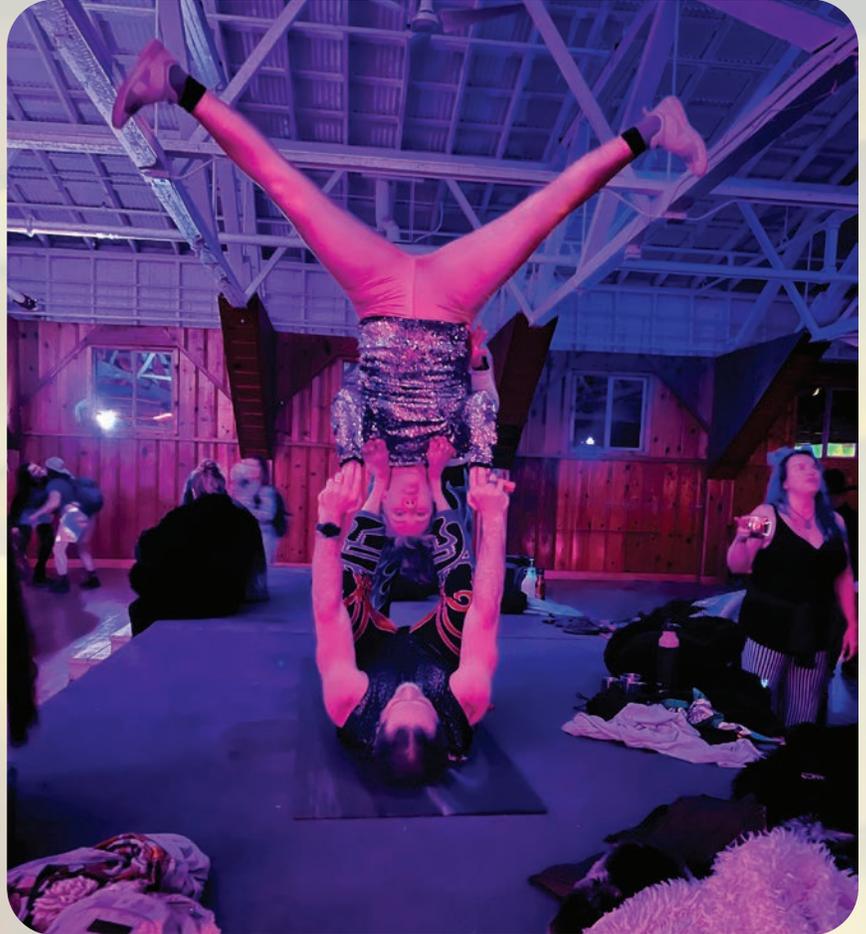
What worked well (within my department)

I think the cart-mobile position of “Production Envoy” worked very well. Participants and camps easily embraced the concept when we discussed it.

It came in handy a few times to authoritatively end bad behavior. Generally speaking, the Production Envoy's engagement with the Rangers, High Rock Security, Gate, the participants, and the Producers went very well.

## What needs improvement

- There's still miscommunications about the post 10pm curfew sound policy. While it was generally understood that all amplified sound was to be off at 10pm, I discovered on Saturday night that a number of sound camps had a laminated flyer that was distributed to them that said sound after 10pm during the course of the event could be reduced to 60dB. (??!)
- For the next event, effort should be made to have more distance between sound camps. There were occasions where neighboring sound camps were impairing each others intended experience.
- I believe there should be more High Rock Security coverage at both the North and South gates. One or both often went unguarded. I relayed this observance to High Rock command at the time, and security personnel on shift were re-deployed.
- I'd like there to be some provision made for ticket-holding participants who are arriving at the event for the first time, but have been delayed in their timely arrival due to circumstances out of their control who arrive at the entrance gate within ~45 minutes after the gates have closed for the night, rather than turning them away and their needing to get a motel for the night in Hollister.



## Parking

The offsite parking was a new challenge for us this year. We did manage, but we'll be making some drastic improvements for 2024.

## Resto

### MacGyver

Restoration went very well this year because we were fully staffed with volunteers. Also, LNT did an awesome job as always, same with DPW. There were some bigger items to be taken to the right places (cones & pallets come to mind). There was some moop (nothing like any other

event would leave behind, we had to dig deep (not as deep as the ground squirrel holes :o) and keep the spirits up until we found stuff (Burners Rule!).

Better Next Year:

Some sort of recycle arrangement.. I ended up bringing a big bag back with me to put in my can at home ... the fairgrounds told me to put it all in the same bin.

## Sign Shop Afterburn Report Zip-Tie

Stephanie Tetons and I made and/or repainted a bunch of new signs for this event. We did our best to make them look good, colorful and neat. Including the big and small signs we made over 100. We used corrugated plastic for many of the new ones so they would be lightweight and

reusable at the same time. While a bunch of signs were put up, some of the signs were not put up again this year. They were staged in an area and some were done and then the rest were just stashed away. In the future I think we should have a person dedicated to putting them all up. I believe Bill (Gizmo) Perryman might fit the bill if he's willing. He was a great help in putting up the signs that did get hung. In addition, the fairgrounds had some signs that needed to be covered and/or taken down. Fabric was needed to hang over some that couldn't be removed.



## Volunteer coordination

The volunteer check-in desk was well organized. The time card system sorted alphabetically by name was simple and effective. The table was well set up with everything we needed for the job. Taking shifts as pairs was nice, it didn't feel overstaffed or understaffed. Radio protocol was straightforward and radios worked well. I felt I had access to the resources I needed.

The volunteer coordinator's desk had very little activity for large portions of the shifts. It made me suspect people were going to shifts without checking in or checking out. It may be better to relocate the volunteer check-in desk to Off-Playa Info or something like that, where people may be more inclined to look for information, or just pass by it. Putting the check-in desk near Gate meant not much traffic was going by it.

Thank you for a wonderful experience staffing the event!



## Web

We transferred our site to a new host, moved email accounts, and created new ones for all Department Managers. The site was also redesigned and our form system was upgraded, allowing box office to create our own ticketing database. We published 9 blogs and 5 newsletters.

For the upcoming year, we are planning to populate and promote our new Santa Cruz Burners/unSCruz website. We are planning to increase our output of blogs and other content for the website, and increase our frequency of newsletters.



# Thank You!

There are always so many people who put so much of their sweat and blood into bringing unSCruz to life, and to all of you Vince and I give great thanks! What follows is the usual partial list of names that I recall (primarily Production crew). Please forgive me for the many I have surely forgotten.

## In alphabetical order:

A cup of Jo	Groove	Maya Papaya	Sasha
Ambrosia	Hiya	Mayonnaise	Sean Dugan
aveire	Jeff	Meggie Pina	Sharkbite
BeSpoke	Jeff Lawrence	Michelle	Shelly Best
Big Boy	Jen Dugan	Militia	SK8
Big Dave	Jon Chown	MilkMaid	Soph
Big Red	Jonny 5	Miss Print	Steampunk Sage
Brian Pridham	Jordan	Miss Teal	Sweet Pete
Bruce	K2	Mystique	Taylor
Captain Kangabrew	Kay	neXXtro	teeth
Cat Rathburn	Laura TheGypsy	Nugget	Tetons
Celeste Punisher	Lauren	Osha	Tranquilitea
Celsius	Leigh	Pandora	Trifecta Joe
Craig	Lesbian Seagull	pooz	Triumph
Cuddle Monkey	Lilith	Poprox	Twisty
Daisy	Little Mark	Princess Badass	Waste
Doron-Dodo	Lucy	Raina	wonder woman
Dr. J	Luna	Rampart	Wristy
Fat Face	MacGyverr	Rhonda	Yeshe
Fay	Magi	Rich	Yummy
Floss Daddy	Magical	Riles	Z Z Zack
Fox	mama Rik	Rob	Zay
French Bread	Marco	Rubí	Ziptie
Fry	Marshmallow	Rut-Roh	
Gravy	Maverick	Santa Cruz	