

Thriving Futures: Bringing Art to Smart Energy Choices

by Carrienne Tribe-Filhart & Danielle Cook

FLX, NY - Do you dream of a better world? Artists from the Southern Tier were asked to show us their vision of a "Thriving Future."

"**The Thriving Futures Mural Initiative**" is a collaborative project of Cornell Cooperative Extension's Smart Energy Choices program and Ithaca Murals, supporting artists' visions for a green and thriving future for our communities.

During the warmer months of 2025, artists engaged in discussions with each other and community members about what a thriving future would look like, where people and the environment are healthy and there is clean, affordable energy for all. In response to this conversation, 18 murals were painted in public spaces throughout the 8-county Southern Tier region.

The public can now see the final murals featuring the following artist's work at the locations listed below:

Bethany Parisi, "Rising Ahead"

Location: Hammerstone, 720 W. Green St., Ithaca, NY

Brad Leiby, "Life of the Finger Lakes"

Location: 3830 Willow St., Burdett, NY

Coralee Mcnee, "Together"

Location: 5176 Searsburg Rd., Trumansburg, NY

Crow's Nest Artists, "Growing a Sustainable Future"

Location: 130 West Morris St., Bath, NY

Cuba Leach, "3AM's Equitable Unity"

Location: 1106 W. 14th St., Elmira Heights, NY

David Krantz & Richard Lowe, "Welcome to the Upper Delaware"

Location: 41 Leonard St., Hancock, NY

Dion Browne, "Field of Fathers"

Location: 1209 Sullivan St., Elmira, NY

Eric Bussart, "Reunited"

Location: 93 State St., Binghamton, NY

Elle Yatsuk, "Flourishing"

Location: 202 State St., Binghamton, NY

Hancock Arts Alliance, "Hancock - "Chehocton" Wedding of the Waters"

Location: 95 E Front St., Hancock, NY

Margalo, "Bloom"

Location: 196 Main St., Groton, NY

Meira Robinson, "Teach me how to fly"

Location: Arthaus 130 Cherry St., Ithaca, NY

Mia Hause, "Planting Seeds of Change"

Location: Truth Pharm, 49 Pine St., Binghamton, NY

Neko Bennett, "Stitch by Stitch"

Location: 1665 Ithaca Rd., Spencer, NY

Ruth Wilson & Alyssa Hardy, "Just for Earth"

Location: Corner of Walnut & Front Sts., Bainbridge, NY

Sam Somostrada, "Bike Battle Kidz"

Location: 215 Partridge St., Elmira, NY

Terrance Vann, "To the Future"

Location: 2101 Cayuga St., Ithaca, NY

Tori Riina and Students, "Flying Towards the Future"

Location: 36 McMahan Ave., Corning, NY

For more information regarding this project, visit the Cornell Cooperative Extension Smart Energy Choice's "Thriving Futures" website: <https://smartenergychoices.org/thriving-futures2>

Thriving Futures
MURAL INITIATIVE
6 Ribbon Cutting Celebrations

4 DATES **18 MURALS**

- MAY 7** • 10 am Binghamton 49 Pine St. & 2 pm Hancock 41 Leonard St.
- MAY 21** • 9 am Ithaca 720 Green St.
- JUNE 4** • 3 pm Trumansburg 5176 Searsburg Rd.
- JUNE 18** • 11 am Bath 130 W. Morris St. & 2 pm Elmira 215 Partridge St.

QR Code:

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Smart Energy Choices
Celebrating all 18 murals in the Southern Tier

Meet the Thriving Futures Artists:

May 7th - Binghamton
Truth Pharm. 49 Pine St.

May 7th - Hancock
41 Leonard St.

May 21st - Ithaca
720 W. Green St.

June 4th - Trumansburg
Viva Acres - 5176 Searsburg Rd.

June 18th - Bath
130 W. Morris St.

June 18th - Elmira
Southside Community Center
215 Partridge St.



Master Gardener Volunteers Plant Sales Are Coming!

Every June CCE Schuyler's Master Gardener Volunteers organize a community plant sale featuring local vendors selling plants, plant merchandise (pots, trellises etc), standard farmer's market fare, like honey and natural beauty products, and more!

This year the **Master Gardeners will be offering not one but two plant sales in two new locations**, offering the community multiple opportunities to attend: **June 7th - 10am-2pm at Diamond on Seneca in Hector, NY**, and **June 11th - 4pm-7pm at The Fireman's Field in Montour Falls**. Got a gardening question? Drop by the Master Gardener table to ask the Volunteers or buy a new plant!

A full list of vendors will be announced on the Growin' Around the Glen Website (www.glengrown.com) and our CCE Schuyler Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ccesc) in the upcoming days.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Seed to Supper - Hector & Odessa

HECTOR: May 7, 2026 - Elizabeth B. Pert Library - Hector, NY - 6:00pm-7:30pm
ODESSA: May 7 & 21, 2026 - Odessa Community Room - Odessa, NY - 6:00pm-7:30pm

Join Garden and Horticulture Coordinator Shawn Tubridy for "Seed to Supper," a 5-session gardening class focused on practical, low-cost techniques for beginners. Attendees will learn about garden planning, composting & healthy soil, how to plant your garden, how to care for your garden, harvesting and using your bounty. There is no charge to attend this series. **Register for this FREE event at www.cceschuyler.org/events.**

Little Sparks: Flowers and Grass

May 30, 2026 - Family Play and Resource Center - 10:00pm-12:30pm

Join us on Saturday May 30th for a Little Sparks: Flowers and Grass event perfect for youth ages 0-8 at the Family Play and Resource Center. Welcome Spring by planting your very own "Grass Head" character to take home, enjoy a flower painting activity and take a stroll through the CCE Teaching Garden. **Save Your Spot, register for this FREE event at www.cceschuyler.org/events.**

HIDDEN VALLEY 4-H CAMP AT A GLANCE:

Week 1: Unity Week (July 5 - July 10)

Unity Week is a special time at camp dedicated to celebrating community, inclusion, and the many ways we can come together as one camp family. Throughout the week, campers will participate in activities that encourage teamwork, empathy, and connection across cabins and age groups. The highlight of the week is a camp-wide afternoon and evening of celebration, when each cabin will create and share an activity with the entire camp.

Week 2: Spark Week (July 12 - 17)

Spark Week is a celebration of trying new things, learning about yourself, and discovering the talents and interests that make you - all while making memories and friendships that will last long after camp ends. Campers will create beautiful stained glass and beach glass art, build bat houses to support local wildlife, and put their engineering skills to the test by designing, building, and racing cardboard boats. The week is rounded out with classic camp favorites like sports games, archery competitions, and many surprise activities that encourage curiosity, confidence, and fun.

Week 3: Fantasy and Magic Week (July 19 - 24)

Campers will step into a world of imagination, adventure, and enchantment! Throughout the week, camp transforms into a land of knights, elves, fairies, and mythical creatures where stories come to life. Campers will take part in medieval-inspired activities such as safe, camp-style jousting, archery competitions, and noble quests that test bravery, teamwork, and skill. Creative spirits can build fairy gardens, craft magical items, and invent their own legends.

Week 4: Science Experiment Week (July 26 - July 31)

Get ready to put on your lab goggles and unleash your inner scientist! This exciting, hands-on week is all about curiosity, discovery, and jaw-dropping experiments that make science come alive. Campers will explore the wonders of astronomy, gazing at the night sky to learn about planets, stars, and constellations, and discovering how science helps us understand the universe beyond our campfire.

Week 5: Endless Summer Week (August 2 - August 7)

A perfect grand finale to an unforgettable camp season, Endless Summer is all about reliving the very best moments of summer as campers revisit the most popular, exciting, and talked-about activities from the weeks before. From favorite games and creative projects to epic outdoor adventures and friendly competitions, Endless Summer brings back the highlights that made this summer so special!

STAY IN THE KNOW, SIGN-UP FOR THE SCNY AG NEWSLETTER TODAY!

**SCNY Ag News
Events Newsletter:**
Find out about upcoming events in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Horticulture in the Southern Tier through the SCNY Ag News.



SCAN HERE

Hidden Valley 4-H Camp 2026 Registration Is Now Open!



Visit www.hiddenvalley4hcamp.org

EVENT HIGHLIGHT:



VENDORS WANTED! For Upcoming Plant Sales!

June 7th - Hector, NY

June 11th - Montour Falls, NY

Are you a vendor looking for some place to sell your wares? CCE Schuyler Master Gardener Volunteers have not one but two upcoming sales. The Application Submission deadline is May 29th. Don't delay, spaces are filling fast!

Contact Shawn Tubridy at slt22@cornell.edu or call 607-535-7161 ext.3226 for details.



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