



NEWS RELEASE
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From Ashes to Art: Creating a Better Tomorrow

SAN JOSE, CA June 4, 2024 – Breathe California will present Anti-Tobacco Poster Contest Showcase and Press Event featuring poster art created by youth to educate about the dangers of tobacco use, flavored tobacco, menthol, and vaping. Three winners will be selected and presented a prize for their artistic contributions in support of public health. Breathe California invites community and coalition members, press, stakeholders, partners, students, and friends and family to attend the event, view the youths' artwork, enjoy food and refreshments, and to meet and take photos with young artists, elected officials, and health experts.

The event will take place on Friday, June 7th from 12pm to 3pm at Breathe California's office at 1469 Park Avenue in San Jose. The showcase will be followed by a press event with information about current tobacco use and product trends in addition to a youth panel discussion covering their work in tobacco prevention and education efforts over the years.

Our Keynote Speakers, the Honorable Rosemary Kamei, San Jose Vice Mayor and the Honorable Susan Ellenberg, Santa Clara County Board of District Supervisors, District 4, will be joined by Guest Speakers Natalie Andrade, School Climate Senior Specialist in the Santa Clara County Office of

Education TUPE (Tobacco Use Prevention and Education) Program and Alessandra Lopez, Teaching Assistant at Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana. Learn more about the event and download an informational flyer at www.lungsrus.org/special-events.

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability, and death in the United States. Every year, almost half a million Americans die prematurely from smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke. If you are being exposed to neighbors' secondhand smoke/vape or wish to lodge a complaint or ask a question about outdoor dining areas/bars or restaurants not complying with existing laws, you can call Breathe California's Secondhand Smoke Helpline at (408) 999-0500. We are grateful to the California Tobacco Prevention Program for partially funding this program.

For decades, Breathe California has worked in Tobacco Prevention and Education through quit smoking classes, workshops, tabling at community and school events, and helping adults and youth learn to live happier, healthier tobacco-free lives. Our efforts have been instrumental in passing local and state laws to end the sale of flavored tobacco in jurisdictions within the Bay Area as well as the state of California.

Those interested in Breathe California's important programs and services or joining the organization as a Volunteer or Intern can visit www.lungsrus.org for more information.

BREATHE CALIFORNIA OF THE BAY AREA, GOLDEN GATE & CENTRAL COAST is dedicated to fighting lung disease and advocating for clean air. As one of California's oldest voluntary health organizations, BREATHE CALIFORNIA addresses the most critical lung health threats through prevention, education, patient support, research, and advocacy.

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