

Redwood Roots Digital Magazine

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Front Matter

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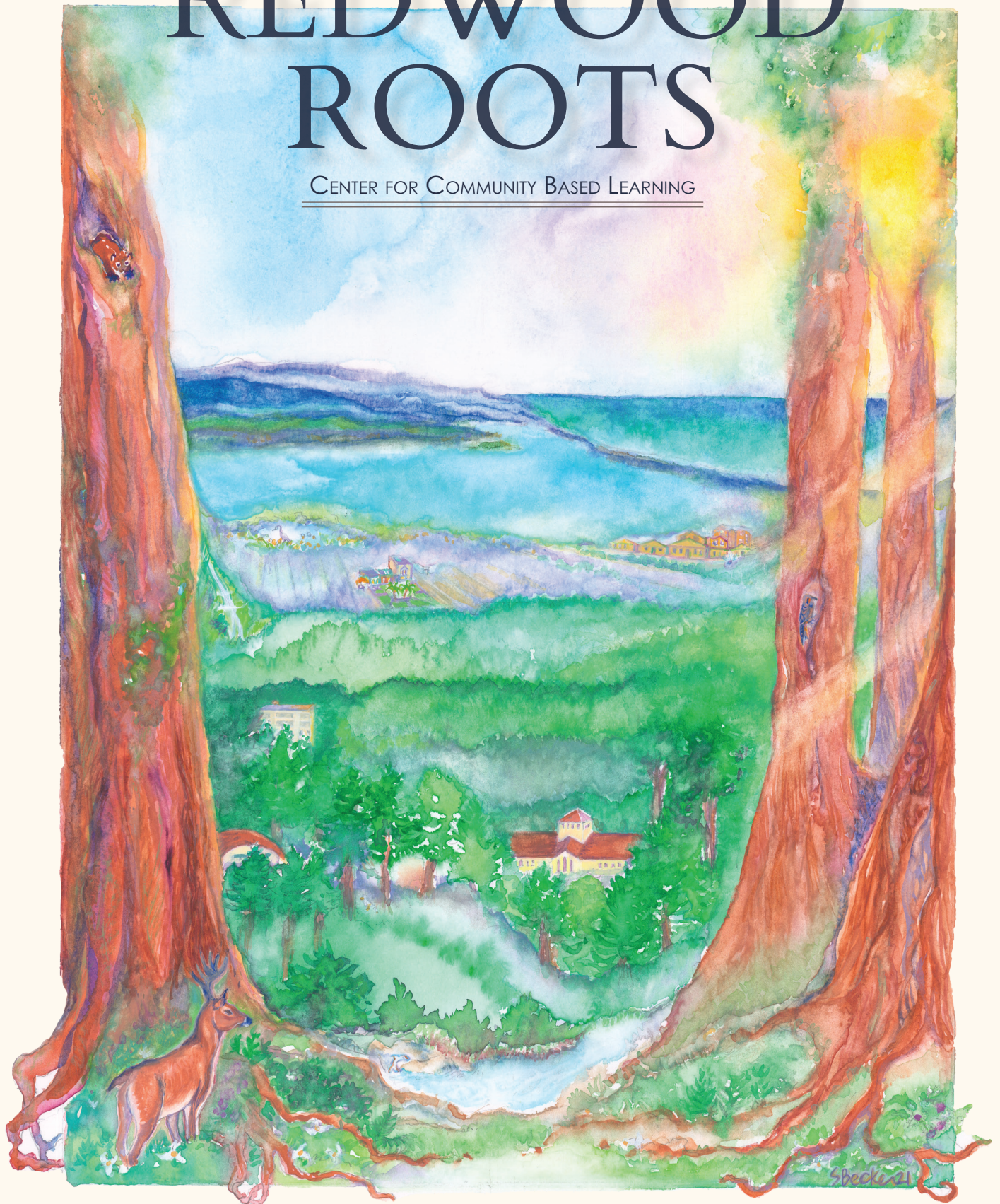
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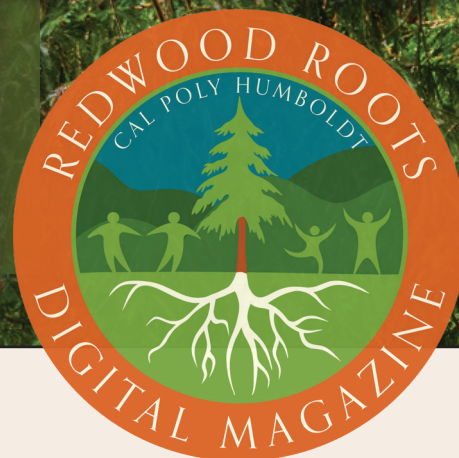
REDWOOD ROOTS

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY BASED LEARNING



THE PRESS AT CAL POLY HUMBOLDT

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



By Mireille Roman

Volume 3, Issue 2 of Redwood Roots Digital Magazine features stories of people who value community-based learning just as much as we do. We sought out community members, faculty, and students who are active agents of change on campus and in our communities and encouraged them to empower one another through sharing their stories.

Our goal at Redwood Roots Digital Magazine is to provide a platform that highlights and shares stories of community engagement in Humboldt County and beyond. We publish stories that promote deep and enriching connections through learning, to enhance inclusivity within the community through social and environmental justice.

In this edition we highlight people and organizations, both on and off campus. Learn how the team at Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Coast in Humboldt cultivate a better future for our next generation; let us introduce you to the exciting HSQCast and their goal to highlight community-powered approaches to share stories. Read about professors in the School of Education and their commitment to making better teachers for our communities. Additionally, there are several articles about faculty, students, and community members who have created better environments for their peers and our community. At Redwood Roots we want to uplift students, staff, and faculty who dedicate their time to go above and beyond for their peers through Cal Poly Humboldt.

We hope that you enjoy this issue and share it with your peers, professors, and members of your community. Your contribution, however, does not need to be limited to reading Redwood Roots Digital Magazine; we ask that you see this publication as a call to action. Get involved, learn something new, contribute to your community, and tell us about it! To assist you with this goal, the Redwood Roots Digital Magazine staff hosts a series of workshops ranging from writing and submitting articles for Redwood Roots Digital Magazine to discovering your potential to become a published author. Contact us at redwoodrootsmagazine@humboldt.edu to learn about upcoming *Skillsshop* opportunities and other ways to get involved. Your work has a place here at Redwood Roots Digital Magazine.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The staff at Redwood Roots Digital Magazine would like to acknowledge and celebrate the hard work and dedication of a few members of our editing team who are graduating or moving on. The following tributes were written by several people on our team.

Shiara Naicker, a psychology major with an emphasis in neuroscience, is graduating this semester and moving on to new endeavors. She contributed passionately to our group's projects; from facilitating workshops to conducting meaningful interviews, Shiara has imparted a wealth of skill, intelligence, and enthusiasm to the team. She is a force of change who challenges folks to bridge the gaps of volunteerism, encourages growth through self-reflection, and, most of all, she is a friend to many on this campus. Shiara inspires people to open up about their passions and cultivates an environment of action. As the semester concludes, Shiara's work will not; we know she is destined to continue to animate any space she finds herself in. Shiara, thank you for your thoughtfulness, your diligence, and most of all your existence. We would also like to congratulate Shiara on winning the 2022 Cal Poly Humboldt Outstanding Student Employee award.

We are also saying goodbye to **Mireille Roman**, an English and Critical Race, Gender, and Sexuality Studies major and longtime staff member of Redwood Roots. Mireille was an integral member in creating Redwood Roots: they formed the magazine's values and statement of purpose, spearheaded the planning and facilitation of the first Redwood Roots workshops, and contributed several articles to each issue. Mireille has continually pushed the team at Redwood Roots to think differently about the way we interact and report on the world around us; they remind us of what it means to be truly empathetic people. Redwood Roots would not be the magazine it is today without Mireille's insight, passion, and dedication to creating a meaningful, inclusive space to share stories of community engagement.

Leo Kepcke, a geography major and editor extraordinaire, will be moving on from our team and leaving behind editing processes that have improved our magazine tenfold. Leo is also currently the Editor in Chief of the [Humboldt Geographic](#), the digital magazine produced by the department of Geography, Environment & Spatial Analysis. Leo brought his expertise and passion for editing to the Redwood Roots team during the fall of 2021, and for the past two semesters has created several editing guidelines that will continue to refine the team's editing processes for years to come. We appreciate his dedication to collaborating with his fellow team members to interview, write, and edit articles that share stories of community engagement at Cal Poly Humboldt. Leo's passion for publishing and goal-oriented approach that he brings to our team will be missed greatly!

Since July 2021, **Savannah Sonia** has served as the STEM Student Success Advocate as part of the AmeriCorps CSU STEM VISTA program with the Center for Community Based Learning. Savannah is a Humboldt alum whose B.A. is in English with a concentration in Writing Practices. Her professional goal is to work in publishing to combine her passions for books with social and environmental justice. Savannah has been instrumental in writing, editing and creating the Redwood Roots magazine. She has taken a lead role in supporting the work of our student team and developing processes to increase the reach of Redwood Roots Digital Magazine. Her can-do attitude, empathetic nature, and beautiful way with words have had a positive impact on all of us. We deeply appreciate the work that Savannah has contributed to Redwood Roots over the past year and will miss having her on our team as she moves on to her next endeavor.

Lastly, we bid adieu to our longtime staff member **Aaron Laughlin**, who recently earned an MA in English with an emphasis in Applied English Studies and works at the Press at Cal Poly Humboldt. Aaron is full of creative ideas that expand beyond the work he has done for the magazine. Aaron has been at the heart of designing the layout for Redwood Roots Digital Magazine since we began, and without his patience and tedious attention to detail, the editions we produced would lack the magic Aaron brings to them. Aaron adds his personality to the magazine while prioritizing the people we write about and organizes each letter, each picture, each pulled quote to honor the person and the work they do. The pages will shine differently with Aaron moving onto new projects. He will be missed at Redwood Roots, the Center for Community Based Learning, and in the halls of The Press at Cal Poly Humboldt. Aaron is a publishing wizard and his work will only get stronger as he moves on to grander things. Aaron, thank you for your comradery, your originality, and for bringing the best to our table.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Redwood Roots Digital Magazine endeavors to honor the community of people who reside on this land and their stories—lands that are the present and ancestral Homeland and unceded territory of the Wiyot Tribe. Tribes and Nations in this region include Hupa, Karuk, Mattole, Tolowa, Wailaki, Wiyot, and Yurok whose peoples live, and have lived, on these lands since time immemorial.

We call for those who occupy this land to actively recognize the sovereignty of tribal nations and their right to traditional land. We humbly request that you take action to dismantle [settler colonialism](#) and move toward a future centered around justice and equity, where tribes have sovereignty over their homeland after enduring and surviving waves of violence as a result of genocide. Take action:

1. Search Native Land's world map, which allows users to input their address and see the Native territories, languages and treaties pre-dating colonization in the area they reside: <https://native-land.ca/>.
2. Pay an [honor tax](#) to one of the 11 federally recognized and unrecognized tribes, rancherias and sovereign tribal governments within Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity regions, or whose tribal land on which you reside.
3. Donate to Save CA Salmon: <https://www.californiasalmon.org/>.
4. Support the Cal Poly Humboldt's Native American Studies (NAS) Food Sovereignty Lab: <https://alumni.humboldt.edu/giving/cahss/hsu-giving-native-american-studies-food-sovereignty-lab>.
5. Learn from Dr. Cutcha Risling Baldy's lecture "[What Good Is a Land Acknowledgement?](#)".
6. Show up to community events organized by, or in support of, our local tribal community, and continue to transform your environments by integrating Indigenous knowledge into your daily life.

PURPOSE & VALUES

Redwood Roots' purpose is to provide a platform that highlights and shares stories of Cal Poly Humboldt's community engagement in Humboldt County and beyond. We publish stories that promote deep and enriching connections through learning, and enhance inclusivity within the community through efforts and examples of social and environmental justice.

1. Redwood Roots is a community platform that serves to provide a direct, diverse, and transparent narrative that further encourages communal collaborations between students, alumni, faculty, and community partners.

2. We highlight the diverse approaches Cal Poly Humboldt students engage in by combining learning objectives with community service, providing enriched experiences for personal and professional growth, and meeting the local needs of different communities.

3. We share stories promoting the welfare of others through an intersectional lens that creates lasting change, with acknowledgement and respect for the past.

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