

STARRY NIGHT: HOMELESS REMEMBRANCE PROJECT

(Proposal from Monika Modest)

The imagery of this project as well as the mosaic itself were inspired by Vincent van Gogh's Starry Night painting and came about as a result of an inquiry from Phil Schmauss, Merced Rescue Mission, and Joseph Homer (Golden Valley Health Center).

Every year in December a Homeless Remembrance memorial event takes place in Merced. At Applegate Park advocates for the homeless population as well as many of the homeless people of Merced gather to remember their fellow homeless brothers and sisters who have passed. They learn about services available to them and blankets, socks, hats and gloves are given away.

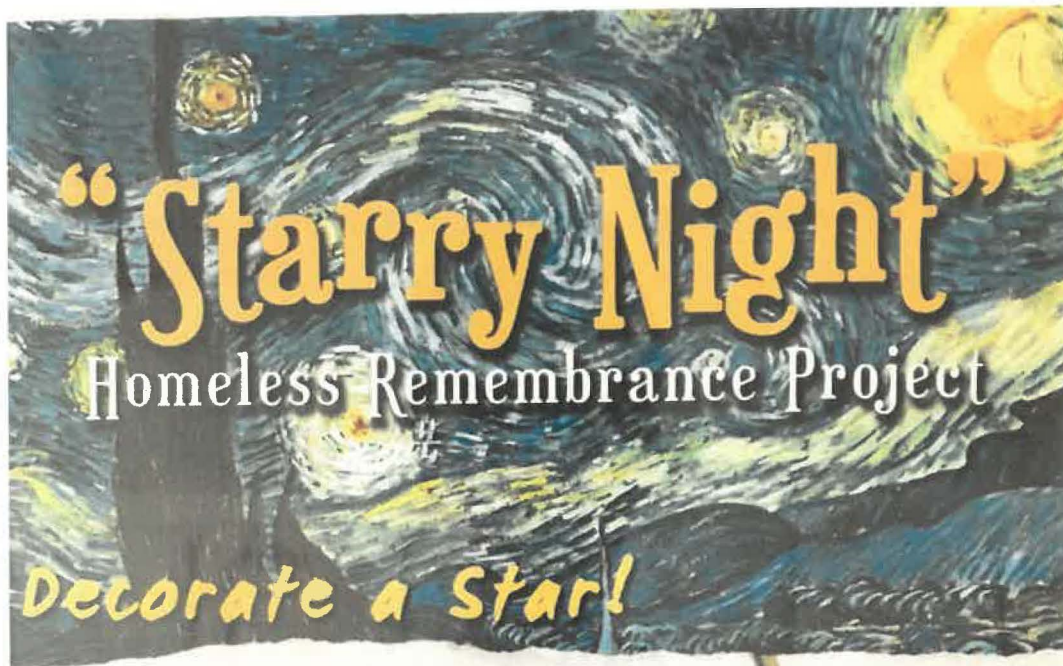
Van Gogh and his famous Starry Night painting seem to be fitting: the artist's mental health battles, his personal "demons" he struggled with, the poverty and rejection he experienced for most of his life very appropriately mirror what many of the homeless are confronted with.

The first workshops to glaze a ceramic star were held at the homeless shelter followed by numerous workshops open to the public. The \$5 donation was used to purchase the blankets, etc. Yosemite High School students, together with Bill Gossett, their art teacher, were a big part of this project, helping me glaze all the swirly brush marks Van Gogh is famous for.

Picture 1: Flyer for star glazing workshops

Picture 2: 4'x4' section of mosaic (final size: 8'x8')

Picture 3: close up



Last year, over forty homeless residents perished due to the elements...

This year, we will memorialize them forever with a permanent art installation in Merced!

A Donation of \$5 is encouraged - Sponsors are sought and proceeds will be used to buy sleeping bags for the homeless.

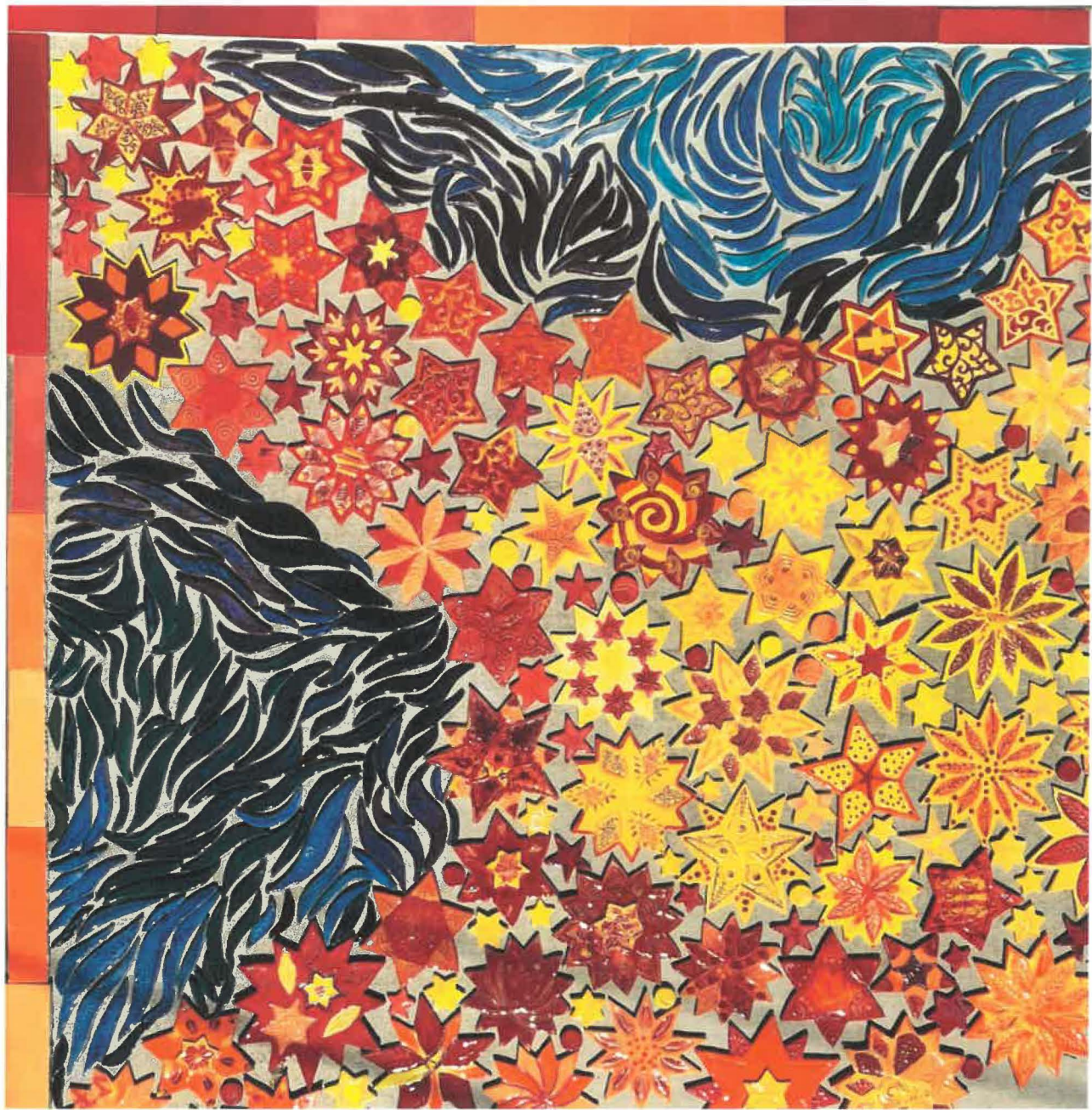
Join us and glaze a ceramic star. Monika Modest, a local artist, will help you shine!



PUBLIC WORKSHOP
Thursday, November 30th 2017
5pm - 8pm

Merced Multicultural Arts Center
645 W Main St, Merced CA

Sponsors Contact 814.777.0100





Starry Night by Vincent Van Gogh



Below are pictures taken of possible installation sites on the Merced Open Air Theater (MOAT) in Applegate Park.





