



AUGUST 2025

NEWSLETTER

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THIS MONTH WITH BAYCC

From conversations on AI and presence to hands-on workshops in art, healing, and environmental care, this month brought our community together in meaningful ways. We also look ahead to our upcoming public safety lecture as part of our continued commitment to learning and well-being.

ABOUT US

Founded in 2002 by volunteers from diverse professional backgrounds, BAYCC harnesses the power of interfaith dialogue, community engagement, and education to promote the well-being of the community and foster stronger connections.

Visit baycc.org to learn more.

UPCOMING EVENTS



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETING

connect with your neighbors and meet face-to-face with representatives from your Police Department

- ✓ Crime trends in your area
- ✓ Ways to protect your property
- ✓ How to identify criminal activity
- ✓ Programs and services offered by SCPD

Sat, Aug 16 6:00 PM

4701 Patrick Henry Dr
BLDG 18, Santa Clara

RSVP on our website!

COMMUNITY EDUCATION LECTURE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

This event offers residents the opportunity to connect with their neighbors and engage directly with SCPD officers to discuss local safety concerns and community issues. Attendees will gain insights into crime trends, crime prevention strategies, and services offered by the police, while also exploring career opportunities in law enforcement.

DATE:

August 16,
2025

TIME:

6:00 PM

LOCATION:

4701 Patrick
Henry Dr BLDG
18, Santa Clara

REGISTER:

[Click Here](#)

PAST EVENTS



IN A DIGITAL AGE: CAN AI HELP US REFLECT MORE, NOT LESS?

We were honored to host Dr. Murat Baday, researcher at Stanford University, for a timely and thought-provoking conversation on the intersection of artificial intelligence, human attention, and spiritual well-being.

The event brought together a wonderfully diverse group of attendees: friends from our workplace community, dedicated BayCC volunteers, members of the Afghan community from Fremont, and respected guests including Imam Muhammad S. Sidk, Al Azhari, and Aisha

JULY 11,
2025

PAST EVENTS

Othman, Esquire. Many others joined online via Zoom, creating a shared space that blended both physical and digital presence.

Dr. Baday asked us to consider a powerful question: Are we using technology to enrich our lives, or is it using us? Drawing on recent research—including studies from Stanford—he reflected on how AI is increasingly shaping our mental rhythms, often pulling us away from the very things that nourish us intellectually, spiritually, and emotionally. Despite having more tools than ever to save time, we're spending less of it in meaningful reflection and connection.



“Are we using technology to enrich our lives, or is it using us?”

After the prayer break, many lingered to continue the conversation, share personal insights, and simply enjoy each other's company. The warmth in the room was a reminder that, even in a digital age, what we seek most is presence—with ourselves and with one another.



CLEANING THE COAST, ONE BAG AT A TIME

On a breezy Saturday morning, ten members of our youth team joined the Pacific Beach Coalition for a hands-on beach clean-up along the coast. From high school students to recent grads, the group came ready to make a difference—and have fun doing it.

The day began with a welcome from local organizers and a short introduction on the importance of protecting our beaches. Gloves on and

JULY 19,
2025

PAST EVENTS

bags in hand, the group split into teams and began carefully combing the sand for litter. For two hours, every wrapper, bottle cap, and forgotten item collected became part of a quiet but meaningful effort to care for the environment.

But this was about more than just picking up trash. The experience sparked real conversations about sustainability and inspired new ideas for future initiatives. It also brought our team closer—bonding over shared purpose, sandy shoes, and the satisfaction of working together.

“It felt great to do something good for the environment with friends.”

We're proud to support the work of the Pacific Beach Coalition and look forward to joining more of their events. We're even starting to dream up some clean-ups of our own.

At BAYCC, we believe youth-led environmental action can spark real change. On this day, that belief came to life—one bag at a time.



PAINTING WITH COFFEE WORKSHOP

On a sunny Saturday afternoon at BAYCC's main office, art and aroma filled the room as participants gathered for a unique workshop led in collaboration with Erguvan Studio. Starting around 12:30 PM, adults and kids alike explored a new kind of canvas—using coffee as their medium.

With a spirit of play and creativity, participants began by splattering coffee freely onto paper, then slowly transformed the random marks into meaningful shapes, figures, and scenes. It was a joyful practice in letting go of perfection and embracing imagination.

JULY 26,
2025

PAST EVENTS

As their artwork dried, attendees sipped freshly brewed Turkish coffee and shared Turkish delights, bringing together the sensory joy of creating and tasting coffee. The workshop became more than an art session—it was a full, immersive experience.



A special moment came when Kathleen and Diane, guests from our neighboring Catholic organizations, were presented with a printed coffee painting of the late Pope Francis. They also had the chance to meet the artist behind the piece—a meaningful connection across communities and crafts.

From curiosity to connection, this was a workshop to remember. Participants expressed their appreciation not only for trying something new, but also for the opportunity to connect, reflect, and enjoy a cup of coffee in a whole new way.



PAST EVENTS

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KINTSUGI WORKSHOP

What if our cracks were not something to hide, but something to honor?

At Youth Collective's recent Kintsugi workshop, participants explored this idea through the traditional Japanese practice of repairing broken pottery with gold. Each piece became a quiet reflection on resilience and the value of imperfection.

The evening featured hands-on repair work, group discussions, live new music, and a shared meal that brought everyone around the table. A surprise raffle closed out the night, adding a lighthearted touch to a thoughtful and creative gathering.



To read about these events in more detail:
VISIT [BAYCC.ORG/EVENTS](https://baycc.org/events)