

Watershed: a post-wildfire community art project

Watershed is a post-wildfire community art project grounded in the idea that creating art in community with one another and with the environment can be healing.

Through a series of free outdoor public art-making events from late summer 2026 through winter 2027, Pasadena-based artist Kate Lain is inviting community members impacted by the Eaton Fire to help create a 50-foot fabric stream that will go on temporary public view at Arlington Garden in Pasadena in spring 2027.

The 2026 art-making sessions will focus on using an analog photographic process called cyanotype to create images and designs on fabric elements that will later become part of the large community artwork. Winter 2027 sessions will focus on assembling, embellishing, and hand-sewing the individual fabric components together to create the final artwork.

Lain will be sharing project progress, behind-the-scenes views, art-making events, and images of the final artwork on *Watershed*'s Instagram account (@watershedartproject) and Facebook page.

Watershed is a community art project facilitated by Kate Lain. It is hosted by Arlington Garden with support from the California Community Foundation's Wildfire Recovery Fund: Community Healing and Restoration Initiative, and it is made possible in part by the Pasadena Arts & Culture Commission and the City of Pasadena Cultural Affairs.

About the project name
A watershed is an area of land that channels water to a common outlet. The term also refers to a turning point, a significant moment or dividing point. The 2025 Eaton Fire was in many ways a watershed moment, a massive turning point that upended many lives. This project draws on both of these meanings.

About the artist
Kate Lain is a Pasadena-based artist working across media and disciplines that include experimental film and video, cyanotype, and social practice. Watershed is a project she initiated and will be leading over the coming months.

Contact: katelainprojects@gmail.com