

net for free. The sun diffuses through the skylight onto the finished dance floor (32' x 52') where capoeira, yoga, tai chi and contact improvisation classes, performances and rehearsals are held.

There have been many differently themed productions in the main theater space including game shows, ballet, Las Vegas night, music and acting workshops, comedy dinner shows, various ethnic programs, media/movie light shows, healing circles and dance parties.

In the back and under an arched bridge is the day studios where a glass blower, installation/construction artists, painters and sound studio exists. In the very back is a metal shop and wood shop. The metal shop is headed by Toni, a well-built and always happy guy who does all sorts of metal and welding projects. The metal cluster group - about a half-dozen - have regular scheduled meetings to teach, talk and share dinner in order to increase their skills. The shop offers Arc, Mig and Tig welders, oxy-acetylene torches, full sheet and drill presses. The wood shop representative is David, who allows usage of table, band and radial saws for community projects. He is also a puppeteer and puppet maker, who in summer and fall of 1999 helped in constructing the set for the theater production of "Up a Tree" performed at Intersection for the Arts.

Leon Rosen, 21, who has lived in a communal arts collective all his life, helped found the "Sound Coop," which maintains a small recording studio in back. Together with his cluster, they have invited and performed with some of the greatest musicians of this century. This eclectic array of talent fused by music has included old-time Jazz greats, young upcoming underground hip-hop stars, body/sound synthesizers, klezmer orchestras, all ages of poets and one-of-a-kind original hand made instruments. They have all joined forces to push the envelope of modern musical style. Benefiting the sponsored Sunday Teahouse Series is a never-ending supply of professional talent and emergence of new sounds.

Upstairs, the parachute loft gives an intimate, privacy and quiet atmosphere for meditation, small meetings, in-house chats for members, planning committees and serves as the board of directors conference room.

There is an outreach cluster that recruits teachers and schedules innovative, low-cost classes for students of all ages. The volunteers enjoy making public art and they design programs, produce brochures and write grants. It started with Bryant Street Rotational project, a public gallery of graffiti and art on Cell's exterior walls and as a catalyst for the Dia de los Muertos procession in 1996 with no grant money. Since then, Cell has produced drama and music workshops with TODCO for children of the sixth street corridor and neighborhood residency hotels, worked with project Discover at the Boys/Girls Club, won awards in the parade Carnival with Loco Bloco and created YEA!, a youth enterprise and arts coalition who offer job training and entrepreneurships to a number of local youth organizations. Cellspace hosted ESTAR, an on site summer day camp for teens in 1999 to teach science and community through photography, video, drama, jewelry making and spoken word. This camp culminated with a week long exhibition of performances, a graduating ceremony and the displaying of finished projects, when friends, family and the neighborhood were invited to a potluck reception.

By cultivating and being the home base for an ever-expanding nurturing circle of friends and art organizations, Cellspace has become a true community center in the middle of an industrial wasteland. It is a forum for things untried. It is a place where silly ideas and hopes and dreams are listened to and somehow, through innovative thinking and experimentation, they become a reality. It's like having a giant living room or a backstage of a Hollywood movie set at your disposal, where you can entertain guests in the wildest of parties, create a theme holiday, experiment and collaborate or have an important neighborhood meeting when there is no place to go. Cellspace is a place where art in progress and finished work have a

home.

There are hundreds of names and phone numbers on the Rolodex in the office, but when you go there, you should talk to any of the two dozen friendly core member or volunteers and take the grand tour. Speak to Dave, who seems to be doing everything around there including cleaning the bathrooms, Charlie or Paul, always at the computer in the office, Serge, Ruth, events helper and painter, Julie, who has a masters degree in education or Sam, who does massage. There is Alex, who can build anything, Whitney, Gallery co-director, Nicole, who creates outreach and mentoring programs, Juan Pablo, a community activist, Allan, a sculptor, Karl, a photographer, Adam, Gallery outreach and curator and Russell, a volunteer who works hard a on a variety of needed projects. You might talk to Star Rose, a drummer, Pam, an aerialist and glass-blower, Richard, the connectivity cluster representative and/or any of the people around there will be happy to give you an orientation. It's like a Peter Pan adventure come alive. It's like a modern Mouseketeer show, where the club and its members control the content of the program. You are welcome to attend one of the member recruitment potlucks held the first Sunday of every month at 6:30 p.m. to become a part of this ongoing extravaganza or visit anytime. The doors are open for you to become involved. The phone number is (415)648-7562 and the Web site is <http://www.cellspace.org>