



Coracle

# Creative license

**November 8th - 11th, 2024  
Pittsboro, NC**

Creative License refers to a creator's freedom to ignore the conventions or rules that normally govern the art in which they work.

# Wrap-Up Report

## 2024

Coracle 2024 was a multi-day campout event that occurred November 8 - 11, 2024 in Pittsboro, North Carolina. We had one night for early access for builders of art and theme camps only, before the event opened to participants on November 8.

This was the 9th year of Coracle and the 5th year as an official Burning Man regional event.

This year the event grew from 2 nights to 3 nights.

## 2024 Theme

### Creative License

*'Creative License refers to a creator's freedom to ignore the conventions or rules that normally govern the art in which he or she works.'*

The Department of Creative License cordially invites you to Coracle 2024. Here, our Coracle community can tap into the purest form of creative expression. Inside this department, artistic mediums combine and reality itself becomes a suggestion. Self expression is born out of cooperation.



# Venue

## Shakori Hills Community Arts Center

Coracle took place at Shakori Hills Community Arts Center in Pittsboro, North Carolina. This was our fourth time at this venue.

Our return to Shakori Hills was significant for 3 main reasons:

- This is the fourth time we have held the event at a public venue, rather than private residence land. This meant greater involvement and permitting requirements from Chatham County.
- We see ourselves staying at Shakori Hills Community Arts Center for the foreseeable future and growing into the space. This venue has a capacity for 5000+ attendees.
- There was complete support onsite from the Shakori Hills Community Arts Center and willingness to help us best utilize the venue for future events.



# Ticketing

Ticket types, prices, and numbers sold are in the table below.

Ticket Type	Price	# Sold
Adult (18+)	\$190	263
Enthusiast	\$250	10
Teen	\$85	5
Age 0 - 12	FREE	33
Scholarship Ticket	\$70	24
Producer	\$70	24
Car Pass	\$8	163
RV Pass	\$15	27

## Civic Responsibility

Coracle is a small population and we encourage our participants to embrace radical self-reliance. At the same time, the organizing team had detailed plans to ensure the safety of our event. The Chatham County Fire Marshall evaluated the safety of our sculpture burn and theme camp flame effects; after inspection, all were permitted for the event. Producers had a 5 hour 'shift' each day of the event starting on Thursday night where we were awake, responsible, and on-call by radio.

For medical emergencies, we hired Arise Event Services, LLC (AES). There was a medical station operated by AES located near the permanent bathrooms. AES also provided medical and security services by licensed and experienced staff. There were Medical Staff at a medical booth, and/or roaming, and on radio for the entirety of the contracted event.

For any and all situations that required more than basic First Aid care, AES was contracted to serve as liaisons with local EMS, as necessary. Thankfully, this was not necessary! We also acquired the special one time event ABC alcohol permit for the weekend. Neighbors of the venue were notified by mail about the event and possible amplified sound, as required by Chatham county noise permit. We upheld our agreement to shut off all the amplified sound at Midnight as required by the venue to respect their neighbors. After midnight the camps switched to 'Silent Disco'.

# Sculpture

This year's Sculpture "The Nightmark" was designed and built by Jason Lenhardt with building assistance from Matty Shirey. Named after the unique flashing pattern of a Lighthouse's light, Nightmark is an 8' tall plywood ribbed structure with a cotton fabric body.

The plywood internal structure mimicking a Lighthouse's spiral 'Daymark' was clearly visible at night from the vibrant colors of its internal illumination. A spire with a rotating light functioned as a beacon to the central burn field. Thank you Jason and Jonathan for this year's effigy.



# Art Installations

This year included a significant increase in the number of participants bringing art installations: 14 placed pieces up from 6 in 2023. Of these, 10 were entirely new to the event, 2 were updated, and 2 returned as-is. Six were supported with grants. This year was also the first to feature an art walk, a physical Artery presence, and dedicated art support roles on the leadership team.

*"We danced, we fed each other, we made art, we made more art, we made more art, the kids made a LOT of art, running barefoot through the grass, getting in trouble blasting across the fields we made MAGIC."*

- Dorne Pentes

The Apollo" and the "Criterz" by Dorne Pente



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## Art installations continued

"Critterz"  
by Dorne Pente



"Toof"  
by Bethany Neigebaur



## Art installations continued

"The BeeHive" Community Art project  
by Daria Mace and Lisa Lazarus





# Theme camps

21 different camps

The Playa Provibes



# Theme camps continued

Dark Void Moth Lounge Camp



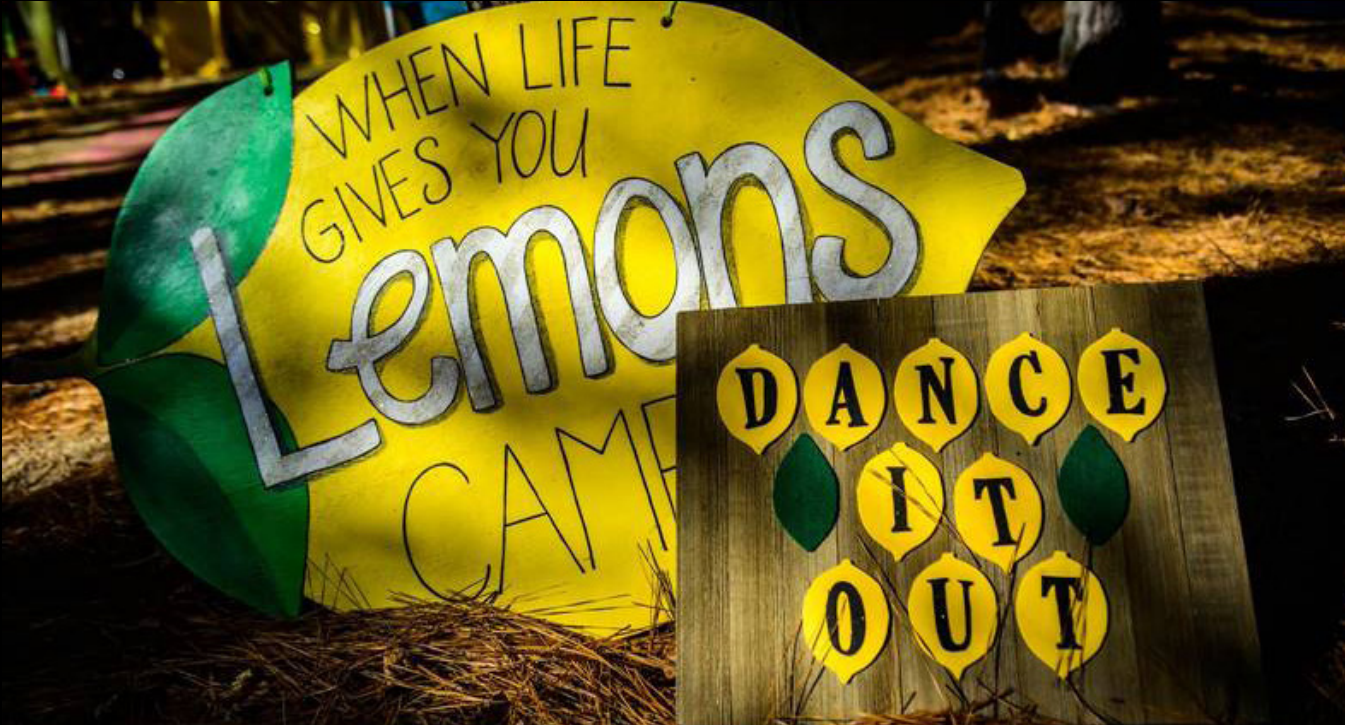
Camp Meh de la Mer



Theme camps continued



When life gives you lemons



# Participant events

## A sampling of the events

### **Cosmic Callbox**

A phone booth woven from the fabric of the cosmos, where each call spans time and space, connecting you to mythical creatures, alien minds, and ancient forces. Its dial turns between worlds, and the whispers through its receiver carry the echoes of forgotten, timeless beings and dogs.

### **Groove Grove** (Kids of All Ages)

Kids' Zone & Andromeda Lounge, Kids' Art Station, toys, games, coloring books, Cardboard Fort Building (weather permitting), Magic Tricks for Noobs.

### **Write a Postcard to Your Future Self**

postcards, stamps, pens available. Send your future self a message!

### **Hot Soups**

Noon, Evening, Late night - Listen for the sound of the conch!

### **Tiki Lounge** (Kids of All Ages)

The Tiki Lounge @ Freaky Tiki: Chill/Exotica/World Vibes music and comfy lounge

### **The Bling Station -**

Bling Yo Face!

### **Fairy Hair Pop Up @ When Life Gives You Lemons**

When we feel like it!

### **"And, Actually"@ Dark Void Moth Lounge**

Come listen to and share cool science facts! We have a megaphone we're passing around. All subjects welcome - let's nerd out together! Inspired by Ologies.

### **Silent Disco After party**

DJ's @ When Life Gives You Lemons, 11pm-3am.

### **Stryder's Sunrise Tea Meditation**

A tea meditation will be offered to any that attend. It will be held during sunrise!

### **Mask Making @ When Life Gives You Lemons**

Come Make a Cat mask! Materials provided.

### **Art Walk by Coracle ARtery**

Meet at Off Center Camp on Saturday at 11am, Join us for a walk around Coracle to look at the art and meet some of the artists! All ages.

### **Happy Noon Day @ Grove stage**

Bringing in the new day with a celebration. A countdown to noon followed by poppin bottles of sparkling apple cider and party horns. Happy Noon Day!

### **Mystery Guided Art Project @ Groove Grove**

Come make a mystery project, All Ages Welcome!

### **Whatever-k Run @ Meet at Off-Center Camp**

Are you also a crazy runner? Let's dress up (or not) and do a group run around Coracle! This will be about a 1.2k loop with an optional bar stop. Repeat as many times as you want, or finish at the bar and lovingly heckle others on their next pass. We'll run at the pace of friendship, which means keeping together in groups and sticking to a conversational pace. All ages and abilities are welcome. There may be random prizes for things that have nothing to do with speed or distance. P.S. There are showers with warm water on site.

### **Live Canvas Painting @ The Playa Provibes**

Stop by and visit our camp while local artist Daphne Rodgers creates a painting from start to finish!

### **Group Photos Before the Burn, by Coracle Media Mecca**

Near the effigy - look for the photographers, before the sculpture burn. Strike a pose with your tribe on Saturday before The Burn! Photographers from Media Mecca will be on-site, capturing epic group (or solo) shots. Make memories you'll love to relive!

### **It's Everyone's Birthday! @ Groove Grove**

All Ages, Is it your birthday!?!?! Today it is!!! Come play 'pass the parcel', get some delicious cake, and sing Happy Birthday to each other.

### **Hair Braiding @ Groove Grove** (w Pan & Larisa)

### **Lost Foam Aluminum Casting Workshop at the Off-Center Lounge**

Want to cast something in aluminum? The first step is to come by to make a little piece of art out of Styrofoam. After the workshop is done, that will get transformed into aluminum by attaching a sprue, burying it in sand, and pouring molten metal into the foam. Limited capacity, so come by early. All supplies provided, no experience necessary,



# Legend of Coracle

## What, When, Where

The Legend contains the Schedule of Art, Theme Camps, and Events. A printed version was available at the Off Center Camp. For swag, we had Coracle themed key-tags and stickers at Off Center Camp.



# Coracle Volunteering

Silver and Moni Wack once again were the volunteer coordinators. Pre-event, Moni and Silver worked with all of the leads to determine volunteer roles and worked with each lead to get descriptions of shift responsibilities. Posts on the Coracle Facebook group and the Coracle website, as well as email blasts to ticket holders helped to recruit volunteers. Team Co-leads wrangled & recruited volunteers, and word of mouth also helped. Theme camps were asked to tell their members to volunteer for something. Shifts and schedules were also available on-site at "Off Center Camp" so that walk-ups could volunteer.

Team leads were asked to keep their requested volunteer positions very lean to allow a sense of agency and responsibility among volunteers. It helps keep the pre-event head-count below the number allowed by the venue. It also creates a balanced distribution of volunteers across different teams.

This worked very well. In the end 98% of the volunteer slots requested got filled! Things that needed to get done, got done. This helps to allow participants that contribute in other ways, such as building art, running theme camps, etc.

This year we formalized the role of "Adult on Duty". Coracle has not reached critical mass so as to need or to be able to staff for Rangers. The AOD role assures that one person from leadership has an eye on the event. The AOD works with Medical and Security as needed. The AOD makes sure that escalations go to the right place or person, and helps to solve problems or answer questions as they come up during the event. There were 16 AOD shifts for the entire event. By comparison it would have taken a minimum of 45 volunteer slots to fully staff for Rangers. So the AOD role also helped to keep volunteerism lean. AOD handled gate issues, general questions, found the appropriate lead or team when necessary, made sure approved guests were received and escorted.

The following chart shows that the volunteer positions were filled at an exceptionally high percentage!

Department	Requested	Filled Online	Walk-up	Total Filled	% Filled
Adult on Duty	16	15	1	16	100%
Build Team	2	2	0	2	100%
Gate	16	15	0	15	94%
Greeters	19	18	0	18	95%
Lamplighters	19	19	0	10	100%
Leave No Trace	10	10	0	10	100%
Off Center Camp	27	25	1	26	96%
Parking	18	14	0	14	78%
FAST	5	5	0	5	100%
Conclave	10	10	0	10	100%
Perimeter	15	7	12	19	127%
<b>Total</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>98%</b>

We can always use more help with Parking. If you would like to help out in Coracle 2025, send an email at [coracleoracles@gmail.com](mailto:coracleoracles@gmail.com).

# Off center camp

The venue has a structure conveniently located close to the rest rooms, drinking water, electricity, first aid & safety. Previous years we provided beverages. Last year we expanded “Coracle Coffee” to call it “Off Center Camp” to add an official information center and lounge area.

Evening and afternoon volunteers had the opportunity to host a mini activity during their block and were referred to as Off Center Camp Hosts. Host’s activities combined to create spontaneously beautiful happenings! COFFEE, TEA & HOT COCOA, OH MY We provided coffee, hot water, electrolyte beverage & tea from around 7:30 am – 12:30 am daily.

The onsite refrigerator was especially helpful to keep creamers cold without the need for a lot of ice. Hot water was also used to take back to camps for soups and other meal prep, as hot water bottles to carry in pockets, or just for drinking. Turmeric continues to be one of the most popular flavors of tea.



This year the Off Center Camp also provided a service to do runs for ice from a local store. Increasing the duration of the event resulted in participants needing more ice. Off Center Camp picked up 30 bags of ice, at cost, for participants.

## Information Center

Off Center Camp included a dedicated area for information for participants as a central gathering point. It provided:

- Map of the grounds & camps
- Schedules & descriptions of activities & theme camps
- Volunteer signups & information
- MOOP bags and LNT supplies
- Weather radio
- Lost & Found



- Served as a meeting spot for some volunteer teams

## **Off Center Camp Lounge**

The lounge area returned with picnic tables and a 10x20 shelter! The lounge area provided an enclosed and heated retreat during the weekend's cold hours & doubled as a place to hold scheduled and spontaneous events. At various times, volunteers held events in the space, such as: massage therapy, games, jokes, aluminum casting workshop, Art-walk and daily tea times.

The space gave many participants the opportunity to lead an activity for a short time without having to plan a weekend of activities and the associated need for infrastructure, lights, etc. Registration for a time slot at the lounge was available before and during the event.

The Off Center Camp is now ingrained in the Coracle culture and will continue in the coming years.

## **Leave No Trace**

The Off Center Camp was equipped with moop bags (Matter Out of Place). Participants were encouraged to practice Leave No Trace. Volunteers were on site throughout the event. All the coffee grounds generated from Off Center Camp were available for participants to take home for the garden. Few bags of trash were removed from the property. Volunteers swept every area of the property which Coracle used.

The Effigy sculpture was placed on a raised platform to protect the soil. All fires were elevated with the exception of an existing fire pit maintained by the venue. Most participants took serious responsibility for Leave No Trace and were excited to improve the property. The venue was left in a better condition; property representatives expressed that they were very pleased with the conditions.

Onsite bathrooms and showers were left clean. Cut firewood was donated to the venue.

# Leadership Learnings

Here's what worked and what we'll do differently next year.

## General Summary

Of the 21 camps present 13 were new to Coracle. We had 14 placed art projects, up from 6 in 2023. 10 were new to the event, 2 were updated from the prior year, and 2 were returning as-is. Six were supported with grants. All participants were excited by the beauty and potential of the space. We are happy with the growth level we set in terms of participants and camps this year and plan a steady and slow growth curve in the years to come.

## Camp Placement

We implemented our learnings from the last time at the venue. The sound camps were placed strategically.

## Ticketing

This was our first year doing Ticketing in-house. The website-lead integrated payment through stripe on the website.

## Coracle 2025

Coracle 2025 will be on or around Nov 7-10 2025.

# Financials

Please see a complete event balance sheet [here](#).

We made a \$700 donation to support storm victims of Hurricane Helene in NC and also \$700 to the Burning Man Project during the matching donation period.

# Gratitude

We would like to thank every single participant in Coracle 2024 for bringing their time, talent, treasure, and true selves to create a beautiful weekend.

Thank you to the Production Team for working tirelessly to put the weekend together.

Thank you to Shakori Hills Community Arts Center for housing us.

Thank you to the Burning Man Organization for its support.

**#thankslarry**