

KELLEY HOUSE MUSEUM

JOIN US
TODAY



JULY 4TH KELLEY HOUSE LAWN PARTY

11:00am - 3:00pm, Tuesday, July 4th

Grab a blanket or a camp chair and come celebrate the Fourth of July on the Kelley House lawn. Enjoy music by DJ Dylan, sip margaritas, wine, beer, and soda from the best parade-viewing spot on Main St. Admission is FREE, though we appreciate all donations! Note that we won't be serving food this year, but our neighbors at Rotary Park will have hot dogs that you can eat on the Kelley House lawn. Thank you to our sponsors North Coast Brewing Company, Harvest Market, and Old Gold Jewelry.

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WATER TOWER SIP & PAINT WITH SUZI LONG

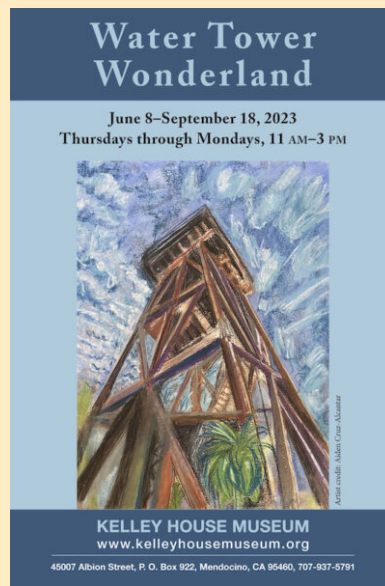
Sat., July 22nd, 1pm - 3pm

\$60 Members

\$75 General Public

Paint the iconic Kelley House water tower! Award-winning local artist Suzi Long will be your teacher as you paint your own water color masterpiece. With patience and humor she will show you perspective and proportion strategies and a few tricks employed by artists everywhere! No experience necessary. Enjoy the beautiful view while sipping local wine or sparkling cider. Supplies included. **Magnets** and **original paintings** of the water tower that once was Suzi's studio are also available for sale, with proceeds going to the Kelley House.

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NEW EXHIBIT: WATER TOWER WONDERLAND

Runs through September 18th
\$5 suggested donation

Discover the beauty, ingenuity, and architecture of these iconic structures in the Kelley House Museum's summer exhibit.

Using historic photographs, original pieces from local artists, and small-scale models, the exhibit explores the majesty and functionality of many well-known towers, including several still standing and many that aren't. One highlight is a three-foot model of the Kelley House's original 1879 water tower. On display are renderings of Mendocino water towers in several media.

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A PEEK INTO THE PAST



CITY HOTEL WATER TOWER

By Carol Dominy

(Photo credit: Robert Dominy)

The City Hotel Water Tower is the oldest standing water tower in the Mendocino Historic District. Built about 1873, this tankhouse provided water for J. E. Carlson's City Hotel, which was located at the western end of Main Street. Carlson originally installed a windmill to pump water to the tank at the top of the water tower. When a fierce windstorm destroyed the windmill in 1886, a Shipman coal oil engine was installed, and the pump was powered by steam. In 1888, J. D. Johnson replaced the engine with a Cyclone windmill, "the best windmill on the

market," according to the *Beacon*.

The Mendocino Lumber Company acquired the hotel property in 1917. Believing the abandoned hotel to be a fire hazard for their buildings on the west side of Heeser Street, company owners had the hotel building torn down and built a new bungalow in its place.

By 2002, the 130-year-old water tower leaned precariously to the east, and owners Rich and Carol Aguilar made plans to rehabilitate the structure. The *Beacon* reported on the restoration effort which began in 2003: "The present owner Rich Aguilar used the tank/tower until 1999 and has worked to stabilize it in the past with cables, steel I-beam, 40-foot steel brace and screw jacks. Buried railroad ties that he put in 20 years ago under the redwood foundation had sunk nearly a foot into the old well. Wednesday, July 16, saw it picked up, supported and fitted with wheels ready to move Thursday. The movers, Walker and Sons, made it look easy as they winched it out of the way for foundation work. The lower nine feet of framing will be replaced due to rot, but the rest of the framing and siding will be reused as much as possible by Rosenthal Construction. It will then be rotated a quarter turn (windows to the bay) and replaced on the exact previous footprint."

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NEW: WATER TOWER TOTE BAG



\$20

This tote bag is already the talk of the town! Fifteen of Mendocino's iconic water towers are showcased on this sturdy canvas bag, which makes a great gift, souvenir, or all-purpose shopping bag. The original design is by local artist Michelle Noe and is part of the current Kelley House exhibit. The 15" x 15" x 7" bag is a natural color with 23"-long black handles. To zoom in on a detail from the image, click on the BUY NOW button below.

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SPECIAL THANKS

Katy and David Tahja host a book sale every year on Memorial Day weekend, much to the delight of locals and visitors. They made \$600 for the Kelley House Museum this year, which we appreciate very much! We are so grateful for all of our volunteers, who help us keep our doors open. If you would like to donate a few hours of time a month to the Kelley House, we can find a job that suits your interests!

VOLUNTEER

**Kelley House Museum &
Research Center**
(707) 937-5791

**EMAIL
US**

