



JAMES CLARK/SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL

Cory Isaacson, from left, Antonia Davidson, Nelda Kerr, Amanda McKnight and Jacob Mikelionis get into the spirit as they prepare for the four-day Wild Noise Art Camp that began Monday.

SANTA CRUZ

Camps

✓ Arts, environment, fun

5pm 8-1-13

By Terri Morgan
Correspondent

SANTA CRUZ — If one of the hallmarks of a great artist is creativity, then creativity must be one of the hallmarks of a great art camp. That's how organizers of the First Annual Wild Noise art camp in the Santa Cruz redwoods envisioned it.

The four-day multifaceted arts experience for adults started Monday and ends Thursday at the 33-acre Happy Valley Conference Center on Branciforte

Drive.

Staffed and directed by professional artists, the interactive-arts experience serves both residential and commuter campers.

Participants gather wild, natural materials on the site and build a large-scale piece of installation art, make noise at nightly musical jams and help film the entire experience for inclusion in the 2013 Santa Cruz Film Festival.

Group and individual lessons are available to en-

hance the hands-on learning experience.

"It's an arts experience with a twist," said Nelda Kerr, the camp director, who doubles as a printmaker and dulcimer player. "Artists can come, jump in and be participants. It's really about collaborations."

The theme of the inaugural camp is arts and the environment, and artists spend most of their daytime hours on the trails that wind their way through the conference center's

grounds.

The entire process is filmed, and participants learn or hone digital editing skills to create a short experimental film scored by music produced by other campers.

On the final day of the program, the camp will team up with staff from the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History at the McPherson Center to create a pop-up temporary museum on the center grounds to display their works.