

“Grass Valley School District educators allowed and encouraged me to be myself.”

Ben Lastufka, graduate of the Grass Valley School District, received his Bachelors of Fine Art from Sonoma State University. Currently, Ben's art is being featured in an art gallery in Healdsburg, CA: he has also recently been commissioned by Imagery Estate Winery to do the artwork on one of their wine labels. During the day, Ben is a registered veterinary technician and the Nursing Manager of a 24-hour emergency and multispecialty veterinary hospital in Santa Rosa.

But after hours, Ben's focus is on his paintings in his studio. According to Ben, his days with the Grass Valley School District were key to his current success in both professions. “Many people remember that one special teacher who made a difference in their life. I am fortunate enough to remember several. The educators of the Grass Valley School District allowed and encouraged me to be myself.”

• My name is **Ben Lastufka.**

I'm a GVSD Alumnus.



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Grass Valley School District