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President's Message Odds & Ends

Face Lift: Have you noticed the changing looks to the gallery in the past months? Following a workshop put on by DID (Downtown Improvement District) to encourage improvement in the looks of Downtown Modesto through enhanced window displays and store layout, our intrepid gallery gurus have been experimenting with both. Gift shop displays have been pulled out of the corner and placed throughout the gallery and in the front window area usually

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Calendar of Events • April to June

Mar. 29: Opening of **Art Quilts 2**

April 2-3: **Batik Workshop**

April 6: Exhibition Committee, 3:30 pm

April 9: **Family Open Studio** non-instructional drop in art activity for everyone! Noon - 4:00.

April 9: **Spring Paint Party!** Sip & Paint along with Vicki Reid, 7-9 p.m.

April 11: Board Meeting

April 17: **Happy Easter!**

April 19: Deadline to **enter Trash to Treasure** on SmarterEntry.

April 21: **3rd Thursday Art Walk and Child/Adult Tie Dye Class**, 5-8 p.m.

April 23-24: **Stanislaus Artist Open Studio** tour, 11 - 5 both days.

May 1: **Trash to Treasure** receiving, 10 - 2 p.m.

May 3: **Opening of Trash to Treasures:** Found Object Art, Upcycled, Repurposed and Recycled Art

May 4: Exhibition Committee, 3:30 pm

May 4 - June 1: **Explorations in Clay**, class for kids 8-14, 5 Wednesdays.

May 7-8: **Mosaic Workshop** with Karen Kingsbury

May 9: Board Meeting

May 14: **Family Open Studio** non-instructional drop in art activity for everyone! Noon - 4:00.

May 19: **3rd Thursday Art Walk**, 5-8 with drop-in art activity

May 20: Deadline to **enter The World Around Us** on SmarterEntry

May 21- June 18: **Preschool/Caregiver Art Exploration** class for kids 3-5, Saturday mornings.

May 28: **Cabaret with Golden Bough**, Celtic trio, 7 - 10 p.m.

June 1: Exhibition Committee, 3:30 pm

June 7: **Opening of Triple Take:** Plein Air Artists with Three Views, and **The**

World Around Us member landscapes.

June 8-10: **Painting Exploration** for Kids, ages 8-14

June 11: **Family Open Studio** non-instructional drop in art activity for everyone! Noon - 4:00.

June 13-17: **Nature Junior Art Camp**, ages 8-12

June 16: **3rd Thursday Art Walk** with drop-in art activity

June 23- July 7: **Acrylic Painting** for Adults, Thursday evenings 5:30 - 8

June 27 - July 1: **Sculpture Junior Art Camp**, ages 8-12

June 21-24: **Kinder Art Camp**, ages 5-7

June 20: Deadline to **enter People, Places and Things** on SmarterEntry

June 30: **Renew your Membership!**

Visit ccaagallery.org/shop for complete list of classes and registration.

President's Message from page 1

inhabited by the artist of the month. Additional plans are afoot to improve the lighting on the front window displays and to seek ideas for eye-catching and inviting display designs. I haven't done a formal poll, but several people have spontaneously voiced their opinion that they have noticed and liked the subtle shifts. If you have opinions and/or ideas in this regard, please tell Linda Knoll or Vicki Reid.

Cabarets are coming back!

Because of the pandemic, it's been two years since our last offering in the Grace Lieberman Cabaret Series. It's time to start again. Scheduling performers has not been as easy as I had imagined. It seems that the forced time off has caused many to rethink their priorities. Nevertheless, the offerings as of this date include: **Golden Bough**, an internationally known local Celtic music group, is scheduled for May 28th. **Synergy**, the chamber music group who were the last to perform in the gallery in 2020 will be presenting "Music of the America's II" on July 30th. **Karolina Syrovatkova**, a dramatic concert pianist who opened our cabaret series in 2019 with her production of "Clara," will bring her new creation, "Lady in a Bow Tie," to our center on November 12th. Mark your calendars. Additional information will be coming as the dates approach.

Grant Applications: We have just finished the application for a continuation of our SLP (State Local Partnership) grant through the California Arts Council. If successful, it will bring in \$65,000 to support our efforts toward developing an arts council for Stanislaus County. (We are currently operating in the second year of an initial \$90,000 award.) During the pandemic shutdown, we were also able to achieve a \$25,000 grant for COVID relief through the County and receive a continuation of the Art in Schools grant for \$18,000. Because of these funds, we

have come through the pandemic relatively intact.

Member Meeting:

In case you missed the member meeting on March 2nd, and most of you did, it was recorded and is available for review on



the gallery web site. We will be scheduling future meetings on a more regular basis assuming the pandemic remains at a manageable level.

As we emerge from the black hole of COVID and resume our artistic lives, I'm reminded of a strange non-sequitur once uttered by a patient at the end of a therapy session. "I feel more like I do now than I did when I came in."

David Schroeder

CSUS Student Intern at work

Arlette Alvarez, a studio art major at Cal State, Stanislaus, has been helping out this semester as an intern in marketing and gallery management. She's attended numerous activities and classes, stealthily filming and taking pictures for our new Tik Tok account!



Arlette was also excited to be part in receiving and hanging the *Young@Art* student show, and hopes to help with upcoming shows as well. She's had a lot of great ideas about reaching a youthful audience.

If you're a Tik Tok fan, follow us @ccaagallery!



2022 Art Scholars at Work

The current group of Art Scholars are hard at work on several projects. Nine students, age 13 - 16, started sessions in February with a "Trash to Treasure" project, using plastic and paper waste to create sculptures. Then, they tried out block printing and have also been working on action figure drawing.

We'd like to thank **Delta Kappa Gamma** and the **California Retired Teachers Association** for their generous donations to make this program possible. We also appreciate those who donated and purchased items from our Art Supply Sale in January. Proceeds help this program and other education projects. A reception and showing of their work will take place on April 20, and will be on display during the April 21 Art Walk.



April 21 • May 19 • June 16

Looking ahead to summer shows

Trash to Treasures: Found Object Art, Up- cycled, Repurposed, Recycled Art

Open May 3 – June 4

This show, open to all artists, will be on exhibit at the Mistlin Gallery during the month of May. The theme of “Trash to Treasures” calls for artists to create art from discarded, unwanted or disposable items. The resulting artwork can include wall hangings, sculptures, fabric art, and small furniture pieces. All media will be accepted. Stretch your imagination and have fun. The reception and prize awards will happen during the Third Thursday Art Walk on May 19th. The final day to enter is April 19.

Awards: Monetary prizes and ribbons will be awarded for First Place (\$100), Second Place (\$75), Third Place (\$50), and Best of show (\$150). Honorable Mention will be awarded a ribbon. The People’s Choice award will be announced at the Art Walk.

Current sponsors include Suzanne McCaslin, Modesto Junk Co., Jim Newell, Janet Powell, George Reid, anonymous.

Triple Take: Plein Air Artists with Three Views + The World Around Us

Open June 7 – July 9

Our main gallery will feature the works of regionally acclaimed plein air artists Chella, Rick Ingraham and Vince Walsh. Each grouping will consist of one location painted en plein air, showing the unique perspective and style of each artist, as shown below of the McHenry Mansion. *Current sponsors include: Shelton Lee Flooring, Tracy’s Nursery and Gardens, Scarlata Farms.*

The World Around Us will be a collection of landscapes and seascapes to compliment the plein air exhibit. Enter online before May 20. All work will be done by local and regional member artists and photographers, including several watercolors by the late Dan Petersen. All work is for sale.

People, Places and Things

Open July 12 – August 6

This exhibit calls for artist to show

their unique perspective of the world around us. The OPEN show will accept works in any media, including, but not limited to paint, clay, tile, paper, graphite, photos or digital art. Enter online before June 20. Any artist is welcome to enter, however we cannot accept shipped works. In person delivery is July 10. The theme can include landscapes, environmental portraits, still life, people and creatures, real or imagined. Submissions for the show will be accepted through Smarter Entry through June 20. Members use code CCAA2022 for member pricing.

Entries now being accepted for all three shows at <https://client.smarterentry.com/ccartasn>

6th Annual Autumn Art Festival

Open August 16 to October 15

The AAF is the annual juried member show, featuring the best works of our CCAA community. Prizes are awarded in 5 categories of media. Committee members are needed to help organize the show and gala, our biggest fundraiser of the year. Help us make it better than ever!



Triple Take: three views of the McHenry Mansion. Left by Chella, center by Rick Ingraham, right by Vince Walsh.

Artist Open Studio tour 10th Anniversary

Stanislaus Artist Open Studio Tour returns for its 10th anniversary on **Saturday, April 23 and Sunday, April 24, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** A free booklet, available online and in print, contains photos of the art and descriptions of the 41 artists on the tour. Tour participants can plan their car rides to visit artisans and makers of jewelry, ceramics, paintings, wood working, mosaic, textiles and photography metal working. Artists may show visitors the tools and materials while demonstrating some of their skills. Visitors can purchase directly from the artists while supporting the local art community. On the tour, visitors can enter a free drawing to win one of four art pieces, created by artists Rhett Owings, Barbara Gill, Randy Crimmel, and Richard Bradshaw.

Artists will display directional signs to their studios or outdoor spaces. The tour booklet will be available at Mistlin Gallery, 1015 J Street, Modesto, Tuesday through Friday, 11:30 am to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Carnegie Arts Center, 250 Broadway, Turlock, Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and online at www.stanislausaos.com.

The first Artist Open Studio tour was organized in 2010 by Alice Richards, who provided the start-up money and organized the artists. Ms. Richards worked with the Travel and Tourism Board and the Stanislaus County Regional Roundtable to support the artists. The Roundtable was a group of business leaders and service organizations from the nine Stanislaus cities. The goal of the Artist Open Studio Tour was to promote county talent and to build an audience and patrons for the visual arts. The Roundtable hosted an event at the Modesto Convention Center, where the public learned about Artist Open Studio. Mistlin Gallery



Alice and Alan Richards at the display of artist, Carol David.

hosted the artists' potlucks and distributed materials for the artists. The Gallo Center for the Arts hosted preview shows for Open Studio Artists in the lobby. The Modesto Bee publicized the event on the cover of Scene Magazine. Local business supported the tour by purchasing advertisements in the tour book. The first tour map was \$10 and included thirty artists and "passport" with entry form to win a piece of art. The tour repaid Ms. Richards and became self-sufficient. However, COVID canceled the 2020 tour, and all the booklets were discarded. Following COVID guidelines, the tour resumed on October 2021 and became free to the public. This year's event includes eleven artists who participated in the original 2011 tour.



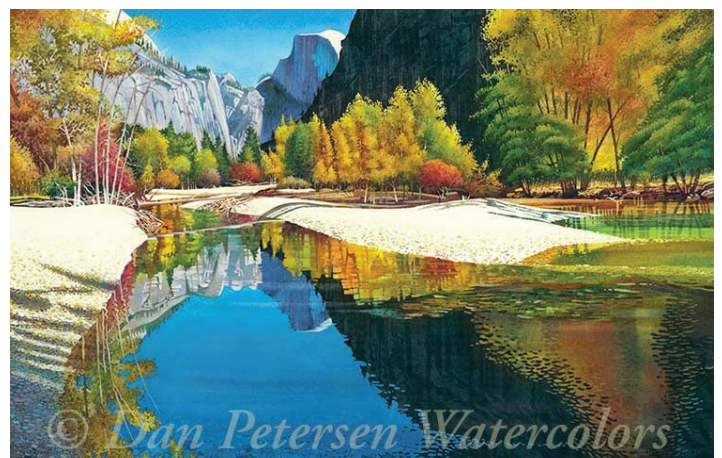
*In Memoriam
Carol David
1937 - 2022*

Artist, supporter, generous soul.

Dan Peterson Memorial Exhibit

Coming to the Mistlin gallery June 7 - July 9.

Yosemite landscapes with transparent rocks and water were what made Dan Peterson's watercolors notable and outstanding. Several of his original paintings will be hanging and for sale at the Mistlin Gallery this summer. Plan a visit to the gallery to admire some of his masterpieces.



It's the Water

I could, of course, be delusional, but it seems to me that Modesto may be at the center of a vortex of creative, artistic energy. I've never been a big believer in the humanistic interpretation of vortices, such as those purported to exist at places such as Sedona, Arizona, wherein the spiral movement of energy in and out of our earthly plane is supposed to aid people in their spiritual development. But when I took on the task of reviving the Arts Council for Stanislaus County and began making a list of the artists and art groups in the area, and picking up bits of their history, I was amazed at the abundance (or should I say overabundance?) of talented people from here who have achieved prominence in their fields over the years. Beyond that, there also seemed to be clusters of these overachievers appearing at specific points in time that belied the fact that they all came from a small rural town in the Central Valley of California.

When I mentioned this observation to my friend, Roy Stevens, the general director of Opera Modesto (a Modesto native who had gone on to an international career in opera and recently returned to his home town to take of the helm of the company created by another Modesto native, Eric "Buck" Townsend), he didn't blink or question my thoughts, but instead rattled off a list of people he had shared the stage with in the early days of Modesto Youth Theater (now Modesto Performing Arts), under the

direction of Paul Tischer, all of whom had gone on to achieve a level of prominence in their field.

Some of the names were familiar to me, such as Robert Ulrich who was the casting director behind the hit show Glee, for which he won an Emmy Award, and Melanee Wyatt who had gone to New York to pursue a performance career becoming a well known "plus-size" cover girl before returning to Modesto where she started YES company, a youth oriented musical theater group that has spawned numerous other stars in the field. Other names were less familiar, but once Googled, their prominence became clear. There was Kim Johnson Ulrich, Robert's wife who accompanied him to New York and Hollywood where she became a model and a T.V. actress, appearing for a number of years on "As the World Turns." Terry James, a handsome young man with a terrific voice went to Chicago as an actor and became the executive director of the Marriott Theater, one of the most prestigious theaters in the Chicago area. Holly Butler, an actress, singer/songwriter became famous for developing an aerobics program (20 Minute Workout) and appearing as a Marilyn Monroe look-a-like – recently writing a book about the experience, "Me Myself Marilyn." Greg Dean became a clown and later created Greg Dean's Stand Up Comedy Classes and has now trained generations of successful comedians. Douglas Nasrawi became an international opera star. Vernon Willet began as an actor/singer and went on to become a stage manager for major theaters throughout the country. Roger Freitas got a Ph.D. in music history and teaches at the prestigious Eastman School of Music, becoming an international level researcher and award winning author. Brian Beltran continued as

a professional actor and dancer, appearing in several movies. Mark Siciliani became a professional actor in T.V. and movies. The group also consisted of singer/actors, such as Joe Rykert, Dawn Peterson, and Karen Lotko who remained in the community as top performing artists and teachers, touching many lives and beginning new career threads leading out from Modesto.

And if we expand the list beyond this "Golden Age" of musical theater, the numbers continue to grow beyond expectation. Lindsay Pearce appeared on the hit show, Glee, and is now starring as Elphaba in Wicked on Broadway. Morgan James is a singer, songwriter, and actress who has been in numerous Broadway shows and is a star on Post-Modern Juke Box. Jeremy Stolle performs on Broadway in the cast of Phantom of the Opera and tours with his own concert series. Then there is Jeremy Renner of Hollywood and "Hurt Locker" fame, and Timothy Olyphant

continueud next page



Paul Tischer, director of MPA

CCAA receives support from and has been designated as the Arts Council of Stanislaus County by the



Its the water, from page 5

of T.V. "Justified" fame. And we could add a few young, rising stars such as Samuel Gerber performing with the touring company of "Mean Girls" and Matthew Pena, an opera singer in Germany who I sang with when he was a teenager in a few Townsend Opera productions. And, speaking of opera singers who have their roots in our area, Nathan Stark and Sandra Bengochea have become well known beyond our city limits. Going in the other (older) direction we'd have to include, the aforementioned, Eric "Buck" Townsend (Opera), the old timer, Harve Presnel (actor, singer, movie star). And of course, the "King of the Mountain," George Lucas.

As I stated at the beginning of this article, the sheer number of successful

artists coming from our, then, small community, seemed to be beyond what might be expected. I realize that artistic talent is probably distributed randomly throughout the universe, but this is Modesto, a sleepy, agriculturally based, Valley town. Why here? Many, but not all the people I've listed, point to their experiences with Paul Tischer and the Modesto Youth Theater as the formative focus for their later careers. But not all of the performers went that route. Then too, this is just a list of performing artists. I've begun to look at other artistic genres and am discovering similar groupings in areas such as dance and the visual arts, such as Kirk Rademaker, the internationally renowned sand artist, and Yvonne Porcella, a globally known fiber artist. The biggest surprise, however, has been in the realm of



poetry. The first time I attended the "Ill List," a slam poetry contest at the State Theater, the brain child of Sam Pierstorff, I was astounded at the sold-out crowd that was cheering wildly for the performers. Poetry? Sold out? Seriously?

Since then, I've come to accept, without question, that we're in a special place, blessed with an abundance of artistic vibrations of unknown origin. My speculation that there may be some kind of energy vortex at play may be a bit fanciful and esoteric. The explanation could be as simple as that suggested by Robert Ulrich in one of my first talks with him. When others have asked him about the list, he says, "It's the Water." It is on our arch, you know.

David Schroeder

Above: Robert Ulrich

Left: Roy Stevens in Rigoletto

SUMMER CLASSES & CAMPS 2022



Nature Junior Art Camp

Monday - Friday, June 13-17, 9am to Noon

\$200 per student Ages 8-12

In this week long camp, participants will create art that captures the wonders and beauty of our earth's rainforests. We will explore the rainforest's flora and fauna using painting, mixed media, and 3 dimensional techniques. Materials included.



Sculpture Junior Art Camp

Monday - Friday, June 27-July 1, 9am to Noon

\$225 per student Ages 8-12

Join us as we make 3-dimensional creations while learning the difference between additive and subtractive sculpture techniques. We'll work with paper maché, plaster, foam, fabric and more during this week-long art camp! Ages 8-12.



Around the World Junior Art Camp

Monday - Friday, July 18-July 22, 9am to Noon

\$200 per student Ages 8-12

Travel the world in a week by creating art that explores the unique landscapes and cultures of the planet. Participants will use a variety of 2 dimensional and 3D art techniques. Materials included.



Book Making Junior Art Camp

Monday - Friday, July 11-July 15, 9am to Noon

\$200 per student Ages 8-12

Join us as we create and illustrate stories, then make them into hand-made works of art. We'll include some fun paper projects including marbling, stamping and painting that will be made into mini books for your child's stories. Ages 8-12. Materials included.

CLASSES FOR ADULTS



Intro to Graphite Drawing with Chris Obers

Saturday, June 4, 1pm to 4pm

\$60 per student Supply List Provided

Drawing with graphite is considered the foundation of all art. At traditional art schools, it's the first medium students must master. In this 3-hour workshop, we will cover the following:

- Hard vs soft graphite, and how each is used in a drawing
- Different papers and how they interact with graphite
- Different kinds of graphite medium, - powdered, water soluble, sticks
- Techniques



Preschooler & Caregiver Art Exploration

Five Saturdays 11am to 11:45am

May 21, May 28, June 4, June 11, June 18

\$15 per session Ages 3-5 and caregiver

Join us for a fun, low stress exploration of art materials and creativity aimed at pre-school aged children (ages 3 to 5) with a parent, grandparent or other caregiver. Each class focuses on a make-and-take art project to bring home. Materials included.



Kinder Art Camp

Tues. - Fri., June 21-24, 10am to 11:30am

-OR- Tues. - Fri., July 26-29 10am to 11:30am

\$90 per student Ages 5-7

A fun and skill-building art camp for our youngest learners. Explore many types of art materials including oil pastels, tempera paints, paper collage, watercolors, and Model Magic clay. Appropriate for ages 4 - 7.



Painting Exploration for kids

Wednesday-Friday, June 8, 9, 10

9:30am to 11am

\$150 per student Ages 8-14

This 3 session class will be focused on exploring Watercolor and Acrylic Painting. The class will cover basics of mixing color and proper use of materials. Students will complete 1 painting to take home each class. Materials included.



Explorations in Clay

Wednesdays, May 4, May 11, May 18, May 25, June 1
3:30pm to 5pm

\$150 per student Ages 8-14

Kids 8 - 14 will love working with a variety of clay mediums including ceramic clay, polymer clay, paper clay and model magic. Instructor, Linda Knoll, will cover hand building and slab techniques. Projects will include a vessel, a relief sculpture and a other unique projects. Materials included.

Additional classes and registration at ccaagallery.org/shop or register at the gallery, or by phone 209-529.3369

Art Quilts 2 now open through April 30

When Sue Siefkin proposed filling our April show with **Art Quilts 2**, we couldn't believe our luck! These quilts are not your grandmas's quilts! They are products of members of SAQA, Studio Art Quilt Associates, begun by Modesto's own Yvonne Porcella in 1989.

The vision was to create an organization to:

- Promote art quilts to major art publications, museums, and galleries
- Educate the public about art quilts
- Serve as a forum for the professional development of quilt artists
- Act as a resource for curators, dealers, consultants, teachers, students, and collectors

Over the past 30 years, SAQA has grown to over 3,700 members around the globe. The quilts in this show were made by members in California and Nevada. Most of the quilts are for sale. Our local *Country Crossroads Quilters* have contributed a supply of "tiny" quilts which are also for sale during the show.

Current sponsors for the show include: Sue Siefkin, Marie Bergstedt, Geri Kutras, Carol Bregman, Annette Molnar, Denise Miller, Lys Axelson and MJ Kiskinen.



Sunset at Camel Rock, by Angie Tustison of McKinleyville

MistingGallery



Central California Art Association

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<http://ccaagallery.org>



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