

Presidents Message Collaboration: One Path Forward

When I first moved to Modesto in the 1970's and became involved with the arts in the area, the scene was characterized by territorial boundaries and "silo" organizations. Suggestions that the arts groups could find ways to work together were met with adamant refusals. The groups saw themselves as being in competition with each other for the small amounts of money and fan support available in the community. At that time, the successful arts organizations were mostly organized around central, charismatic figures who jealously guarded their territory

and often kept close watch on their followers. I remember being seriously questioned, with disapproval, by Buck Townsend, the founder of TOP, when I chose to take roles with other performing arts groups in the area in addition to TOP. Stories I heard from other performers told me that this wasn't an unusual situation.

I'm not suggesting that my experience was typical of all arts groups, but it did illustrate, to some degree, the prevailing mood of the times. Nor am I saying that that early attitude was completely wrong. For a newly developing organization to grow, it's important to have a close-knit group of dedicated followers to share the burdens and joy of creation. But once established, further growth often

requires that we open our doors to let others in and find ways to interact with others in our community. And in doing so, it's not uncommon to discover that by collaborating with others we often find ways to mutually benefit from shared endeavors.

It's been a slow learning curve, but in my 50 years of mucking about in the local arts scene, it was surprising, and gratifying, to hear Roy Stevens, the Executive Director of Opera Modesto, say to an audience at a recent cabaret event, that our local art scene is in a new era of collaboration and cooperation. He briefly recounted the past in much the same way as I have in this article, and then went on to describe the many ways that performing arts

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Calendar of Events • July through September

July 1: Renew your Membership!

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

July 10: Pick up art from The World Around Us, deliver art for People, Places and Things.

July 11: Board Meeting

July 11 - 15: Junior Art Camp: Bookmaking and Illustration (see p7)

July 12: Opening of *People, Places and Things*

July 16-17: Mosaic Workshop with Karen Kingsbury (see p7)

July 18-22: Junior Art Camp: Around the World (see p7)

July 21: 3rd Thursday Art Walk with poetry reading and book signing by Linda Scheller.

July 19-23: Pop-up Exhibition by residents at Samaritan Village retirement community

July 23-24: Teen/Adult Workshop: Make Pop-Up Books (see p7)

July 26-29: Kinder Art Camp (see p7)

July 30: Cabaret Concert with Synergy Chamber Players

July 28, Aug. 4, 11: Acrylic Painting for Adults workshop. (see p7)

Aug 1: Exhibition Committee, 3:30 pm

Aug. 3: Deadline to enter Autumn Art Festival (see p3)

Aug. 6: Family Open Studio drop in art activity for everyone! Noon - 4:00.

Aug. 7-8: Receiving or art works for AAF, 11 am - 4 pm

Aug. 7: Pick up works from *People, Places and Things*, 11 - 4.

Aug. 8: Board Meeting

Aug. 9-13: Gallery Closed for AAF preparations

Aug. 16: Opening of 6th Annual Autumn Art Festival

Aug. 18: 3rd Thursday Art Walk, 5-8 with drop-in art activity

Sept. 3: Family Open Studio drop in art activity for everyone! Noon - 4:00.

Sept. 10: Autumn Art Festival Awards Gala and auction 6-9 p.m. Tickets at ccaagallery.org/shop

Sept. 12: Board Meeting

Sept. 15: 3rd Thursday Art Walk 5-8 with drop-in art activity

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

Gift Shop Artists Wanted

The Mistlin Gallery Gift Shop is looking for unique, one-of-a-kind items that are made by local artists and artisans. All submitted items must be hand-made or designed by the artist with a high standard of craftsmanship.

Over the years, a growing and constantly evolving group of local artists have found the CCAA's Gift Shop as a great venue to sell their artworks year-round. In the past year, we've moved the Gift Shop merchandise into galleries A and B and continue to stretch and move our boundaries to accommodate the various shows.



In memoriam: Marianne Ward

Marianne Ward passed away peacefully, with her family gathered, under hospice care on June 5, 2022. She was a valued member of the Central California Art Association at Mistlin Gallery for several years where she served on the Board of Directors and as the chairperson of the Exhibition Committee.

She enjoyed organizing and curating monthly art shows at the gallery for local artists that were open to the community. During the many galas and fundraising events, she offered her cooking, flower arranging and staging expertise. Her Christmas tree decorating skills were unsurpassed!

Marianne gave generously of her time and talents to CCAA and will be greatly missed by the many friends she met and worked with there.

Information and Gift Shop applications are available in the gallery in the Gift Shop binder, located at the docent desk. You can also get information on our website ccaagallery.org/gift-shop/ or come into the gallery on the second Saturday of every month from noon to 3:00 P.M. and talk to one of our Gift Shop Committee members.

Participation in the gift shop requires a \$40 one-year membership. The commission is the same as our shows for all CCAA members – 25% for those who volunteer 6+ hours per month and 40% for those who do not. Stop by to find that gift for that special someone!

Teaching Artists wanted for CLASS

The CLASS program has been going strong for 10+ years. COVID threw us a loop with school closures, and several of our teaching artists moved on to other pursuits. We are now looking for **a few artists who would like to teach elementary age students in the classroom setting.** A credential isn't necessary, but experience with young children is a plus. Teachers go out to schools around the county to present lessons designed by the CLASS team. Jobs are usually a full day between 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Although it's not a full time gig, it's a super way to get involved and get paid too! For more information, call Linda Knoll at 209-247-2626 or email class.ccaa@gmail.com

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groups in the area are working together to produce quality events by sharing talent, physical assets, and facilities.

It got me thinking of the steps we at CCAA have also taken in this direction. We, too, share a few tangible assets (tables and chairs) with Opera Modesto, and we've mounted a few "Collision" exhibits which combine the artistic work of photographers with those of area poets. In a similar vein, Vicki Reid is working on a show for

Time to renew your membership

July is the beginning of the new membership year. If you haven't already, please send in your renewal right away. We depend on memberships and donations to keep the doors open.

We'll be putting together the new year's directory, plus updating our "Meet the Artist" section on the website. Any member artist can submit works for the website. Contact Linda at ccaagallery@gmail.com for details.

Docents (STILL) needed

We are always looking for members to volunteer as docents or to serve on committees, but since the pandemic, we have lost some of our docents, so it has become even more challenging to keep our doors open. Some people are working double time just so we can stay open. We have possible evening hours available as well as regular shifts from 11 - 2 and 2 - 5 p.m. Those who would like to volunteer as docents, please contact Tommi Lou Carosella (tlcarosella@gmail.com) or Diane Sorensen (dianesorensen@hotmail.com) to schedule a training or to work a shift. If you are an artist and work six or more hours a month, you can qualify for a 25% commission rate rather than the normal 40% commission on all of your sales. If you have docented before, please consider coming back. We need you!

2023 which will combine the shared works of artists from a wide variety of genres. These are small steps toward full collaboration in which all parties are equal and committed to the success of a shared project, but we're going in the right direction. As we continue to explore our role as the Arts Council for Stanislaus County, collaboration, in all its variations, will be a key ingredient for success.

David Schroeder, Board President

Autumn Art Festival coming up!

6th Annual Autumn Art Festival Open Aug. 16 to Oct. 15

The Autumn Art Festival is a CCAA member only juried art show and fundraiser at the Mistlin Gallery from August 16 – October 15. Awards are given at the fundraiser gala on September 10. Art Walks are on August 18 and September 15.

Jurors and Judges: Deborah Barr, Lucinda Kasser, Michael Severin

Categories

Art will be accepted, and prizes given in five categories.

Water Media and Ink: Acrylic, watercolor, alcohol inks

Oil and Pastel: All entries using predominantly these mediums

Graphics: Photography, digital art, drawings (pencil and ink), printmaking, mono-prints

Mixed Media: Any two-dimensional art with significant use of two or more mediums.

3-Dimensional: Pottery, Sculpture, fabric art, etc. that is 3-dimensional in nature.

Awards

Best of Show \$500, First Place in each category \$150, Second Place in each category \$100, Third Place in each category \$50. Merit awards also to be given by the jurors and the Mayor at their discretion. The People's Choice awards will be announced during the August 18th and September 15th Art Walks.

Submission of Works

Works must be original, recent and created solely by the artist. Work done under classroom supervision is not acceptable. No work previously exhibited in Autumn Art Festival is allowed. Submitted works of art must be physically brought into the gallery to be juried into the show. Pieces that are not accepted need to be picked up on the dates listed below with no exceptions.



2021 Autumn Art Festival Best of Show, *Home Stretch* by Brad Hawn

Fees and Number of Entries

Each artist may submit up to five entries at \$20 per entry. \$30 for oversize entries whose perimeters are greater than 144 inches. Membership dues are \$60 for those who are not current members. All artists who enter will receive a complimentary gala ticket to be picked up the night of the Gala. These tickets are for the artist only.

Calendar of Events

August 3 - Deadline for submission of prospectus (see page 4)

August 7 and 8 - Receiving 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Artwork to be submitted for jurying and judging (actual artworks must be submitted for this process)

August 13 - Jurying and judging of artwork 10:00 a.m. - completion (lunch 1:00 pm)

August 13 and 14 - Notify artists by email which works were accepted and/or awarded and which works need to be picked up.

August 14 and 15 - Curate and hang show.

August 14 and 15 - Artists pick up artwork not accepted into show; 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 pm.

August 16 - Show opens

August 18 and September 15 - Art Walks

September 10 - Awards Gala and Fundraiser: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm (Awards, banquet, music, raffle) Tickets \$35 at ccaagallery.org/shop

October 15 - Show closes

October 16 and 17 - Artists pick up artwork: noon – 4:00 p.m.

Download the prospectus at <https://ccaagallery.org/exhibitions/autumn-art-festival/>

Girl on Red by Jack Morris



Sharing the Wealth of Opportunity and Participation

To participate and/or volunteer at the Mistlin Gallery is an opportunity with great benefits. Yes, it's hard work, but the benefits of becoming a full participant in our programs and exhibitions will bring a wealth of knowledge, connections, cultural opportunities, community participation, joy, satisfaction, and most of all will help spread the love of the arts to our young people.

The future success of the CCAA and the Mistlin gallery lies in the hands of our young adults. In recent months we have seen the passing of several long-time members of our gallery and arts community. Many more that have held the torch for years are still with us, carrying on the tradition. These people have a wealth of knowledge that needs to be passed on to the younger generations. In addition to this, the ingenuity, fresh perspectives, and technological savvy of our younger generations is essential to the continued success of the CCAA/Mistlin gallery.

We must work hard to connect the knowledge and experience of the past with the innovation and technology of the future if we are to pass the torch of the love for the arts to our future generations. To do this we must access and recruit a younger audience, as well as younger artists and younger volunteers! To appeal to these younger people, we must take a critical look at what we offer and how we are offering it. We cannot afford to rely on the old standbys to get us through.

Reaching out to younger artists and patrons is key to sharing the wealth of opportunity and participation. Setting an example of the love of art and the importance of community involvement is essential to developing love and appreciation of the arts in our young people. Lack of opportunities for young people to participate in the arts is one of the barriers that is faced by young people in smaller rural communities like Modesto. As the area's largest art organization, the CCAA has a great responsibility to ensure the continuation and growth of our arts community.

I challenge you all to share an art experience with a young person in

your life! Take them to an exhibition, a theatrical production, a symphony opera, ask them how they feel about the arts. Ask yourself how you can help them find their passion in art! Pay for an art class, help them to learn how to enter an exhibition. Encourage them to volunteer at the gallery, we welcome younger people (18+) to serve on committees and volunteer. Take them to the gallery and encourage them to talk with us about the art and what they would like to see or participate in. Listen to them! Let them show YOU what gets them excited. Share the wealth of opportunity and participation with our young people.

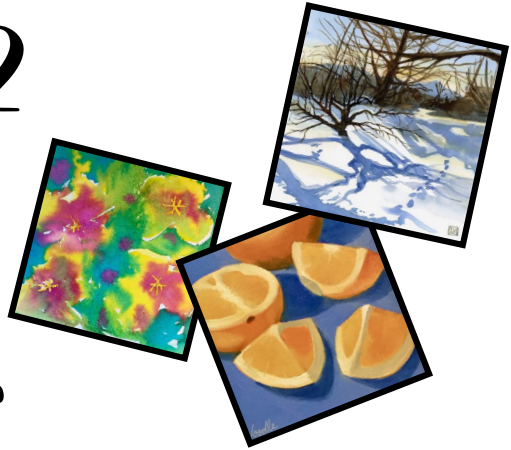
As exhibition chair, I would love to hear from your younger family members and learn from them what we can do to appeal to their interests. I am always eager to hear about new innovative ideas that we can implement at the gallery. Please pass this information on to them.

Sincerely,

Vicki Reid, exhibition chair

I can be contacted through my email at: victorvoodle@gmail.com or through Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicki.reid.796>) or Instagram ([vicvoodle](https://www.instagram.com/vicvoodle)), Stanislaus Sketchers (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/151252497158288>)

Six² Six-inch Square Art Fundraiser



What is this about?

This is a fundraiser for the Central California Art Association, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) that provides opportunities for artists and community members to participate in and attend quality art exhibitions, classes, events, and educational programs.

Who can participate?

Anyone can participate! Non-artists and artists, individuals, groups, teams, businesses, co-workers, students, churches, classes, associations, etc. Try it as a fun activity for team building or classroom projects!

When and where?

Nov. 22 - Dec. 23
Mistlin Gallery

Modesto, California

Art pieces will be accepted any time between now and the beginning of the show. There will be several opportunities to participate in group art-making sessions at the gallery and in the community leading up to the show for those who need direction or just want to co-create with others. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates!

How to participate?

Create original art (no copyrighted images) on a 6 by 6 inch square surface. Use any medium on or which can be mounted on a firm surface. Paint the sides of thick canvases. Please seal water based mediums and works that will smudge with fixative or varnish. Put your name and contact information on the label provided and affix to the back of your art. No frames or hanging hardware are necessary. See more guidelines on the back of this flyer.

Carefully package and mail or deliver your art to:

Mistlin Gallery, Attn: Vicki Reid
1015 J Street, Modesto, CA 95354



Amazing Grace

As we seek to re-establish an Arts Council for Stanislaus County, my thoughts often circle around Grace Lieberman and the work she did as the first director of the first arts council in our community. She was both a participant, as a singer/performer, and a lover of all art forms. She had a personality such that that everyone in the arts community regarded her as their own best friend.

Her unique personality was revealed in a story that she liked to tell about herself. When she first met Buck Townsend, the founder of Townsend Opera Players, she was to play Aldonza to his Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha* for Paul Tischer. Grace was old, short and pudgy at the time. Buck took one look at her and announced, in his regal way, "She is not MY Aldonza." Grace paused but persisted, played the role three times with him, became his best friend, and helped promote the growth of the opera company.

She wasn't to be defeated as an artist and wouldn't let others back down either. Personally, whenever I would abandon my art in favor of making a living and supporting a family, Grace would grab me by the neck and drag me into a performing role or arrange a showing of my photography. At one point she told me that she thought she should become a talent agent so she could help people do the things they were meant to do.

Programmatically, Grace started or played a prominent role in a number of programs, some of which still exist today. The STARS (Stanislaus

Artists as Resources to Schools) program placed artists from various genres in classrooms to counteract the diminishing support for art in the schools. According to the council's newsletter, STARS was a successful program for over 21 years. Fortunately for our community, a core piece of that program continues to exist - now known as the CLASS program (Community Liaison for Art in Stanislaus Schools) run by CCAA/ Mistlin Gallery, under the direction of Linda Knoll.

Grace also started the "Serenades on Sunday" music recitals at CBS, which continue to exist as "Sunday Afternoons at CBS," and the "Grace Lieberman Cabaret Series" at Mistlin Gallery.

Several other projects, the "Senior Spotlight Talent Show," an "Excellence in the Arts" award show, and a short-lived local TV show, focused on the arts and artists in our community, all successful endeavors, disappeared with the closing of the Art Council in 2012. Gone but not forgotten, they could be considered viable projects for revival under the new Arts Council.

Although not under her direct control, Grace voiced disappointment over the cancellation of the International Heritage Festival, an event that, for 15 years, had showcased the cultures and contributions of the many diverse groups within our society. In her own words, Grace said, "The Festival brought us a greater understanding of ourselves, as well as a deeper knowledge and appreciation of our



neighbors around the world."

These are but a few of the "Grace Highlights" that can serve a source of ideas and inspiration for our revival of the Stanislaus Arts Council, but the one memory that stands out for me, occurred in the later years of her reign. Prior to the final closing of the program in 2012, Grace took out a second mortgage on her home to keep it going for just a bit longer. "It's those kind of sacrifices," said her friend Tony Mistlin, "that made her invaluable to the area arts community."

Read more at: <https://www.modbee.com/article209256254.html#storylink=cpy>

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

Grant application becomes Art Council's first big task

The 2021 State Budget included \$60 million one-time General Fund allocation for the California Arts Council to implement the California Creative Corps pilot program, a media, outreach, and engagement campaign. The money will be distributed throughout the state to “administering organizations” who will then re-grant the money to individual artists and organizations.

The application deadline was very quick, and as a new arts council, we were just in the process of deciding areas of need. Ultimately, we decided we weren't really experienced enough to do it alone. We reached out to a few other counties – Merced and Tuolumne – and decided to work together. Merced county arts council director, Colton Dennis came up with a great solution! He invited the Merced

County United Way to jump in and apply on behalf of all three counties. In a week's time, they were on board, applied for a \$15M portion of the grant and if the grant is awarded, they will act as administrators for the re-granting process. We will know if the grant is awarded sometime in August.

What's our part in this you ask?

Each county will be responsible for outreach in their area. That means, we'll be looking for individuals and organizations who would like money for a specific art project and can help guide them to the resources for applying. The Creative Corps' mission is designed to address four subjects: **(1) public health awareness messages to stop the spread of COVID-19; (2) public awareness related to water and energy conservation, climate mitigation, and emergency pre-**

paredness, relief, and recovery; (3) civic engagement, including election participation; and (4) social justice and community engagement.

If you know of someone who might like to address one of these topics in an exhibition, performance or public artwork, send them our way! We can help with the application process, and make sure you have all the necessary information for making the best application. Applications for re-granting will begin in October. Grant activity will be between October 2022 and September 2024. Even if the Merced UW doesn't become and administering organization, folks from our area will still be able to apply through another AO. The CAC wants to make sure the funds are distributed equitably throughout the state in areas that have the most need.



Synergy
 CHAMBER
 PLAYERS

Cabaret Concert

July 30, 2022

\$50 admission
 All tickets include refreshments and dessert.
 Doors open 6:30 p.m., Concert at 7:30

Tickets at ccaagallery.org/shop

Classes and Workshops for Kids and Adults

Saturday Family Art Open Studio

Saturdays, July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 3
Noon to 4:00 p.m. drop-in

Every second Saturday of the month, drop by to this non-instructional format class for the whole family. This is a relaxed space to explore and create your own art with support from our staff. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required. Materials included. \$5 suggested donation.

Kinder Art Camp

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

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. \$72 registration, materials included. Instructor: Betty Gay.

Around the World Junior Art Camp

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

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 2D and 3D art techniques. \$175 registration, materials included. Ages 8-12. Instructor: Susan Rossmann.

Book Making Junior Art Camp

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

Join us as we create and illustrate stories, then craft them into hand-made works of art. Course will include fun paper projects including marbling, stamping and painting that will be made into mini books for your child's stories. Ages 8-12. \$175 registration, materials included. Instructor: Author/Illustrator, Linda Knoll.



For Adults

Mosaic with Karen Kingsbury

Saturday, July 16, 10:00 to 4:00
Sunday, July 17, 10:00 to 1:00

Let's make a mosaic stepping stone or a house address sign with Karen Kingsbury!

Day 1: Beginners or more experienced mosaic students welcome! Students will work with Karen individually to make either an outdoor stepping stone or a hanging address sign.

All student will learn the basics of design, materials selection, cutting tile/glass or dishes, and finishing a project. We will use glass, tile, dishes and mirror glass to make our art pieces.

Day 2: All students will finish their pieces by grouting and cleaning their pieces in order to take home and enjoy! Pieces will be suitable for outdoor installation. \$100 registration. Materials fee \$25 (paid directly to Karen) Tools are provided. Ages 15 to adult.

Acrylic Painting for Adults

Thursdays, July 28, Aug. 4 and 11
5:30 – 8 p.m.

Open to all students 18+. Learn acrylic painting techniques focused on using mediums to achieve different effects (matte medium, gel medium, and modeling paste). Instructor: Betty Gay. \$150 registration, all materials included.

Learn to Make Pop-Up Books

Saturday/Sunday, July 23/24
Noon to 2:30 p.m.

Open to older teens (15+) and adults. Learn the principles of pop-up books and how to combine them to achieve different effects. \$200 registration, materials included. Instructor: Betty Gay.

Plein Air Workshop with Laura Culver

Friday - Sunday, October 7-9
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

In this 3-day workshop, Laura will guide you through the basics of creating a successful plein air landscape oil painting. Topics will include composition, value, and color. Laura will share practical tips for painting on location, and for completing your work later from photo reference. Her informative demonstrations will show how the use of warm and cool colors can enhance the emotional impact of your painting. The classes will meet at various locations, and the final afternoon will include critiques at Mistlin Gallery. \$300 registration. Bring your own supplies.

Laura Culver is a professional landscape painter from the SF Bay Area. She's been teaching, exhibiting and selling her work for over 15 years.

Figure Drawing Drop-In

Wednesdays, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Join us for informal, non-instructional life drawing sessions with a nude model. This is a weekly drop-in group, \$10 per night. Bring your own supplies and easel (tables are available). No registration necessary, over 18 only.

Additional classes and registration at ccaagallery.org/shop

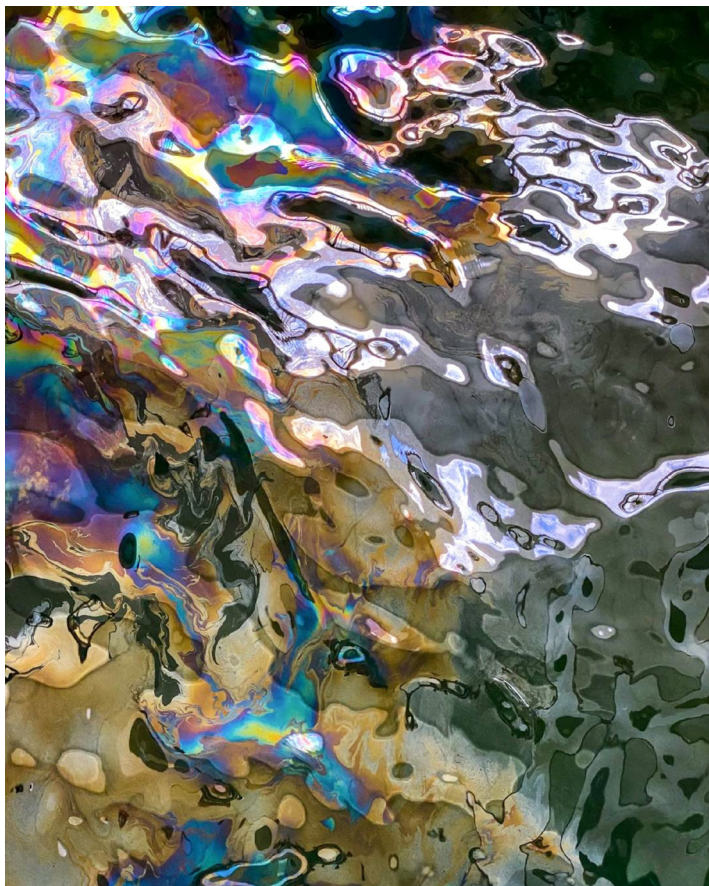
Also register at the gallery, or by phone 209-529-3369.

People, Places and Things on view July 12

Visit Mistlin Gallery, **July 12 through August 6** to see *People, Places and Things*, a juried show of regional artists. Awards will be given at 3rd Thursday **Art Walk on July 21**, including a People's Choice award.

The show is an eclectic mix of pieces including paintings, mixed media and sculpture with a broad theme. Featured art *Black Tears* (at left), is a photograph by MJC student, Roger Smith.

Thanks to show sponsor, Brian Cassagio, of Planet Fitness, Ceres for a generous donation!. Reception food at Art Walk provided by Picasso's Deli, downtown Modesto.



MistlinGallery
Central California Art Association
1015 J Street • Modesto, CA 95354
209-529-3369
<http://ccaagallery.org>