

President's Message: Money Makes the World Go Around

until college graduation when the real world came knocking at the door and a career as a psychologist seemed better able to meet the costs of food, clothing, housing, marriage, family, and general survival. At that point I entered the ranks of those who can proudly claim to have been an artist their entire life, except for the 40 or 50 years when we needed to make a living.

In retirement, I had looked forward to pursuing my art without the burden of a 9 to 5 job, and it was good, for a while. But then, my thoughts turned to projects and endeavors beyond my personal need for artistic expression and I eventually ended up as president

of the board of CCAA/Mistlin – entering the murky financial world of the non-profits, where the search for money is never-ending.

For all but the top 5 to 10 percent of artists and arts organizations, the products of our creation fall short of providing the money needed to continue our artistic pursuits. For example, in the performing arts, ticket sales may account for only 35 to 60 percent of the cost of putting on the performance – depending on whether the organization is primarily professional or voluntary. And, in our case it's even more difficult. As I've said many times, if we sold every

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As a naïve, idealistic, young man, I chose to pursue my artistic dreams instead of engaging in the distasteful pursuit of money. That path lasted

Calendar of Events • July through September

Oct 10: Board Meeting 3:00 p.m.

Oct 11: Healing Arts Class 4 to 8:30 p.m.

Oct 12: Figure Drawing Drop-In Class every Wednesday, 7:00p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Oct 13: Stanislaus Arts Board Meeting 4:00 p.m.

Oct. 13: Acrylic Painting For Adults 5:30 p.m to 7:00 p.m.

Oct 15: Mutant Pet Workshop 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (See page 2)

Oct 16: Pick up works from Autumn Art Festival, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Oct 18: Healing Arts Exhibition Opens

Oct 20: 3rd Thursday Art Walk 5:00 pm to 8:00 p.m. & 6x6 paint night

Oct 22: Weekend Art Explorers 1:00p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Nov 2: Exhibition Committee 3:30 p.m.

Nov 5: Family Open Art Studio 12:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m. (See page 2)

Nov 10: Stanislaus Arts Board Meeting 4:00 p.m.

Nov 14: Board Meeting 3:00 p.m.

Nov 17: 3rd Thursday Art Walk 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Nov 18: Pink Friday Small Business Sales Event, 4:00p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Nov 20: Receiving for Pets and Portraits & 6x6 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Nov 22: Pets and Portraits & 6x6 Exhibition Opens

Nov 26: ModShop Crafters Market 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Dec 7: Exhibition Committee meeting 3:30p.m.

Dec 8: Stanislaus Arts Board Meeting 4:00p.m.

Dec 12: Board Meeting 3:00 p.m.

Dec 15: 3rd Thursday Art Walk 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Dec 29: Artist pick up for Pets and Portraits show 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

Pink Friday

November 18, 4:00 p.m to 8:00p.m.

The Mistlin Gallery is joining Pink Friday! The downtown Modesto boutique community has joined together to host a new shopping event called Pink Friday on November 18 th , 2022. Pink Friday is an opportunity to bring awareness to the local community about the importance of shopping small first.

In Remembrance



Longtime ccaa art member, Lisa Sanders, passed away January 30 in San Diego where she had moved to be close to family.

A versatile artist, she worked in many mediums and was known for her variety including painting, sculpting, weaving, sewing, woodworking, ceramics and mixed mediums. She explored many subject matters often touching on current events, women's repression and the metaphysical world. She was an original, zany and free-willed woman who had a strong sense of social justice.



Our dear friend and fellow artist Betty Jean Reynolds passed away in August. As our oldest long-time member she was dedicated to helping others as an arts and education advocate and community volunteer in Stanislaus County.

Remembrances for both ladies can be sent to Central California Art Association Art Scholar Program, in care of Rebecca Wynn. The address is 1015 "J" Street, Modesto, CA 95354. Attention: Art Scholar Program.

President's Message Continued from page 1

piece of art in a show, we wouldn't be able to pay the rent for one month on our gallery space.

Most arts organizations are dependent on the generosity of donors and sponsors, and we have been fortunate to have been supported by Tony Mistlin over the past decade. However, as you all know, that support is coming to an end in 2023 and the rent will continue to be due. We have enough of a cushion in reserve to go on for several years without another angel, but it's time to take a serious look at other possible funding sources.

Some things are already in place. Our Autumn Art Festival and Auction has been successful in raising a significant amount of funding. Membership fees and sponsorship of certain exhibits contribute to the pot, as do sales of individual pieces of art. Our cabaret series added to the mix until it fizzled these past couple of years because of the lingering effects of COVID 19. Hopefully, it can be revived in 2023. There is also a new fundraising event coming up later this year – the 6x6 show, promoted by Vicki Reid. I look forward to the benefits that may come from this approach. Our California Arts Council grants have also contributed significantly, and hopefully will continue to do so in the future. But more needs to be done. I will be making fundraising a personal priority during the coming months and ask that you join me in this quest with your ideas, energy, and commitment to continue the artistic excellence that has propelled CCAA/Mistlin to the level we enjoy. (By the way, what do you think we should call our gallery when Mistlin is no longer paying the bills?)

Chella's Critique for Experienced Artisans

Join Chella Gonsalves on the second Tuesday of every month for her Art Barn Critique.

This event is open to experienced artisans of every kind. Each artist is allowed three works of art which will be critiqued by the seven elements and seven principles of design. The critique is hosted from 9:30 a.m. to

Classes and Workshops

Family Art Open Studio

**Saturdays, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Jan. 7,
noon to 4:00 p.m.**

Every first 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.

Weekend Art Explorers

Saturday, October 22, 1 – 3 p.m.

Kids in 1st through 4th grade can enjoy exploring art in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. Artist, Betty Gay will be guiding students in make-and-take art projects based on a monthly theme. Materials included. \$25 per session registration required for each child.

Mutant Pet Fun Shop

Saturday, October 15, 12pm–2 pm

Join us for a fun afternoon of creating a one-of-a-kind stuffed animal! We will have TONS of stuffies and stuffie parts to choose from and sew together into a new pet! Example: Choose the legs of a giraffe, the head of a bear, the tail of a monkey and the arms of a frog. Sew them together and enjoy your new pet!

This is an activity for ALL AGES (teens love it too!). Participants should have some basic sewing skills or be accompanied by an adult who can help in that area. Fun for the whole family! Cost is \$15 per created Mutant Pet. Register by Oct. 8. Helping parents are free.

Register at ccaagallery.org/shop

11:30 a.m. and the drop in fee is \$10 per person. You'll find the Art Barn behind the house.

Located at:

1349 Crawford Road
Modesto, Ca 95357

Parking is available either by the barn or along the roadside.

6th Autumn Art Festival Another Success

This year's Autumn Art Festival is once again a huge success. We had 174 entries, of which 101 were accepted into the show. These represented 59 artists that entered this year. On-site jurying and judging

was performed by Deborah Barr, Lucinda Kasser, and Daniel Kasser. The awards were announced at the Gala on September 10th. The list of winners follows:

Best of Show – *Metamorphosis* by Rebecca Jo

Mayor's Award – *Cinderella's Garden* by Cheryl Martin

Marianne Ward Memorial Award – *The Naturalist* by Vaughn Lew

Judge's Awards – *Resting Chickadee* by Jean Kahler, *Spot* by Eva Hass, and *Copper Pitcher* by Karen Burns

People's Choice Award – *Ballerina Girl* by Nicole Slater

Category Awards

Water Media and Inks Category: First – *Rachel Under the Sea* by Linda Knoll; Second – *Gem Strate* by Kate Jackson; Third – *Thiebaud Bakery* by Don Hall

Oils and Pastels Category: First – *Shooting Into the Light* by Vaughn Lew; Second – *Seven Plums* by Karen

Burns; Third – *Resting Chickadee* by Jean Kahler

Graphics and Photography Category: First – *Fence Creek Gorge* by David Schroeder; Second – *East Slope Fall* by Larry Lew; Third – *Yosemite Valley Sunrise* by Larry Lew

Mixed Media Category: First – *Natural Elegance* by Cheryl Martin; Second – *Surprise* by Linda Salmon; Third – *Ballerina Girl* by Nicole Slater

Three Dimensional Category: First – *Peacocking* by Tammy Jo Schoppet; Second – *Raku Bowl* by Don Hall; Third – *Lidded Vessel* by Mary Jane Kiskinen



Gala and Donation Thank yous

If you weren't at the Gala held on September 10th in conjunction with the show you really missed out. There was a beautiful variety of fare to choose from as well as some delicious desserts donated from Galletto's Ristorante.

The floral arrangements throughout the gallery were created and donated from the Advanced Floral Students of Downey FFA added much to the general decor. Everyone there enjoyed viewing the art and having the opportunity to catch up with people that they hadn't seen since we were all hibernating due to COVID.

This year's show raised over \$7,000 in donations over \$3,000 in artwork has been sold.

There are many people to thank for the success of the show this year including all of the artists who entered their pieces into the show, the people who sponsored awards and those who donated items to the silent auction.

We also rely on volunteers to make these events successful. There are too many people to list here but all of the time and effort that they put into the show, the gala, and the auction was greatly appreciated.

Silent Auction

The Silent Auction is the Autumn Art Festival's secondary fundraising event for the gallery. In pre-Covid days, it was a live one-day event. During Covid, the auction became an online event, and it was unknown territory for those running it. Would it do well? We didn't know but we were willing to try. In 2021, Linda Knoll and I received artists' donations and gift baskets and launched the auction online. It netted \$3300 for the gallery. We were thrilled! In 2022, Diane Sorensen worked together, and wondered could we do it successfully again? The answer was yes! The final auction tally was \$4701!

The key to this was in promoting the auction on social media and getting eyes on the auction website. To do this we created a "buzz" about a few special pieces. One special piece donated by Lila Peterson was a painting made by her late husband, Dan Peterson. Diane and I created two dragons for the auction that had a buzz of their own and helped draw attention. Sharing daily posts on social media helped to get us 3000 views on the auction site. Lastly on the night of the gala, the all the amazing items in the auction continued to generate interest.

It was a wonderful night! Thank you to all the art donors, and all the auction participants.



Rebecca Jo with her piece, *Metamorphosis*



Six²

Six-inch
Square Art
Fundraiser



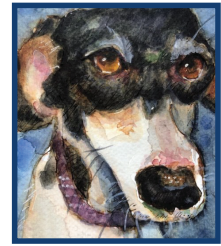
- **Nov. 22 - Dec. 23 Gallery A**
- Everyone can participate
- Create art on 6x6 panels
- Free to enter
- All art will sell for \$36
- Proceeds benefit the gallery
- Fun create activities: First Fridays & Third Thursdays
- Individuals, groups, teams, schools, associations, clubs, etc. can participate
- Panels available for \$1 ea.

Get more info here:



<https://ccaagallery.org/exhibitions/current-upcoming-shows/>

Pets & Portraits



Nov. 22-Dec. 23

- This is an open, juried art show in **Gallery B**. This show will be in conjunction with the Six² show in Gallery A
- Awards reception will be held on **Dec. 15** during Third Thursday Art Walk
- All Media will be represented
- **Cutest Pet Contest** – the winner's portrait will be enlarged on a 6 foot size multi-tych to be displayed in the front window.
- **Pet Adoption Photo Pop up show** Dec. 13 - 17.

For Artist Call and info about the Cutest Pet Contest:



<https://ccaagallery.org/exhibitions/current-upcoming-shows/>

Abstracts, Impressions, and Fantasy Member Show, January 3 - 28, 2023

"Art is an attempt by the artist to elicit an emotional response from the observer."

Abstract artists reach out to connect with the viewer's raw emotions. Their choice of composition, color, value, and method, are the artists tools.

Impressionists strive to create a vision using light and color to enable the viewer to see and understand what, to the artist, are the essential elements of the image.

In the world of "Fantasy" the artist reaches inward, to express unworldly images as if they were real.

We invite you to leave your pre-conceptions at the door of the Mistlin Gallery during January. Sit in one of our comfortable chairs and take the time to let your emotions whirl with the

possibilities presented by the artists' images. Smarter Entry will be open soon for online entries.



Meet Our New Gallery Coordinator, Krystle Lisek

The Mistlin Gallery is pleased to announce that Krystle Lisek has recently been hired as our new Gallery Coordinator. Linda Knoll, who last held the position, has stepped down in order to have more time to dedicate to the CLASS program and pursue her other interests.

Krystle is not a stranger to our gallery. She became a member of the gallery in early 2020 just before the pandemic. In almost three years she has spent her time here as an artist, docent, and as a member of the Exhibition Committee, she hosted the July show *People, Places and Things*.

As a Modesto native she has seen this city grow and change throughout the years giving her a sense of pride in her community. Krystle is very excited to be a part of the growing experience here at the Mistlin Gallery.

Jackpot!

It may not be a pot of gold, but it sure feels that way.

The California Creative Corps initiative, that Linda Knoll wrote about in the last issue of the Paint Rag, has become a reality. The partnership of Stanislaus County Arts Council, Merced County Arts Council, and Tuolumne County Arts Council, with the Merced County United Way at the core, has recently been awarded 4.2 million dollars to fund artists and art projects in our three counties.

Our portion of the funds will be almost 2 million, with 60% going directly to artists and arts organizations, 20% for the physical costs to producing the art, and 20% for administrating the project.

Wow!

The timeline that has been laid out points to the next several months being devoted to organizational activities, with a formal announcement and the request for proposals to occur in early 2023. Our job will be to identify and support applicants and to evaluate proposals. Awards will be granted by April 1st 2023. Priority will be given to artists and applicants residing in communities in the lowest quartile of the California Healthy Places Index. The CAC (California Arts Council) sees this program primarily as a job creation and infrastructure development opportunity that will increase the ways in which artists are engaged in public work so that they can continue to support the realization of these goals and intersectional public interest goals.

As Linda pointed out in the previous article, this program is seeking to fund art projects relative to one of four criteria areas: (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 preparedness, relief, and recovery; (3) civic engagement, including election participation; and (4) social justice and community engagement. So, begin giving some thought as to how you, as an artist, or arts group, could put your creativity to work to promote awareness and education of these social issues. More information regarding the specifics of the project will be coming as we near the beginning of 2023.

I see this project as being a powerful vehicle that will enable CCAA, as the

arts council of Stanislaus County, to develop positive working relationships with the greater artist community in the heartland of our state, and I look forward to the diversity and inclusivity that is at the heart of the program.

You will be kept apprised of the program specifics as they are developed.

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



Singular Sensations

Since we took on the mantle of reviving the Arts Council of Stanislaus County, I have been on a mission to map out the width, breadth, and depth of our artistic landscape. One of my first discoveries was that our community is blessed with an abundance of art focused possibilities – more so than I and others would



have predicted, based on the stereotypical thought that Modesto and the Valley are places that people pass through on their way to where the real action is – the coast and the mountains.

We have a solid core of traditional professional and semi-professional arts organizations, galleries, and performance groups, as well as numerous arts clusters covering the range of artistic genres. But, in addition, one grouping that captured my attention is a collection of events that I've come to think about as singular sensations – events that are not associated with a traditional arts organization and have a spontaneous, “pop-up” quality about them. Often free, or low cost, and public, it's events in this category that, in my opinion, most closely represent the artistic core of the community and give it a tangible vibrancy.

One such event, that first appeared in Modesto in 2017, is **Porchfest** – a collection of porch parties in downtown, residential neighborhoods, at which local bands perform free for people strolling through the area. Organizers Kate Trompetter, Ruhi Sheikh, and Tricia Rosenow, encourage donations via tip jars for the performers, and suggest bicycles for transportation, and blankets for sitting. After a two year COVID hiatus, Porchfest resumed in 2022 featuring over 80 bands at 45 area porches, driveways and front lawns.

The **Stanislaus Artist Open Studio Tour** is another community event that invites people to come by artist's home studios, view the art, and get to know the artists – purchasing the art is also a welcome part of the process. It was started in 2010 by Chella Gonsalves and Alice Richards as a way for artists to share their work in a comfortable setting without the trappings and complications involved with gallery showings. It's a popular event, often featuring over 60 artists from all over the County, that has achieved “expected” status – being an event that art lovers reserve a space for on their calendars.



Then there's the juggernaut of these singular events, **The Ill List**. Created in 2004 by Sam Pierstorff and Greg Edwards, this annual poetry slam invitational competition has grown

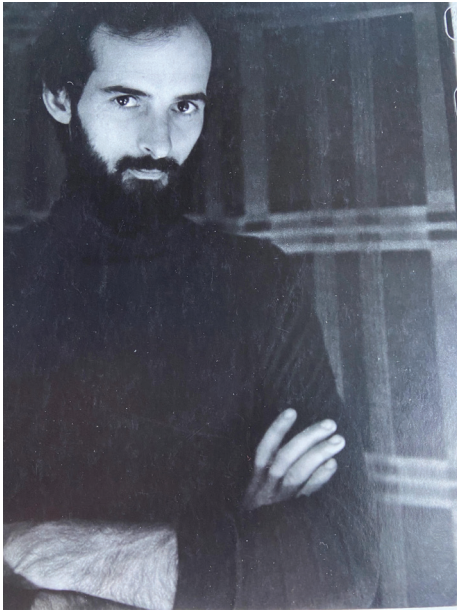


from its small beginnings to being regarded as the most prestigious slam competition in California. It is an intense, emotional, and raucous affair for both participants and audience. Its popularity is judged by the fact that tickets for the December event often sell out within 8 hours of being available. Poetry? Who knew?

These are but a few of the accent pieces that give our art scene its unique flavor. Others include. The **MAMA** (Modesto Area Music Association) awards which the creators describe as “a celebration of the huge talent here in town. It is not so much as who is the best, or most popular, but the recognition of all of the hard-working people in the local music industry.” The **Valley Talent Project**, on the books to begin again following a 2 year COVID hiatus. **Modshop**, an annual “Handmade” market that populates the downtown area of Modesto for one day of pre-holiday sales. And, **Guitarraganza**, a premiere classical guitar festival, currently hosted by David Chapman at Stanislaus State University. Not to mention the numerous “pop-up” art exhibits that appear spontaneously from time to time.

Regarding the art scene in our community, “the force is with us.” Or as former Modesto resident, Robert Ulrich, has said, “It's the Water.”

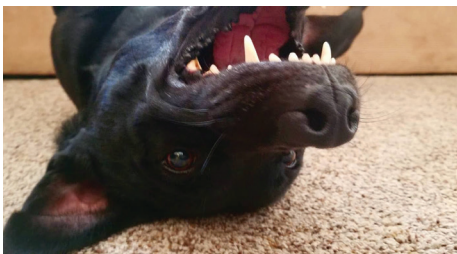
One-of-a-Kind Artisan Brian Swander



In conjunction with the Healing Arts exhibition, Oct. 18 - Nov. 19, the gallery will be hosting another show of works by Brian Swander. This time, all of Swander's work will be for sale.

Brian Swander was an amazingly unique artist who held the hearts of many in our community. His passing was greatly felt in September 2021.

Stop by and see these unique works and support the gallery with your purchase.



Cutest Pet Contest

Do you have a pet that you think is just the cutest? Let us be the judge! This competition is in conjunction with the *Pets & Portraits* show in December. The winner will have their pet's portrait enlarged on a 6 foot multi-tych painting to be displayed in the front window during the show. We will be accepting entries now through October 25th.

Please send photos to Vicki Reid at: victorvoodle@gmail.com

Creative Synergy, July 18 – Aug. 19, 2023

Creative Synergy is a collaborative show between visual artists, musicians, poets/writers, and dancers.

Visual art will be presented at the gallery with paired pieces from poets/writers, musicians, and dancers.

Anyone interested in participating in Creative Synergy show this summer is invited to attend a mixer on February 11th, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. hosted by the Mistlin Gallery.

The purpose of this mixer is for the artists to get acquainted and get an idea of who they may want to pair with for this collaboration. We look forward to you joining us for this unique opportunity.

More information coming soon!



ModShop Hand-made Market Saturday, Nov. 26th 2022 2:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

On November 26th, the Mistlin Gallery will open its doors for Mod Shop vendors. Mod Shop is a carefully curated handmade market.

This event strives to create a platform for local artisans to sell their handmade goods on Small Business Saturday. Many other downtown businesses and restaurants will be open for shoppers to enjoy the bustling environment of music, camaraderie, good food & drinks and a sense of community that comes from supporting local makers and businesses.

Please join us as we participate in this evening of art, music, delicious eats, and shopping.

Exhibition Schedule 2023

Abstract, Impressions, and Fantasy
Members Show

January 3rd to January 28, 2023

Collision 6: Photography + Poetry

Invitation Only

January 31st to March 4, 2023

Young @ Art Student Show

Open Student Show

March 7th to April 1, 2023?

Love Modesto

Members Show

April 4th to May 6, 2023

Trash to Treasure II

Open Show

May 9th to June 10, 2023

Emerging Artists

Open Show

June 13th to July 15, 2023



CCAA Member Third Thursday Pop-up Art Shops

During the November 17th and December 15th Art Walks, CCAA members are invited to sign up and sell their artworks in the gallery during the Art Walk! These are unique shopping experiences, giving the customer the opportunity to purchase directly from the artist!

There will be six tables for artists to display their artworks and we'll also have a couple of grids available. There will be no fee to participate, however the standard gallery commissions apply with all sales going through the gallery. Reserve your space with Suzanne McCaslin at 209-968-3464 on a first-come, first-served basis.

Everlasting Beauty: Living on Through Art, Oct. 18 - Nov. 19



Visit Mistlin Gallery, October 18th through November 19th to see the Healing Arts Show, **Everlasting Beauty** living on through art. Each piece in this show was created by the participants in Memorial Medical Center's Complementary Therapy Art Program. These survivors and caregivers have produced art in an atmosphere that fosters community and acceptance. In this setting they are free to create images, experiment with media and develop skill.

This exhibit reveals their zeal for life, their passion for expression and their emerging talent. Here they are free to become artists.

The remarkable results of this art program cannot really be measured, for they encompass not only the art we see; they include deep human connections shared by those whose cancer journeys intersect in the studio. They include the dignity of personal achievement and the welcome

discovery of hidden ability. This show demonstrates the pleasure of finding meaning in suffering and creating beauty in the struggle. These works are proof that through creativity, the destructive and ominous presence of cancer has been transformed through image, color and texture.

Art Walk for this show is Thursday, October 20th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Come and celebrate the artists and their work.



October 20 - 5 to 8p.m

- 1 Money Makes the World Go Around, by David Schroder
- Board president
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