

Our purpose is to promote and develop the visual arts in Rancho Cordova through inspiring programs, events and classes."

www.RanchoCordovaArts.org

PRESIDENT'S BLOG

Ooo la la! The French Impressionists popularized it, and we celebrate it this spring at iFest (Rancho Cordova's International Festival). Bring your friends and neighbors to join in making plein air (outdoor) art with us!. Rancho Cordova Arts will provide artist demonstrations, supplies and plenty of help for everyone to join in making art in the sunshine. It's free and it's fun!

Our volunteers will be offering a fun art activity and freebie takeaway at Kids Day in the Park in April, too! Find our tent! We plan to fill a booklet with black and white images and learning games for kids to color and take home.

Interested in helping to spread the joy of art to our community? Check out our new Volunteer page on www. RanchoCordovaArts.org. You can sign up to be notified about the events and projects that interest you. We can always use the help!

Speaking of volunteering, did you know you can sign up to help out at the MACC (Mills Station Arts & Culture Center at Mather/Mills Light Rail Station)? Cordova Community Council has a volunteer sign-up page, too, or email MACC Manager extraordinaire, Cheryl Gleason at Cheryl@CordovaCouncil. org. She books excellent speakers, movies, and art workshops during exhibits, all free to the public, and each event needs volunteers.

I want to thank Miriam Rainbird, our new editor, for taking on leadership of this quarterly newsletter. Donine Wellman continues to set our words into beautiful pages. I am grateful these gifted and generous people volunteer their time and talent with all of us!

We also want to thank Cordova Community Council (CCC), our major sponsor for 2019. Rancho Cordova Arts' volunteers help CCC with the art shows at City Hall and other community events, such as Kids Day and iFest, described above. CCC's



financial support allows us to focus our energies on bringing more art experiences to the people of Rancho Cordova. Together, we are promoting and developing the visual arts right here in our town!

The best is yet to come!

Marsha Mason

- Marsha Mason

ON NOW



Free Exhibits at the MACC and City Hall



"Bizarre and Surreal" Show at City Hall Ending April 13th

Zach Timberlake, Winner of Rancho Cordova's first "Best of Show" looks at pieces by Brian Kindsvater, Sheri Kindsvater, Kat Kunz-Davies, Patience Mabray, Miriam Rainbird, and Marsh Wildman.

Photo courtesy of Rick Sloan

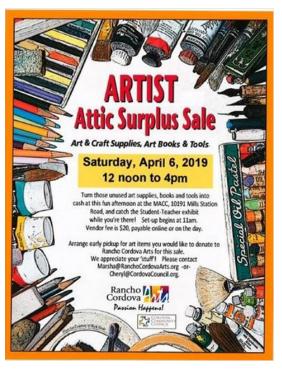


Artists-there will be a workshop relating to the upcoming City Hall show "Reflections" on June 8th. Details will be available on the MACC website closer to that date.

Artist Attic Surplus Sale Saturday, April 6th 12:00pm - 4:00pm The Mills Station Arts & Culture Center, 10191 Mills Station Rd, Rancho Cordova

Kids' Day in the Park and iFEST

Rancho Cordova Arts will be offering fun activities at Kids' Day in the Park, Saturday April 27th, and at iFest, Saturday May 11th (see poster page 1).



CALL FOR ARTISTS

REMASTERED: REIMAGINING THE WORKS OF THE MASTERS

Art Intake: Wednesday, April 10, 11 am to 6 pm

Hang Art at City Hall: Sunday, April 14

Art Reception at City Hall: Thursday, April 18 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm



STRONGER TOGETHER: THE ANNUAL MEMBER SHOW

Digital Submission Due: Friday, June 21, 2019 at 12 noon

Drop Off Accepted Art at the MACC: Monday, July 8 from 3 pm to 7 pm

Hang Art at the MACC: Wednesday, July 10

Opening Art Reception: Thursday, July 11 from 5:30 pm to 8 pm

Exhibit will be open for consecutive Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays through July 20.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES for ARTISTS

Support the Arts with the Donation of a MicroMasterpiece

Rancho Cordova Arts will hold its Second Annual MicroMasterpieces Fundraiser at the October City Hall Artist Reception. Donate 6"x6" artworks in any medium. Free boards will be available (but are not required to participate). For more information contact Frances Dack <fladack@gmail. com>

Contribute to the Newsletter

Send in announcements about local exhibits, classes, or calls for artists for the next issue by June 18th to Miriam Rainbird<rainbirdm@gmail.com> Also, share art tips like the one on page 5.

Share Your Work with the Public During Open Studios

https://www.vergeart.com/openstudios/join-sac-open-studios/ Looking for other artists to team up with? Contact Eileen Noyer<eileen.noyer@gmail.com>

Volunteer to Help with Shows at the MACC or City Hall

https://form.jotform.com/ cordovacouncil/2019-volunteerregistration-form

By viewing nature, nature's handmade art, makes mighty things from small beginnings grow." – Dryden

ART TIPS

Question: What is plein air art, and how do I get started?

Answer:

Put on your sun hat, pack up your pencils and paint, and go get some fresh air! Plein Air (pronounced PLEHN-air or PLANE-air) means 'open air' in French, and was popularized by the French Impressionists. It calls us to directly experience and truly see our surroundings, whether it's a river landscape or an urban park full of colorfully costumed dancers.

Experience the immediacy of plein air art-making by overcoming the challenges.

So Many Scenes to Choose From

What catches your eye? If you're making art along the American River, perhaps a fisherman in the water, a bird, a bridge, or a boat. But for something a little more unusual, how about trying an urban setting? Maybe a public event in the park?

Start Small

Pick the size and shape or 'aspect' (the ratio of height to width) of your finished piece before you start. Using standard sizes makes a piece less expensive to mat and frame. A few examples of small standard sizes are 4" X 4" (a 1:1 aspect), 4" X 6" (a 2:3 aspect), or 8" X 10" (a 4:5 aspect). Anything 11" X 14" or smaller means you won't have to lug big awkward papers or canvases around, and it will take less time and materials to complete.

To figure out what aspect to use, use a viewfinder. They can be purchased, but are easy to make, too. Just cut a 1" X 1" square (1:1 aspect), a 1" X 1.5" rectangle (2:3 aspect), and a 2" X 2.5" rectangle (4:5 aspect) in an index card, and look through the holes to get the best frame for your subject. Alternatively, you can just use a camera viewfinder to figure it out.

Things Keep Moving #1: The sun shadows change. In an hour, the scene often looks very different. Some artists do an '8am'

painting, then a '9am' painting, returning at the same time and place for several days in a row. Alternatively, you can take reference photographs



to record the scene at certain times. Just remember the camera won't pick up detail in shadows, so photograph the shadows without much surrounding bright light if this detail is important to you.

Things Keep Moving #2: The people. You have permission—It's okay to draw as much as you can of a subject's body before they walk away, then wait for someone else to come along so you can finish the head, especially in public gatherings.

People are Watching Me Work!

This is a compliment! If chatting delays your work, you can always finish at home 'en studio', rather than entirely on site ('alla prima'). And if your art-in-progress isn't to a stage where you'd normally be showing anyone, just mention it's in its 'awkward stage'. We know they all go through it!

A Little Help From Your Friends at iFest

You're invited to iFest (Rancho Cordova's International Festival) where you can experience plein air with a little help from your Rancho Cordova Arts friends! Perhaps you'd like to paint a dancer twirling her colorful skirt, sketch a Madagascar Lemur on loan from the zoo, or draw a ukulele ensemble. We'll be there to help! Saturday, May 11, 2019 starting at 5pm in Village Green Park behind Lowe's on Zinfandel.