



### President's Letter

As individuals we do not always get to select the path upon which we find ourselves, or to choose the obstacles that confront us--but we do retain agency over how we choose to respond to them. This is perhaps one of the most beautiful things of being human--the ability to grab hold of our environment, and to shape it in novel, intriguing, beautiful ways.

It is my sincere hope that this copy of *On the Easel* finds you all well, and that as we, in these days of coming together by staying apart, you are finding inspiration to enable you to new creativity, whether it manifest itself as pursuing a new technique, developing a new skill, or perfecting an approach. Art, though perhaps developed in an individual setting, is one of the most profound unifiers of humanity--both in the human desire to seek beauty and aesthetic, and in the desire for shared experience--as well as something that lies at the very essence of who and what we fundamentally are as a species. The drive to create beauty and to shape our environment for the better is at the core of who we are. In the words of artist eL Seed: "Art brings people back to their sensibility as human beings. This is the purpose of art: to bring people together, and to bring back the humanity as well."

These have been challenging months to say the least, and more challenge certainly lies in the weeks ahead. As an organization, we have needed to adapt our plans for engagement and support of Cordova Community Council activities; we will not be participating in Kids' Day in the Park this year, as the event has been cancelled due to guidelines on public assembly. We expect that the same will be true for our planned involvement with I-Fest. That said, we are exploring some very exciting ideas, including with the Tree Lighting, that we look forward to sharing. Now, more than ever, Rancho Cordova Arts members provide a vital source of benefit for our community, bringing beauty and essential humanity to Rancho Cordova and beyond. If you have personally arrived at a meaningful way to contribute to the community space, I would encourage you to share out to your fellow members. If I or your Board can assist in disseminating or supporting this sharing in any way, please let us know—we stand in service for you. Above all, know that we are stronger than this, and well shall get through this—together.

Yours in service,  
Jeremy Rabideau

**All events at the Mills Station Arts & Culture Center (MACC) have been canceled through April 30.**

## **Call for Artists -- DIVERSE CITY**

**April 19 through July 25, 2020**

Rancho Cordova City Hall  
2729 Prospect Park Drive

Have you looked at the people around you? Rancho Cordova is a melting pot of race and culture. This theme explores the diverse nature of our world. What is diversity to you? Diversity can include many areas: Culture, Ethnicity, Music, Culinary Traditions, Dancing, Clothing, Cultural Stories, Folklore and more.

Each of us, through our cultural background and experiences, has the ability to share the beauty of our differences and in the process learn from each other. It is a chance to visually see how diversity has impacted the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the music we listen to, the literature and written word we read, the languages we speak, and yes, the visual arts we so passionately enjoy creating and sharing. As artists we have been influenced by and grown from others' perspectives and styles. To highlight that as a City and as a whole is a positive and powerful thing. Let's continue sharing our individual uniqueness to make something amazing!

This is a juried show. Due to public gathering restrictions in effect, submissions for this show will be **online only**. How to submit:

- Visit [www.cordovacouncil.org](http://www.cordovacouncil.org)
- Under PROGRAMS, click on "Living the Arts"
- Scroll to Rancho Cordova Visual Arts and click on MORE INFO button
- Scroll to DIVERSE CITY and follow the prompts

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ART FOR THIS SHOW IS 6 pm APRIL 15.**  
**Please download the prospectus for details and rules.**

Stuck at home? Check out our brand-new YouTube Channel!

If you are interested in contributing a video contact [cheryl@cordovacouncil.org](mailto:cheryl@cordovacouncil.org).

If you enjoy the offerings please subscribe.

<https://www.facebook.com/RanchoCordovaArts/> <https://bit.ly/2wTDGm5>

## Episodes:

**Monday, March 30: Painting Postcards with Eileen Noyer**

Hunt up some heavy paper, if you have it!

**Tuesday, March 31: Beginning with Watercolors with Marsha Mason**

Creating dark and light value in a painting

**Wednesday, April 1: Fiber Landscape with Cheryl Gleason**

Creating a landscape using cheesecloth, black paper, glue and pastels

**Thursday, April 2: The Art of Cardboard Masks with Ron Hall**

Making a 3D mask using materials found in your own home

**Friday, April 3: Drawing with Victoria Smith**

Learn some drawing techniques

### **Members Show Artist Call: *Roaring in the '20s***

This show is open to all current, up-to-date members of the Rancho Cordova Arts. This year, the theme for the members show is "Roaring in the 20s;" highlighting cultural phenomena from the 1920s and 2020s. Both decades are marked by cultural change, challenges, and corruption. The 1920s was an era of change: the 18<sup>th</sup> amendment, which outlawed production and consumption of alcohol was passed; the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment, which gave women the right to vote was passed; WWI ended and soldiers returned home, altering women's roles in the work force and creating a housing shortage. Fashion in the 1920s was changing; flappers, racoon coats, night clubs, and the marathon dancer were born. Jazz was the music of the time and bootleggers and bathtub gin was in.

The Art Deco movement with its minimalist qualities was in full swing. Personal expression and rebellious thought of the avant-garde movements including Dada, Surrealism, and Expressionism were emerging. This was an exuberant, freewheeling time in popular culture.

Similarly, we have entered the 2020s during a time of rebelliousness. Cultural shifts, immigration reform, global economic uncertainty, identity politics, and conservative values are at the forefront of the context in which we enter this new decade. As the world shifts into an age of technology, music, art, film, and fashion continue to evolve.

### **Deadline for Digital Submission: 6-25-2020**

Mills Station Arts & Culture Center "The MACC" Rancho Cordova, Ca.

Contact: Cheryl Gleason Email: [cheryl@cordovacouncil.org](mailto:cheryl@cordovacouncil.org)

Website: [rcmacc.org](http://rcmacc.org)

Recent arts events in Rancho Cordova included a variety of workshops and exhibitions.

**Stephanie Almendariz** showed us different approaches to collaging a landscape.



Local artists had an incredible experience attending the 4-part '**Boost Your Creative Business**' series that was held at the MACC over 4 separate months. This series was offered for free to all participants, and it was certainly appreciated! The sessions were facilitated by Kate Farrall; an artist and business coach who is passionate about working with artists to take their careers to the next level. As one participant states: "Thank you SO MUCH for a terrific workshop on email marketing! I felt super energized and have already done the emails for January through May. Plus I have scheduled them as blog posts on my website too! Feeling super stoked."

--Eileen Noyer

The "Our Voice" show at the MACC regrettably had to close early. I hope many of you had the chance to see the **Coretta Scott King Illustrators Award Winners** and enjoy our local musicians.



Cheryl Gleason announces the "Best in Show" Recipients

“Fear isn’t something that must be avoided. It is not an indicator that you’re doing things wrong. Fear is simply a cost that all artists have to pay on the way to doing meaningful work.” -- James Clear