

San Benito County Arts Council

To Promote, Assist, and Provide Access to the Arts in San Benito County
www.sanbenitoarts.org



455 San Benito St Ste 21
PO Box 692, Hollister, CA 95024
831.636.2787

ART EXPOSED

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR ARTS COUNCIL MEMBERS

Volume 1, Issue 3

July 2008

ARTS COUNCIL AWARDS FUNDS

The Arts Council has established a Regranting Program, meeting the requirements of the California Arts Council. Funds (totaling \$2000) have been awarded to three local Arts Organizations.

SAN BENITO STAGE COMPANY

Dedicated to producing local plays and workshops, the Stage Company provides high quality entertainment for the entire community. This organization has produced over 30 shows since 1999, and they finally have a home at the Granada Theater. It is the intent of the Stage Company to offer the use of the theater for other cultural events (choral groups, talent shows, band showcases, after school drama workshops, etc), and \$450 received from the Arts Council will enable the Stage Com-

pany to "Pay it Forward" through reduced venue fees.

ORIANA CHORALE

Established in 1986, the Oriana Chorale traditionally performs a concert in December, and the addition of a pianist, musicians, and soloists at these holiday events at the Mission would provide an expanded musical experience and add to the quality of the overall performance. For this reason, the Arts Council award Oriana Chorale \$800.

EL TEATRO CAMPESINO

Now in their 43rd year of productions, this theatre company was born on the picket lines of the great Grape Strike by Luis Valdez. This will be the 37th season of their Christmas pageants

at the Mission with the production of *La Virgen del Tepayac* filled with pageantry, dance, music, and song. Of course the production cannot happen without costumes and El Teatro has been awarded \$750 to repair one of three costumes and headdresses.

The goal of the Arts Council's Regranting Program is to develop and encourage local artists, art organizations, and their events for the cultural and artistic enrichment of San Benito County.

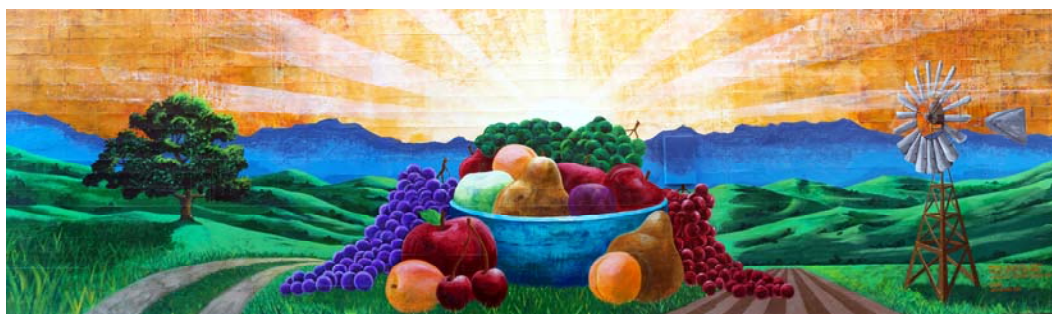
The proposed activity or purpose of the grant must be arts related (visual, musical, dramatic, or dance) and must be available to the public. ✍

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Items of Interest

- TOPS A Rock Shop in SJB is offering soapstone carving classes with Darlene Boyd on the third Saturday and Wednesday of the month. Call 831.623.4441 for more information.
- San Benito Street Studio Art Gallery has a variety of summer art classes for students of all ages. Call 831.726.4004 for more information.



Students from Gavilan Community College completed this mural in Downtown Hollister just before summer break. Under the guidance of Muralist Arturo Rosette, the mural was designed larger than life and pays tribute to our agricultural community.

Community Events

- **Jul 17–20, 24–27**, San Benito Stage Company presents *The Wizard of Oz* Granada Theater 831.636.0122
- **Jul 19**, Jazz Under the Stars Ridgemark Golf & Country Club 831.638.4960
- **Aug 24**, Aromas Day Art in the Park featuring Aromas Hills Artisans 9 am to 4 pm
- **Aug 1, 8, 15**, Rock Guitar Club Roof Top Concerts Hollister Parking Garage 6:30 to 10:00 pm
- **Sep 6**, Arts Council presents Gordy the Banjo-ologist San Benito High School 7:30 pm 831.636.2787

JUNE 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JULY 2008

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST 2008

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SEPTEMBER 2008

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

INCLUDE YOUR EVENT

If you would like to include your Arts event in this newsletter or on our website, please provide us with all the perti-

nent information by calling the office at 831.636.2787 or sending email to info@sanbenito.arts.org.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A BANJO-OLOGIST?



As a young boy, Gordy Ohliger probably never thought he would grow up to be a humorous, musical historian of our American music. A true Banjo-ologist, Gordy tours internationally, with multiple instruments, and is recognized as the only musician accomplished in all banjo styles. He is in demand world-wide for

music festivals, soundtrack scores, and his knowledge of early American musical forms. Described as being somewhat of a Mark Twain character, he holds the show together with a warm and witty narrative of odd bits of daily life...like a neighborly visit with one of you ancestors.

The Arts Council is hoping to inspire future Banjo-ologists with a family show featuring Gordy and his rare vintage instruments and quirky history—a show where children and adults will be able to learn and be entertained side by side.

A HERITAGE YOU CAN HEAR ON VINTAGE INSTRUMENTS

There will be funky old time minstrel songs; 1800's raka-taca ragtime; do-waca-do 20's jazz, stompin' bluegrass; novelty vaudeville; graceful ballads; and 1930's hot swing, all from his on-stage museum of rare vintage instruments. The audience will hear the songs in the same way that their grandmother's grand-

mother heard them. Gordy invites you to come up close to the stage afterwards to see these amazing artifacts from another time, advancing from a gourd & gut African M'banza to a 20th century gold and pearl inlaid beauty.

Take the time to mark your calendar now—Friday, September 5, 2008 at 7:30 pm Gordy will reveal the good things in life during a 75 minute show and provide ample opportunity for questions at the end. Watch for announcements in our local newspapers and on our website for more information; you may also call the Arts Council at 831.636.2787 for tickets.

This program is funded in part by the State and Local Partnership Program through the California Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PLANNING GRANT RECEIVED

The Arts Council collaborated with Sacred Heart Parish School and Gabilan Hills Elementary School in writing a grant for funds (\$2,500) to plan an *Artists in the Schools Program* in San Benito County through the California Arts Council. The grant was awarded and plans are in place to begin meeting on a monthly basis in order to develop a curriculum for all Art disciplines based on the needs of the students.

The goal is to create a standards-based arts program (K-12) that will enhance arts programs that may already be in place and to provide a more rounded arts education for students in San Benito County through dance, music, theatre, and visual works of art. Through partnership with librarians, artists, art organizations, parents, and volunteers, the program will address specific needs of all levels of school and provide access to all students by utilizing a variety of teaching strategies.

The Arts Council is charged to establish a dialog with the local schools about current programming and challenges, identify gaps and opportunities, and then search for stakeholders, supporters, and possible funders. Attention to detail during this initial stage of planning will produce a pilot program that will enable schools to provide an Arts curriculum aligned with the Visual and Performing Arts Standards, complimenting existing activities that may already be in place at individual schools.

A key component to this program will be gathering names of artists who are interested in participating and compiling a directory that will be available to teachers to help prepare their curriculum. Artists who would like more information, are encouraged to contact the Arts Council at 831.636.2787.

This grant is made possible by the California Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. ✍



LOVETT ART RENEWED AT THE LOCAL LIBRARY

A discovery in the California Room of the San Benito County Library—a loosely bound collection of illustrations entitled *Pressed Flowers* by Louise Lovett—has lead to another discovery—a beautifully restored and re-revised collection of original poems entitled *A Happy Day* by the same author. Who was this artist and how did her work end up in our county library?

A little investigation into the California death records provided the first clue—Louise died in Santa Cruz in 1974 and her middle name was Sheppa. With a little more detective work, Louise Sheppa Lovett turned out to be a twentieth century artist, educator, and mother.

She lovingly made the original single book *A Happy Day* for her small daughter Mary Louise, including poems, illustrations, and hand calligraphy. Today her

granddaughter Ellen Anne Chong is also an artist, and she has carefully restored her grandmother's original book for publication on August 13, 2008.

Ellen was thrilled to learn of her grandmother's book, *Pressed Flowers*, discovered in our library—a book Louise and her husband Roy gave as a gift at Christmas—probably to a resident of San Benito

County. In exchange, Ellen has agreed to send the library an advanced copy of *A Happy Day* for patrons to enjoy—the book is a wonderfully restored piece of art with a stitched binding, gold-stamped and embossed cover, and attached ribbon marker.

By the way, Little Mary Louise is now in her eighties and living in California, and she is delighted that her story is available to you! ✍

"The book is a wonderfully restored piece of art with a stitched binding, gold-stamped and embossed cover, and attached ribbon marker."

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ARTISTS' WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

At its April 14, 2008 public meeting, the California Arts Council awarded the San Benito County Arts Council a Creating Public Value Program (CPV) grant in the amount of \$4,800.

The Arts Council proposes to present a two-day workshop for local Artists geared towards building relationships with members of the community who will ultimately become a loyal audience and collectors of work locally produced in San Benito County.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The two-day workshop, featuring Art Marketing Consultant Alyson B. Stanfield, will be held at Ridgemark's Tennis Club and is scheduled for February 7 & 8, 2009. Alyson is prepared to do everything in her power to help create a workshop that fits the needs of local artists and guarantees to meet or exceed their expectations.

Artists who would rather be in the studio working than worrying about selling, will learn the importance of forming powerful community alliances and discover effective promotional language. In addition, Artists will focus on techniques to create an online buzz for their art by developing a web presence. Finally, five artists will be able to book individual consultations with Alyson to learn additional information specific to their field of work.

Learn to generate interest in your art and in yourself—stop making excuses and start creating a buzz that will boost your art career!

More information about this workshop will be published soon, but if you would like to reserve a seat, please contact the Arts Council at 831.636.2787. This program is funded in part by the California Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. ✍