



Art news

Fall 2011

Our Mission:

Provide Madera County residents and visitors access to art and culture through diverse programs and services.

- Promote art education by enriching school curricula and other community activities.
- Stimulate and support local arts groups and individual artists within the county.
- Serve all generations and multi-cultural groups.
- Develop public and private financial support for the arts.
- Play a role in the economic development of the area through promotion of the arts.
- Encourage the promotion of a wide variety of public art and initiate fund-raising activities to sponsor art in public places.

Visit us on the web at
www.maderaarts.org

559-661-7005

CELEBRATE AGRICULTURE with the arts

**The 18th Annual Exhibit
Sept. 29th - Nov. 19th 2011**

Thank you to our... 2011 SPONSORS

Alkali Hollow Farms, Inc.
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Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau

Another wonderful exhibit is in place with the opening of the 18th Celebrate Agriculture with the Arts show! The opening reception brought artists, admirers and friends from the valley floor and the foothills, from Bakersfield to Merced to congratulate the winners and enjoy the evening. Madera wines and abundant appetizers rounded out the evening.

A sincere thank you to this year's sponsors, listed to the left. This sponsorship and the longevity of this program demonstrates the strong relationship between the Madera County community and the Arts.

Dr Julie O'Kane, President of the Board of Directors of the Madera County Arts Council presided over the presentation of awards. Each award presenter spoke of his or her own connection, both personally and professionally, between the arts and agriculture. Presenters included: Gary Svanda (Madera City Council, Edward Jones); Robert Poythress (Mayor, City of Madera, Citizen's Business Bank); Jay Seslowe (Assistant Commissioner, Madera County Dept of Agriculture); Dr. Cecelia Massetti (Superintendent, Madera County Office of Education); Debi Bray (President/CEO, Madera Chamber of Commerce); John Lasgoity (Madera Vintners Association, Chateau Lasgoity); Carl Janzen (Madera Irrigation District); Carol Kennedy (Award Winning Artist, Friend of Madera County Arts Council); Janice Lowder (Friend of Madera County Arts Council); and Dr. Dianne Rich (MCAC Board Member).

John Bruce, our highly acclaimed Mariposa artist and native Californian, well versed in judging art competitions was this year's judge.

Read more about the exhibit on page 5.

BEST OF SHOW

Dairy Heifer, Gourd Sculpture by Betty
Finch of Bakersfield

Dairy Heifer. 20" tall to ear tips, 26" nose to tail

"I felt this was the most creative piece in the show—Congratulations", John Bruce, 2011 Judge



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**Dr. Julie O'Kane,
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**Julie Elstner,
Newsletter Editor**

**MCAC Office and
Circle Gallery Hours:
Tuesday through Friday
10 AM - 4 PM**

**Saturdays through
November 19
10 AM - 2 PM**

California



Arts Council

Club YES (Youth Education and Enrichment at School)

ARTIST PROFILE - Brian Vawter

The Club YES is happy to have Brian Vawter back on board as an instructor for Madera County's elementary after school program. Brian's background in photography goes as far back as high school where he worked on the yearbook and newspaper, and provided the photos of the school's insect collection. Forwarding into college, Vawter took photography, photo journalism, and art classes. This landed him professional positions at the Sacramento weekly newspaper, the *Madera Tribune*, Associated Press, and most recently the *Fresno Bee* as a photo technician.

After a one-and-a-half month stint last year in Club YES, Brian continues sharing his passion and talent in photography this year. With the aid of the digital point and shoot cameras provided by the Madera County Office of Education, Club Yes Program, Vawter anticipates a

curriculum of the basics and fundamentals of photography: composition, form, shape, pattern, rhythm, and, hopefully, some of its history.

"The ability of the kids to immediately see the results of their photos will help them to understand the concepts being taught," explained Brian. "And since they will most likely need to share cameras, the kids will also learn the spirit of cooperation," he added.

Welcome back to the Club YES team, Brian!



One of many working meetings for MCAC artist teachers, including Brian Vawter, far left

CHUKCHANSI COMMUNITY GRANT UPDATE

Planning, scheduling, and training complete; a few minor glitches finding locations under our belts; and September/October 2011 saw the launch of the Mountain Schools Visiting Artists program (MSVA). Seven elementary schools in the foothills of Madera County are participating, with almost all 3rd and 4th graders in these schools receiving an hour a week of additional instruction in the arts (in some of the schools 2nd and 5th graders are also enrolled). Similar to other MCAC

visiting artists programs, these teachers will be coordinating their art technique and concept lessons with classroom teachers so that students doing art projects will also have math, reading, science, and history lessons reinforced. MCAC teachers, elementary school teachers and students are excited at the offerings of drawing, weaving, collage, watercolor, and acrylic painting classes at this time. Later in the year, we anticipate adding photography, sculpting, and creative writing modules.



**"CHALK THE WALK" CHALLENGE
November 19th as part of the MCAC Holiday Art Affair**

MCAC will be sponsoring our county's first chalk walk competition as part of the Holiday Art Affair, November 19th. County high schools will compete in drawing and chalking scenes from "The Grinch That Stole Christmas". The day's event will be a visual and performing art extravaganza of students and local artists demonstrating their talents. The chalk walk challenge will take place in the parking lot area south of the Circle Gallery. This event is presented to raise awareness of the importance of art education in our county. There will be a budding artists avenue where anyone can create their own 2 x 2 foot square for a small donation.

Jean Kato and Tina Holmquist are co-chairs for this inaugural event. Contact the MCAC office at 559-661-7005 or any MCAC board member for more information.

THE ARTS IN MADERA COUNTY - ALIVE AND WELL!

by Dr. Julie O'Kane, MCAC Board President

The Madera County Arts Council is alive and well. Due to great support from the community, members, sponsors, and a very active Board, we were able to provide a full range of programs and services last year. And the good news is, we plan to continue all our programs this year; and in some areas, we will expand services.

In September, we completed our annual Concerts in the Park series. The concerts were well attended and the music was top quality. Dianne Rich did an outstanding job coordinating. We add 2 BBQs which were well received. We also added a raffle with some great prizes. Tickets sold like hotcakes. Thanks to many community businesses who donated prizes.

We ended September with the opening of the Celebrate Agriculture with the Arts show. Members enjoyed a reception to honor the artists. This year we partnered with the Chamber of Commerce Tourism Alliance to add a pomegranate category. A selection of entries will be displayed at the local Pomegranate Festival during the first week in November.

Our artists in the schools program is near and dear to my heart. As an educator, I know the value of providing the Arts in schools to

enhance learning. Through a \$25,000 grant from Chukchansi we will be able to expand the program to several schools in the County. This will be a welcome addition to our support of the Club YES after school program which serves Madera County students as well.

We are lucky to be in a community with so many people who give of their time, talent and money to support the Arts. The Madera City Vision 2025 addresses the value of the Arts in community life, and we are proud to help provide the programs and services which can engage the community.

There are many ways you can give back to the community by supporting the Arts Council. We can expand hours at the Circle Gallery with volunteer support. Become a business sponsor of an event which enriches our community. Attend the events, enjoy the performances. Bring a friend and ask your friend to join the Arts Council. Get on line and let us know what you would like to see happening in Madera.

Our strength is in membership. Through dues, time, partnerships and sponsorships, we can continue to provide great service to our community. Hope to see you at our next event.

THANK YOU TO OUR NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS FOR THIS QUARTER

PATRONS:

Supervisor Ronn Dominici
Dr. Shobha Sekhon
Anna Da Silva
Julie O'Kane
Jim & Tina Unti
James & Coke Hollowell
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Edward & Therese Grootendorst
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INDIVIDUAL:

Charlotte Lesan
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Tom Johnson
Marylou Griggs
Lidia Leach
Martin Shapiro
Patricia Briney
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Tom Miller
Betty Larsen
Catherine Walker
Maxine Fargason
Mark & Torrey Ebaugh
Linda R. Zupcic
Cara Alter
Sarah Deaver
Jean Kato

Letter of Appreciation from 2011 MCAC Scholarship Recipient, Erika Davis

Dear Rose Mary Montelongo,

I would like to first apologize for sending this thank you card so late. I have put off writing this thank you card, because I really did not know how to thank you for your generous donation towards my education. I would like to thank you not only for your donation towards my education but also for your support and belief that I am worth supporting and that my dream is worth supporting. Receiving this scholarship not only helps lift some of the financial burden off of my parents for having to pay for my education, but it provides support for me. Receiving this scholarship showed me that someone who did not know much about me still saw something in me and found me to be worthwhile enough to have been awarded this scholarship. I thank you for believing in me and finding me as a great investment. I would also like to thank you for creating this scholarship. I do not know any of your previous recipients, but I know that receiving this scholarship must have brightened their day and meant a lot to them, because I know it did to me. Thank you for your generosity. It is definitely appreciated.

*Sincerely,
Erika Davis*

Call for Entries...

DEADLINE: November 10, 2011

Yosemite Renaissance, Annual Juried Exhibit

"... is an annual competition/exhibition which is intended to encourage diverse artistic interpretations of Yosemite. Its goals are to bring together the works of serious contemporary artists that do not simply duplicate traditional representations; to establish a continuum with past generations of Yosemite artists; and to help re-establish visual art as a major interpretive medium of the landscape and a stimulus to the protection of the environment." Artists must submit one digital file for each artwork entered (no more than 3) with a \$15 fee per entry – no slides. Between 35-50 pieces will be selected. At least \$4,000 in cash awards will be distributed, and a special award of \$300 will be given to the best piece inspired by Hetch Hetchy. Visit <http://yosemiterenaissance.org/> for details, forms and prospectus.

**2012 Sierra Art Trails,
Its 10th Anniversary, call to artists
begins on February 1, 2012.**

Arts Calendar...

VISION ACADEMY, Oakhurst www.visionacademy.org

- 11/11-12 Daffodil Planting; meet at Western Sierra Nursery, Oakhurst, at 9 a.m.
11/26 Tree Lighting at the Tenaya Lodge Resort in Fish Camp with the Sierra Chamber Singers. 6:00 p.m.
Contact Jackie Byers 559-683-7071 for details.
12/3 Oakhurst Tree Lighting Ceremony with the Sierra Chamber Singers, 5-6 p.m. Free to the mountain community
12/4 Tree Auction at The Pines; proceeds go to the Boys and Girls Club. Chamber Maid Singers perform. 3 to 5 p.m.
12/10-11 Caroling through the Mountains with the Sierra Chamber Singers
12/18 Christmas Concert: Gift to the Community, Sierra Chamber Singers, at 2 p.m. at the New Community United Methodist Church

Art Workshops

- 11/5 "Fix Your Paintings" with Kathleen Mattox at Fresno Flats School, 9:30 to 3:30, \$35

COOLWATER SPRINGS EVENTS www.coolwaterconcerts.com

October 22 at 7 pm: PRESTON REED, a one-man revolution. This New Yorker tweaks the nose of musical convention, pokes the eye of accepted wisdom, and burns the rule book of the past. With blurred hands he taps, tickles, slaps and soothes his instrument, fusing polyrhythmic percussion with emotive melody to create a sonic landscape.

October 30 at 4 pm: RICHARD SMITH and JULIE ADAMS, this married duet of guitarist and cellist will melt your heart and blow your socks off! Richard Smith, beginning his career as a guitar playing child prodigy, has toured

the world, surprising audiences everywhere with his genius showcasing a repertoire spanning an incredible range of musical styles from country, bluegrass, mainstream jazz, modern pop and rock, to classical guitar. Julie Adams is one of the most diverse and award-winning cellists on the music scene today. She has performed with orchestras in Chicago, Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati, Ohio and Vero Beach, Florida.

For reservations and to see Coolwater's 2012 concert schedule go to www.coolwaterconcerts.com.

TIMBERLINE GALLERY ART CLASSES www.timberlineartgallery.com

- 11/5 with Joan Brumley on Watercolor - \$45
12/3 make artistic cards, in 3-4 sections - \$25

All classes are held at Timberline Gallery, 40982 Highway 41 in Oakhurst, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Class fees should be pre-paid by check, cash or credit card at Timberline in person or by credit card over the phone (683-3345). Classes each have a materials fee which is payable to the instructor on the day of class. Bring a sack lunch and drink(s) – lunch will be on-site. View their website www.timberlineartgallery.com for more details.

and the... MADERA HOLIDAY ART TOUR

Sat. Nov. 19, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. • Sun., Nov. 20, Noon – 4 p.m.,

FEATURING:

- 1. Annette Nordine, photography & painting**
Theresa Svanda, painted rocks
Michelle Gonsalves, hair bows
Glenna Jarvis, author
801 Claremont Dr. (1 blk. East of Schnoor)
- 2. Rose Wheeler, fine art**
Felisha Rodriguez, MHS art student
1911 University Ave.
(4 houses East of Schnoor)
- 3. Joe Vega, oil paintings**
Eva Vega, original jewelry
Angelica Perez, colored pencil drawings, 1922 Howard Rd.
at Edgar's Italian Restaurant
- 4. Patti "Song Bird" Cline, photography**
Cal Crane, hand embroidered linens
Live music
1717 Howard Rd. at 47th Place Carpet
(Saturday only, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)

For more info: 664-1142

Madera County Arts Council
& Circle Gallery
present
**the 5th Annual
Holiday Art Affair**
Outdoor Festival
Featuring 30 artists & fine crafters
selling original works.
The Blackberry Blossom ensemble
will provide music throughout the day
to enhance your shopping pleasure.
Refreshments will be served in the Gallery
as you browse the current selection
of artists' works.
Join us on:
Saturday, November 19th
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Circle Gallery
1653 N. Schnoor Ave., Ste. 113, Madera, CA
559-661-7005
www.maderaarts.org



2011 AWARD WINNERS

Best of Show

Betty Finch, *Dairy Heifer* (see photo, p.1)

Dairy

- 1st Sue McCline, *Hey, Where's the Hay?*
- 2nd Claire Shroeven Verbiest, *Top-Heavy*

Farm Machinery & Structures

- 1st Roberta Davis, *Provence Sunflowers*
- 2nd Stephen Austin,
Making Hay While the Sun Shines
- 3rd Sharleen Robson, *Very Berry Farm*

Fruits & Nuts

- 1st Bea Prince, *Persimmons Textured*
- 2nd Kate Jackson, *Stone Pressed Grapes*
- 3rd Kay Owens, *Red Pears*

Irrigation

- 1st Leslie Dearing, *Water, Earths Life Source*
- 2nd Sue Porter, *Water for the Valley*
- 3rd Iris T. Asai, *Lateral Movement*

Livestock

- 1st Chella, *Judged: Blue Ribbon*
- 2nd Sandy Myers, *I'm Watching You*
- 3rd Iris T. Asai, *California Grazing I*

Pomegranate Festival

- 1st Kikuko Young, *Pomegranates*
- 2nd Michael Biasell, *Last of the Pomegranates*
- 3rd Cynthia Eastman-Roan,
Pomegranates

Poultry

- 1st Chieko Delgado, *White Turkey*
- 2nd Ranita Brazell, *The Happy Trio*
- 3rd Roberta Davis, *Enamelware*

Vegetables

- 1st Hilda Vandergriff, *Pumpkins*
- 2nd Suzie Stach, *Garlic*
- 3rd JoAnn Scarbrough,
Red Onions with Garlic

Vines

- 1st Kate Jackson, *Autumn Grapes*
- 2nd JoAnn Scarbrough, *Dormant*
- 3rd Judy Lynd, *Wine Country*

Included here is a sampling of works from the exhibit. For the "rest of the show" you are invited to visit Circle Gallery. The show hangs through Saturday, November 19th. All works are for sale!

*Tues - Fri 10 AM - 4 PM
 Saturdays 10 AM - 2 PM*

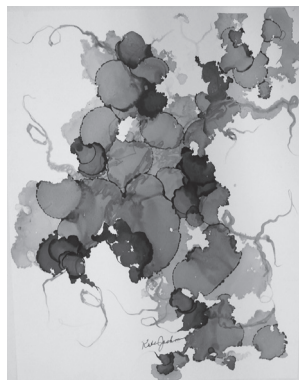
You don't want to miss it!



Chella, *Judged: Blue Ribbon*



Hilda Vandergriff, *Pumpkins*



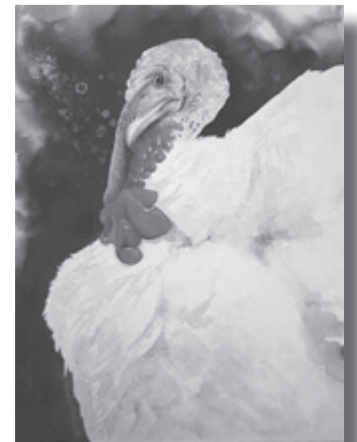
Kate Jackson, *Autumn Grapes*



Kikuko Young, *Pomegranates*



Sue McCline, *Hey, Where's the Hay?*



Chieko Delgado, *White Turkey*

BETTY FINCH,

Best of Show Award Winner, Artist Background

Betty Finch was raised in Mojave, California and currently lives in Bakersfield. She spent much of her childhood "playing in the desert with toys she made using primitive tools" and natural materials. She put herself through Bakersfield College, then worked as a commercial artist for 2 years before beginning her 25-year career with Kern County Sheriff's Department. Her gourd sculpting career was initially inspired through facial reconstruction techniques she learned in FBI Quantico training and a trip to meet her mentor, Jim Story, in Indiana. After retirement, she was able to travel to China to learn from Mr. Zhang Chairi, "a molded gourd artist renowned for his perfect replications of the molded gourds of Chinese emperors," the preservation of whose work motivated her co-authoring a book *The Immortal Molded Gourds of Mr. Zhang Cairi*. She is currently working on a second book on modern gourd artists in China, raising Appaloosa horses, experimenting in growing molded, hand-trained, and dyed gourds, and creating fine art with gourds.



Madera County Arts Council
Fundraiser Drawing
for

“Red, Ripe & Ready”

a photographic print of luscious pomegranates ready for picking,
by Madera photographer
Annette Nordine

12” x 18” print, full color,
double matted and framed
in a beautiful wooden frame
Overall size: 23” x 30”

**Tickets: \$5.00 each
or 5 for \$20.00**

Drawing will take place
at the Holiday Art Affair
on Saturday, November 19th
at Circle Gallery
1653 N. Schnoor, Ste. 113
Madera, CA
559-661-7005

*Proceeds benefit the arts in education
programs of MCAC*

www.maderaarts.org

Need not be present to win

**Submit this stub with payment for your entry.
Your tickets will be returned by mail.**

.....

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

.....

Mail to:
Circle Gallery
1653 N Schnoor, Ste. 113
Madera, CA 93637,

OR...
**Call 661-7005 and purchase your lucky ticket
by phone!**

Good Luck!

IT'S ALMOST POMEGRANATE TIME!

FREE Art Lessons for School Children on Saturday, Nov 5 in Madera.

Madera is preparing for its inaugural Pomegranate Celebration starting Saturday October 29 and culminating with the Pomegranate Festival on November 5, 2011. Madera County Arts Council has been collaborating with business and government partners to include the Arts in these festivities. Through raffle sales and art supply donations we're going to be able to offer a Festival Arts Tent with FREE hour-long art lessons on Saturday, Nov 5 at ApCal (32749 Ave 7, Madera). MCAC art teachers will be leading pomegranate-themed lessons in watercolor, paper collage, and weaving. All necessary supplies will be provided and the teachers will be ready to make adjustments for age and developmental level. Classes will be formed on a first-come basis from 11 am to 2 pm--starting promptly on the hour. Family members will have plenty to do during the lesson as the Festival will

include pomegranate-themed vendors and crafters, live music, kids zone, food concessions, wine tasting, and a special showing of a selection of entries in the Celebrate

Agriculture with the Arts, Pomegranate category and the school poster contest winning entries. For more information about Arts Tent activities see www.maderaarts.org and for more information about all the events and contests of the Pomegranate Celebration and Festival see Madera Chamber of Commerce at <http://pomegranatefestival.com/> or call 673-3563. This event is being sponsored by the Tourism Alliance of the Madera Chamber of Commerce.



CONCERTS IN THE PARK 2011

**Thank you to our...
SUMMER CONCERTS IN THE PARK
SPONSORS**

- Quady Winery
- Edward Jones
- Round Table Pizza
- Venturi House of Music
- Purl's Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning
- Madera Parks & Community Services
- Seabury, Copland & Anderson Ins. Agency
- Latinas Unidas
- Madera Breakfast Lions
- Madera Sunrise Rotary
- Kiwanis Club of Madera
- Citizens Business Bank
- Country Villa Madera
- Rich & Row Dentistry
- Creative Copy Printing

With special thanks to
Ross Thornton,
Val Clute, &
Leon Emo

And to...
all the volunteers and musicians, both young and old,
who helped produce another great concert season!

NOTE: The generous donations of the community toward the Concerts Raffle raised \$900, approximately \$450 going directly to the artists in the schools programs of MCAC.

4EverAfter



A very small sampling from the 2011 season!

Flamenco Jucal



Baloney Creek



Fred & Maria Rivera danced the night away at every concert. What great dancers they are!



VFW Color Guard

GOLDEN CHAIN THEATRE Presents ...

Located on Highway 41 in Oakhurst, the Golden Chain Theatre, the Keeper of the Flame award winner, will be offering the following. Reservations can be made by calling 559-683-7112 or getboxoffice@gmail.com

October 1-23, Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

MADAM'S BEEN MURDERED, TEA WILL BE LATE. This Agatha Christie spoof takes you to Houndstooth Manor where all the paying guests keep showing up dressed as monks.

December 2-4, 7:00 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m.

100 ELVES. Theatrical producer J.W. Allsworth is putting together a spectacular holiday production promising to use 100 authentic elves for the big finale. Phelps, the head elf at the North Pole, says he will have the exact number of singers and dancers at the first rehearsal. He'll keep it as a surprise for Santa when the money earned will pay off the workshop mortgage. But ...

* A Special Melodrama is available, performed at your place or at the Theatre:

THE OLDE COOKIE SHOP. Sweet Nellie O'Grady is about to lose her cookie shop to the evil banker, Mortimer Whiplash. It's love at first sight when handsome Harry Goodwell, legal assistant to Whiplash, first casts his eyes on the lovely Nellie. When all seems lost, kindly old Doctor Sullivan reveals a startling secret that saves the day.

YOSEMITE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL www.yijazz.com

During October 28-30 at the Chukchansi Gold Resort and Casino in Coarsegold, the Oakhurst Area Chamber of Commerce hosts the first annual Yosemite International Jazz Festival. Several well-known artists will be performing including Spyro Gyra, Richard Elliot and Big Bad Voodoo Daddy. You'll hear the excellent tunes of Greg Adams, Karen Marguth, Alice Lui, Dana Abbott, Tim and Myles Thompson, and the Yosemite Jazz Band.

In addition, this event will also give amateur musicians the chance to take part in musical workshops and other activities. Be sure to sign up!

Tickets, starting at just \$25, can be purchased at www.yijazz.com.

FUN WITH PHOTOSHOP IN OAKHURST; FOR NEWBIES AND OLD HANDS

The goal of this group is to professionalize our Photoshop techniques through presentations on techniques and tips. After the presentations we will have a Q and A session.

We will meet from 7pm - 8 pm on the first Tuesday of each month at the Gertrude School House. Fall/Winter 2011-12 line-up:

- 11/1 - Holiday Cards & Templates, Kathy Holland
- 12/6 - Extraction, Wendy Denton/Ken West
- 1/3 - Text and Photo Manipulation, Lori Ann Cole
- 2/7 - Layers, Blends & Wow!, Joyce Wycoff

For information link to our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fun-with-Photoshop-in-Oakhurst/196194010445363>



MADERA WINE TRAIL - HOLIDAY SPIRIT WEEKEND

On November 12th and 13th, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Madera Vintners Association's family wineries are proud to present the Madera Wine Trail's "Holiday Spirit Weekend." This is a wonderful opportunity to taste the award-winning wines of the Madera Wine Trail. It will also be a weekend of live music and holiday gift shopping. Pre-sale tickets are available at select locations or online at www.MaderaWineTrail.com

Madera High School Coyote Theater Productions "A Christmas Carol"

Opening reception and theater night, Thursday, December 1.

A reception will be held prior to the production, location TBA.

For tickets and more information contact Circle Gallery at 559-661-7005 or www.maderaarts.org

Judy DeRosa's Creativity Circle

49430 Road 426 upstairs suite
559-760-4764, jderosaart@yahoo.com
Art Process - Come Paint with Me.
Saturday or Sunday 1:00 - 4:00 \$45.
per day (includes materials) You may schedule one or two days. Class size 7, reservations required
Dream Circle- new sign up to form a circle \$20 per class
Monthly Drum Circle call for dates
Private Sessions - sliding scale (\$45 - \$100)

Vision Academy Scholarships

This year the Vision Academy was proud to present a total of \$6,500 in scholarships to the following local students:

Dylan Demers of Glacier High School; business major with a minor in art and music;

Aubrienne Scott of Yosemite High School; theater arts major at Fresno State;

Chase Hagerman of YHS with a music major at Fresno State;

Lacey Smith of YHS with a business management major and a minor in musical production at UC Santa Barbara;

Lily Radanovich of YHS with joint majors in dance and psychology and an art minor at Mills College;

Evan Ewert of YHS, attending Westmont College where he majors in sports and youth pastor with a minor in music;

Kelsie Barry of YHS attending community college with a major in psychology and fashion design and a minor in dance; and

Michael Lalev of YHS, attending community college then CU San Diego with a major in geology and a minor in music.

... Our star shining softly on its own, but brightly when shared with others ...



*'tis the Season
...almost*

TREES FOR CHARITY

The Madera Sunrise Rotary prepares for its 26th annual Tree Auction and Dinner Dance on Saturday, December 3, at Hatfield Hall, Madera District

Fairgrounds at 1850 West Cleveland in Madera.

Showcasing trees, wreaths, and donated items auctioned to the highest bidder, the proceeds are given directly to the designated non-profit organizations (including MCAC) and charities. Proceeds from ticket sales benefit the Madera Sunrise Rotary projects.

Cocktails begin at 5:30, dinner at 6 p.m., with the tree auction immediately following. The silent auction closes at 8:30, dancing begins at 9 p.m. Please contact any Sunrise Rotary member for tickets.

The MCAC decorating committee is already busy with this year's tree. They always outdo themselves, and this year will be no exception! Monetary donations are accepted towards the project. Watch your mailbox in November for an invitation to join us in the consortium bid. Contact the MCAC office at 559-661-7005 for more information.

CHRISTMAS GALA AT THE MUSEUM



On December 4, from 5-8 p.m., the Madera County Historical Society hosts their annual Christmas Gala at the Museum (210 W. Yosemite Ave., Madera) including a no host bar, dinner and dessert buffet. For ticket information, leave a message with the Museum office at (559) 673-0291. Reservations are required and may be made by mail only to MCHS, P.O. Box 478, Madera, CA 93639. If you are unable to attend, the Museum will offer special viewing hours during the holiday season (dates TBA) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., cost TBA. Group tours may be arranged in advance by leaving a message at the Museum office (559) 673-0291.

Arts Calendar (continued from page 4)

- 10/28-30 Yosemite International Jazz Festival
- 10/28-30 Fall Festival Arts & Crafts show at Pines Village, Bass Lake
- 10/29-11/5 Pomegranate Festival, Madera
- 11/5 Timberline Art Class: "Watercolor" with Joan Brumley
- 11/5 "Fix Your Paintings" with Kathleen Mattox, Fresno Flats
- 11/10 Deadline: Yosemite Renaissance call to artists
- 11/12-13 Madera Wine Trail: Holiday Spirit Weekend
- 11/19 Holiday Art Affair at MCAC and the Madera Holiday Art Tour, Madera
- 11/25-26 Arts & Crafts show at Pines Village, Bass Lake
- 11/26 Tree Lighting at Tenaya Lodge, 6 p.m.
- 12/1 Opening Night and Reception for "A Christmas Carol", Madera High School Coyote Theater Productions. Includes a pre-theater reception by MCAC
- 12/3 Trees for Charity, Dinner & Dance: Madera Sunrise Rotary
- 12/3 Tree Lighting Ceremony, Oakhurst
- 12/3 Timberline Art Class: "Making Cards"
- 12/4 Tree Auction at The Pines, 3-5 p.m.
- 12/4 Tree Lighting Ceremony, Chowchilla, 5:30 p.m.
- 12/4 Christmas Gala at the Museum, Madera, 5-8 p.m.
- 12/10-11 Christmas Caroling, Sierra Chamber Singers, Oakhurst
- 12/18 Christmas Concert: "Gift to the Community," Sierra Chamber Singers, Oakhurst

SIERRA ART TRAILS

Another successful Sierra Art Trails – from reception to studio tours – was celebrated this Fall. Sierra Art Trails is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting working artists and artisans by promoting their work, fostering the visual arts and art education, and benefiting our communities by establishing a reputation for the region as an arts destination. And to that end, a number of community awards were presented.

The coveted "Keeper of the Flame" award, in recognition of exceptional support for the arts, changed hands this year from the Madera County Arts Council to Oakhurst's Golden Chain Theatre.

Student Sponsorship awards were presented to Nick Adelizi, Gregory Royce, Shawna Garland, Andrew Meister, and Yanelli Miranda. Students are mentored by working artists who guide them through the process.

This year's mentors were Patricia Allen, Jon Bock, Ginny Burdick, Nancy Robbins, and Chris Sorensen. The funds for the 2011 sponsorships were donated in full by Sierra Telephone.

Also presented were three \$500 cash awards: 1) Yosemite Western Artists for supporting visual artists in the Sierra Foothills since 1969; 2) The Children's Museum of the Sierra for providing innovative and creative exhibits for children encouraging curiosity, imagination, and creative thinking; and 3) Minarets High School for providing innovative art, music, video, and computer programs preparing students for life and work in contemporary culture.

Since 2003 Sierra Art Trails has donated over \$10,000 to schools and other non-profit organizations that support and promote the Arts.

Spread the Word... Become an MCAC Member!

Please join us! Membership in the Madera County Arts Council starts at \$35 a year and entitles you to quarterly newsletters including an arts and culture calendar, invitations to all openings and events, plus a 10% discount in the Circle Art Gallery. Join us to keep informed about and supporting the Arts in Madera County. For membership contact any MCAC Board member, visit the office or go to www.maderaarts.org and join with payment through Pay Pal!



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To advertise your business here & help support art education in Madera County contact the MCAC office at 559-661-7005.

S.H.A.R.E.S. CARD

MCAC has received \$653.15 to date from use of the S.H.A.R.E.S. cards! Thank you, friends of MCAC!

Do you shop at SaveMart? Please consider picking up a free S.H.A.R.E.S. card from Circle Gallery or from any board member. This is the way it works:

Each time your S.H.A.R.E.S. card is swiped, points are issued (\$1 per point on a qualified purchase) to our account. We receive a quarterly check for the amount earned at the rate of up to 3%. There is no limit to how many supporters can enroll, and it provides another source of funds to MCAC. There is no cash value to the card, so if it is lost it doesn't matter. Just pick up another one from the Circle Gallery.



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