



# Art news

Fall 2013 - Winter 2014

CELEBRATING  
30 Years

## MCAC's 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 fundraising activities to sponsor art in public places.

Partnering  
for the Arts



## Thank you!

As Madera County Arts Council prepared for its 30th Anniversary celebration, news was received that a generous endowment had been entrusted to the organization from the Elaine Secara Trust "for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and improving a cultural arts center to be constructed in Madera County."

The endowment was presented to MCAC by Dianna Marsh, Secara family member, to Dr. Julie O'Kane, MCAC Board President, at the 30th Anniversary Event held March 23, 2013.

MCAC extends a huge "Thank you!" to the Secara family on behalf of Madera County.



Dianna Marsh, Secara family member and MCAC President FY 2013-2014 (left), and Dr. Julie O'Kane, MCAC Past President (right)

## Moving Forward by Dr. Julie O'Kane, MCAC Board President, 2011 - 2013

These last two years have been quite a challenge for MCAC. Major budget cuts due to the recession left us without a paid Executive Director. The Board stepped to the plate and volunteered countless hours to keep the Arts Council and Circle Gallery doors open. Through it all, we managed to keep our programs afloat, renegotiate our lease at the Gallery, expand our fundraising, and accept the largest donation ever in our organization - all while celebrating 30 years of service to the Arts in Madera County!

Our two paid part time staff, Nancy Burckert and Sherril Royle, continued to help us through. With their knowledge and know-how we have balanced the books, maintained our artists in the schools program, and kept the doors of the Gallery open.

Now we see a bright future. Membership numbers continue to rise. This is the backbone of our organization. Members show community support and help pay for the ongoing programs and services. We thank you all for your understanding and support.

We have invested the \$2.5 million donation from the Elaine Secara Trust in two investment programs. One is through Citizens' Trust, the

investment arm of Citizens Business Bank. The other is with the Fresno Regional Foundation, a nonprofit group that invests our funds and also provides grant opportunities to our community through other funds they oversee.

Over the next year, we look forward to beginning to shape the Arts Center for Madera. That will mean a needs assessment, visits to other cities' centers, and beginning to design a facility for Madera. This will be the most exciting project we can undertake over the next few years. Hopefully the whole membership group will be able to support this project as it moves forward.

We have also expanded our outreach locally through a new partnership with the Madera Co. Schools Foundation. With them we will seek support for our Artists in the Schools Program. We have expanded our partnerships with Madera City Parks and Recreation and the Children's Museum of the Sierras. The result is much larger summer programs in the Arts in Madera and Oakhurst. We also developed partnerships with the City of Chowchilla and the Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce in order to bring the Concerts in the Park to Chowchilla last summer.

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MCAC Office & Circle Gallery Hours:  
Tues. - Fri. 10 AM - 4 PM  
Saturdays 10 AM - 2 PM  
559-661-7005  
mcacestaff@maderaarts.org

California



Arts Council

**The 2013 CELEBRATE AGRICULTURE EXHIBITION**



*Celebrate Agriculture with the Arts 2013 Exhibition at Circle Gallery*

**And the winners are...**

**CELEBRATING AGRICULTURE**

**...THE HUMAN FACTOR**

Maxine Olson, "Dairymen: Myron Dutra & Son"  
BEST OF SHOW, Fine-Art Photography  
Wendy Miller, "Farmersville Corner"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Drawing  
Thomas Hagopian, "Harvest Time"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Photography  
Mary Karlton, "Sweet Summertime"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Wendy Alexander, "Field Worker"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Photography

**DAIRY, LIVESTOCK & POULTRY**

Joann Hill, "Grazing on the Valley"  
BEST OF SHOW, Fine-Art Painting  
Diane Breuer, "Cattle Drive"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Songbird Cline, "Black Baldy"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Photography  
Linda McCoy, "Rooster & His Friends"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Franka Gabler, "Cruising Cows"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Photography

**FARM MACHINERY & STRUCTURES**

Kathleen Mattox, "Morning, Noon and Night"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Sarkis Manavazian, "Barn with Sunlight"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Photography  
Iris Asai, "The Road Home"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Helen Gigliotti, "Abandoned Barn Detail"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Photography

**FRUITS & NUTS**

Evyonne Malm-Plate, "Five Pears"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Nina McDonald, "Raisin Trays"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Photography  
Marilyn Wear, "Nut Snatcher"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Christopher Viney, "Beginnings of Marzipan"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Photography

**IRRIGATION, ROW & FIELD CROPS**

Griseldo Tello, "Lavender Farm"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Ramona Frances, "Onion Bloom"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Photography  
Janet Rempel, "Audacious Sunflower"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Helen Gigliotti, "King Cotton"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Photography

**POMEGRANATE FESTIVAL**

Ethel Jamfrey, "Persephone"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Sculpture  
Nina McDonald, "Stormy Skies at Harvest"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Photography  
Linda Abbott, "At the Same Time"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Painting

**VINES & VEGETABLES**

Teresa Sorensen, "Fall Vineyard"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Nina McDonald, "Fall Colors in the Vineyard"  
1st Place, Fine-Art Photography  
Suzie Stach, "Radishes Galore"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Painting  
Franka Gabler, "Grapes from California"  
2nd Place, Fine-Art Photography

*Congratulations, Artists!*

This annual competition and exhibition has gained recognition since its inception 20 years ago as one of the leading art exhibitions of central California. Over 100 works were accepted into the exhibition in 2013. Judges for this year's competition were Mike Bailey, NWS, of Santa Cruz, artist and instructor, along with Steve Dzerigian, of Spectrum Gallery in Fresno, photographer and instructor. Awards were presented at the well-attended opening reception on October 2nd.

Upon the close of the exhibition at Circle Gallery in November, winning works were exhibited through the end of December at the Community Media Access Collaborative (CMAC) in Fresno. The Celebrate Ag opening reception at CMAC was part of Fresno's December Art Hop. This venue allowed more of the valley public to view and enjoy the works of these talented artists.

CMAC, which opened in April 2012, is a state-of-the-art television production and broadcast center on the second floor of the historic Fresno Bee building (more recently Metropolitan Museum). They have hosted many arts, music, and cultural events in addition to providing citizens and organizations access (and training) in using video technologies to have a voice in the community. CMAC is a community benefit organization funded through AT&T U-Verse and Comcast/Infinity.

The Celebrate Agriculture program is now in the planning stages for its 21st year!



## An Overview Of The Expanded Art Education Section

You'll notice this newsletter contains 4 pages of articles on current and recent art education activities. We're starting with the piece on the new California "Common Core" standards, because it will have a significant impact on our programming as an organization in the near future.

As an organization, MCAC continues to fulfill our mission, which is "Provide Madera County residents and visitors access to art and culture through diverse programs and services." The new standards in the schools provide more opportunities for us to collaborate with teachers and school staffs to do just that with our young people! As part of an expanded community de-

mand for art educators, MCAC has recruited and trained many new teachers to staff in-school and after-school programs. On the "Meet the Artist" page you will get a sense of their diverse backgrounds and artistic experiences.

Finally, have you wondered why you didn't receive more newsletters this year? We were so busy doing, planning, and teaching, that we didn't leave enough time for reporting and writing. We hope to do better in 2014 and welcome help from any of our members.

Contact us at [mcacstaff@maderaarts.org](mailto:mcacstaff@maderaarts.org)

## COMMON CORE STANDARDS—A Brief Tutorial

In 2010, the California State Board of Education (SBE) adopted the California Common Core State Standards. This was the first time the SBE had adopted standards since the 1997 California Standards. Districts and schools are working to incorporate these new standards into the classroom curriculum now. Vice Principal, Ms. Chelan Shepherd, at Webster Elementary in the Madera Ranchos briefly summed up the new California standards by saying, "Common Core redefines what students need to know at each grade level. There is a shift in how students will show what they know through projects and performance tasks. Instruction will have a greater focus on integrating subject matter." Districts and schools are embracing these new standards and are working to implement them. Parents may see some differences in their child's classroom.

In place of relying solely on multiple choice tests to demonstrate mastery, students will need to explain and show what they understand as well. The arts are integrated into learning as a way for students to learn core content and demonstrate their knowledge. By using various art media (i.e., drawing, origami, sketching, painting, ceramics, music, dance) students can simultaneously learn multiple subject areas (i.e., science, history) and have the opportunity for learning using multiple modalities (i.e., visual, auditory and tactile-kinesthetic, verbal). Students learn in a variety of ways and the integration of the arts with the California Common Core Standards allows teachers to best meet the learning needs of all students.

As an example, a mathematics lesson of fractions combined with an origami art lesson is a California Common Core lesson because as it is aligned to one of the standards, it also

gives students 'hands on' (visual) experience through the art lesson. During the art lesson students receive instruction for folding in halves, thirds, fourths and various other measurements. Students experience the traditional classroom teaching (linguistic) and also have a visual learning experience reinforcing learning about fractions.

The California Common Core Standards cover language arts, math and science. Eventually history will also have a new set of standards. Teachers and parents are learning the standards as are the students. The Arts are just one strategy that teachers can use to teach vocabulary, history, science and even handwriting.

Another example of utilizing art in a common core lesson is in drawing butterflies. An artist instructs students to draw a butterfly starting with only two dots placed on a piece of paper. As the artist shows the students how to fill in the space with parts of the butterfly, body, head, wings and antennas, students have incorporated science by learning about body parts of insects but they have also worked on handwriting. When learning to write, younger students often initially have difficulty using lined paper. Many will write in the middle of the lines instead of filling in from top to bottom with a capital letter or mid-line to bottom with a lowercase. As a student constructs their butterfly around the two dots they are practicing writing skills as they look at a space and work within it.

These examples provide a starting point for understanding what Common Core may bring to our schools, communities, and children. If you would like more information on California's Common Core Standards please visit [www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/](http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/).

## 2013 Student Scholarships

MCAC awarded four student graduates who plan to pursue art in college with \$1,000 scholarships each at the close of the 2013 school year.

**Angel de Leon, who graduated from Madera High School,** plans to use the scholarship to pay for tuition at Fresno Pacific University, where he will study graphic design.

**Madera South High School graduate Gabriela Romero** plans to pursue her dream of becoming an art teacher by attending Madera Center Community College.

**Zachary Puente, a Liberty High School graduate,** plans to attend California State University, Channel Islands as an art major.

**Minarets High School graduate Jarred Crossley** plans to use the scholarship to attend Columbia College in Hollywood, where he will major in cinematography with a minor in directing.

Funding for the scholarships is raised throughout the year at MCAC sponsored events.

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## Artists in the Schools

MCAC oversees a number of school-day programs in Madera County Elementary Schools. The artists' salaries and supplies are generously financed through PTAs, PTCs, and administrators'/teachers' discretionary funds. In the past year we have programmed at Wasuma, Oakhurst, Millview, Adams, and Howard elementary schools with a variety of visual art lessons including line drawing, pastels, charcoal, and watercolor.

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"Logic will get you from A to B.  
Imagination will take you everywhere."  
— Albert Einstein

## Madera South Theatre Company

presents...

### "Urinetown"

Madera County Arts Council will partner again with Mystic Theater at Madera South High for a special seating and pre-theatre reception.

The Musical "Urinetown" is a show that's based on an admittedly terrible idea, but one that's cleverly, even beautifully, sustained. The play poses the question, what if water supplies were so scarce that people had to pay to pee? All bets are off, because the results are totally charming. "Urinetown" is one part "Simpsons" episode, one part classic musical and another part (wait for it) Brechtian allegory.

The 2001 satirical musical had its start at the New York Fringe Festival, then moved to off-Broadway, eventually arriving on Broadway, where it ran for three years and almost 1,000 performances, earning 10 Tony Award nominations. It's a show that both makes fun of musical conventions and employs them for all they're worth. It's a musical that smirks and winks at the audience, but never stops believing that this might turn out to be a good show.

It's set in a sort of theatrical imaginary "everytown." There's been a 20-year drought, and water is such a precious resource that all private toilets are shut down, and people, even the poor, are forced to pay for the privilege of using public facilities.

In California's dry Central Valley this rings a bell.

#### Show dates:

April 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

#### SPECIAL

#### SUNDAY MATINEE RECEPTION

hosted by MCAC

Sunday, April 6

Tickets \$30

available at Circle Gallery

559-661-7005

## Circle Gallery Artist Profile

### Martin Shapiro, Ceramicist

"I fell in love with pottery in high school in San Luis Obispo taking my first course from a gruff, hard-spoken and inspirational art teacher named Hank Alberts. During my many years in college I grabbed every opportunity to take courses in drawing, painting, pottery and sculpture. I received a minor in Fine Arts along with my Biology degree from Cal Poly and took advanced courses in pottery while working on my Ph.D. in Psychology at the University of Hawaii. While living on the South Shore of Oahu, some artist friends and I started a ceramic studio and acquired three large gas kilns. When I finally settled in at the Psychology Department at Fresno State, I had one of the 2-ton kilns shipped from Hawaii and built a pottery studio at my home in Yosemite Lakes Park.

I should note that while I greatly enjoy working on a wheel and sculpting, I think what draws me to ceramics is the technical aspects: the glaze chemistry, firing techniques and engineering large sculptures. Pottery is a great marriage of my love for art and my career in science, and so I find that I like talking about the science behind pottery as much as the pieces themselves. For example, I am particularly interested in two styles of pottery, high-fire reduction and raku. In high-fire, or cone 10, the whole process takes about 12 hours and the inside of the kiln reaches around 2350°F. I like to formulate my own glazes and am constantly testing new variations. The reduction atmosphere in the kiln pulls oxygen molecules from glazes, which can have dramatic effects on color. It's this variation and uncertainty that has drawn me to these glazes for 30 years; in this way the firing is important to the uniqueness of the piece. With the high-fire kiln, I enjoy making utilitarian pieces such as bowls, mugs and platters but also make larger vessels and have recently enjoyed sculpting.

Raku is a different style all together with different types of clays, different glazes and a different kiln. With raku, a piece is placed in a small kiln at ground level and brought to around 1880 °F (glowing red), the lid of the kiln is removed and the piece is removed with special gloves holding special tongs. The piece is then placed in a metal garbage can with straw and newspaper that immediately bursts into flames. A lid is



Martin Shapiro, demonstrating ceramic technique at MCAC's 30th Anniversary Event

quickly placed on the can and the starving fire begins to pull oxygen out of the glaze chemicals changing the colors, with often wonderful effects. The mismatch between the rapidly shrinking clay and glaze creates beautiful dark black cracks in the glaze. Raku pieces are typically just for decoration but can be very striking and a great deal of fun to make.

In addition to my involvement with the Madera County Arts Council, I am a member of the San Joaquin Clay and Glass Association. My wife (who is a fantastic glass artist) and I open our studio for the Sierra Art Trails, and we also help to run an art show each year in April at the Chris Sorensen Gallery called *Art Scientifique: Artistic Interpretation of Science*. This show is open to artists in the community and each year we have a theme around a science topic.

Pottery is a very relaxing and fulfilling craft. One needs to be patient when starting out as wheel throwing takes a few years to learn, and one does need access to a kiln. In addition, pieces can crack, chip and break all along the process, so I've learned not to get too attached to my work. Although it may take several months from the time I throw a piece on a wheel to its final firing, it is a great feeling opening a high-fire kiln and seeing how the flames danced copper, cobalt and glass across my pots."

- Martin Shapiro



## WEBSTER ELEMENTARY is Putting FUN in Fridays!

Madera County Arts Council together with Webster Elementary (GVUSD) educational staff are putting a new kind of fun into Fridays for the students. One Friday a month, students are given the opportunity to have a creative and physical release from their daily curriculum. During this time four randomly picked classrooms are able to participate in an Art class, taught by artist teachers provided by the Madera County Arts Council, while the remaining grades participate in competitively organized physical games.

On November 22nd, students participated in their first fun-filled Friday that reportedly surpassed expectations of students and staff alike! During this time Mrs. Green's first graders learned how to draw cats and butterflies. Ms. Raymond's third grade was shown how to do Origami. Mr. McDonald's fourth/fifth combo class learned the basics of how to sketch the human body and Mr. Hardcastle's sixth graders practiced drawing geometric shapes and how to illustrate dimensional drawings.



Donaciano T., Webster Elementary

Teachers and students are excited for the next sessions scheduled on January 24th, February 21st, March 21st, April 11th and May 23rd. It has been years since art was a part of the educational daily routine and

teachers see this as a FUN way to bring art back into the classroom. Not only do they agree that art is essential to the learning process, but these classes are also preparing them and their students to meet the new common core standards (see separate article). The artist teachers are scheduled in this program at Webster Elementary in addition to their participation in the Madera Unified after-school and PTA Artist in the Schools activities. This pilot program has been generously funded by Ranchos commercial, retail, and agricultural businesses, along with financial support from the Golden Valley Unified School District and the Webster Elementary Parent Teacher Club.

### Quote to Ponder

"We need people who think with the creative side of their brains—people who have played in a band, who have painted... it enhances symbiotic thinking capabilities, not always thinking in the same paradigm, learning how to kick-start a new idea, or how to get a job done better, less expensively."

—Annette Byrd, GlaxoSmithKline

## Your Membership Dollars at Work

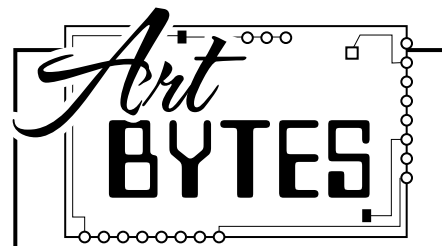
### Pomegranate Festival Poster Contest Winners

From kindergarten to 12th grade Madera County students provided many creative entries in keeping with the theme "It's ALL about the pomegranate." This year had the best response to this poster contest ever. Over 300 entries were received from 12 local schools. A variety of media were used: crayon, colored pencil, pencil, pastel, water color, and collage.

Special recognition also goes out to all of the teachers who combined the pomegranate theme with their lessons. As a result, some students' posters incorporated health and wellness themes, some the history of pomegranates, some told the story of a pomegranate from blossom to juice, and others integrated pomegranates into art history lessons concerning masterpieces of Western Art. Truly a great job!!!

Winners--K-6: Annilee Russell (1st place), Edgar Suarez (2nd place), Noemi Ceja (3rd place), and Samantha Nunez (Honorable Mention). Junior High: Karilynn Russell (1st place), Christian Gonzalez (2nd Place), and Kyara Garcia (3rd place). High School: Celina Alarcorn (1st place), Nathan Nungaray (2nd place), and Jesus Camacho (3rd place).

Prizes were donated by Madera Chamber of Commerce members and the Madera County Arts Council.



### Podcasts

The last Art news described iTunes University from the standpoint of the wealth of art and culture content available (often for free) in the digital world. Podcasts are a variant on the theme — images, sounds, information, opinions from around the world that are delivered to your digital device (computer, notebook, reader, 'smart' phone, iPod, etc.) for 'offline' use. Podcast is a neologistic combination of 'broadcast' and 'pod' of iPod fame. Podcasts tend to be episodic audio, video, or ePub files that are subscribed to and downloaded (or 'streamed') online to a computer or mobile device. Content creation is often from known and traditional sources (i.e., National Geographic, Smithsonian, NPR), although podcasts are also created by individuals or groups who first came into existence as digital information or media providers (e.g., The Candid Frame, photography podcasts)

To give a specific example, you might go to the Library of Congress podcast website ([www.loc.gov/podcasts](http://www.loc.gov/podcasts)) and choose to 'subscribe' to podcasts on topics such as "A Celebration of Mexico," "National Book Festival," or "Music and the Brain." For each of these featured series you could either listen to or view a specific title (i.e., "Music Therapy, Alzheimer's and Post-Traumatic Stress, 18 minutes) or subscribe to the entire series which would then be downloaded onto your device so that you could play all of the associated podcasts (in the case of Music and the Brain, there were 20 podcasts created over a 2 year period). In general you can go to most national and international art and cultural organizations' websites, use the search bar to find podcasts of interest to you, download or subscribe, and then listen at your leisure (perhaps more than once).

NPR, BBC, Library of Congress, iTunes, Smithsonian, LearnOutLoud, IncredibleArt.org, and TEDTalks are all sources of podcasts on a wide range of art and culture topics. You may also go to organizations like Open Culture (language instruction), National Gallery of Art (NGA Collections and exhibitions), Boston Symphony Orchestra or Boston Pops (current season offerings), and The International Society for Technology Education.

Warning: It is easier than it sounds! Specifying the steps in this article makes it sound much more complicated than it really is. Once you get started downloading a few podcasts of interest, you'll find more and then your device is full and you can't decide which episodes you're willing to erase to make room for new content!

## Meet the Artist

### Artists bringing Art, Common Core, and Fun to Madera Classrooms

Artist Instructors are each responsible for teaching multiple one-hour long classes to school-aged children. All instructors conform to the California State Board of Education academic content standards for Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA). Most of the artists are well-known to our organization through their association/s with PACES, Artists in the Schools, Club YES, Mountain Schools Visiting Artists, and Madera Unified School District after school enrichment program.

**Jorge Arreola** graduated from CSU Fresno with a BA in Art with an emphasis in painting and drawing. Mr. Arreola teaches painting using various media (e.g., acrylic, gouache, watercolor, mixed media) to elementary and middle school students in the MUSD after school program.

**Anthony Blake** began playing guitar in high school, eventually participating in Liberty High School's talent show as a sound board engineer. He graduated from Madera Community Center and teaches guitar at the John Wells Youth Center and in several after school programs.

**Elaine Blake** studied Fine Arts at Cabrillo College in Santa Cruz, California, particularly drawing, composition, and design. She also works in watercolor, silk & acrylic painting. Ms. Blake teaches fine arts to elementary and middle school children in a number of Madera County artist-in-the-classroom and after school programs.

**Elizabeth Castro** is currently enrolled at CSU Fresno. A former PACES instructor, Ms. Castro teaches fine art in the MUSD after school program.



Instructors meet at the Gallery in preparation for school site instruction

**Shari Chaffin**, a Madera High graduate, is currently a dance and cheer instructor at John W. Wells Youth Center. She teaches dance and cheer in the MUSD after school program.

**Rick Dorris'** love of performance began as a student at Madera High's Coyote Theater Company under the supervision of Ginger Latimer. Mr. Dorris teaches drama to elementary and middle school students in the MUSD after school program.

**Michael Flores** is currently studying Performing Arts at Fresno City College, where he has received a theater scholarship. Mr. Flores is a member of Good Company Players of Fresno and teaches "Winter Guard" (an active, indoor color guard performance art) in the MUSD after school program.

**Kirsten Hefner** began her career as a dancer and gymnast as a toddler. She has taken instruction in point, jazz, cheer, gymnastics and acrobatics. Ms. Hefner is a cheer coach at Desmond Junior High and a dance and gymnastics instructor at All About Dance and Gymnastics. Ms. Hefner teaches dance in the MUSD after school program.



Lynley C, 5th Grade, John Adams Elementary

**Jared Hughes** attends Fresno City College majoring in Music Education. Jared has 5+ years' experience as a pianist and 10+ years of choral experience. Mr. Hughes teaches music in the MUSD after-school program

**Larry Latimer** graduated from Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Fine Arts and earned a Masters in Graphic Design from Michigan State University. Mr. Latimer recently retired after 37 years teaching. Mr. Latimer teaches ceramics and fine arts in a number of Madera County artist-in-the-classroom and after school programs.

**Lawrence Lihosit** earned his B.S. from at Arizona State University and has completed Masters work at la Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico in Mexico City. He also studied art and creative writing at Skyline College in San Bruno and earned his teaching credential at CSU Fresno. He is a published writer of books and magazine articles. Mr. Lihosit teaches creative writing in the MUSD after school program.

**Adam Mena** graduated from San Diego State in Applied Designs and has since earned his Master's in Fine Art (sculpture) from CSU Fresno. Mr. Mena is the co-founder of ARTHOUSE Gallery in Fresno and is currently the assistant curator at ARTE Americas. Mr. Mena provides sculpture and 3D arts classes to elementary and middle school students throughout Madera County.

**Cathleen Nichols-Gomes**, award-winning, published photographer, opened Gomes Images in 2008. Ms. Gomes teaches photography to elementary and middle school students in the MUSD after school program.

**Gabriela Romero**, a Madera South High School graduate, is also a former winner of the MCAC Art Scholarship, currently studying to become an Art Teacher. Ms. Romero teaches fine arts in the MUSD after school program.

**Thomas Wilson**, saxophonist, studied at the Berkley College of Music. His musical experience includes the Grammy Foundation, Earth Wind and Fire, and University of the Pacific. He has also studied with Danilo Perez, John Patitucci, John Legend, Quincy Jones, Wayne Shorter, et al. Mr. Wilson teaches music in the MUSD after school program.

Are you an artist? Do you have teaching experience? We have openings for artists to work in our on-going programs and anticipate more opportunities in the next year. Contact Sherril Royse, Art Education Program Manager, Madera County Arts Council ([sroyse@maderaarts.org](mailto:sroyse@maderaarts.org)) for more information.



## Ready, Set, Recite – POETRY OUT LOUD 2014

The 9th annual Madera county-wide Poetry-Out-Loud competition will occur Saturday, February 8 from 1 pm – 4:30 pm at the Yosemite High School Theater in Oakhurst. Participating schools include Chowchilla, Glacier, Liberty, Madera High, Madera South High, Minarets, and Yosemite high schools. Our county poet, Ann Molin, has been visiting local high schools to introduce the Poetry Out Loud program and help interested high school students select their modern and traditional poems and begin the memorization and performance preparation process.

Poetry Out Loud uses a pyramid structure that starts at the classroom level. Winners advance to a school-wide competition, then to a regional and/or state competition, and ultimately to the National Finals. Each participating Madera County school will select two students to represent them at the county finals. County winners receive cash prizes and the first place winner goes on to represent Madera County at the state-wide completion in Sacramento in March



2014. State winners go on to Nationals, and compete for a \$20,000 scholarship. Madera judges are chosen from local educators and writers with public speaking, performance, or other literary experiences.

The county finals are open and free to the public. We encourage family, friends, and interested members of the community to help the students have an audience experience that prepares them for the next level of competition. Musical

entertainment will be provided by guitarist Anthony Blake. The county poet and judges are paid from grant monies obtained from the National Endowment for the Arts through the California Arts Council. Madera County Arts Council raises the local scholarship money through generous donations from businesses and residents. If you would like more information about the competition or would like to donate toward the prizes for local winners, contact Sherril Royse (sroyse@maderaarts.org) before February 5, 2014.

### Call for Photography

MCAC will be sponsoring a themed photography exhibition as part of the local celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Yosemite land grant. The exhibition, running May 13-27, 2014, will feature photographs that represent "A Different Look at Yosemite's Treasures."

Complete rule and submission requirements will be available February 15 at [www.maderaarts.org](http://www.maderaarts.org).

For more information on Yosemite's 150th Anniversary celebration go to: [www.nps.gov/featurecontent/yose/anniversary/](http://www.nps.gov/featurecontent/yose/anniversary/)



### Art Classes for All Ages

Fee-based art classes sponsored by the Madera County Arts Council and the City of Madera Parks and Community Services Dept. **Call Ms. Saucedo-Garcia (661-5426) for more information.**

**Register at the John Wells Center or online at [www.activenet.active.com/maderapcsrec](http://www.activenet.active.com/maderapcsrec)**

**"Young at Art"** (2/25—4/1/14, 5:50 – 7:15 pm), 3rd-9th graders. Highlighting a different art media each week. \$42, all supplies included.

**"Basic Guitar with Anthony"** (2/25—4/1/14), 3rd grade to adult. \$43, students must bring their own guitar.

**"Edible Art"**-- 3rd grade to adult. 2/8 Sweetheart Desserts (\$14), 3/15 Lucky Charms Squares (\$12).

**"Learn to Buy and Sell on eBay"** (2/8/14, 9:30 - 11:30) Your art or craft? Age 14 to adult, \$23.

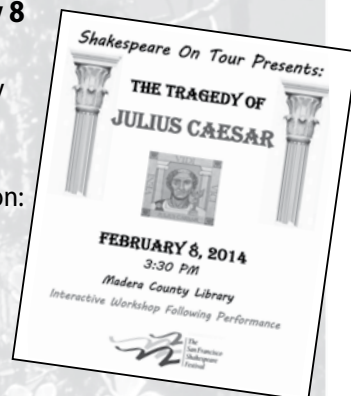
**"Ceramic Creations"** (2/26—4/2/14, 6:15-7:15 pm), 3rd grade to adult. \$43

## Arts Calendar

### "The Tragedy of Julius Caesar," February 8

Madera  
Co. Library  
3:30 pm

For more  
information:  
675-7871



**VISION ACADEMY OF THE ARTS** presents **Grand Night for the Arts Feb 8, 6 to 9 pm** at the Golden Chain Theatre in Oakhurst. A fundraiser evening of music, art, entertainment and auctions. Call 559-642-4329 with questions.

### 2014 Madera Wine Trail Wine & Chocolate Weekend: February 8 - 9

Celebrate Valentine's Day at a special two-day wine tasting event and enjoy chocolate pairings, live music, art and delicious food. Plan to take home some wine to share with your loved one and friends. Visit: [maderawinetrail.com](http://maderawinetrail.com) for more information

### March is Youth Art Month

Watch your email for updates regarding the opening reception.

### Spring Three-Day Cooking School, March 5

At Erma's Elderberry House, 48688 Victoria Lane, Oakhurst. 8:30 am-4pm 559-683-6800 or visit [www.chateau-sureau.com](http://www.chateau-sureau.com) or contact Molly Berg at [chateau@chateausureau.com](mailto:chateau@chateausureau.com). This is a hands-on, three-day class with Chef Jonathon, teaching students all the tricks of the trade.



**ART WORKS.**  
arts.gov



# Arts Calendar

## Madera Co. Government Center

(200 W 4th, Madera). Student Art from after school art education programs. **Displayed March-April.**

## International Women's Day Celebration. March 7 & 8

Theme "Inspiring Change." Music, dance, food, discussions with an international flavor. Contact Madera Co. Library (675-7871) for more information.

## ARTSFEST, June 14



June 14, 10am-2pm at the Madera County Office of Education, 1105 S. Madera Avenue.

*Family activities, student art displays, demonstrations and performances sponsored by the MCOE.*

• • • • •

## Sierra Art Trails presents...

### "Valley View - Yosemite Trails, Currents, & Visions"

April 5 - May 4, 2014  
at Stellar Gallery, Gallery Row,  
40982 Hwy 41, Ste. 1  
Oakhurst, CA 93644

Reception: Sat., April 12th, 4-8 PM

"Valley View" is a juried exhibit focused on Yosemite National Park, in particular Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias, the regions designated as protected by the Yosemite Grant in 1864.

The Valley View exhibit has \$1200 in cash awards. **The application is available on-line ([http://www.sierraarttrails.org/valley\\_view\\_application.pdf](http://www.sierraarttrails.org/valley_view_application.pdf)) and the submission deadline is March 10, 2014.** The exhibit will be at Stellar Gallery in Oakhurst from April 5 through May 4, 2014, with a pot-luck reception with live music scheduled for Saturday, April 12th, 4 to 8 PM.

## MEMBERSHIP is the Backbone of Funding for MCAC Programs

### THANK YOU TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS, June-Dec. 2013

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### What would you like with your coffee?

#### A little Art, please!

Most of us love a good cup of coffee and even a place to sit and relax with friends. If you want to combine art with that cup of coffee, let us suggest someplace new--**The Coffee Spot.**

The Coffee Spot, on the south side of Ave 12 across from Pizza Factory in the Madera Ranchos, is more than a just a great coffee house, it is a little Art haven. The owners, Ranchos residents (and artists) Audra & Dan Damore, devote a wall for local artists to show their work. Artists of any media can reserve a 6-8 week slot where they get the opportunity to display their work. View their current artist, Shelby Boyd, and see what else there is to offer. After one taste, you'll be coming back for more!

### Friends of the Arts

...it does seem to me that [Robert] Capa has proved beyond all doubt that the camera need not be a cold mechanical device. Like the pen, it is as good as the man [sic] who uses it. It can be the extension of mind and heart...

-John Steinbeck



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*Thank you!*

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Thank you to our local sponsors: Yosemite Bank, Oakhurst; SierraTel; Rotary Club of Oakhurst Sierra, as well as CAC; NEA; and California Poets in the Schools.



Madera County Arts Council  
1653 North Schnoor  
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Madera, CA 93637

## Support the Arts through Partnership

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*For MCAC membership information  
please contact the MCAC office  
at 559-661-7005 or email the office at:  
mcastaff@maderaarts.org*



*Don't forget your sweetheart on Valentine's Day.*

*Stop by Circle Gallery for that special  
one of a kind gift just for her... or him!*

**Circle Gallery**  
1653 North Schnoor, Suite 113  
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559-661-7005

*Save the Date!*

**MCAC Gala for the Arts**  
**Saturday, June 14, 2014**

*Dinner, entertainment and more!*  
*Roaring 20's theme.*  
*VFW Hall, Madera*  
*Watch for more information, coming soon.*



*An Invitation to join us for  
the 2014 21st Annual...*

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The 2014 Prospectus & details are being readied and will be available soon at: [www.maderaarts.org](http://www.maderaarts.org)

For more information phone: **559-661-7005**  
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