



Sacramento  
Metropolitan  
Arts Commission

Great Art Makes a Great Community



SMAC E-NEWSLETTER

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**POINTS OF INTEREST--** By Rhyena Halpern, Executive Director

## FALL BRINGS NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO SACRAMENTO

As we move into the months of autumn, arts activities in Sacramento are on the rise, and highlighting this vibrant new season is our state's annual arts awareness celebration, California Arts Day. This is the eighth year the California Art Council has organized state-wide celebrations and this year's theme is "California Imagination." The official celebration will take place Friday, October 3, but the whole month is devoted nationally to Arts & Humanities! For more information, or to list your arts activities in October, please go to the California Arts Council's web site at [www.cac.ca.gov](http://www.cac.ca.gov).

We also have some great news for all arts organizations who are working diligently to promote their events—in partnership with Sacramento Convention & Visitors Bureau, SMAC is creating a new entertainment website which will be called [sacramento365.com](http://sacramento365.com). Using the Artsopolis website software, Sacramento will now have a comprehensive entertainment website highlighting all kinds of activities throughout our region. Posting information on the website is free and easy to do. If you have events you'd like to list, please log on to the SMAC website at [www.SacMetroArts.org](http://www.SacMetroArts.org) and go to the **What's New** button on the right side of the home page.

SMAC is so pleased to see all the exciting season start up; creativity and participation in the arts continue to flourish with innovations, adventures and conviction! We know the economy is posing many challenges for our arts community now. Please check the Stabilization Resources on our website (click on "Arts Resources" on the right side of the home page), as we continually try to offer you all the resources we can.

Below you will find out more about a new deck of cards dedicated to Sacramento's first wave of poets; art classes for seniors; and an art exhibition timed for Halloween!

Thank you for your work to make Sacramento a great place for arts and culture. Great art makes a great community!

Warm Regards,  
Rhyena Halpern

### **CHAIR'S VIEW--By Dan Gorfain, Chair**

In the interest of keeping all our supporters up-to-date on SMAC news, we wanted to provide you with some recent recommendations by the Arts Commission on the issue of governance. Since the City Attorney and County Counsel's ruling this past Spring disbanded SMAC's long-existing committees which included non-Commission members, an ad hoc committee of Commissioners has been working hard reviewing our governance structure.

At its September meeting, the Commission accepted its ad hoc committee's recommendations to establish two standing committees: Art In Public Places (APP) and the joint Arts Education and Grants and Cultural Programs (AE/GCP). Each of these committees will consist of three to five Commissioners, appointed by the SMAC Chair and approved by the Commission.

This Fall, a new ad hoc committee will begin a review of the Commission's governance documents. Its recommendations are expected to be available for public review next summer. Last, but not least, APP's governance documents will also be updated.

### **SMAC Highlight—Poet Laureate Release “Poets on Deck” at 2nd Saturday Celebration**

SMAC proudly announces the release of the “Poets On Deck” playing card project. The idea for this innovative project came from Sacramento’s current Poet Laureate, Julia Connor. The playing cards and an art show of all the poets’ portraits created by artist Suzanne Johnson will be released at a 2nd Saturday celebration at the Art Foundry located at 10th and R Streets on October 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Connor’s goal for the project is to pay homage to those early, first-wave area poets, and to engage and encourage literary awareness. The joker cards are “wild” and feature supporters whose actions “behind the scenes” made these early efforts possible.



**Current SMAC Poet Laureate Julia Connor and her “Poets On Deck” playing card. Portraits created by artist Suzanne Johnson.**

In addition to being able to purchase the “Poets on Deck” playing cards at the 2nd Saturday celebration, they will be sold at several other Sacramento locations including:

Crocker Art Museum Store  
California Museum for History, Women & the Arts  
Natsoulas Gallery  
East Meets West Book Store  
Book Collector  
Time Tested Books

For additional information regarding Poets on Deck, The Sacramento Poet Laureate Program, or other SMAC programs, please visit [www.SacMetroArts.org](http://www.SacMetroArts.org) or contact SMAC staff at 916.566.3992.

### **SMAC in Your Community—NEW SEMINAR OPPORTUNITY--“Creativity is Healthy at Any Age”**

The process of creating can improve the quality of life at any age and any level of physical, emotional or cognitive functioning. What better way to engage in creative activities than through the arts? SMAC’s Arts Education Program is partnering with the Sacramento Department of Older Adult Services to bring more creative arts experiences to people ages 60 and older. The partnership will provide professional development workshops for artists who want to work with older adults as well as funding for artist residencies with older adults.

The first free workshop for artists, funded by a MetLife Foundation MindAlert Grant and led by Judith-Kate Friedman from the Center for Creative Aging in Washington, D.C., will be held on Oct. 7. Artists in all disciplines will explore and share ways in which art forms can be used to reframe and integrate elders’ experiences and enhance cognitive functioning. Contact [chunt@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:chunt@cityofsacramento.org) for the latest information.

Other workshops for artists interested in learning more about the latest research and teaching practices for different ages and populations will be offered throughout the year and posted on the Arts Education Professional Development section of the SMAC website. Creativity is contagious. You can pass it on!



### **APP GALLERY OPENING—Artistic License, 7th Annual Mask Show at SMUD Gallery**

LOCATION: SMUD Art Gallery, 6301 S St. (at 65th St), Sacramento  
DATES: October 3 through November 14  
RECEPTION: Friday, October 17, from 5:00 – 7:00 pm  
FREE TO THE PUBLIC

Over 30 artists working in all media present their individual interpretation on the theme of masks in Artistic License, the 7th Annual Mask Show curated by Ray Gonzales and Ron Peetz. The range of artists includes a number of esteemed art professors, established professional artists and some who are just now emerging.

The exhibition, celebrating the spirit of Halloween, will take place in the lobby of the SMUD Energy and Technology Center. The SMUD Art Gallery is a partnership between the Sacramento Municipal Utility District and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, with additional support from the City and County of Sacramento.



### CITY HALL ART GALLERY OPENING—Artwork From The Sacramento CETA Program

LOCATION: City Hall Art Gallery, I Street Lobby, New City Hall  
DATES: October 8 through November 19, 2008, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Mon.-Fri.  
ARTISTS: Patrick Mooney, John Paquette, Sheila Sullivan, David White and others TBA  
FREE TO THE PUBLIC

The City Hall Art Gallery and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission present the work of six artists who were employed through the visionary CETA program in the late 1970s. The artwork on display covers the mediums of painting, drawing, printmaking and photography.

The Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) is a United States federal law enacted in 1973 to train workers and provide them with jobs in the public service.

The intent was to encourage participants to move on to an unsubsidized job. As a result, thousands of artists were put to work across the country on a scale similar to that of the WPA era of the 1930s.

In the spring of 1976, Sacramento Mayor Phil Isenberg asked that a CETA arts program be organized to employ artists living within the City limits. In 1977 the County Board of Supervisors added a program for artists living within Sacramento County. Assessment studies eventually found that the artist program

had a higher “positive transition” rate than any other type of training program under CETA. Based on this success, the local CETA program was eventually expanded to include literary and performing artists. For more information, contact SMAC at 916-566-3992 or [sacgalleries@comcast.net](mailto:sacgalleries@comcast.net).

Related Links:

<http://www.sacmetroarts.org/whats-new.html>

<http://www.sacmetroarts.org/arts-resources.html>

<http://www.sacmetroarts.org/poet-laureate.html>

<http://www.sacmetroarts.org/gallery-program.html>

<http://www.cac.ca.gov>

<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/parksandrecreation/ohs/senior.htm>

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