

# The Informer



American Canyon Arts Foundation Newsletter, November 2014

## It's Winterfest Time!

As we enter the end of another year, we are getting ready for our annual **Winterfest Craft Event**. It starts just after Thanksgiving and ends before Christmas.

It all begins with our annual **Open House/ Reception on Friday, December 5, from 6-9 pm**. It will be held at the Canyon Gallery at 3441 Broadway (Highway 29).

In addition to refreshments and good cheer, we will honor our sponsors for the year, including **Kreysler & Associates, R.L. Hess Development Company** and

others. We will also recognize some of our long-term members and hardest working volunteers.

In addition to the celebrations, the real purpose of the Winterfest is to sell locally made crafts and artwork. We will have a wide array of items, from jewelry to clothing and knitted items, to posters and

cards to yard art. This is a great way to buy all your holiday presents, and help support local artists in the process.

We'll wrap up the season by hosting the City's tour buses that view and judge all the decorated homes in American Canyon. **The tours are scheduled for the evenings of December 16, 17 and 18 (Tuesday-Thursday).**

Members are encouraged to stop by for the hot cocoa and refreshments. The buses are expected around 7:30 pm.

Of course, you can always stop by during regular Gallery hours and shop. We're open Wednesday through Saturday, from 11—5pm. This year, we're having a big sale to clear out our inventory and give customers the best deals! This may be your last chance to shop for local arts and crafts at the Gallery.



## Members Place in Fairfield Art Show

Several of our member artists participated in the Fairfield Visual Arts Association's annual juried art show, and we did quite well!

**Marvin E. Cummings** placed first in Printmaking; **Gloria Prince** received an honorable mention, and **Jennifer Lockette's** works were accepted into the show.

This highlights two very important points. *First, we have some very talented artists; and second, if you don't enter your work, you'll never know it!*

Next year, we will begin promoting other group's art shows, not only in hopes they will

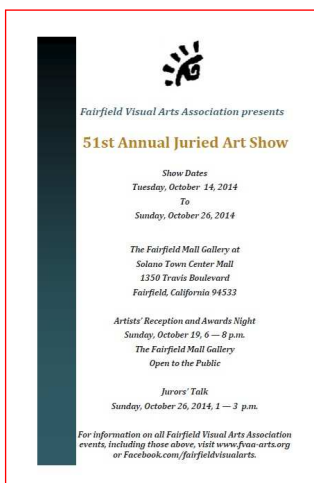
reciprocate for our annual Art Extravaganza, but

also so our members will know about these shows and enter their works. This is also a great way to start networking and building relationships outside of American Canyon. Artists need all the friends they can get!

In this same vein, we will try to develop more formal relationships, such as offering reciprocal art show entry fee discounts. This can help boost participation for our shows and theirs, and certainly adds value for your membership.

Let us know about upcoming shows and we'll post them here

and on our website: [www.amcanart.org](http://www.amcanart.org).



## FALL FESTIVAL RECAP

The first Fall Festival was held on Saturday, October 18, at the Community Gym.

We had great participation from almost 60 informational booths, a car show, Kid's Zone and health fair. And the Arts Foundation did all the cooking!

This event was a re-invented version of the annual Healthy People/Healthy Planet event, but there were more elements, including a Home-Based Business Expo and the City's Water Recycling "Heroes."

Next year we'll do more promoting and advertising, and keep adding more programs and groups.

**And the good news: ACAF made money on the BBQ!**

## Chris Tennyson our Featured Artist

This month the Canyon

Gallery is featuring award-winning water colorist and Vice-President, Chris Tennyson. Stop by and check out his artwork, before we transform the Gallery into Winterfest!



## Canyon Gallery & Art Center—The Latest Developments

In our last edition, we talked about a change in ownership at the Gallery. We now have more details.

First, the new owner's plans do involve removing the Gallery building and constructing a new facility. This may not happen for the next year or more; however, it does mean that it makes no sense for us to spend any more on the Gallery. And it also means we can't make any long-term plans, such as partnering with Napa Valley College or the City for an expanded class program.

With this in mind, the Board decided to stop renting the Gallery effective December 31, 2014. We will still hold our annual Winterfest, as noted in our lead article.



***This doesn't mean we are going away as a Foundation; only that we will need to find a new home—or re-evaluate our recently***

***adopted business plan and explore a new pathway to success.***

However, we will be contacting artists who have their artwork at the Gallery. They will have the option of agreeing to discount their work to help sell off our inventory, or to take it back. Everything will need to be sold or removed by the end of Winterfest, or December 20.

We will also host two or more garage sales to help with the transition.

We appreciate the hard work and dedication of our members over the last four years. We learned a lot from the experience, and we will come back better and stronger for the effort.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We did not receive any new members last month, which makes sense, since it's so late in the year.

The Board has not yet decided if or when to adjust our annual membership dues, which have been at \$25/member since we began over 20 years ago!

However, once that is resolved (scheduled for the Board meeting in November), we will send out membership renewal forms. We will also provide space for an extra donation to the Lorraine LaVoie Memorial Scholarship Fund, the proceeds of which go towards our annual Student Scholarships, given to those High School Seniors who want to pursue a career in the Arts.

## Arts in April Plans

Nothing has been finalized, but we are already working on our 2015 Arts in April program, featuring our annual Art Extravaganza juried art show.

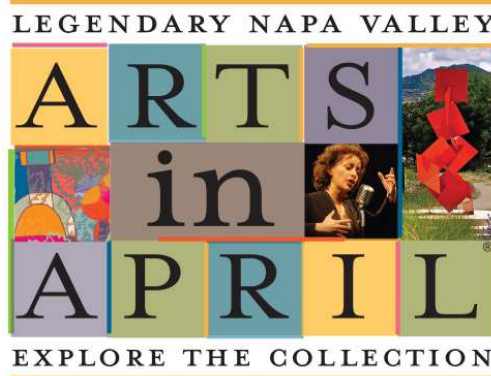
Last year we teamed up with the Napa Valley Arts in April program to gain a larger audience, and it paid off. We had over 130 entries and netted over \$2500 in proceeds.

This year we will have an art show and reception for a noted artist (we'll be announcing who that person is shortly!) and adding guided

tours of local studios and the "urban art" at the future Napa Valley Ruins (aka, Town Center).

We are looking at a paint-out at the Wetlands and pop-up art at our local hotels.

Traditionally, American Canyon and the South County is the first week in April. With Easter Sunday that same weekend, it may be a challenge, but we're up for it!



Keep tuned for more information—the Call For Artists will be ready shortly after the first of the year. Start painting!

## Upcoming Board of Directors Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held **Wednesday, November 12** (special day because of Veteran's Day). There will be a lot of critical issues set for discussion, including the following:

- **Setting the membership dues for 2015.** This would have been resolved at the last meeting, but the focus shifted to the Gallery status.
- **Consider nominees for new Board of Directors for the next year.** We will also need to set the date for the annual Dinner/membership meeting in January.

- **Schedule our annual Board Retreat.** This time we need to discuss where we need to go from here, without the Gallery for now.
- **Consider changes to our logo.** We received grant funds to refresh our logo and marketing materials, and we already have some new formats to review.
- **Review plans for Winterfest and shutting down the Gallery,** including where to store our fixtures and office equipment/records.

The Board meets at the Gallery, 3441 Broadway St. starting at 7pm. Members are invited to attend. For a copy of the full agenda, go online at

[www.amcanart.org](http://www.amcanart.org).



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