

The Informer

American Canyon Arts Foundation Newsletter, June, 2015

New Website Under Construction

A recommendation out of our recent marketing grant was to redesign our website. We are currently working on that and hope to have an “unveiling” some time in July.

The new format will emphasize less words and more images. Fonts and color schemes will also be standardized.

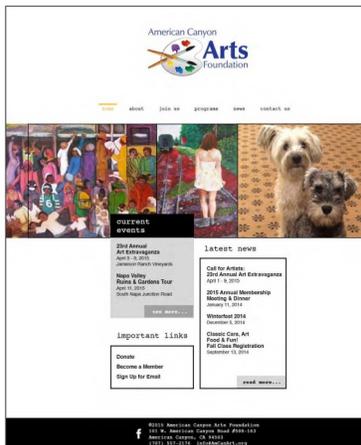
In addition, we will add a number of new features and in some instances, new value for your membership with the Arts Foundation.

First, we will include a “**Member’s Page**” for each paid member, including pictures of their artwork, a brief bio and contact information.

Second, we will include **Art-related news articles** relating to current issues from

throughout the world.

Third, we will **expand our Activity Calendar** to include not only our own events and programs, but those from neighboring arts groups and organizations. Members may also forward information regarding their own shows. This helps get the word out on events and shows, and also draws more users to the website.



What the new home page will look like!

Fourth, we will have a new section called “**Volunteer Want Ads.**” The Foundation always needs a volunteer for some task or committee—we’re going to collect all those requests into one area, and then encourage our members to check in and sign up for what interests them.

We hope these changes will attract more visitors and provide more value for our members.



FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVITIES

Join Us in American Canyon as we celebrate Independence Day. **The Foundation will have an informational booth open from Noon until 4pm.**

The action starts in the morning with a **pancake breakfast and fun run**; followed by the **Parade at 11am** (starts at Elliott & Kimberly; ends at Community Park II); then the **Festival in the Park**; and last but not least, the **Fireworks at about 9:30pm!**

SpringHill Reception

For the second year in a row, SpringHill Suites at the Napa County Airport hosted a reception and art show for the Foundation and its members.

Several artists displayed their art, music and jewelry, and we had 50-60 people attend the event. Jamieson Ranch Vineyards poured the wine and Freda’s Mexican Grill supplied the appetizers.

In addition to the recognition that we receive, it is also a good opportunity for artists to sell their work. Several items were sold, particularly jewelry and musical DVD’s.



Thanks to members **Jennifer Lockette, Ada Dempsey** and **Jonette McNaughton** for their work in putting on the show.

Laura Keiser Steps Down

Long time Board Member, Laura Keiser, stepped down from the Board in May, but still remains a member of the Foundation.

Joining as a member in 2008, Laura quickly became a part of the Board of Directors and served as Secretary until 2010. Then, when Mark Joseph stepped down as Treasurer, Laura added those duties to hers.

As if that wasn’t enough, when we opened the Canyon Gallery & Art Center in late 2010, Laura became the Gallery Manager, and held that position until the Gallery closed in December 2014.

Laura has been an incredibly hard worker and essential in keeping the Foundation going. She will be missed.



Art Shows in the Bay Area

A quick summary of Art Shows in the Bay Area, with links to all the details.

De Young Museum currently is showcasing "Embodiments: Masterworks of African Figurative Sculpture" through July 7, 2015. Click [here](#) for this and other exhibits.



Vallejo Open Studios is still accepting applications until July 31. Open Studios will be November 7-8, 2015, with a month long exhibit at the Vallejo Navel & Historical Museum, October 24-November 21. For

more, go to their website: www.vallejoopenstudios.com

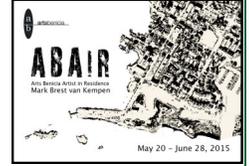


Napa ARTwalk will kick off its 2015 program June 18, starting at 5:30 at Napa City Hall. There will be a self guided tour that ends at the Riverbend Park (behind the Hatt Building). This is a free event for all! For more, click [here](#).



Arts Benicia Artist In Residence

(ABAIR): Mark Brest van Kempen is the artist in residence for the next 18 months. Mark's goal is to integrate art into the planning process for the Benicia Waterfront project. An exhibit of his work will run from June 14-28; with a reception on June 20. All of this will be at the Arts Benicia's gallery, located at 991 Tyler St. #114, Benicia. For more, go to their [website](#).



Fairfield Visual Arts Association

(FVAA) will hold their [52nd Annual Juried Art Show](#) this Fall. Stay tuned for more.

Membership News

This is the lull in our membership drive, with only one new Student Membership: **Taylor Cleary**. Taylor was our 2015 Scholarship Recipient. In addition to the \$500 award, we also add a one year Student Membership.

The main advantage to joining is the big discount for our Art Shows. But being a member also means you support our efforts to promote the Arts in American Canyon and the North Bay as well.

You can join online at www.amcanart.org. Membership is only \$35 for individuals, \$65 for Families and \$10 for Students (K-12 only).

Our new mailing address, as of January 1, 2015:

101 W. American Canyon Rd #508-163
American Canyon CA 94503-1163

Chamber's Photo Contest Results

The results are in, and Foundation members made a great showing in the American Canyon Chamber's first "Snap To It" Photography Contest.



Best People, Katherine Griffin

Long-time member, Katherine Griffin, took first place in the Best People category; and member **Brenton Beck** took first place in Best Place. **Deb Castle of the Watson Ranch** project (a regular sponsor of the Foundation) took first place in Best Historical Photo.

Denise Mortimore, current chair of our Relay For Life event, took first place in Best Picture and Best Landscape (we'll have to get her to join!)

Congratulations to the winners and to all that contributed. And Thank You to the Chamber for hosting this contest.



Best Location, Brenton Beck

Board Report

The Board met on May 12, for the last time at the old Gallery. The Board decided to rent an information booth at the upcoming Fourth of July, and solicit new members and show off some of our member artists' works.

The Board also decided to donate \$100 toward the Nepal Earthquake relief.

We also talked about producing a Members Only Art Show this fall, and other pending events, such as the Fourth of July.



The June Meeting was canceled.

Volunteer Help Wanted

We will add a new page to our website, called Volunteer Want Ads, listing jobs and tasks that we need our members' help. For now, below are three specific opportunities we hope you will consider. In all cases, **email AmCanArts@gmail.com if you want to help.**

1) **Board Member:** We have two vacancies and we are looking for members that want to work on setting a new direction for the Foundation, as well as to provide leadership towards one or more of our core missions.

- 2) **Fourth of July Booth:** We need one or two people to help staff our informational booth on the Fourth, between noon and 4:30 p.m. We will also need two people to help set up (8-10 a.m.)
- 3) **Members Only Art Show:** We need members to help plan, organize, and promote this new event. It will not be juried, but members will be limited to 2-3 entries. There will be a small entry fee to offset the costs of producing the show. Otherwise, we need members to help us plan the rest of the details.