



Dear Community Member,

On behalf of the City of Ventura and the City Council, thank you for joining me in celebrating the accomplishments of the six outstanding honorees for the seventh annual Mayor's Arts Awards. I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize the artistic

achievements and contributions to the cultural community by these City residents, artists, educators, and business leaders. Nominations for the awards were solicited from the public and reviewed by a selection panel who made the final recommendations to me.

Through the Mayor's Arts Awards initiative, the City aims to cultivate greater visibility and understanding of the value of the arts, as well as provide an opportunity to develop new leadership and create new patrons for the arts. This event has grown into a highly visible tradition in the community that will continue to evolve for years to come.

Like all our events and programming, these awards have been produced in partnership with local organizations, artists and businesses. We are very pleased to have the Museum of Ventura County as our host and thank them for their involvement. I also wish to thank artist Lis J. Schwitters whose graphic artwork, Mark of Excellence, has become the signature design for the event and the award.

The leadership exhibited by these honorees is only a sampling of the talent and dedication of our citizenry. Ventura is fortunate to have a vibrant and active arts community of individuals, organizations and businesses leading the way. Now more than ever, the arts exemplify the heart and soul of Ventura.

Sincerely,

Bill Fulton
Mayor, City of Ventura

2011 Mayor's Arts Awards Selection Committee

Lynne Okun, Executive Director, Kids' Arts

Moses Mora, arts leader and 2008 Mayor's Arts Award recipient

Marie Lakin, Cultural Affairs Commissioner

2011 Mayor's Arts Award Nominees

<i>Ann Deal</i>	<i>Helle Scharling-Todd</i>	<i>Phil Salazar</i>
<i>Susan Cook</i>	<i>Tim Schiffer</i>	<i>Mary Perez</i>
<i>Maribel Hernandez</i>	<i>Rey Fresco</i>	<i>Cole Smothers</i>
<i>Steve and Polly Hoganson, Zoey's Café</i>		
<i>Joshua Ganshorn and Jen Lahigian, Able and Baker Design</i>		
<i>Trevor and Traci Elliott, Magnetic Grain</i>		

2010 Recipients

<i>Helen Yunker</i> Arts Patron	<i>Sylvia White, Sylvia White Gallery</i> Creative Entrepreneur	<i>Jack Halbert</i> Artist in the Community
<i>Margaret Travers</i> Arts Leader	<i>Bob Moskowitz</i> Arts Educator	<i>Chris Jay</i> Emerging Artist

2009 Recipients

<i>Albert & Micheline Sakharoff</i> Arts Patron	<i>Michele Chapin</i> Artist in the Community
<i>Chris Velasco</i> Arts Leader	<i>Patricia Strickland</i> Arts Educator
	<i>Veronica Valadez</i> Emerging Artist

2008 Recipients

<i>Affinity Bank</i> Arts Patron	<i>Phil Taggart</i> Artist in the Community
<i>Moses Mora</i> Arts Leader	<i>Kathleen Noblin</i> Arts Educator
	<i>Jennifer Livia</i> Emerging Artist

2007 Recipients

<i>Josh Addison</i> Arts Patron	<i>Paul Lindhard</i> Artist in the Community
<i>Linda Ottsen</i> Arts Leader	<i>Carlisle Cooper</i> Arts Educator
	<i>Brian McDonald</i> Emerging Artist

2006 Recipients

<i>Sandra and Jordan Laby</i> Arts Leaders	<i>Gerd Koch</i> Artist in the Community
<i>Clarissa Boeriu</i> Arts Educator	<i>Ventura Visitors & Convention Bureau</i> Special Initiative

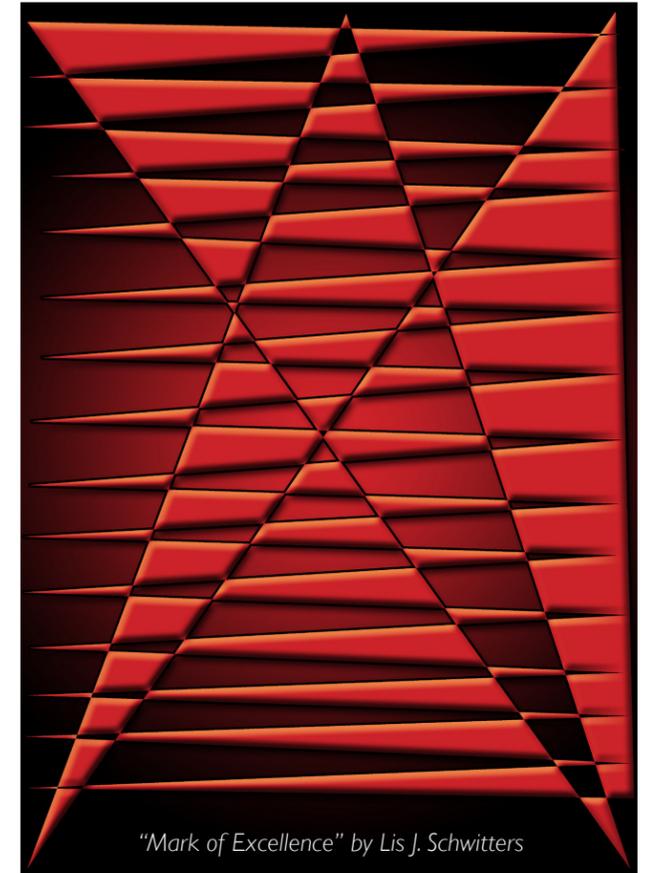
2005 Recipients

<i>Lee Hodges</i> Arts Leader	<i>MB Hanrahan</i> Artist in the Community
<i>Focus on the Masters</i> Arts Educator	<i>Michel "Michellino" Petersen</i> Special Initiative



A collaboration of Community Development and Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships Departments

Mayor's Arts Awards



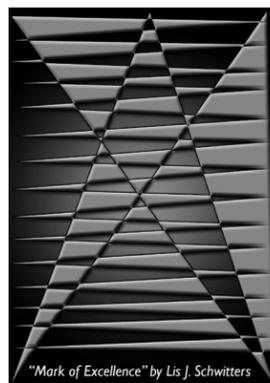
"Mark of Excellence" by Lis J. Schwitters

2011 Honoree Reception

November 17, 2011
7:00 – 9:00 pm
The Museum of Ventura County
56 E. Main Street
Downtown Ventura Cultural District

Thank you to our sponsors:





Mayor's Arts Awards

Welcome

Elena Brokaw, Director
Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships Department

Mayor's Address

Mayor Bill Fulton

Presentation of Awards

Eileen Riddle, Chair
Cultural Affairs Commission

Denise Sindelar, Manager of Community Partnerships
Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships Department

Eric Wallner, Creative Economy Specialist
Community Development Department

Jeffrey Lambert, Director
Community Development Department

Georgianne Lees, Cultural Affairs Supervisor
Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships Department

Elena Brokaw, Director
Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships Department

Entertainment

The Slideshow Preachers



2011 Honorees

Arts Patron

Ann Deal

To quote nominator Cheryl Heitmann, "There is no doubt that the Ventura Music Festival has become one of the county's signature cultural events because of the philanthropic support of Ann Deal and Fashion Forms." For the past six years, her generous contributions have not only sustained their annual Spring Festival but allowed them to expand programming throughout the year to include jazz and "crossover" genres. As the principal sponsor for the Festival's outdoor concerts at Ventura College, Ann has been instrumental in bringing musical legends such as Mark O'Connor, Chris Botti and Herbie Hancock to Ventura. In addition to her support of the Music Festival, Ann has been a longstanding and solid supporter of many Ventura nonprofits such as the Rubicon Theatre, the Rotary Club International and the Boys & Girls Club. "Ann's positive energy and enthusiasm for the arts infects those around her," says Heitman. "She draws people in with her sheer love of music and has brought many other wonderful supporters and participants to the Festival."

Artist in the Community

Susan Cook

Nominated by Jack Halbert, visual artist Susan Cook's dedication and passion for Ventura is only surpassed by her skill as an artist. An accomplished painter with a distinctive style, her work has been exhibited in prestigious venues around the county for the past ten years. She currently serves as the Vice Chair of the City's Public Art Commission and as a member of the Municipal Art Acquisition Committee and the Bell Arts Factory Advisory Board. She has held leadership positions on the boards of the Ventura Music Festival and the Buenaventura Art Association and hosted a cable access television show on art. In 2009, she served as Chair of the Citizen Blue Ribbon Budget Committee, shepherding the City budget through one of the worst financial crisis in our history. Focus on the Masters Founder Donna Granata comments, "In a world increasingly known for brusque and rude manners, Susan stands out for her civil demeanor. She is always positive, always upbeat, even in the face of personal tragedy. She is an ideal candidate for this award."

Creative Entrepreneur

Steve and Polly Hoganson, Zoey's Cafe

Voted Best Live Music venue in Ventura County for eight years in a row, Zoey's epitomizes the creative entrepreneurial spirit. A family owned business operated by Steve and Polly Hoganson, Zoey's showcases local and national acts every night of the week and is one of the premier listening rooms for original acoustic music on the Central Coast. The "surrogate mom and pop of the local music community", as they have been called, Polly and Steve have created a warm and welcoming launching pad for new talent. One of Ventura's only all-ages venues, their Musician Showcases offers the opportunity for young musicians to win cash, and studio recording time to produce a demo CD. They regularly hold fundraisers for community groups such as FoodShare, Peace Thru Music, SurfRider, the Harmony Project, ArtWalk, DVO and many local schools. Nominator MB Hanrahan says, "They really respect artists and create a context for truly experiencing live music."

Arts Leader

Tim Schiffer

Tim Schiffer has served as the Executive Director for the Museum of Ventura County since 1999. In that capacity, he is responsible for all the operations of the largest nonprofit cultural organization in Ventura overseeing a 15-member staff, 25 board members and over 150 docents and volunteers. In July 2010, the Museum completed Phase I of their Main St. facility expansion with the Smith Pavilion, funded through a \$8.5 million dollar fundraising campaign. A highly respected leader of the arts community, Tim has created strategic partnerships with the City of Ventura, the Ventura County Transportation Commission, the Santa Cruz Island Foundation, Moorpark College and served on numerous juries and advisory committees countywide. Tim's expansive vision led to the creation of the Agriculture Museum in Santa Paula which officially opened in September. Nominator and former Museum board member James Rivera said of Tim, "His vision, drive and passion for the arts has made dreams into reality. The impact of his leadership and hard work will be felt in the community for years to come."

Arts Educator

Mary Perez

Nominated by Joshua Addison, Mary Perez is a founder (with her husband Luis Perez) of the Vita Art Center. Housed at the Bell Arts Factory, Vita's mission is to provide diverse art experiences for individuals and the community through classes, exhibitions, special events and community outreach program. They offer a full menu of courses for children, teens and adults all taught by professional artists. Her commitment to ensuring equal access to arts education led to the Center's scholarship program which supports high-risk youth. As the Artist Outreach Coordinator for the first Westside ArtWalk, Mary came up with the poster campaign featuring photos of local artists in their working environs. Her leadership and hard work ensured that the event came together. Said Josh, "When it got really hard and I considered rolling it up, Mary said no. And we finished, brilliantly, to her immense credit. It probably looked easier than it was... Mary tends to make things look easy."

Emerging Artist

Maribel Hernandez

A multidisciplinary artist working in design, photography, ceramics and painting, Maribel Hernandez has a deep understanding of traditional Mexican art and has worked extensively with the community on Dia de los Muertos events. Her work has been exhibited at the Museum of Latin American, the Museum of Ventura County, the Cal State Channel Islands Gallery, the Ventura County Government Center and the De Colores exhibit. She volunteers with the Youth Arts Program at Bell Arts and works as a teacher of mentally disabled children with the Developmental Milestones Project. She has also been an instructor at the Boys and Girls Club Teen Project. She is also the founder of the Living Love Foundation, dedicated to improving the long-term health of underserved communities through hands-on exposure to the arts.