



City of Ventura Office of Cultural Affairs

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## "Get ArtSmart" Cable Magazine Debut's April 21 on CAPS TV



The City of Ventura Office of Cultural Affairs launches a new CAPS arts show called "Get ArtSmart" on April 21 at 7:30 pm, with new segments each month. Hosted by Cultural Affairs Supervisor (and theatre director) Georgeanne Lees and co-host City Marketing Specialist (and poet) Richard Newsham, the show will highlight the creative people behind our city's vibrant art scene. "The arts reflect the heart and soul of our Community, and we want to give the community the opportunity to meet the artists, musicians, producers, directors, writers, art organization executive directors, financiers, volunteers: the people who work tirelessly to enrich Ventura's cultural life," says Lees.

Full schedule at [www.capstv.org](http://www.capstv.org). View episode online at [www.capstv.org/Media/getartsmart01.wmv](http://www.capstv.org/Media/getartsmart01.wmv) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/capstvventura](http://www.facebook.com/capstvventura).

## 40 Artists "Paint" Downtown April 30 for First Ever Paint Ventura



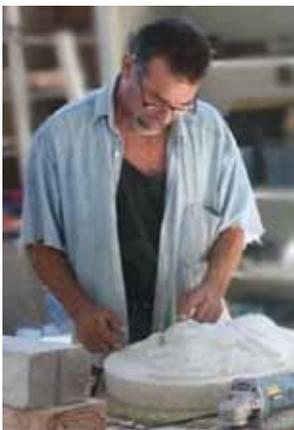
Paint Ventura LogoArtists, art appreciators and the artistically curious are all invited to visually explore and interact with participating artists outdoors at their easels or workstations as the artists create art and teach workshops throughout historic Downtown Ventura during the city's first ever all-media "en plein air" event called "Paint Ventura" on Saturday, April 30, from 10 am to sunset. During this free event over 40 artists will be creating their art in downtown parks, along the sidewalks and in front of stores on Main and California Streets and in Grant Park. Students from Ventura High School will also be creating and displaying their recycled sculptures in various locations around downtown.

Sessions with different instructors will be held over the day in a variety of media including painting, drawing, and photography. Outdoor workshops will be held for all skill levels in the variety of mediums, check the website [www.PaintVentura.com](http://www.PaintVentura.com) for prices and descriptions. The public is encouraged to watch the artists at work and seek out a new creative side of their own. En plein air is a French expression which means "in the open air" and is used to describe the act of painting outdoors. Made popular in France and England in the 19th century, the plein air style became popular in California in the early 20th century and with several groups residing in Ventura. Ventura's pleasant climate and natural beauty has influenced many groups to adventure to our beaches and hillsides for inspiration. Today the plein air movement continues to thrive in our area.

For more information please contact Jen and Phyllis at Red Brick Gallery, 315 E. Main St, Ventura at 805/643-6400 or [info@PaintVentura.com](mailto:info@PaintVentura.com), or website at [www.PaintVentura.com](http://www.PaintVentura.com).

## G. Ramon Byrne's "Composed in Stone" debuts at Museum May 6

The first public showing of stone sculptor G. Ramon Byrne's life size musical instruments opens at the Museum of Ventura County on Friday, May 6, 2011. The "Composed In Stone" exhibition highlights Byrne's suite of eight musical instruments, conceived and carved over the past five years and only recently completed. The exhibition continues through June 26, 2011.



Byrne's silent symphony reflects his passion to transform hard surfaces into shapes that speak of sound and touch. A third generation stone mason and artist, Byrne works out of Ventura's famed Art City, where he has made his artistic home since 2005. Ramon's work is installed in public and private locations throughout California, and in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Byrne moved quickly into stone carving after he began sculpting in the 1970s as an apprentice to renowned Big Sur wood sculptor Edmond Kara. Ramon has worked as an instructor and demonstrator for the annual Sculptors Symposium at Camp Ocean Pines, Cambria, California; has facilitated stone sculpting workshops at the Esalan Institute in Big Sur; and teaches privately. He is also an active member of The Artist's Union Gallery in Ventura.



The Museum of Ventura County is located at 100 East Main Street in downtown Ventura. Hours are 11 am- 5 pm, Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is \$4/adults, \$3/seniors, \$1/children 6-17, members and children under 6 are free. For more info visit: [www.venturamuseum.org](http://www.venturamuseum.org) or call 805/653-0323.

## Artists' Union Gallery is Ventura's Poetry Central

T.S. Eliot famously wrote that (the National Poetry Month of) "April is the cruellest month" in his landmark poem "The Wasteland." But Ventura has been kind to poetry and poets every month and, in fact, every week thanks to the efforts of Phil Taggart and Friday Lubina who coordinate a weekly and a monthly poetry reading series at the Artists' Union Gallery, 300 South California Street (across from the Crowne Plaza Ventura). Every Tuesday at 7:30 pm Phil hosts a featured poet followed by open-mic readings amidst provocative art exhibits. Scheduled Tuesday poets include:

- May 10 Mary Rose Betten
- May 17 Maxine Landis
- May 24 Lynne Thompson and Candace Pearson
- June 7 Chella Courington

Also at the Artists Union Gallery is the monthly "Friday on Saturdays" poetry series on the last Saturday of the month at 7:30 pm hosted by poet Friday, followed by open mic. Upcoming poets include:

- April 30 Bruce Williams
- May 28 Spiritual Quartet featuring Lois P. Jones, Taoli-Ambika Talwar, Maja Trochimczyk and Susan Rogers
- June 25 Florence Weinberger
- July 30 Holly Prado
- August 27 TL Cabrera
- September 24 Jeanette Clough

Keep abreast of Ventura's and the entire region's poetry scenes through a "Request to be put on your poetry mailing list" to [ptagga@aol.com](mailto:ptagga@aol.com). You'll receive from Phil periodic updates on literary events that range from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles as well as his featured readers' sample poems. Also subscribe to the region's poetry journal published in Ventura by poets Marsha de la O and Phil Taggart at [www.askewpoeetry.org](http://www.askewpoeetry.org)

Time Warner Cable Video On Demand also offers subscribers a half hour poetry feature with David St. John, Suzanne Lummis, Douglas Kearney, Marsha de la O and Beyond Baroque as well as individual features by the above poets and Maurya Simon, Chris Buckley, Poetry Out Loud, The World Stage, Hannibal Tabu, Frank de la Torre, Nearly Fatal Women, Jackson Wheeler, Artists Union Gallery, gauvin, Elnora McNaughton, Joyce LaMers and Phil Taggart at Channel 1 Video on Demand (go to Local folder, scroll down to SoCal's Best and then go to Behind the Scenes or Series for the poems and poetry stories).



## Celebrate Mother's Day May 8 at the Olivas Adobe "Murals & Roses" event – FREE



Where else can you celebrate Mom on her special day with flowers, beautiful images and a tribute – all for free? The Olivas Adobe, at 4200 Olivas Park Drive, will showcase a series of colorful murals depicting the history of Ventura, its beautiful rose garden and a pictorial tribute to mothers as a free event on Sunday, May 8, 11 am to 3 pm on the grounds of the historical park. The murals, each measuring 4 by 8 feet up to 8 by 8 feet, were painted by Marguerite Hardeman in the 1960s and have been stored at Olivas Park. Each year, the murals are brought out for display around the park grounds and the rose garden in celebration of spring.

The 15 murals depict different moments from the founding of the city of San Buenaventura and its early history. The largest, a series of panels measuring 30 feet, shows Spanish explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo coming ashore to greet the local Native Americans in 1542. Other pieces reflect California's Rancho Period and Rancho San Miguel, which was the Mexican land grant of the Olivas family. Members of the public can view the murals and learn the

history they depict from costumed docents, then tour the Olivas rose garden, where members of the Ventura County Rose Society will be on hand to answer questions about the different types of roses on display.

In addition to the free exhibits, historical tours of the Olivas Adobe grounds are available, as well as a unique gift shop, where tickets for tours can be purchased. On May 22 and June 19 the docents will also be offering "Olivas Family Sundays" for ages 5 years and up (\$1) from 1-2 pm. Make tortillas, rope a steer and explore other rancho activities. For more information and driving directions, visit [www.olivasadobe.org](http://www.olivasadobe.org). This event is presented by the Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters.

### Four Family Events on One Great Day!



## May 14 Family Festival in the Park Offers 4 Big Events on One Great Day!

Celebrate spring with four big events on one great day for families-as the free eighth annual Family Festival, Kids Swap Meet and the ever-popular Fairytales in the Park series all return to the Barranca Vista Park, 7050 Ralston Street in Ventura, on Saturday May 14, from 9 am to 3 pm.

The Kids Swap Meet from 9 am to noon is a great opportunity for kid vendors to clean out their closets of gently used, toys, books, games and more or to shop for valued secondhand items. Family Festival in the

Park, established eight years ago to showcase the many artists who teach at the Barranca Vista Imagination Center, also provides a place for local groups to introduce themselves to the community. This year we have included a Volunteer Fair for organizations to allow the citizens to see what's available for giving back in their community and beyond.

Day long stage entertainment includes dance, theatre and music performances as well as health and wellness demos. The featured performer this year is Bart Rockett, comedian, ventriloquist, magician and illusionist. Hands on booths will feature Mad Science, Play-well Teknologies plus lots of art for all ages and abilities. The All Aboard Express will be back for train rides through the park for a small fee.

The season opener for the Fairytales in the Park summer 2011 series starts at a special Festival time of 2 pm with *Rapunzel ~ a Tangled Tale of Split Ends*. Throughout the day the City of Ventura Summer 2011 My Ventura guide will be available and registration can be taken on site for summer classes and camps. Admission to the full day of activities is free thanks to sponsorship from the City of Ventura Office of Cultural Affairs.

For more information contact Kathryn Dippong-Lawson at 805.644.6542 or [kdippong@cityofventura.net](mailto:kdippong@cityofventura.net).

## Aerialist Troupe Bringing Magic to Westside ArtWalk Fundraiser May 19

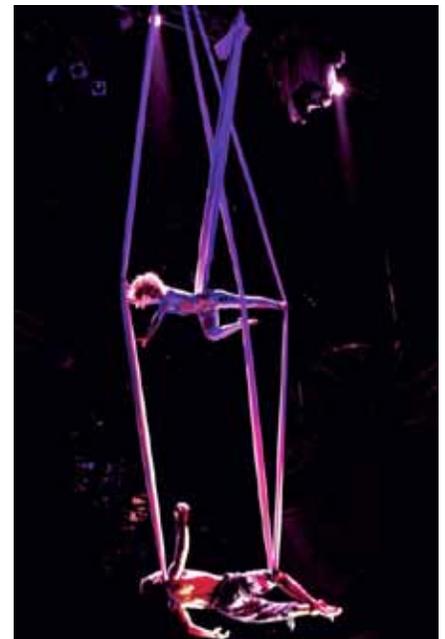
The creative aerial theater company AiRealistic will perform at a fundraiser on Thursday, May 19, 5-10 pm, at Jonathan's at Peirano's, 204 E. Main Street in Ventura. The party will celebrate the all-new Westside ArtWalk, an arts event shaping up to be a highlight of the summer. The Westside ArtWalk, scheduled for the weekend of July 23-24, 2011 is being planned by an all-volunteer group of citizens who took over the popular free showcase from the City of Ventura when budget cuts necessitated the elimination of many programs. "ArtWalk is a signature event for Ventura which attracts a great deal of excitement every year," said Josh Addison, founder of the Bell Arts Factory and chair of the Westside ArtWalk Committee. "We weren't about to let the momentum die. Instead we formed a creative team which is invigorating the event with new ideas."

Past ArtWalks have been concentrated primarily Downtown in the retail area. The new event will feature established galleries and art spaces west of Seaward Avenue, as well as new spaces created entirely for the event, highlighting a wide range of talented professionals from all over the region. Each venue will provide a unique experience for art lovers. A map will guide visitors.

The May 19 kickoff party is designed to raise operating funds for the event. The \$50 ticket price includes food and entertainment. A live auction of selected art works is also planned. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online by going to [www.westsideartwalk2011-auto.eventbrite.com](http://www.westsideartwalk2011-auto.eventbrite.com) or by calling (805) 794-7670.

The centerpiece of the fundraiser will be a performance by AiRealistic, a troupe of aerial performers who have worked with Cirque du Soleil and in other top-notch productions around the world. Their artistry includes a signature rigging system which makes performers appear to float through the air. AiRealistic recently opened a teaching facility at 5600 Everglades Street, Suite C in Ventura. For more information, go to their website at [www.airealistic.com](http://www.airealistic.com).

For more information about the Westside ArtWalk, go to [www.westsideartwalk.org](http://www.westsideartwalk.org), email [info@westsideartwalk.org](mailto:info@westsideartwalk.org) or call (805) 794-7670. For more information about the fundraiser contact: Josh Addison at (805) 746-2818, [josh@bellartsfactory.org](mailto:josh@bellartsfactory.org) or Marie Lakin at (805) 794-7670, [MLakin1@pacbell.net](mailto:MLakin1@pacbell.net).





## Arts in the Park - Call for Artists by May 31/June 24

Arts in the Park will take place on Saturday, August 27 (10 am-6 pm) and Sunday, August 28 (10 am-5 pm) in Plaza Park (corner of Chestnut and Santa Clara Streets) in downtown Ventura. This outdoor event features fine art, food by local restaurants, wine and refreshments and music throughout the day. Artists of all fine arts and fine crafts are encouraged to apply to this juried show. The regular registration deadline is by May 31 with late registration (and higher application fee) by June 24. Submission of digital images of artwork is required. The fee for a 10' x10' artist space is \$125, but the festival also offers a "half booth" option for \$75. Once again, the festival will choose a Featured Artist whose work will be displayed on festival materials and featured in event publicity. Additionally, awards will be given in five categories. For more information or an application visit [www.venturachamber.com](http://www.venturachamber.com) or contact Barbara Hinton at 805/650-9858 or email her at [barbara@venturaartfestival.com](mailto:barbara@venturaartfestival.com).

This year, Arts in the Park will include a chalk art event as part of the festivities. "Chalk Art for Charity" will raise funds for Food Share to help support Food Share's mission to alleviate hunger in Ventura County. Arts in the Park is seeking artists who would like to participate in the chalk art event. There is no charge to the artist.

## Evening Tour of the Dudley House on June 3

Teens and adults will enjoy a special tour of Ventura's 1892 historic landmark farmhouse led by "Mrs. Benjamin Dudley" and her sister-in-law "Mary" on Friday, June 3, 7:30-9 pm. The Dudley ladies will tell all about the life and times and family secrets of this prominent pioneer farming family who lived there from 1892 to 1976 with tea and light refreshments following. Meet at Dudley House, corner of N. Ashwood and Loma Vista Road.

Registration in advance is required for this tour (\$13) by calling 805/658-4726 or visiting online at [www.cityofventura.net/eRecreation](http://www.cityofventura.net/eRecreation) using the code 29243. The Historic Dudley House also has open house the first Sunday of each month, 1-4 pm. For more Dudley House info call 805.642-3345 or visit [www.dudleyhouse.org](http://www.dudleyhouse.org).



## Young Artists at the WAV sessions start June 4

The place to be this summer is the WAV! The Working Artists Ventura (WAV) is a community of 77 professional painters, sculptors, dancers, poets, musicians, filmmakers, potters and more representing 22 different countries in our nation's first sustainable arts community. Young artists will have a chance to explore several different mediums with a working artist in thematic sessions designed to introduce a buffet of extraordinary art experiences. Take one session or join us for the summer. Each session will be unique.

### 5-9 years with parent\*

29773	Sa	9 am-12 pm	6/4
29775	Sa	9 am-12 pm	7/2
29777	Sa	9 am-12 pm	8/6

### 10-16 years

29774	Sa	1-4 pm	6/4
29776	Sa	1-4 pm	7/2
29778	Sa	1-4 pm	8/6



\*Parent must attend with child during am sessions.

Bring water, a non-perishable snack, sunscreen and dress in layers for am class.

At WAV, 175 S. Ventura Avenue (at Thompson Blvd.) \$45 per session.

Sign up at [www.cityofventura.net/eRecreation](http://www.cityofventura.net/eRecreation) or 658-4726.

## Balloon Artist Kicks Off Library Summer Reading Program June 7 and June 22



Children of all ages will love the dazzling show of balloon artistry by David Brenion as he presents "Nifty Balloons" on Tuesday, June 7 at 10:30 am at the Avenue Library, 660 N. Ventura Ave, and on Wednesday, June 22 at 3:30 pm at the E.P. Foster Library, 651 E. Main Street. Both events kick off the Ventura County Library's Summer Reading Program in the City of Ventura. Children can get their summer reading logs at the events or through [www.vencolib.org](http://www.vencolib.org). "One World, Many Stories" is for those 12 and under and "You Are Here" is for teens. When participants reach 15 hours of reading time, they can pick up a prize at the library. Teens may also receive community service credits by helping to run their library's summer reading program – contact Lori Karns, Ventura County Library Youth Services Manager at 805/677-7156.

### Used Book Sale

The Friends of the Library will also offer a used book sale celebrating Armed Forces Day at the Ventura Aquatic Center, 901 S. Kimball Rd, on Saturday, May 21, 10 am-3 pm.

## Dine, Dance & Delight all Summer Long at the 2011 Music Under the Stars

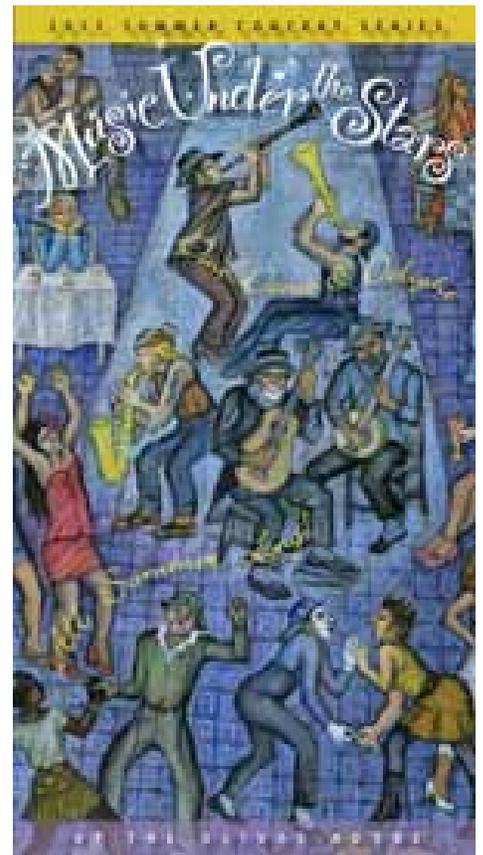
Put on your dancing shoes and enjoy nine Saturday nights of summer magic "dancing with the stars" on a majestic wooden ballroom floor at Ventura's most historic party site. Listen to top recording artists perform irresistible sets of R&B, Rock, Latin, Jazz, Blues, Zydeco, Boggie Woogie, Country Western and Carib Beats. Bring your own homemade feast or reserve a catered hot buffet dinner for fine twilight dining with friends within the warm embrace of adobe-baked courtyard walls.

Dine, dance & be merry all summer long at the 2011 "Music under the Stars" on Saturday evenings from July 9 to September 3 – the city's popular concert series outdoors at the historic Olivas Adobe, 4200 Olivas Park Drive, near Ventura Harbor. Tickets are \$20. Gates open for dining at 6:30 pm and concert from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Purchase tickets at the door or reserve at 805.658.4726 during regular business hours. [View and download a brochure at www.cityofventura.net/mus](http://www.cityofventura.net/mus).

Additional options include reserving a table and 4 chairs for \$10. Additional seating is available on site but patrons not reserving tables may bring their own chairs. Rental "TV" tables are available for rental for non-reserved seating. Patrons may also reserve a catered concert meal. Call 805/650-7559 by Friday noon before each concert to reserve a complete hot buffet dinner by BuenaVentura Catering for \$15 per person. A different menu is served each Saturday 45 minutes prior to the performance.

### 2011 Music Under the Stars Lineup:

- July 9: Louie Cruz Beltran - Latin Jazz
- July 16: Barbara Morrison - Jazz and Blues
- July 23: Upstream - Reggae & Socca
- July 30: Whiskey Dawn - Country Western
- August 6: Soul City Survivors - R & B
- August 13: Front Street Prophets - R & B Soul & Blues
- August 20: Army of Freshmen - Rock
- August 27: Lisa Haley & the Zydekats - Zydeco
- September 3: Rob Rio & the Revolvers - Boogie Woogie





*Camps  
for every  
interest!*

## Summer Arts Camps for Ages 5-18 begin June 20-August 19

The City of Ventura offers weekly youth summer camps for every arts interest starting June 20 and continuing through August 19. CATS Theater offerings include Glee Musical Theatre, Camp Off Broadway, Bound for Broadway, Sampler of Drama, Comedy & Improv, Time Traveler Colonial Times Camp and even a Kids Can Cook camp. There's also a Rock & Roll High Music Camp and specialty camps in Mad Science, Play-Well Technologies and Freshiflix for children interested in filmmaking, game design, engineering and science. The City offers a full summer schedule of dance, visual arts, music and other specialty classes for all ages and abilities.

The full My Ventura brochure can be downloaded at [www.cityofventura.net/eRecreation](http://www.cityofventura.net/eRecreation)

## Jessica Bodner is Ventura's sole CCI Grant Recipient

The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) recently announced twenty-six recipients in a seventh round of funding for Visual Arts, Crafts, and Literary Arts under its Investing in Artists grants program, which is designed to build the personal and creative capacity of California's artists working in all disciplines. Jessica Bodner was the sole Ventura recipient under the "Materials and Tools" category. For a list of all recipients visit [www.cityofventura.net/cs/arts/public-art-opportunities](http://www.cityofventura.net/cs/arts/public-art-opportunities).



"I will be using this funding to purchase a scissor-lift and a drill press," said the artist. "I have also been awarded a public art commission through the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency at the Hunters Point Shipyard Redevelopment Project. I will be creating a Native American Ohlone memorial sculpture to be built here in my Ventura studio and installed in late fall at the HPS site. As an artist, it may seem very daunting and intimidating to apply for grants and awards as the competition is fierce. However, I encourage all artists of all disciplines to apply to as many opportunities for shows or grants, since 'practice makes perfect.' I have stacks of rejection letters and only a few acceptance letters. It's important as an artist to continue applying yourself and believe in your talents ... or no one else will. I find the harder I work, the luckier I get."

"There are some helpful tools in the application process, like the "Call for Entries" website – [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org)," continued the artist. "Or even if you have a website, create an artist profile on [www.artslant.com](http://www.artslant.com). In the Internet age, we as artists need to document and showcase our work in the best way possible with high-res images and keep an up-to-date resume. Promoting your work is the most important aspect of becoming a professional artist."

The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) was founded in 2001 as a California 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Its mission is to promote knowledge sharing, networking, and financial independence for individual artists and creative entrepreneurs by providing business training, grants and loans, and incubating innovative projects that create new program knowledge, tools, and practices for artists in the field. For more information about the Center for Cultural Innovation and the Investing in Artists grants program please go to CCI's website at [www.cciarts.org](http://www.cciarts.org). The Ventura County Community Foundation (VCCF) Heritage Fund has awarded the city of Ventura a grant of \$3,567 to help develop interpretive displays and signage in the newly renovated and seismically strengthened Small Adobe at the Olivas Adobe Historic Park. The tattered Small Adobe now wholly repaired, but as of yet unfurnished-awaits its new role as a hands-on learning center for visitors to interpret the history of the adobe as the former Rancho San Miguel. The City of Ventura hosted the VCCF Heritage Fund 2011 grant awards reception for all Ventura County grant recipients at the Olivas Adobe on February 9.

## Career Management Skills for Visual Artists with Sylvia White

- *Everything Your Mother Should Have Told You About Being An Artist* -

4 Consecutive Sundays

**APRIL 17 - MAY 8, 2011 • 3-6 PM**

\$15 per session • \$50 for all 4 sessions • Non-refundable  
Location: Sylvia White Gallery, 1783 E. Main St., Ventura

*This workshop is designed to teach artists the skills they need to manage their own careers. Topics include:*

- APRIL 17** *Exhibition & Marketing Options* - How to decide where to show and sell your work, how to approach them once you do. Each artist will leave this session with a specific strategy about how to approach their target market.
- APRIL 24** *Gallery relationships, contracts and business negotiations, pricing your work, consignment* - Each artist will leave this session with practical negotiating skills, clear and concise business forms and a realistic pricing formula.
- MAY 1** *Resumes, documentation, artist's statement, press release* - Each artist will leave this session with a personal professional resume, artist statement and a template for a press release.
- MAY 8** *Understanding new technology and how to use it to help your career* - Blackberry, website and social media, the new essential art supplies. Each artist will leave this session with a critique of their website (if you have one) and an understanding of how to leverage social media for the 21st Century.

These workshops are limited to 50 artists, registration required.

For reservations, call (805) 643-8300 or email [william@artadvice.com](mailto:william@artadvice.com)

For more information, visit <http://www.artadvice.com/blog/2010-work-shop>

Sponsored by the City of Ventura Economic Development Department