



NCA Newsletter

September-October 2025

A publication of Northern California Arts, Inc.
Artists Supporting Artists Since 1939

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Raffle Vanessa Bondon

Courtesy Bobbie Lou Hunt

Featured Artist Coordinator Paul Dessau

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NCA Demonstrations at California State Fair

We are honored that NCA was invited to participate in the Demonstrators Program for the Fine Art & Photography exhibition at the California State Fair. NCA had a booth in the Fine Arts Building and gave daily demonstrations. What a wonderful opportunity for our great NCA organization and everyone that enjoyed seeing our artists in action! NCA artists that demonstrated were:

- Evelyn Adams
- Vanessa Bondon
- Paul Dessau
- Vianne De Santiago
- Sally Durante
- Shannon Garrison
- Erin O'Brien
- Gregory Smith
- David Peterson



NCA Contact Information

Email info@norcalartsinc.org or call NCA at 916-750-1968





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Call to Artists

Abstract Intentions

Sac Fine Arts

Online Entry Deadline: Oct 1

Show Date: Nov 8, 5:30-8:30 pm





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Upcoming Events

Ars Gratia Artis

Sac Fine Arts Center

Drawing and Reception: Sept 7, 2-5 pm

Bold Expressions 2025

Sac Fine Arts Center

Show Dates: Sept 30-Oct 25

Reception: Oct 11

2nd Hand Art Supply Sale

Sac Fine Arts Center

Oct 18, 10 am - 1pm

Art, Poetry, & Jazz Night

Sac Fine Arts Center

Nov 7, 6pm

NCA Members accepted in the California State Fair Fine Arts Show CalExpo 2025

Congratulations to the following NCA Artists for having art juried into the California State Fair 2025:

- Kate Blue (2) - Award of Merit
- Phyllis Brady
- Rhonda Egan
- Omid Izadi - Award of Merit
- Sandra Merele - Award of Merit
- Steve Memering (2) - Award of Merit
- Erin O' Brien

The California State Fair and the Fine Arts exhibition have an interesting history and worth a refresh to our memories. The CA State Fair opened on Oct.4, 1854, in San Francisco and was held at different cities in subsequent years. Sacramento hosted it in 1855 and again in 1859, when it was decided to purchase a site for all future California fairs. In 1860, a 6-block area was dedicated for the fair location at E St to H St. and 20th to 22nd which was home for the fair for the next 50 years! In 1909, the fair location was moved to Broadway and Stockton Blvd. where it stayed until 1967, when it moved to its present location on Exposition Blvd. The Fine Arts show is one of the most visited exhibits at the fair. It's a great honor to be juried into the California Sate Fair Fine Arts show with many entries and a strong competition of excellent art with a limited amount of art chosen to fill the gallery's limited space.

"The California State Fair friendly competitions are designed to acknowledge the best of the Golden State. Our Competitive programs inspire talented Californians." Tom Martinez, CEO, CA State Fair. Well done NCA Artists and Congratulations!

NCA WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

June-August 2025

- Keith McDonald
- Satty Rai
- Ashleigh Anderson
- Pamela Klein



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Guest Artist Demonstrations General Meetings

Artist demonstrations, a part of NCA General Meetings, bring expressive artists and NCA members together for creative growth. NCA General Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7-9 pm, except July and August.

Wed, September 10th

Karen Cahill - oil painting and portraiture

Wed, October 8th

Linda Galusha - Bold Expressions judge, jury process and award selection

Wed, November 12th

Michelle Scott - watercolor

September 10th Guest Artist - Karen Cahill

Karen Cahill will demonstrate her approach to oil painting and portraiture.

Karen is a painter and drafts person known for evocative realistic portraits, human figurative work, and still life paintings in oils on panel. Drawing inspiration from the masterful use of light and shadow by artists such as Rembrandt and Caravaggio, Karen employs techniques like the "bistre" underpainting method and glazing to create works of profound depth and emotional resonance.



In addition to studio practice, Karen Cahill values the exchange of knowledge within the artistic community and has found significant learning through teaching others. Karen's work invites viewers to appreciate the beauty of classical techniques applied to contemporary subjects, emphasizing both technical skill and emotional impact.

October 8th Guest Artist - Linda Galusha

Linda Galusha, Bold Expressions 2025 judge, will present her jury process and approach to award selection.

I use the language of visual composition and a distillation of various artistic schools of expression to construct my paintings. The subjects of the paintings are the platforms from which each piece is inspired. The past few years the subject of my works has been trees and their environs. They are for me a never-ending supply of variety for 'seeing' and discovery.



Linda lives and practices art in Grass Valley, California. Her custom mural commissions and her own personal fine art works share interchanging influences with each other. This, with a continuing exploration of the visual language of composition and various schools of art, her works have evolved to a distinct personal expression. The landscapes of the Sierra Foothills and other wild places are currently the subject of her paintings.



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Member News

Karen Burns just had a painting, *Service Retired*, accepted into the NOAPS Best of America Juried Exhibition. This is her 6th acceptance into Best of America shows. This international exhibit is October 2-25, 2025.



The following was submitted by NCA President, Edward Reus

“Wayne Thiebaud, most known for art depicting everyday objects. A famous artist and closely tied to Northern California and the NCA.”

“I knew this was not a good career choice” – Wayne Thiebaud (1920 – 2021)



Wayne Thiebaud, *Confections*, 1962.

“OK,” I ask myself, “who is the artist Wayne Thiebaud?” This came to mind with his recent exhibition at the Legion of Honor art museum. The NCA website mentions he was a member of NCA, so, I wanted to follow the breadcrumbs to see where they led.

Wayne was born in Arizona, then moved with his family to Southern California when he was just a year old. While still in high school, he worked as a summer apprentice in the animation department of Disney Studios. In 1937, he attended the Frank Wiggins Trade school in L.A., studying commercial art, lettering and sign painting.

The first mention I find of him in Northern California is during WWII, where he was stationed at Mather Army Air Base (back then...) where he worked at the Special Services Department as an artist and cartoonist, eventually moving to the Motion Picture unit. After the war, he went back to L.A., working as an art director for the Rexall Drug company. After his stint at Rexall, he spent the rest of his career and life in Northern California. First, in 1949, enrolling at San Jose State College and then transferring to Sacramento State College (now CSU Sacramento) earning a BA Art (1951) and MA Art (1952). He became an instructor at Sacramento Junior College (now Sacramento City College) while earning his MA Art degree, teaching there through the 1950's. In 1960, he became an assistant professor at U.C. Davis, until retiring in 1990. He continued to teach on an unpaid basis until 2002—forty-two years of teaching and inspiring hundreds of students. (continues on p.6)



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We Want To Hear From You!

- Have you been accepted in a show?
- Where are you showing your artwork?
- Are you teaching a class or workshop?
- How can NCA help you learn and grow?

Send a text or email to Susan Lee Giles, Membership Chair. Our newsletter is published every two months and we want to include your ART news in future publications.

Email: susanleegiles@att.net

Text: 1-916-251-6057

(Thiebaud continued) There are a few video interviews of Wayne at the Wayne Thiebaud foundation website that gave me a deeper impression of him. I think that his path to professional artist was both an easy and hard choice for him, and his move from commercial to more pure expressive art reflects that. He reflected: *"I knew this was not a good career choice"*. Another thing that stuck with me was his reflection on calm focus that art brought to him.

His artistic style is characterized by a unique blend of realism and abstraction. His subjects, usually (but not always) ordinary objects like pies, cakes, lipstick, city streets, are rendered with detail and presented as an abstraction. He uses a thick impasto style and bold color with repetition and variation.



Wayne Thiebaud, *Water City* (preliminary rendering for SMUD mural), 1959.

Selected references:

[Wayne Thiebaud Exhibition At The Legion Of Honor In SF](#)

[https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/wayne-thiebaud-2032#:~:text=Wayne%20Thiebaud%20\(%20TEE%2Dboh%3B,for%20his%20colorful%20works%20depicting](https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/wayne-thiebaud-2032#:~:text=Wayne%20Thiebaud%20(%20TEE%2Dboh%3B,for%20his%20colorful%20works%20depicting)

<https://www.csus.edu/university-galleries/collections/thiebaud-exhibit/#:~:text=Born%20in%201920%20in%20Arizona,from%20California%20State%20University%2C%20Sacramento>

<https://waynethiebaudfoundation.org/>

<https://nga.gov.au/art-artists/the-kenneth-e-tyler-collection/artists/wayne-thiebaud>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wayne_Thiebaud

<https://salmagundi.skidmore.edu/articles/420-on-wayne-thiebaud-100-and-a-conversation-with-the-artist-at-age-101>



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