



Northern California Arts INC

Artists Supporting Artists Since 1939

Sept-October 2026 Newsletter

NCA 2026

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Membership Chair: Susan Giles
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Courtesy: Bobbie Lou Hunt
Raffle Chair: Kathi Bristow
Member at Large: Phyllis Brady

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Stella Canfield
Joan Hall

NCA CONTACT INFO

 info@norcalarts.org

 916-971-3713

Upcoming Events

Ars Gratia Artis

Sac Fine Arts Center

Show Dates: Aug 11th - Sept 5th

Drawing and Reception: Sept. 6, 2:00pm

Art of the Automobile

Sac Fine Arts Center

Show Dates: Sept 8th - Oct 3rd

Reception: Sept 12, 5:00-7:00pm

Second Saturday Plein Air Event

Sac Fine Arts Center

Saturday Sept 12, 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Free to Participate

Sac Open Studios

Greater Sacramento Area

Weekend 1: Sept 12-13, 10:am - 5pm

Weekend 2: Sept 19 - 20, 10am - 5pm

Bold Expressions

Sac Fine Arts Center

Show Dates: Oct 5th - 30th

Reception: Oct 10th, 5:30-8:00pm

CA State Fair Demonstrations

Not Enough Words To Say Thank You!

By Sally Durante

Northern California Arts, Inc (NCA) provided the Live art demonstrations at the 2026 California State Fair in the Fine Arts and Photography building #7.

Huge crowds would adjourn after watching a live stage performance, or riding the rides or any outdoor activities to see the beautiful works of Art in the show and enjoy the comfort of a cool air conditioned experience. This gave the demonstration artists great exposure as people watched them create!

It was the perfect place for the public to discover the hidden treasure of our great organization, NCA! Most of the public Comments included the following amazments :

- * NCA is 87 years old
- * We have a permanent meeting location
- * We meet monthly on 2nd Wednesday from 7-9pm
- * And provide a demo artist at each meeting
- * We are located in Carmichael at the Sac Arts Center on Gibbons Dr
- * We Sponsor (2027) four art show annually
- * We are 100% volunteer run 501 non-profit



- * We are artists supporting artists everyone and every medium are welcomed
- * Members boost : " I finally found my people (or my tribe or my family)!!"
- * Our affordable members rate is \$25/year
- * And that we have a mutual admiration and support with the Sac Art Center
- * And much more!!!!



The most delightful thing that happened at each day's demonstration was the true excitement and joy displayed by the participating artists. Also, the public was entertained , enchanted, educated and loved every minute.

To each of the artists from NCA who signed up and showed up for the 17 days of the fair you are wonderful- a treasure for our organization and we are so proud of you too! It's a beautiful thing when a plan comes together and you made it happen .



Many of you said you are looking forward to participating again next year and that is wonderful to hear directly from you and we will work together again. Next year we'll start signing up even sooner AND we are preparing an orientation presentation and orientation package to be distributed to everyone interested in demonstrating . With photos to "see the big picture!", from arrival to set-up and clean-up. Good information for what to prepare for and expect and bring for their demo! So get those calendars ready!

Also we hear the 2027 CalExpo dates are being moved to September - keep this in mind to be a participating artist!

And once again I must say Thank You to each 2026 NCA Artist who made time to represent their club and to share their skills by obligating to the CalExpo Fine Art Demonstration Event!

There are not enough words to say "thank you " enough!
See you next year at the fair!!!

Contact Sally Durante at 916-202-6367 for any questions about participating in the State Fair next year.

Calls to Artists

Hard copies of upcoming show information are available at the Sac Arts Center

Bold Expressions is October 5 - 31, 2026

THEME: "Freedom lies in being bold."

Robert Frost Juror is Helen Plenert.

[Click HERE to view the prospectus.](#)

[Click HERE to enter via Entrythingy.](#)

ENTRY DEADLINE:

September 5, 2026, 12 midnight



Northern California Arts, Inc. Presents the 71st Open International Juried Art Exhibit, open to fine artists everywhere. The quality and the variety of works entered have been phenomenal in the past years exhibiting the show.

BEST OF SHOW: \$1,000



Small Art with a Big Heart is November 14, 2026

Sign up to sell your small artworks or prints:
\$20 fee for three-foot wide table, **\$30** fee for
four-foot wide table.

DEADLINE for sign-up is November 12th at
midnight or until all spaces are filled.

SET-UP DATE and **TIME FOR RECEIVING IS**
November 13, 2026 1-4 PM.

[Click HERE to learn more about this opportunity.](#)

GUEST PRESENTERS

SEPTEMBER GUEST: RAINA MONTGOMERY



Raina Montgomery will demonstrate glass fusion.

With three decades of teaching experience, Raina Montgomery has dedicated her career to making art accessible to everyone from elementary school children to adults. Raina earned her degree in Art Studio and Education from CSUS and has mastered an impressive spectrum of mediums, including drawing, watercolor, alcohol ink, woodworking, and ceramics. Her journey into the world of glass fusion began under the unique guidance of her aunt, a professional glass artist.

Through years of mentorship and hands-on experimentation, Raina developed a distinctive approach to the craft. She combines her extensive background in traditional art education with her specialized knowledge of glass fusion to deliver dynamic, engaging colorful creations.

OCTOBER GUEST: HELEN PLENERT

Helen Plenert is the judge for Bold Expressions 2026. She will talk about why she chose her best of show and other winners during the meeting.

Helen creates works to uplift the viewer using local scenes that are sometimes overlooked in our everyday journeys. Her love for California and all its beauty runs deep. Helen explores places she's been or seen along the many state highways. Using her simple tools of paper, ink and watercolors, Helen paints from natural scenes and has created a series that reflects the world she lives in and loves. She also has a love of people and has a series she calls "People I've met" where she has created portraits of locals and celebrities



You can learn more about Helen and her work on her website:

<https://helenplenert.com/>

★ NCA Member News ★

CONGRATS TO MEMBER **KAREN BURNS ON HER UPCOMING SOLO SHOW!**



*Tarnish,
Rust & Rivets*

Solo Show
at Arthouse
on R
Sacramento, CA

Opening
September 12th

KarenBurnsFineArt.com

Runs from Sept 12th - Oct 5th



"Kitchen Chaos"
24"x24"
Oil on Linen

*"Vintage Faucet
Handles"*
24"x24"
Oil on Linen



CONGRATS TO ANDREA MORRIS AND LINDA BALL!



**Black & White Show 2026
Award of Excellence**



**Black & White Show 2026
Second Place**

MEMBER NEWS CONTINUED

✦ NCA Members did well in The Art of Essence which runs through Oct. 23rd at Rancho Cordova City Hall, 2729 Prospect Park Drive, Rancho Cordova. City Hall's open hours are 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. ✦

Thank you to Rick Sloan for the photographs



First Place

Skip Lee, "Construction Site"



Youth First Place

Axel Scott-Kirby



Honorable Mention

Elaine Schaefer-Hudson

Elijah Reno won second place in the youth division, and **Ezekiel Reno** won third place.



Member News Cont.



Congratulations to **Sally Durante!**



Sally has two exciting exhibitions coming up this November. You can view her work in the Sac Arts Foyer all month long, and her Angel paintings will be proudly displayed at the Carmichael Presbyterian Church.

Member **Allegra Reno** and 52 other regional artists are participating in the El Dorado Hills Fine Art Festival!

4TH Annual
El Dorado Hills
FINE ART FESTIVAL

50+ Artists
Ceramics
Glass
Jewelry
Painting
Photography
Sculpture
Textiles
Wood

October 10, 2026
10am ■ 5pm
El Dorado Hills Library
7455 Silva Valley Parkway, El Dorado Hills, California

Admission FREE

Live Jazz Music
Kids Art Activities

Live Painting Demonstrations at DOCO!

NCA Newsletter Editor **Ashleigh Anderson** and fellow artist **Rod Larson-Swenson** were selected from the Sac Open Studios lineup to perform live outdoor painting demonstrations at the DOCO West Plaza. Organizers requested that Ashleigh paint a 24x36 Tower Bridge piece, inspired by her previous Folsom Bridge painting.



When: Saturday, Sept. 12, 9am to 4pm, and Sunday, Sept. 13, 9am to 2pm. Ashleigh will paint on one day and Rod will paint on the other.

Where: DOCO West Plaza, 405 K Street, Downtown Sacramento

Giveaway: Ashleigh is donating an original piece for a special giveaway.

Saturday or Sunday? Check landscapesbyashleigh.com for Ashleigh's finalized schedule and artwork.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Memoriam: Tom Thompson

Northern California Arts, Inc. is deeply saddened to announce the passing of Tom Thompson at the age of 94.

Tom was a cornerstone of our organization and a steadfast advocate for the arts, having dedicated his time to serve as NCA President for two terms. He was known by many as a tremendous supporter of our creative community.



His dedication and advocacy also extended into the broader local community. Thanks to Tom's hard work and persistence, the La Sierra school property was preserved and prevented from being entirely developed into housing.

A celebration of life honoring Tom will be announced at a later date. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his loved ones and remain forever grateful for the lasting impact he made on NCA and our neighborhood.

✦ Jingle Bells , Jingle Bells , Jingle All the Way - Heh! ✦

Mark your calendars for the Sacramento Arts Centers 2026 **"All Club HOLIDAY PARTY"** - **Wednesday Dec. 9, 2026** with your host NCA!

The annual fun time get-together of all the artists clubs and groups of Sac Arts sure kicks off the holiday spirit!!



Holiday Party 2025: Hosted by WASH

Would you like to help? We are "making a list and checking it twice" - with party preparation tasks, many can be done from home. **Please see the sign up sheet at September Member meeting! Ho- ho- ho !**



LOCAL NEWS



AROUND TOWN

* **Sac Open Studios Preview Exhibition**

Kick off the annual studio tour at Verge Center for the Arts. This preview show features artworks from participating artists to help you find favorites and plan your route before the open studio weekends begin.

September 10 to October 11, 2026

Reception: Thursday, September 10, 6PM to 9PM

[Click HERE for more info](#)

* **Sac Open Studios**

Sac Open Studios is a self-guided artist studio tour which spans all of Sacramento County

WKND 1: September 12th & 13th, 2026
WKND 2: September 19th & 20th, 2026

[Click HERE for the studio guide](#)

* **Beauty and the Beast Exhibition**

This captivating exhibition at the Atrium Gallery inside the El Dorado Hills Town Center explores the duality and harmony of the human and animal worlds through figurative works.

September 21 to November 15
Reception: Sat, Sept 26, 5PM to 7PM

[Click HERE for more info](#)

Last Chance - Call for Art: Ornament Project

The You Are Here Foundation needs local artists to create five flat wood ornaments for their December E Street Gallery show. Blank ornaments are provided if needed. Include your contact info on the back for a great free marketing opportunity!

Registration Deadline: September 1

Drop-off Deadline: October 30

Email gabe.sanford@gmail.com immediately to register.

Click [HERE](#) to view learning opportunities available at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center.



Meet and experience the exceptional art of 40 award winning artists at 10 different studios in the Sierra Foothills.

<https://www.paastudiotor.com/>

Message from your Newsletter Editor: I want to hear from you!

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

The newsletter is published once every two months, I want to include your ART news. Send me a text or an email, or find me at a general meeting.



Text: 916-768-1742 Email: landscapesbyashleigh@gmail.com