Artist
Tommie Moller
North Tahoe
ARTour

Writer Joanne Meschery

Painter David Lobenberg
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On the Cover

“Seclusion,” oil on canvas by Paul Honatke

About the Cover
With this painting I was thinking about the difference between being lonely and choosing to be alone. It’s a reflective piece. The viewer is left to speculate on the subject’s feelings, whether she is contentedly exploring her inner self in her comfortable home, or if she is thinking of being in a different place with someone else. The cat reinforces the theme; it may be seen as a companion or as a symbol of independence.
— Paul Honatke

About the Artist
Local artist Paul Honatke received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. The artist compares his paintings to music, seeing abstract pieces as instrumentals where the focus is on the formal elements, and figurative works as “songs with words.” Paul is represented by Castro Fine Arts of Auburn on its online gallery at www.castrofinearts.com. He will be exhibiting paintings at the South Pine Café in Nevada City through mid-July.
The arts matter — and so does drawing crowds

by Steven Winn, Arts and Culture Critic, San Francisco Chronicle

Excerpts reprinted with permission: Steven Winn’s The Culture column, San Francisco Chronicle, June 2, 2005

The arts are essential, everyone seems to agree. Seventy percent of Californians say artists make for a better community. The state mandates the arts as a “core subject” in public schools. San Francisco arts organizations, with an aggregate budget of $350 million, attract more patrons in a year than all sporting events do. So why is it getting harder and harder to pay the bills?

“Crisis” may be too easy a word to throw around when it comes to the perennially dicey business of arts funding, but things are at a pretty bad pass now. The once vibrant California Arts Council has all but disappeared during the state’s fiscal free fall. Very few public schools can actually afford to meet the state arts-education mandate. Shrinking city and county arts budgets around the country mirror the problems. While federal funding has held its own, the Bush-era National Endowment for the Arts has become centrist and highly risk-aversive in its grants.

Corporate, foundation and individual giving, meanwhile, has not recovered from the dot-com portfolio meltdown and merger mania that followed…

Last week, in an early morning forum at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, a group of fretting Bay Area arts administrators gathered to discuss their collective plight. The meeting’s title, “Why Business Should Be Concerned About Arts & Culture in the Bay Area…” posed a wishful, unfinished thesis. The ellipses at the end of the line captured an air of what-next uncertainty. Should Business Be Concerned?…

Barry Hessenius, executive director of Alonzo King’s Lines Ballet and former director of the California Arts Council, proved to be the most provocative member of the panel. “We’ve made great cases [for the arts to funders],” he said. “What we lack is political muscle.” Hessenius challenged his colleagues to work for arts-friendly candidates. You could almost feel the air go out of the room. For beleaguered administrators who are busy struggling to pay their vendors and put bodies in seats, the idea of leafleting for the right kind of city council member or mayor sounded too daunting to contemplate especially at 9 o’clock in the morning. Hessenius had one more unsettling thought. “We’re overbuilt in the arts,” he said. “We haven’t done what we need to downsize and streamline” and deal with the “oversupply” of arts organizations.

That sort of Darwinian, survival-of-the-fittest thinking may have alarmed some people. But it’s healthy to have it out in the air. The culture is constantly evolving, under the pressures of changing demographics, audience behavior, seductive new technologies and the nature of making and consuming art. No organization, no artist can afford to assume that anything that’s working today will do so tomorrow…

Research studies won’t matter a bit, no matter what they conclude, if the arts can’t win this battle. If nobody comes to see and hear the work, all the self-scrutiny in the world won’t matter. It’s getting the bodies in the seats and through the museum turnstiles that counts. One way or another, those bodies will figure out for themselves what they’re doing there and whether they want to come back.
Contributors

Phawnda Moore ("Painting & Dining with David Lobenberg," pg. 10) is the owner of Journalism Design, www.journalismdesign.net, where she writes, edits, and designs self-published books for clients. A former editor of the California Veterinarian magazine, she will exhibit her calligraphy and illustrations in the Autumn Art Studios Tour, November 12 & 13.

Teacher and artist Rose O’Donnell ("Tommie Moller, a spirit in Harmony," pg. 8) has worked at Sierra College Rocklin in several capacities including as Ridley Gallery director. Her artwork has been shown in many local galleries. Now a resident of Washington, D. C., O’Donnell maintains her ties to Placer County.

Truckee artist Eve Werner ("Follow the Colorful ARTour Road," pg. 6) does acrylic paintings of Lake Tahoe and the Mendocino coast, favoring natural subjects with underlying symbolism. A participant in the North Tahoe ARTour, she is one of about 30 artists who will open their studios to the public July 8 – 10.

Arlene Evans (Arts Leap, pg. 14) writes for local and regional publications. Her two books on color vision deficiency, or colorblindness (Seeing Color: It’s My Rainbow, for young readers, and Color is in the Eye of the Beholder, for adults) are available for purchase online at www.CVDbooks.com.

Author Persia Woolley ("Writing From Home," pg. 12) writes non-fiction books and historical novels, the best-known of the novels being her Guinevere trilogy. She is working on a book about the ancient city of Troy and, as a journalist, writes for several publications in the area.

Ronald D. Greenwood, M.D. (The Score, pg. 18) is a pediatrician in private practice in Roseville. A classical music lover with an extensive music collection, Greenwood is the new president of the Auburn Symphony Board of Directors.

Poets Speak

Flicker Feathers

by Eric W. Engles

Walking above the winding Yuba
I find the feathers, scattered
by the violence of death
but showing the astonishing red-orange
so difficult to discern
when the eyes try to follow the living bird
winging silently through the trees.
The Nisenan might have put these gifts
to good use, borrowing
their power to fletch a quiver of arrows
or weave a dancer’s ceremonial headband.
I gather these remnants of a life one by one,
combing
the soft barbules back together, thinking
how different the feathers are
from the gray pewter cup and brass candlestick
I brought home from my mother’s house
after the funeral.

Adult Honorable Mention, Little Town, USA,
2003 Sierra Foothill Poetry Contest

About the Poet

Eric Engles began writing poetry about 25 years ago under the tutelage of poets Joseph McNeilly (Out Here) and Judith Minty (Walking With the Bear). After publishing a few poems in local journals, he turned his attention to other pursuits, including graduate school, book editing, old home restoration, natural history, gardening, dance, and adventure travel. Though always nurturing a poet's sensibility, he didn’t write verse with any seriousness again until he moved to the Sierra Foothills with his wife Lisa in 2001 and enrolled in a class at Sierra College with Nevada County poet Gail Entrekin. Gail helped him relocate his voice and desire to write poetry.
Follow the Colorful ARTour Road

by Eve Werner

Ever wondered how artists create their masterpieces? How they find inspiration? How they begin? What process they use to work through to completion? Every summer, ARTour at North Tahoe presents an opportunity to learn the answers to these questions firsthand. This year, on July 8 – 10, more than 30 regional artists will open their studios to the public for ARTour. Sponsored by North Tahoe Arts, ARTour allows tourers to visit private art studios, meet artists, observe demonstrations of artists’ techniques, and view or buy original art.

“For the first time this year, ARTour is free,” noted Sandy Pyer, executive director of North Tahoe Arts. “We’re hoping this will encourage even more people than usual to attend this wonderful event.

“ARTour is special,” Pyer said, “because it focuses on fine arts rather than crafts. We have so many talented artists who work in a variety of media. Each artist has to be juried into the event, so the quality of work is excellent.”

Media presented in ARTour includes oils, acrylics, watercolors, glass, metal furnishings, sculpture, gourds, photography, ceramics, and fiber. Artist studios are located throughout North Lake Tahoe and Truckee.

ARTour starts this year with an opening public reception July 7, 5 to 7 p.m., at the North Tahoe Art Center, 380 North Lake Blvd., Tahoe City. At the reception, attendees will enjoy appetizers, music, and an exhibit of ARTour artists’ work. That exhibit will run through July 29. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday – Monday; closed Tuesday.

A self-guided open studio tour, ARTour runs 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday through Sunday. Free maps with studio locations and descriptions of the media offered are available at North Tahoe Arts and many other locations, including Incline Village Visitors Center, North Tahoe Conference, in Kings Beach, and Vrooman’s Gallery in Old Town Truckee.

North Tahoe Arts Center includes an Artisan Shop, selling the work of local artists, and two fine art galleries. New exhibits open each month with a reception on the first Friday, 5 – 7 p.m. For more information about North Tahoe Arts or ARTour, call (530) 581-2787.
North Tahoe and Truckee artists open their studios to the public July 8 – 10

“Winter Light,” painting by Trina Gold.

North Tahoe ARTour Participants 2005

Barbara Borgerding,
  mixed media
Karen Colbert, art quilts
William Cooper & JoAnn Lippert, photography
Carol David, pastels
Lisa Dearing, photography
Audrey Dygert, watercolor
Lynne Fee, collage
Jan Foss, watercolor
Dayna Galletti,
  ceramic sculpture
Trina Gold, oil/watercolor
Annika Hemminge, acrylics
Dolly Lee, watercolor
Jessica MacQuarrie, acrylics
Lynn McGeever, glass
Robert Mimiaga, photography
Cory Moore, hand knits
Nancy Morze, steel furnishing
Susan Nielsen, photography
Sally Osborn, clay
Roseann Parker,
  Bronzes/gourds
Deborah Rich,
  acrylic/oil/watercolor

Carola Nan Roach,
  glass/ceramic
Judith & Larry Romati,
  hand-woven rugs
Carole Sesko, acrylic
Randall Stauss, oil/watercolor
Terrill Tangney, oil/watercolor
Scott Thompson,
  photography
Deborah von Zink,
  oil/watercolor
Eve Werner, acrylics
Teresa Wik, pottery
Sara Zimmerman, acrylics

Photograph by Robert Mimiaga.
Tommie Moller, a Harmonious Spirit

by Rose O'Donnell

When Tommie Moller was working for the Berkeley Police Department in the vice-squad, she was asked to sketch faces of suspected criminals from descriptions given to her by victims of crimes. She found herself fascinated with this opportunity to draw. So, after many years as a working mom, in 1976 she enrolled in Sierra College as an art major. She later continued her studies at CSU Sacramento earning her BA in art and graduating magna cum laude. Over the years, Moller studied with many well-known artists, including sculptor Bruno Lucchesi and Scottsdale artist Glenna Goodacre.

Moller has exhibited at many local venues: the California Arts League, Placer Arts League; and Lincoln’s Feats of Clay exhibit. She has had many group and solo exhibitions and participates in the annual Autumn Arts Studio Tour. In 2001, Moller and Folsom artist Linda Whiteside joined forces for a show called “Harmony of Spirits” at Sierra College’s Ridley Gallery. Last year, Moller created a life-sized lion, covered with scenes of Native American life, for the Sacramento Zoo’s “Lions on Safari Benefit.” Tommie often contributes her work to fundraisers throughout the region. An active member of the Sierra College Patrons for many years, she regularly donated her work to the group’s many fund-raising events.

This generosity of spirit is typical of Moller. She and her husband Chet lived for a time in Loomis on what was originally a Maidu Indian campsite. For many years the Mollers gave tours of their property to elementary school children, sharing the stories and traditions of the Maidu people. Moller herself is part Cherokee and Choctaw, as well as English and Irish. She is recognized for her many contributions to the preservation of Maidu heritage and has co-authored numerous pamphlets on Maidu subjects.

For the new Senior Wing at the Maidu Center in Roseville, Moller was asked to create a mural on Indian life titled, “Honoring the Elders.” To complete the huge mural, Moller worked with artist Gerda Francesca. The two artists have since collaborated on many projects, including a “Memorial Bench” for the Indian Creek Golf Course, in Loomis.

For another Maidu Center project, a sculpture titled “The Maidu Family,” Moller collaborated with artist Florence Bird. Bird created the father figure; Moller, the mother. Originally constructed of five tons of concrete, the sculpture was vandalized and repaired so many times that in 2002 the City of Roseville had it cast in bronze. Today it stands, 13 feet tall and proud, at Maidu Park. It was dedicated and blessed by the eldest living Maidu elder in November, 1993.

Moller’s biography is included in The Biographical Directory of Native American Painters, published in 1995. In it, Moller states that her “intent in art is to portray the peace and contemplation reflective of the inner spirit, embodying the flow of love and serenity rather than depicting negative aspects or making political statements.” Her success in communicating this philosophy is obvious from her long list of awards and accomplishments. Moller’s work has twice been selected for the annual “Trail of Tears Art Show,” a world-renowned Native American art competition held at the Cherokee National Museum in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Moller won a first place in the show in 1984 and was chosen again in 1990.

A visit to Tommie’s studio in Auburn or her home in Lincoln reveals a treasure trove of beautiful sculptures, drawings and paintings of the proud and gentle people that are her heritage, pieces that are expressions of Native American life, its joy and pain. Moller has created exquisitely detailed portraits of...
The artist’s sculptures, drawings and paintings reflect her Native American heritage.

the area’s legendary basket weavers and of the elders of local tribes. Her art often focuses on the tenderness between mother and child; her sculptures of women and children together are tender and moving.

Moller’s loving spirit is reflected in her art and in her life. An old friend and neighbor of Tommie’s, Linda Rossetti, says that when the Mollers and the Rossettis got together over many years, everyone “just glowed because Tommie is so full of love for the whole world that you can’t help but feel that when you are around her.”

“Greeting the Sunrise,” clay by Tommie Moller.

Tommie Moller at home in Lincoln.

Above: “Market in Mexico,” oil by Tommie Moller.
Right: “Mask,” clay work by Tommie Moller.
Bonjour! If the name David Lobenberg doesn’t sound familiar, let’s mention some of the Sacramento artist’s achievements. He is an annual KVIE auction contributor and member of the Legacy Collection that recognizes prominent northern California artists. His lively, colorful paintings have appeared in programs of the Sacramento Kings, Sacramento Opera, Sacramento Ballet, and Sacramento Music Circus. In 2004, Maria and Governor Arnold Schwarzeneggar chose Lobenberg to design their Christmas card. An adjunct professor at Sacramento City College, he even has a watercolor brush that bears his name. And now, he is visiting Placer County.

Perhaps the reason for his success is the response viewers get when looking at his paintings. They are full of joy and expression, in a loose, casual, fun-loving style. Lobenberg earned a master’s degree in fine arts from UCLA in 1971, but has painted nearly all his life. Widely recognized, he is currently exploring acrylic and likes it. Last year Sun City Lincoln’s Kilaga Springs Lodge commissioned him to create large acrylic and watercolor paintings that now hang in the spa, café, main entry and theatre.

Early this year, Lobenberg began offering monthly watercolor workshops at the award-winning La Provence Restaurant and Terrace, in Roseville. Designed for beginners without drawing skills as well as those with experience, the four-hour sessions are a treat for the senses.

In March, a group of us gathered at La Provence for Lobenberg’s “Four Legged Family Members” workshop to paint a kitten and dog with the Tombo brush. Perfect for travel, the Tombo is a saturated paintbrush loaded with water-soluble dark gray color. When mixed with water, other neutral shades mysteriously appear and create beautiful washes.

The La Provence meeting room, our private studio for the day, overlooks a portion of the restaurant’s 50-some acres of oak trees and winding paths. From time to time, joggers and horses pass through the serene setting, quite reminiscent of a French countryside. Soft music, beverages, a fresh, white floral arrangement, and a table set for dining were so thoughtfully arranged for our class that I felt like an invited guest. Lobenberg inspired us with the Tombo brush paintings that he did while traveling, then provided a tracing of a fluffy, gray kitten. Using the windows, students traced the kitten with a pen, then gathered around Lobenberg to watch him demonstrate.

“Start with the eyes,” he began. “Observation is very important. Look carefully at the subject matter, and lay in the middle value, leaving some white in the eyes.”

That done, he continued with a new demonstration. Skillfully, using the Tombo and water, he painted areas of the cat’s head and chest, laying down light values. He encouraged students to “get used to moving the paint around.” He said, “Don’t think detail in the beginning; paint light to dark. The secret to watercolor is to lay it down in big washes. Less than perfect is okay. It’s a learning process. This is new. You guys gotta get your sea legs. We’re not trying to make a photographic copy; it doesn’t look natural. Go ahead and have some fun.”

All too soon, it was time for lunch. We pondered the three-course La Provence “Art Painting & Dining with David Lobenberg

by Phawnda Moore
Menu.” Decisions became indecisions! Soup Du Jour or Salade Maison, plus one Plat Principal (entrée choice) of Almond Crusted Alaskan Halibut, Coq Au Vin or Steak Frites. All of the choices were praised as “enchante” (delightful), while conversation flowed easily about travel, and, of course, art.

Back at our working tables, the kitten got its darker shades and stripes; then it was time for detail, the whiskers. “Don’t overwork them,” Lobenberg cautioned. “Just take a Sharpie pen, and swoosh!” After a final critique, we began painting the dog using the same technique.

“Oh, we’ve got the dessert coming,” Lobenberg announced. Chocolate Mousse Cake, elegantly presented, was placed before us. There was fresh coffee. Was it already mid-afternoon?

When he paints, Lobenberg is in constant motion. He turns the paper upside down, then backs off, walks away, and returns with clear intention. His greatest encouragement is his marvelous combination of experience and ease. There’s a sense of familiar abandon as he “moves shades around.”

Lobenberg’s exuberant style incorporates borders, integrates backgrounds, and seems incomplete without his trademark splattering. For a finale, he loaded his brush, and we watched intently as the sailing droplets of color landed on the painting. C’est magnifique!

He smiled and said, “Isn’t that fun?” It was, in this beautiful setting, a most enjoyable and fun afternoon. Au revoir! And, Monsieur Lobenberg, please visit us often in Placer County.

La Provence Classes with David Lobenberg

• July 10: Koi in Watercolor
• August, September, October
Workshop dates TBA

$125, includes gourmet lunch. Discounted fees available.
For registration and information, contact David Lobenberg at (916) 737-2311 or sushi3@mac.com.
Novelists are a hard breed to pin down — they come in all shapes and sizes, ages, locales, and ethnicities. Their personalities run the gamut from cranky curmudgeon to rarified snob, earthy laborer to social butterfly. Add to that, there is precious little to see while or where the author works. No open studios here. No setting up of scribing materials in a meadow where admiring people can stop to stare as one word after another shapes the portrait of an old barn.

No, novelists are different from other artists in that they work entirely by themselves, communing with characters no one else can see, and delving deep into their own souls to “capture reality in a web of words,” as Thomas Wolfe put it.

“The act of writing allows — or maybe forces — you to be alone with yourself,” says Joanne Meschery, who has been a wife, mother, college professor, and citizen of Truckee, as well as a notable novelist. “For me, the real trick is to find the balance between all my callings.”

Meschery was raised in a large family and had a fairly typical childhood. No neurotic, shrinking violet here. In college she studied child psychology, seeing her writing skills as a useful talent to have, but not as an end in itself.

She and Tom Meschery met at Squaw Valley, where she had a summer job after graduating from college. They married young and had three lively children within six years. Tom was a professional athlete playing forward for the Golden State Warriors and Seattle Sonics basketball teams over the next 10 years.

“The life of a pro is divided into the ‘on season’ when he traveled a lot, and the ‘off season’ when he came back home,” she explains.

Both she and Tom love the mountains, so they spent the off seasons in a rented house on Donner Lake.

When his athletic career ended, Tom decided to go to the University of Iowa Writer’s Workshop to study poetry. Not really what one would expect from a sports figure but very typical of Tom’s Russian family background, which was steeped in literature.

While they were at Iowa, which has one of the country’s foremost programs for writers, Joanne attended a writing workshop and discovered for the first time that she had a good solid talent, and a chance to become a first-rate serious author.

A Wallace Stegner Fellowship at Stanford followed, where she wrote her first novel, In a High Place. Set in a town very much like Truckee, the book is quirky, funny, touched with tragedy, and full of memorable characters.

Finding characters is something that Joanne thoroughly enjoys. “They are always there, always inside you,” she explains. “You’re put-
Joanne Meschery, the Truckee area’s own eminent novelist, writes what she knows ting yourself in the shoes of the other.” Clearly her knowledge of psychology, although kept in the background, gives her characters a solid dynamic from which to act.

An inveterate people-watcher, Meschery says her stories often come from the street. “It’s so important to stay in touch with what is real, even as it’s changing,” she points out.

At the same time, she admits to really enjoying the research she did for her second novel, *A Gentleman’s Guide to the Frontier*, which was nominated for a Pen/Faulkner Award.

“Research gives you a point of reality from which to launch your story.” As many an author knows, research can become an all too seductive time-taker. “Oakley Hall calls it research rapture,” Meschery says with a laugh. Hall is the founder of the Squaw Valley Community of Writers, and over the years Meschery has been a participant, and a teacher at Squaw Valley, and is now a member of the community’s board.

*Home and Away* is a contemporary novel that closely parallels the 100 days of the first Gulf War. The novel was recently reprinted by the University of California Press as part of its California Writers Series. *Home and Away*, along with her first two books, have earned Meschery a fine reputation as a writer. But her credits don’t stop there. She was a professor in the MFA Creative Writing program at University of Arkansas for eight years, and is now in her fourth year teaching a similar program at San Diego State University.

The biggest challenge she sees is in balancing the real world and the written world.

“I’m happiest when I’m writing,” she concludes. And she goes on to note that she wrote a small book called *Truckee, an Illustrated History* still in print. “I really love that little book because I got to know my neighbors through it, to do the research, to capture the spirit of the people. It was just plain fun, and it reminds me of all those things whenever I see it.”

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**From Home and Away by Joanne Meschery**

*From the protagonist’s point of view, following the death & memorial service of her father.*

And I believed all along that the pain of these days was a test to be passed, like Tara’s SAT. It seemed if I made the required arrangements, paid attention to details and did everything right — if I saw to the death certificate and answered all the questions correctly, and if Dr. Vernon signed it, and if I climbed the stairs to the second floor of the Illardi Brothers Funeral Home and a showroom of coffins and chose the exact one in deep mahogany and opened his closet and picked out his suit and tie and wound his old wristwatch and telephoned those who should know and wept but stayed strong throughout and opened my home and spoke to each one who stepped inside to pay respects and hugged them all and fastened the rose in his lapel and sang the hymn, said the words, sat at graveside on green Astro Turf hiding withered grass and took a handful of earth, dry as sand, and scattered it over and allowed the dog Bark to sleep on my bed for seven days and nights — if I did all this without fail and proved it, then I believed everything would be over and done. And my father, who I have loved long since, could come back — lost only a little while. We would go home, bolt the door behind us, and say: Well, we got through that — we passed with flying colors. We’d breathe a sigh of relief and take up our lives again. Somehow, I believed every hard hour was leading us to reunion.

But this afternoon, standing out here at the border station — back on the job — I realize my error. I see how, in the frantic blur of arrangements, it’s possible to mistake all the details for death.
Imagining Art

Special needs students benefit from Colfax High School art classes

Cathie Hunter’s classroom is filled with attentive students working on various art projects. The projects are diverse in size, shape, color, and texture. Hunter teaches a mixed media program at Colfax High School that deals with painting, drawing, ceramics, papermaking, and hemp jewelry. Her classes include a large number of special needs students.

“In one class I have two male autistic students and in another a child who has to have an adult escort her everywhere she goes,” Hunter says. “She also has a number of physical problems.” But, she adds, “I just emptied the kiln, and three of the nicest pieces are hers. She works very hard, and the two young men do very well also. One of my autistic boys loves to paint, and he does a beautiful job. When it comes to clay, he doesn’t like getting dirty, so he worked on some of the projects, but when he felt he had completed enough, he wanted to go back to painting.”

Basically, Hunter judges not the quality of the artwork but the quality of how the special needs students work. “I evaluate their effort,” she says. “If they come into class to waste time, then they’re not going to pass.” She bases the curriculum on state standards.

Many times special needs students blend right in and have no issues in art classes that distinguish them from the other students, says Steve Coverston, who teaches drawing and painting at Colfax High School.

“All the students are individuals who come here to get an education,” he says. “Students are not dealing with a written document or a mathematical situation or historical issue to memorize. They’re using their imaginations and looking at an object to redefine the way it looks.”

Coverston offers examples of ways all students can be helped: “In general, some things we can offer all the students in art classes are visual observation skills. We try different ways to access their imaginations so when they look at something they don’t see it in just one way.”

He notes that special needs students often have trouble with craftsmanship on drawings. “That’s an area we can help them improve. Because you can point out suggestions about
craftsmanship, and they can see it.” He says that gradually their work gets more and more refined.

Another way special needs students can be helped deals with lettering on their projects. “Many times we’ll have students who have extreme problems lettering their projects. We can help them improve on that skill,” Coverston says. “This works for all the kids, not just special needs students. But these are some of the things special needs students distinctly benefit from, that they might not get someplace else on campus.”

He mentions that some special education students have been top students, and others have been at the other end of the spectrum. “The one commonality is that they all improve,” he says. “They tend to have ups and downs, but gradually the skill is always moving up.”

Ron Pucci heads the special education department at Colfax High School and teaches reading and writing to special needs students. He says there are 900 kids at the high school, 100 of them designated as special needs students. He emphasizes that just because they have the label Special Education doesn’t mean they’re any different from any other student.

“There’s a wide range of special needs,” Pucci says. “Some students may be processing just a little slower or perhaps have specific learning disabilities. The preponderance of kids we have are labeled ‘Learning Disabled’ or LD. We have one self-contained class of 12 children with higher needs, but most of the students are integrated into regular class and have just one period a day with a special-needs teacher.”

When special needs students register for school, he says, “They register just like anybody else; if they have an interest in art, they register for art classes. Many do register for art classes because they’re less academic than say, math classes, and it’s something they can have success in.” He adds that art is a creative class that students can have fun with.

Pucci says his daughter was identified as a resource special education student. “She excelled in art, but not in English. Art was her favorite class. And now she’s a cosmetologist, and that’s how she’s using that artistic ability to earn a living.”

Watching the arts work in Placer County schools

by Arlene Evans

CHS standard student Allycene Keatley (left) shows a ceramic she made in Cathie Hunter’s art class. Special needs students work alongside standard students in the class, creating pieces of art according to their abilities and constantly improving their skills.

Center: Horse design by Jennifer Cleaner

Right: Frame by Emily Matekel.
Placer Community Theater provides entertainment, scholarships

Placer Community Theater’s first $500 scholarship was recently presented to Placer High School senior Stefani Coggins, who plans to major in theater at U.C. Davis.

What acts, sings, dances, and is always full of character? Placer Community Theater, of course, Auburn’s newest community group. Officially christened in 2002, PTC got started in 1999. Early that year, longtime Placer High School directing duo Glenda Gonzales and Pamela Harrold, underwritten by Placer School for Adults, held auditions for a community production of the musical *Annie Get Your Gun*. From this first production, a solid core of dedicated performers developed. Together they subsequently presented *Damn Yankees*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Anything Goes*, and a patriotic musical review called *Music, Music, Music*.

In 2002, Placer School for Adults budget cuts prompted the group to strike out on its own. The result was a simple charter, the election of a temporary board of directors, and the birth of Placer Community Theater. Since then, PTC players have produced two full-length plays, a musical variety show, and an evening of one-acts, all performed at the group’s new home, the stage at Auburn’s Theatre Pamelot. During the day, the space belongs to Pamelot: A school of Dance, owned by Pamela and Jim Harrold. But for evening performances, the studio is magically transformed into a 60-seat theater complete with raised stage, full curtains, and lighting.

With proceeds from its shows, PCT, now a non-profit organization, offers academic scholarships to Placer High School performing arts students. The group’s first $500 scholarship was recently awarded to PHS senior Stefani Coggins. Stefani has been active in dramatic presentations at Placer and community productions with Auburn’s youth Summer Academy. She plans to major in theater at U.C. Davis.

*Placer Community Theater will present a light musical production called *Sing On!* Sept. 9, 10, 16, 17. Adult actors, singers, and dancers interested in auditioning or learning more about future PCT productions may contact the group at (916) 435-0993, (530) 888-6206 or office@placercommunitytheater.org. For more, visit www.placercommunitytheater.org.*

—Amy Linden

New Roseville High theatre named after dance teacher

The Patti Baker Performing Arts Theatre is the official name of Roseville High School’s latest addition. A Gala Celebration in June marked the 505-seat theatre’s opening night.

Baker started the county’s first high school dance program at RHS in 1987. Since then the program has grown to eight classes a day. In 2002, a second teacher, Dawn Kenninston (RHS class of ‘94), was added to accommodate student demand. Currently, 340 students at RHS are enrolled in dance, including 60 boys.

For the past 15 years, the advanced dance
classes, known as “Dancin’ Feat,” have toured elementary schools performing for students and teaching workshops. This year three advanced dance classes performed at 15 local schools.

In the past, RHS’s two major yearly dance performances — Holiday Fete in December and Dancin’ Feat’s event in spring — have been performed at off-campus venues. Now Baker has seen her dream of a theatre on campus come true, thanks to much work and support from all parties involved. The Roseville Joint Union High School District Board recently voted unanimously to name the theatre after her.

For more visit: http://arts.sacbee.com/DancinFeat

“Stunning” national basketry show & tapestry art shown at North Tahoe Arts

Tradition & Innovation III, a national basketry exhibit of 65 original pieces, filled North Tahoe Arts two galleries during the month of June. Showing with the basketry were hand-woven rugs and tapestries by well-known local artists, Lawrence and Judith Romiti.

North Tahoe Arts partnered with the National Basketry Organization, Inc. to present the juried exhibit that represented a diverse assortment of traditional and contemporary basketry works by artists from all parts of the U.S. and Canada. The National Basketry Organization, based in Georgia, is a membership organization formed in 2001.

“The artistry of the basket work blends the ancient craft with modern art,” said North Tahoe Arts director Sandy Pyer. “It was a stunning show, and visitors commented that seeing it was an extraordinary experience.”

North Tahoe Arts is open Gallery Wednesday – Monday, 11 a.m. 5 p.m., closed Tuesday. 380 North Lake Blvd. (next to the fire station) in Tahoe City. For more, call (530) 581-2787 or visit www.northtahoearts.com To learn more about the tapestry art of Lawrence and Judith Romiti, visit www.romitiart.com/ 

Scholars chosen for state summer school for the arts

California State Summer School for the Arts is a rigorous, month-long pre-professional arts camp for California high school students aspiring to careers in the arts and entertainment industries. Participants are chosen on the basis of their talent and creativity and teacher recommendations. The admission process to the school is extremely competitive.

This year’s scholars were honored at a reception held June 9 at the county’s Board of Supervisors Chambers.

Placer County 2005 California Arts Scholars

Caitlin Chang, Granite Bay High, Creative Writing
Ashley Manning, Colfax High, Theatre Arts
Kayleigh McCollum, Colfax High, Visual Arts & Creative Writing
Andrea Onstot, Colfax High, Creative Writing
Robert Reynolds, Colfax High, Music
Instrumental Fourth Congressional District High School Art Competition Finalist: Deanna Owen, Del Oro High, Visual Arts.

The reception was presented by the Arts Council of Placer County in cooperation with the California State Summer School for the Arts, Placer County, the California Arts Council, and the fourth Congressional District.
Ben Dominitz, former owner of Prima Publishing, is a virtuoso violinist who performed at the Folsom Lake Symphony Orchestra's inaugural concert. He is music director of Chamber Music Alive! and music director and conductor of the Placer Sierra Symphony Orchestra. A charming and optimistic fellow who is well-versed in history, politics, business, and science, he is, above all, a consummate musician and music historian. Recently, Ben sat down with me to answer a few musical inquiries.

R. Tell me about your violins.
B. I own three violins and a viola. The one I use most is a Carlo Giuseppe Testore made circa 1700.

R. Obviously, you were a “wunderkind”; tell me about your early education.
B. In fact, I wasn’t a wunderkind, but rather developed more from the age of 18 on. Still, I got wonderful training as a teenager with Dorothy DeLay and with Leonard Slatkin. It took me a while to be able to develop the necessary discipline to learn to play and conduct. I still feel like I am learning and changing even now.

R. Who were the great violinists of the last century?
B. The great violinists of the last century must include those who brought the 19th century mind-set — Elman, Kreisler, Arnold Rose, Thibaud, Maud Powell — and those who brought a new sound and aesthetic — Heifetz, Oistrakh, Franciscatti, Grumiaux, etc. Later violinists of great note include Perlman, Mutter, Ferras, Rabin, Kremer, etc. Of course, there are many others. Among the youngest generation, such violinists as Hilary Hahn and Christian Tetzlaff come to mind.

R. What about Bronislav Huberman, Joseph Szigeti or Yehudi Menuhin?
B. Huberman was an instinctive violinist with an imperfect technique. But he left some interesting recordings of the Beethoven and Tchaikovsky concertos that some find extraordinary. Joseph Szigeti also didn’t have the greatest technique. What he had was a wonderful sound, supreme intelligence, and a solid integrity. I admire him very much. Menuhin had something very touching about his playing. His violinistic high point was at the earlier part of his career.

R. How do you think Maud Powell as a woman was able to make the impact she did?
B. Actually, there were several female violinists that did very well. Powell was a wonderful player in the old German school of playing. Her intonation and phrasing are impeccable. Her recordings are not so popular today, probably because of her spare use of the vibrato and her large use of old-fashioned sliding. But she was the first great American violinist.

R. Who were the great composers for violin and violin concerti?
B. Great violinists who composed include Corelli, Geminani, Vivaldi, Viotti, Spohr, Paganini, Wieniawski, Ysaye, Sarasate, and Kreisler. Most great composers wrote fine music for the violin as well. The great violin concerti might include Mozart 3, 4, 5, the Bach Concerti, Beethoven, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Bruch 1, Tchaikovsky, Berg, Sibelius, Bartok 2, Dvorak, Schostokovitch 1, Prokofiev 1, Kurt Weill, Paganini 1, Schumann etc.

R. What is the short list of concerti in your repertoire dear to your heart?
B. Mozart 4 and 5, Beethoven, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Bartok 2, Berg, Prokofiev 1.

R. I know you have performed the Bruch and Tchaikovsky concerti; tell me your feelings about these.
B. The heart of the Bruch is the second movement, which is truly great. The last movement is fun and lovely, but the second movement is very affecting. The Tchaikovsky always feels to me that there is mad exuberance in it that is, however, being restrained by conventionality. Perhaps a metaphor for his life. I like to bring up the crazy aspects of the piece, but one has to be careful not to bend the tempi too much. It’s very challenging to play — one has to be in top form. But it’s lots of fun.

R. Who intrigues you? Whom have you learned from?
B. I have been highly influenced by Heifetz and Perlman among others. Besides violinists, I listen to string quartets and other chamber ensembles. I really like the Artemis Quartet, as well as the Miro among the younger generation. I really appreciate the brilliant intelligence and integrity of a violinist by the name of Christian Tetzloff. He is probably more cerebral than I am, but I have learned much from listening to him.

R. Yes, I know you are particularly fond of his Bartok 2nd concerto. Shifting to chamber music, CMA has made a real impact in this area. You have brought in other musicians who are “world class,” as you are. What pieces would you like to perform over the next few years? Any theme?
B. There are so many, including more Mozart, Haydn, and the other great composers from Central Europe. I also love the romantics and want to do more Slavic composers. We just played some fairly adventuresome Bartok and got a good response for that. From time to time I might want to help our listeners feel comfortable with music that uses a more adventuresome harmonic language.

R. Your Schumann Quartet Op. 47 was absolutely stunning this last season. Why?
B. Thank you. First, it’s a great work. Secondly I was in the company of extraordinary musicians who really knew the idiom.

R. Are there any modern pieces you would like to perform? Premier?
B. Absolutely. I am always looking for new works that attempt to communicate to the audience in a profound way. Although it’s not really modern, I am delighted that we performed Bartok Contrasts at our January CMA concerts.

R. Turning to conducting, what do you feel you can do with the Sierra Placer Symphony? Will you recruit other players in addition to students?
B. I am thinking about this as well. We will probably expand our musician pool somewhat with time and occasionally employ professional players to help fill in our sound.

R. What pieces do you wish to play— with this group?
B. Too many to mention. Mahler, some Bruckner, Debussy La Mer, Bartok Concerto for Orchestra and others, Stravinsky, Strauss, Zemlinsky, Schubert C Major, all Brahms, Beethoven, Dvorak 7, 8, 9 and others, Mozart 25 and up, plus concerti, as well as much more opera. Also Shostakovich, Kurtag, Ligeti, Berg, etc. etc. My programming depends on who the audience is and what kind of music appeals to them. But my interests are broad.

R. You seem to have a real desire to reach and teach your audience, presenting complex music in an understandable way. You see this as part of your impact?
B. I want to help people enjoy music without putting too many limitations on what they can enjoy. If I can expand their palate, fine. But, I am not interested in foisting it on them. CMA will continue to be primarily a bastion of classic chamber music, not an avant-garde forum.

R. Do you want to comment on “Schindler’s List”? What does having performed this at the Mondavi last May mean to you?
B. The “Schindler’s List” music is very effec-
Perspectives Interviews Ben Dominitz cont.

The concert meant a lot to me because I dedicated it in my heart to my mother whose life was so affected by World War II.

R. What other places are you performing or conducting this season or next?
B. I will be doing the Beethoven concerto twice with the TICO orchestra in San Diego next October for a special 40th anniversary concert of the orchestra. It’s a great honor. Their previous violin soloist was Martin Chalifour, the concertmaster of the LA Philharmonic. Another honor was being asked by the California Affiliate of the National Music Teachers Association to be featured recitalist for their 2005 convention, on February 11.

They choose one performer each year. In past years they have included people like Paul Badura-Skoda. There are some other plans in the works.

R. We can’t wait to hear. Thank you very much.

CMA!’s final two concerts of the 2005 season, attended by this reviewer, were outstanding and displayed wonderful guest artists. In January, the group played works by Mozart, Bartok, and Brahms. Bartok’s Contrasts was quite lively, and the Brahms Trio was particularly striking. In the all-Beethoven April concert, the Archduke Trio was spectacular. Standing ovations abounded.

**Classical guitarist shines**

In March, Auburn Community Concert Association presented another spectacular concert. Classical guitarist Christopher McGuire, student of Segovia, Romero, Tomas, and Torroba, played classical compositions by Carcassi, Villa-Lobos, Sor, Tedesco, Ponce, his mentor Federic Moreno-Torroba, and others. But most importantly, he performed the most exquisite interpretation I have ever heard of the lovely “Recuerdos de la Alhambra” by Francisco Tarrega. It would bring tears to the eyes of classical guitar music lovers anywhere.

To entertain us further, Mr. McGuire played more modern pieces — an “Oh! Susanna” such as you have never before heard, two pieces he wrote himself, and “Vincent” by McLean and arranged for guitar by John Knowles. This intriguing and beautifully played piece has been popularized by singer Josh Groban.

A heart-felt standing ovation was touchingly received by McGuire, who seemed a bit surprised by it, but most certainly should not have been.

**Theresa Keene plays passionately at Music in the Mountains Spring Fest**

The fitting title of the April concert in Grass Valley was “Powerhouse Piano.” Theresa Keene played dramatic and impassioned interpretations of “Appassionata” Sonata (Beethoven), Hungarian Dances no. 4 & 5 (Brahms), “Wade in the Water” (Bonds), and Sonata Op. 26, Fugue (Barber). Less intense were beautiful presentations of “Claire de lune” (Debussy), Nocturne in D flat major, Op. 17, no. 2 (Chopin), and the 18th variation from Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini (Rachmoninoff). Keene lives in Sacramento and is principal keyboardist of the Sacramento Philharmonic.

—R. Greenwood
Galleries

Roseville


August 18 – September 10: Art of Momentum — Amy Garcia. The artists’ vibrant, expressive paintings reflect her passion for motion, emotion, color, and texture. Reception 3rd Saturday, Aug. 20, 6 – 9 p.m. Artful Blend Gallery, 22 S. Grant St. (916) 773-2242. www.artfuli.com

Ongoing: 3rd Saturday Art Tour. Free art viewing and Open House every third Saturday of the month, 6:30 – 9 p.m., in participating galleries: Roseville Arts! @ NEC Electronics America, 7501 Foothills Blvd., (916) 782-5222; Owl Club, 109 Church St., Old Roseville, (916) 782-5222; 2237 Gallery, 2237 Douglas Blvd., (916) 786-8178; Frostad Atelier, 8609 Auburn Folsom Rd., Granite Bay, (916) 791-5090; Artful i Gallery, Eleta and Washington, (916) 773-2242; Noel Flynn Gallery and Frame Factory, 1725 Santa Clara Dr., (916) 786-0702; Cascades Cuisine, 1420 E. Roseville Parkway, (916) 788-9707; Artists of Timber Creek at Sun City, Timber Lodge, (916) 204-5020; CR Gallery, 625 Vernon St., (916) 769-6879; The Comfort Zone, 901 Sunrise Ave., Ste. A-18, (916) 773-2444. Maps available at all galleries.

Lincoln

Through July 30: Mixed Show — paintings, ceramics, sculptures, and wood. Participating artists are Rhonda Campbell, Adair Payne, Carol Quinn, Deirdre Trudeau, Shiono Hall, Lauren Lane, Ray Estes, and Yvon Rocker. Reception June 10, 6 – 8 p.m. Lincoln Arts Gallery, 580 Sixth St. (916) 645-9713.


Auburn


July – August: Five Artists: Carol and Francisco Castro, Susan Cooley Gilliom, Diana Clark and Steve Hubbard. A Newcastle artist, Hubbard documents, in words and photographs, what pioneers and miners in the American West left behind when the gold ran out. He recently completed a photographic study of historic hydraulic powerhouses in the Sierra Nevada. Showing at Sunset Oaks Framing and Gallery at Fiddler Green Plaza, 1273 Grass Valley Hwy. For details, (530) 885-4858. For Hubbard’s work, www.goldcountryimages.com

July 1 – August 26: B.K. England & Judy Vargas. Paintings and sculptures of horses in honor of the 100 Mile Western States Endurance Ride, the “Tevis.” England’s paintings, in pastel and other media, depict Arabsians and many other breeds from ponies to draft horses. Vargas, well-known for her bronze sculpture and equine jewelry, will show new work of a mare and foal. Reception during Auburn Art Walk August 11, 6 – 9 p.m. Auburn City Hall Gallery. 1425 Lincoln Way. For details, (916) 663-1211.

Through August 3: Found Metal works by Jennifer Johnson & Linda Raynsford. The sisters of “found steel” fame will be exhibiting both wall and 3-D metal work including their Bra Series. The Arts Building, 808 Lincoln Way. (530) 885-2787.

July – August: Latitudes Galleries. Well-known local and regional artists showing work in rotating exhibits in an historic Auburn Victorian, Latitudes Restaurant, 130 Maple St. For details, call art curator Rosie Stilwell, (530) 885-1121.

July – August: Art Can Heal. Art in a variety of media chosen for its healing qualities. Work by area artists and students from local schools. Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital Hallway Galleries, 11815 Education Dr. (530) 389-8504.

“Modern Dance,” oil by Nina Balodis, showing works in August at Placer Arts League’s Gallery One, in Auburn.

Support for the Arts

Resources, grants, publications, funded projects, partnerships
August 1 – 31: Still Hot After Ten Cool Years, an all-member show celebrating Auburn Old Town Gallery’s 10-year anniversary in Old Town Auburn. The gallery has recently nearly doubled in size, and now shows the work of 65 member artists. Artists’ reception during Auburn Art Walk Aug. 11, 6 – 9 p.m. Auburn Old Town Gallery, 218 Washington St. (530) 887-9150.

August: Open Transportation Art Show including works by Nina Balodis. All media including photography depicting forms of transportation. Receiving July 30 and 31, noon – 4 p.m. Reception during Auburn Art Walk, Aug. 11, 6 – 9 p.m. Special Open House and Transportation Show Sat., Aug. 13, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. with antique cars, carriages, live music, and refreshments. Public welcome, free admission. Placer Arts League at Gallery One, 291 Auburn-Folsom Rd. (916) 663-1211.


Ongoing: Works by Joan Charson & Joyce Williams. In the new Backroom Gallery in the Chocolate Shoppe and Gift Emporium. Williams is at work most days in her newly opened studio on the premises. At 823 Lincoln Way. For details, (530) 885-4822.

North Tahoe/Truckee

July 7 – 31: Works of Tahoe ARTour 2005. The Main and Corison Galleries at North Tahoe Arts will be filled with the work of artists participating in this year’s ARTour, July 7 – 10 in which three dozen of the area’s finest working artists will open their studios. Opening reception Thursday, July 7, at North Tahoe Arts, 380 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City. (530) 581-2787.


August 5 – 29: I Am My Art — Retrospective by Suzanne Riley. Printmaking works from a 20-year artistic career at Tahoe. Opening Reception, August 5, 5 – 7 p.m. Main and Corison Galleries. Riley will present a program called “Experimental Printmaking” on Aug. 18, 11:30 a.m. Exhibit and program at North Tahoe Arts, 380 North Lake Tahoe Blvd., Tahoe City. (530) 546-3491.

Ongoing: Galleria Chipotle: A Multicultural Art Center. Offers residents and visitors a chance to explore and celebrate cultural similarities and differences through their mutual interest in the arts. 8111 North Lake Blvd., Kings Beach. (530) 546-3135.

Ongoing: Mountainside Gallery & Gifts. Original art, prints, watercolors, jewelry, art supplies, framing and art classes. 8636 North Lake Blvd., Kings Beach. (530) 546-3135.


Ongoing: Keoki Flagg Gallery of Fine Arts. Features limited edition fine art photography from internationally acclaimed photographer Keoki Flagg, as well as original glass and hand-painted ceramics from other artists exclusive to the gallery. Galleries in the Village at Squaw Valley and at 419-3 North Lake Blvd., Tahoe City. (530) 583-1419.

Ongoing: Vista Gallery. Contemporary art in a variety of media — printmaking, mixed media, photography, ceramics, painting, and sculpture. Also, the area’s largest collection of nostalgic and vintage photographs. 7081 North Lake Blvd., Tahoe Vista. (530) 546-7794. www.vistagallery.com.

Ongoing: Pogan Gallery. Original paintings of Lake Tahoe and the Sierra by the nation’s top landscape painters. 6921 North Lake Blvd., Tahoe Vista. (530) 546-3135.


Ongoing: Lake of the Sky Gallery. Landscape and fine art photography by Richard Francis Topper; designer jewelry by Michou. 521 North Lake Blvd., Tahoe City. (530) 583-2722.

Outside Placer County

Presented by the Folsom History Museum, 823 Sutter St., Folsom. 
(916) 985-2707.


July 1 – August 7: **Travels Near & Far — Paintings by Rhonda Egan.** Recent paintings of France, Ireland and England. Meet the artist and other gallery members at the Second Saturday Reception July 9, 6 – 9 p.m. At the Chroma Gallery, Northern California’s foremost plein-air gallery featuring more than 20 acclaimed impressionist artists. 10030 Fair Oaks Blvd. Fair Oaks. (916) 966-6020.


August 3 – September 4: **Creation: Spirit of Discovery.** Works by Del Swanson, Donna Naes, Maha Salem & Goffredo Rivieccio. Sculptures, paintings, and mixed media works. Reception Aug. 20, 6 – 9 p.m. At the New Artworks Gallery, Fair Oaks Village, (916) 962-7362.

August 13 – September 4: **Paintings by Sandra Delong,** a contemporary California impressionist who explores the full spectrum of color in the style of Monet. Reception Second Saturday, Aug. 13, 6 – 9 p.m. At the Chroma Gallery, Northern California’s foremost plein-air gallery featuring more than 20 acclaimed impressionist artists. 10030 Fair Oaks Blvd. Fair Oaks. (916) 966-6020.

August 15 – September 15: **Nina Balodis at Cotati Creek Café.** Mixed works by a versatile Newcastle artist, a member of Placer Arts League. A veteran of many group and solo shows, she exhibited her work in June at the Auburn City Hall Gallery. Cotati show at 8270 Old Redwood Way, Cotati, CA. For details, (707) 665-0643.

September 15 – 18: **Animal Paintings by Leslie Anne Webb.** Showing at the Draft Horse Classic, Grass Valley. For details, visit www.lawebb.com

Ongoing: **Art Attack Gallery.** Award-winning gallery features many artists and hosts live meet-the-artists events throughout the year. 808 Tahoe Blvd. #13, Incline Village, Nevada. (775) 831-7400.

Ongoing: **Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento.**

**July 9 – September 11:** **HairStories.** The Crocker joins 40 Acres Art Gallery in probing the cultural significance of African American hair styles through this nationally traveling exhibition.

**July 9 – September 11:** **Fooling the Eye, Fooling the Mind: Burnished Drawings by Don Reich.** Examines the phases of the paintings of this puzzling, amusing, and sometimes shocking Sacramento modern artist.

**July 9 – September 11:** **Accommodations of Desire: Surrealistic Works on Paper Collected by Julien Levy.** This compelling exhibition brings together 110 works of provocative surrealism collected by a former New York art dealer.

Ongoing: **European Painting from the Collection, European Galleries.** Introduces museum visitors to the subjects and styles represented by our European collection; includes a small selection of decorative arts rarely seen on display.
Continuing: Early California Painting Collection. Demonstrates the artistic vitality of Northern California through the 1870s.

The Crocker's collection includes works from Europe, North America, and Asia, dating from the 15th century to the present. The museum also offers special exhibitions, lectures, educational programs, workshops, concerts, and events. For a complete list of activities for all ages call (916) 264-5157 or visit www.crockerartmuseum.org. 216 O St., Sacramento.

Music & Dance

Roseville

July 4, July 24, August 28, September 25: Music in the Park presented by Performing Arts of Roseville.
- July 4: Capitol Pops Concert Band following the Parade
- July 24: Tainted Love – Best of the '80s
- August 28: Jay Rolerz Band – Rockin’ Hits
- September 25: Mumbo Gumbo – World Beat

Rocklin

July 8, 9, 10 & 15, 16, 17: Broadway at Sierra, a musical review by the Sierra College Music and Drama departments showcasing popular Broadway shows old and new. A fundraiser for the Sierra College Foundation, the show is suitable for the entire family. At Sierra College, Dietrich Theatre, 5000 Rocklin Rd. For times and tickets, (916) 789-2920.

Lincoln


July 10: Mor Taido Japanese Drummers, an ancient art form of acrobatics and drumming led by master/director Bruce Morishita, who plays the bamboo flute. A blend of spiritual discipline, music, martial arts, and dance. Free concert sponsored by Lincoln Arts. 7 – 9 p.m. at Beermann Plaza, 5th and F Streets downtown. For details, call (916) 645-9713.


Auburn


September 21: Quartetto Gelato, a unique blend of sparkling technique, musical finesse, and humor by the four-person ensemble. Presented at 7:30 p.m. by Auburn Community Concert Assn. at Placer High Auditorium. For 2005 – 2006 season tickets, call (916) 652-5594.

July 10, 17, 24 & 31: Library Garden Summer Series:
- July 10: Objects in the Mirror (jazz fusion)
- July 17: Sierra Nevada Winds (pops)
- July 24: Houston Jones (folk rock)
- July 31: The Rhythm Doctors (blues).

Four Sunday outdoor concerts at the Auburn Library Garden Amphitheatre, 7 – 8:30 p.m. Bring blankets and picnic baskets. (530) 880-4900

Truckee/North Tahoe

June 26 – September 11: Concerts at Commons. Free concerts at Commons Beach, Tahoe City, every Sunday, 4 – 7 p.m. (excluding July 3). For details, (530) 583-3796.

“Blanket Fashion,” photograph by Terry Brady, showing August 1-31 in an all-member show at Auburn Old Town Gallery.

Deep Purple Amethyst Wrapped in Rose Gold

Studio & Gallery

107 Sacramento St., Old Town Auburn • (530) 823-1965

Celestial Mist

Studio & Gallery

107 Sacramento St., Old Town Auburn • (530) 823-1965
An Evening with Robert Conrad
In conversation with TV anchorwoman Jennifer Smith
Saturday, August 27, 8 p.m.
Placer High School Auditorium, High & Agard Streets, Auburn
Tickets $25 each
Conversation, fun, and philosophy with an actor, producer, director, star of “Hawaiian Eye,” “Wild Wild West,” and “Black Sheep Squadron.”

With River City Regiment Drumline & drummer Jason Mackenroth.

Reception for sponsors and dignitaries
6 p.m., Old State Theatre
985 Lincoln Way, Downtown Auburn
A benefit performance for the restoration and reconstruction of the historic Old State Theater in Auburn into a modern performing arts center; presented by Auburn Placer Performing Arts Committee (APPAC).
Sponsorships available at $250, $500, and $1,000.
For details, call the Auburn Symphony Office (530) 823-6683.

July 6 – August 13: Lake Tahoe Music Festival.
- July 6: Gala Event featuring Anna Maria Alberghetti.
- July 21: 7 p.m., Great Basin Brass Quintet at High Camp, Squaw Valley.
- July 23: 7 p.m., Crazy For You — A Night with the Gershwins at Tahoe Donner with jazz piano virtuoso Mareen Mette and Stephen Janzen and the Festival Orchestra.
- July 28: 6 p.m. Kids’ Night Out at Squaw Valley with the Sacramento Banjo Band.
- July 30: 7 p.m., Beethoven Triple Header at Squaw Valley with the Festival Orchestra.
- August 4: 7 p.m., Bluegrass Bash at Squaw Valley.
- August 6: 7 p.m. Summer Strings at Squaw Valley with the Festival Orchestra and violinist Cynthia Mei.
- August 11: 7 p.m., The 5th Dimension at Squaw Valley.
- August 1: 7 p.m., Finale featuring Leonard Nimoy narrating Keillor’s “The Young Lutheran’s Guide to the Orchestra”; Festival Orchestra with pianist Jacek Mysinski, west End Beach at Donner Lake. For more visit www.tahoemusic.org.


July 9: High Camp Big Blues Party. An afternoon with the blues at High Camp, Squaw Valley. Admission is free with cable car ticket. For details, (530) 583-6985.

July 10: Jazz Drummer Caleb Dolister performs July 7 (Moody’s in Truckee, 8 p.m.), July 8 & 9 (The Sapphire Lounge in Reno), July 13, 21 & 30 (Moody’s in Truckee), August 18, 19, 20 (The Sapphire Lounge in Reno.) Dolister performs with the Caleb Dolister Trio and other groups. For details, (775) 745-1678.

July: July 3: Music in the Mountains Summer Fest of Classics. For tickets and information, call (530) 265-6124 or 800-218-2188 or visit www.musicinthemountains.org.

Museums
Roseville
Roseville Telephone Co. Museum, 106 Vernon Street
With exhibits detailing the history of telephone communications and of the Roseville Telephone Company, the museum offers a portrayal of an often-overlooked aspect of the past. Displays include old-style switchboards and telephones; models range to present day. (916) 786-1621.

Maidu Interpretive Center-Indian Museum and Nature Learning Center
Offers Tuesday – Friday 10 a.m. tours of ancient Nisenan (southern Maidu) village site & Saturday 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. tours, featuring over 300 bedrock mortars, petroglyphs and evidence of thousands of years of occupation by the Maidu. Interpretive Center offers exhibits, nature trail, family weekend programs, campfires, “old ways” classes, camps, and more. Center is open Tuesday – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. 1960 Johnson Ranch Drive, Roseville. (916) 772-4242.

Dr. Antonia Neubauer (left) shown with two Tibetan natives, will speak about her travels in Tibet on July 13, 7 p.m., at the Resort at Squaw Creek, Squaw Valley.
Photograph by Steve Hubbard, showing works with four other artists at Auburn’s Sunset Oaks Framing & Gallery.

Carnegie Museum
The Roseville Historical Society, formed in 1982, undertook restoration of the old Carnegie library, at 557 Lincoln St. Now, a central exhibit area houses changing shows. The Theodore Judah Wing features a scale model of the local Southern Pacific Railroad yards and the Pacific Fruit Express icing facilities. The Alexander Bell McRae wing features continuously changing Roseville history exhibits. The museum contains a small but quite complete Roseville reference and research library, open by appointment. Museum hours are Monday – Friday, noon – 4 p.m. or by appointment. (916) 773-3003.

Rocklin
Rocklin History Museum, 3895 Rocklin Rd.
Opened in June 2002, the museum houses a history timeline. Whitney Family items, Indian artifacts, quarry tools and railroad items, Ruben Ruhkala paintings, and a Rocklin Jubilee display, as well as many historic photos. Also on display are a quarry photo supergraphic, a quarry layout with a description of quarry operation, geology exhibits, and Rocklin’s Centennial quilt. The architectural style of the small Victorian home that houses the museum is typical of many early 1900’s Rocklin homes. Its original doors, cabinetry, woodwork and exterior trim are good examples of the period. (916) 624-2355.

Penryn
Griffith Quarry Museum, Taylor and Rock Spring roads
Griffith Quarry’s history dates back to its founding in 1864. The quarry was major supplier of granite for many of California’s buildings, including the State Capitol in Sacramento. The museum houses exhibits reflecting the history of the granite industry in the region. Three miles of nature trails offer views of old quarry sites. (916) 603-1837. Tours (530) 889-6500.

Auburn
Placer County Museum, 101 Maple Street
On display on the first floor of the Placer County Courthouse are exhibits representing the chronological history of Placer County, from the Pleistocene era to contemporary times. Also on display is the Pate Native American Collection of over 400 items. Docents offer free walking tours of Old Town Auburn every Saturday starting at 10 a.m.; tour groups meet at the front entrance of the courthouse. (530) 889-6500.

Bernhard Museum Complex, 291 Auburn-Folsom Road
This complex was built as an inn called Travelers Rest in 1851. The house, one of the oldest wooden structures in Placer County, was added in 1868. Now restored, the house is furnished with late Victorian pieces. Also located in the complex is an 1874 winery, one of the first in the state, a reconstructed carriage barn, and Gallery One, home of the Placer Arts League. Docent tours, permanent and seasonal exhibitions. (530) 889-6500.

Gold Country Museum, 1273 High Street
This museum chronicles the rich history of gold mining in the region. Exhibits include gold panning demonstrations, a walk through a man shaft, an operational stamp mill model, and displays showing the lifestyle of Gold Country residents during the Gold Rush. At the Gold Country Fairgrounds. (530) 889-6500.

Joss House Museum and Chinese History Center, at Sacramento Street and Brewery Lane, Old Town Auburn
This historic building is almost completely restored and will soon be open to the public. The original temple altar is preserved in this Chinese house of worship; on display are artifacts representative of the lives of the Chinese people during the Gold Rush. Open by appointment. (530) 823-2613.

Foresthill Divide Museum, 24601 Harrison Street
Museum displays portraying the history of the Foresthill and Iowa Hill Divides include a model of the Foresthill Logging Company, firefighting equipment, depictions of life during the Gold Rush and of early modes of transportation. (530) 889-6500.

Dutch Flat
Golden Drift Museum, 32820 Main Street
The colorful history of the “Golden Triangle” — Dutch Flat, Gold

Call to Artists!
Submit your art for our 2006 directory covers!
SureWest is proud to support artists in our community and invites them to participate in our annual directory cover art program Bringing Art Back to Business.

- Reach thousands with your art
- Cash award
- Local media exposure
- Complimentary ad and bio in directory and on website

For submission details contact Jerianne Van Dijk at 530.271.0676, or visit our website at www.surewest.com/artist. Submit your two-dimensional art by August 5, 2005. See our call to Artists in the back of this publication.

“The response has been unbelievable!”
— Reif Erickson, 2004 Auburn Cover Artist
Auburn Directory Cover
Run, Alta/Towle — is shown in exhibits depicting boom days of hydraulic mining, the rise of the county's timber industry, the coming of the transcontinental railroad, and the growth of communities. Tour the town and all its historic buildings. (530) 889-6500.

Truckee/North Lake Tahoe

Gatekeepers Cabin Museum, 130 West Lake Blvd., Tahoe City
The museum houses artifacts of Lake Tahoe history, including pan-eled history displays, illustrated pioneer stories, hundreds of historical items, and a research library. One wing contains the Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum, filled with a collection of more than 800 rare baskets from 85 tribes, and collections of Indian dolls, and Southwestern pottery. (530) 583-1762.

The Watson Cabin Living Museum, 560 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City
An outstanding, preserved, turn-of-the-century log cabin, built in 1908 by Robert Montgomery Watson, Tahoe City's first Constable. (530) 583-1762.

Emigrant Trail Museum, 12593 Donner Pass Rd., Truckee
Located in Donner Memorial State Park, this museum focuses on the theme of the Donner Party. A 26-minute movie on the Donner Party is shown on the hour. Other exhibits portray the lives and arts of the Washoe Indians, early explorers, the building of the railroad through the Sierra Nevada, and the early days of Truckee. (530) 582-7892.

Events & Festivals

Roseville

August 20: Magic Circle Theatre’s 2005 – 2006 Season Premiere Gala. A black tie optional evening of good company, fabulous music, food, wine, entertainment, and presentation of the Birdsell Awards. Performers will include Cheryl Lockett (a salute to Billie Holiday), Mike Branson (formerly with The Drifters), and Scene 5 (formerly the Circlettes). Wine and hors d’oeuvres & silent auction, 6 p.m.; show, 8 p.m. For details and tickets, (916) 782-1777.

Rocklin

July 23: Transformations — An Evening with Art. An exceptional evening of food, wine, art auction, and entertainment to celebrate and support the transformation of Roseville Arts! Silent auction gifts and fine art by local artists. 7 – 10 p.m. At Zinfandel Grille, Rocklin Park Hotel. For details, (916) 783-4117.

Auburn

July 2: Silver Screen’s 100th Movie Celebration — “Casablanca.” A special showing of the classic 1942 movie to celebrate Silver Screen Classic Movies’ ninth year and 100 movies shown. Celebration includes catered goodies, live music by pianist Barbara Veland playing songs from the Casablanca era, reminiscences about other movies in the series, stars’ photos, and two showings of “Casablanca,” at 2 and 7 p.m. Party-goers are invited to dress in 1940s garb. For details, (530) 878-7938. www.auburnsilverscreen.com.

August 11: Auburn Art Walk. Local and regional artists showing in a variety of mediums in venues throughout Downtown, Old Town, and around the town, Auburn. Live music at several locations. Free admission, free shuttle bus. Sponsored by the Arts Council of Placer County. Brochures with maps available at the Arts Council of Placer County office, 808 Lincoln Way. Auburn Art Walk is held on second Thursdays in April, June, August, and October (Oct. 13). For details, call (530) 885-5670.

August 27: An Evening with Robert Conrad — in Conversation with Channel 10’s Jennifer Smith. The actor, director, and producer talks about his life in the movies and on TV. At 8 p.m. Placer High Auditorium. Tickets $25 each. Sponsors receive tickets to reception at 6 p.m. For details, sponsorship information, and tickets, call (530) 823-6683.

The Arts Council of Placer County

12th Annual AUTUMN ART STUDIOS TOUR

90 juried artists open their studios for a self-guided tour

Offering demonstrations, sales and discussions about the art they create

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday November 11, 12, and 13

Tickets are $10 for the entire weekend and can be purchased from several locations such as:

- Arts Council of Placer County
  808 Lincoln Way, Auburn CA 95603
  (530) 885-5670

- Artful Blend Gallery
  22 S. Grant St., Roseville CA 95678
  (916) 773-2242

- Lincoln Arts and Culture Foundation
  580 Sixth Street, Lincoln CA 95648
  (916) 645-9713

Lincoln Arts and Culture Foundation will host a preview show September 27 – November 16. Opening reception at Lincoln Arts Friday, October 7, 6 – 8 p.m.
The outdoor theatre at Sand Harbor State Park is the setting for the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival July 14 – August 21.

**Dutch Flat**

**July 4: Annual 4th of July Celebration.** At Dutch Flat Hotel. For details and more events, [www.dutchflathotel.com](http://www.dutchflathotel.com)

**Truckee/North Lake Tahoe**

**July 1, August 5 & September 2: First Fridays.** Evening of art, wine, shopping, dining, and music. Shops remain open late. Restaurants offer wine tasting and specials. North Tahoe Arts hosts an exhibit reception with live music. Live music at various locations. For details, visit [www.visittahoecity.com](http://www.visittahoecity.com)

**July 2 & July 4: 4th of July events including fireworks on July 3.** The Village at Squaw Valley. For details, (877) 297-2140.


**July 8 & 9: Tahoe Arts Festival.** Italian street painting artists’ marketplace, street painting for children, clowns, food, and other entertainment. Free admission. For details (530) 583-5605. [www.laketahoeartsfestival.com](http://www.laketahoeartsfestival.com)

**July 13: Tibet: from Western China to Mount Kailas,** a fascinating and educational presentation by Dr. Antonia Neubauer. This intrepid traveler, explorer, writer, and speaker will introduce us to the people, geography, culture, and lifestyle of this little-known and magical destination. Admission is free. At 7 p.m.; no-host bar 6:30 p.m., Resort at Squaw Creek. For details, (530) 581-4138.

**July 14: remoteviewing 2:** A one-day show of the work of 10 Northern California and Nevada artists. Boatworks mall, Tahoe City. (530) 583-6373.

**July 23 & 24: 4th Annual Squaw Valley Art, Wine & Music Festival.** Fine art and fine wine, more than 60 booths of artists and wineries from the western U.S., a benefit wine tasting, live music and performances. For details, (530) 581-7111. [www.squaw.com](http://www.squaw.com)

**July 23 – 30: 34th Annual Squaw Valley Community of Writers Poetry Workshop.** Writing workshops for poets. Some events and readings open to the public. For details, (530) 470-8440. [www.squawvalleywriters.org](http://www.squawvalleywriters.org)

**August 3: Ethics for a Global Society,** a presentation by Milton Heifetz, M.D., author and professor of neurological surgery who has taught at USC and Harvard and presently co-teaches legal ethics at Boston College Law School. Dr. Heifetz will address a variety of ethical issues. At 7 p.m.; no-host bar 6:30 p.m. at Resort at Squaw Creek.

**August 4: Annual Home and Garden Tour.** For details, (530) 583-1672. [www.northtahoemuseums.com](http://www.northtahoemuseums.com)

**Colfax**

**July 16: Going Places: True and Traditional Stories of Adventure — Joan Stockbridge Storyteller.** Join a professional storyteller for a varied evening of stories. Joan has told stories in many venues, including the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee. Program designed for adults and older children. $5 donation suggested but not required. Delicious beverages and goodies available. At 7:30 p.m., Camp 20 Coffee House, 40 N. Main St. For details, (530) 823-3282.

**Foresthill**

**September 3 & 4: Foresthill Heritage Celebration.** Labor Day weekend event that includes fun, frollic, and the annual Gold Miners Ball. For details, (530) 367-2474.
August 4 – 11: Wooden Boat Week. Annual show of parade and events celebrating the spectacular wooden boats of yesterday and today. This year’s marquee class is Original Tahoe Boats. At Tahoe City. For details, (530) 581-4700. [www.tahoeyc.com](http://www.tahoeyc.com)


August 6 – 13: 35th Annual Squaw Valley Community of Writers Workshops. Fiction, non-fiction and screenwriting workshops. Some events and readings open to the public. For details, (530) 470-8440.

August 20 & 21: 4th Annual Brews, Jazz and Funk Fest. Sample microbreweries while jazz and funk bands entertain throughout the day and into the evening. Benefit for the Truckee Tahoe Humane Society. Village at Squaw Valley. For details, (530) 584-6268.

August 28: 2nd Annual Trails & Vistas: Wind Over Stone. An original art production combining dance, music, and installation art on a hike through the beautiful landscape of the Sierra to Summa Lake. An interactive walk featuring Reno Philharmonic musicians, Taiko drummers, installation artists, and InnerRhythms Dance Theatre dancers. Morning performances with groups at 10:30, 11, and 11:30 a.m. One afternoon performance at 4:30 p.m. For details and ticket information, call (530) 550-8464.

Through August 31: Wildlife Wednesdays. Tahoe wildlife presentations 6 – 7 p.m. at Commons Beach, Tahoe City. For details (530) 583-3796.

Through August 31: Tahoe Talks. Presentations about Tahoe City’s natural environment, history, and lore every Thursday, 6 – 7 p.m. at Commons Beach Tahoe City. For details (530) 583-3796.

September 4: 17th Annual Alpen Wine Fest. Winetasting, appetizers, and silent auction. For details, (530) 584-6266.

September 10: 3rd Annual Lake Tahoe Food & Wine Festival. A beach party including fine wines from more than 20 of the West Coast’s best wineries, paired with exquisite light cuisine prepared by the region’s exceptional chefs. Live music on the Shakespeare Festival stage. Part of a three-day event, Sept. 9, 10, & 11 that includes winemaker dinners, beer-tasting events, food & wine instructional programs. Sept. 10 event at Sand Harbor State Park. For details, (775) 852-1016.

**Outside Placer County**

**July: Artown.** Reno’s annual summer arts festival features 200 performing and visual arts events in dozens of locations citywide all month. Music, dance, theater, opera, children’s workshops, movies in the park, cowboy poetry, historical walks and visual art. For details (775) 332-1538. [www.artown.org](http://www.artown.org)

**July 9 & 10: 4th Annual Lake Tahoe Festival of Fine Arts.** Fine art booths, food booths, children’s art activities, entertainment. A juried art show. A fundraiser for Tahoe Arts Project. At South Tahoe Middle School, South Lake Tahoe. For details, (530) 542-3632.

**August 1 – September 30: 25th Annual Antique Quilt and Vintage Clothing Show.** This year’s theme is Looking Forward to Looking Back. 25 Years of Antique Quilt Shows, highlighting the best of the quilts shown through the years. Also on display are vintage party dresses and silver accessories. 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily at Folsom History Museum, 823 Sutter St., Folsom. For details, (916) 985-2707. [www.folsomhistorymuseum.org](http://www.folsomhistorymuseum.org)

**August 20 & September 9: Nevada County Poetry Series.** Well-known poets read from their work at the Center for the Arts, 314 W. Main St., Grass Valley. General admission $5 per person; refreshments included. For details, call (530) 432-8196.

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**Trips**

**Roseville**

**July 22: West Side Story** at the Wells Fargo Pavilion, Sacramento. **Deadline to register: July 13.** A Roseville Arts! Trip. Cost is $63 for Roseville Arts! Members, $75 for non-members. Includes transportation departing Roseville at 10:30 a.m. and returning at 5:30 p.m., great seats, and time for a no host lunch in Old Sacramento before the performance. To register, call (916) 783-4117.

**August 25: The King & I**, at the Wells Fargo Pavilion, Sacramento. **Deadline to register: July 13.** A Roseville Arts! Trip. Cost is $63 for Roseville Arts! Members, $75 for non-members. Includes transportation departing Roseville at 10:30 a.m. and returning at 5:30 p.m., great seats, and time for a no host lunch in Old Sacramento before the performance. To register, call (916) 783-4117.

**August 7 & September 5: Wicked** at San Francisco’s Orpheum Theatre. **Deadline to register July 5.** A Roseville Arts! Trip. Cost: Sunday, Aug. 7, RA members $139, non-members $175; Wed., Sept 7: RA members $126, non-members $152. Cost includes round trip transportation via luxury bus, time for a no host lunch in Union Square and great matinee seats. Departs Roseville at 9 a.m. and returns at 8 p.m. To register, call (916) 783-4117.

**Film**

**Auburn**

**July – August: Old State Theatre: Independent, Art, Limited Release, & Foreign Films.** Small tables and lots of leg room, at the Old State create a comfortable, intimate film-viewing atmosphere. The theater now serves wine, Italian sodas, and soft drinks, desserts, and, of course, popcorn. Two screens showing; special family nights scheduled. Open nightly. For schedule and times, call (530) 888-7936.
July 2: The Silver Screen Classic Movie Series celebrates its 100th movie with its great initial film, “Casablanca,” with Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. Celebration includes catered goodies and piano music; guests invited to come in 1940s garb. Shown at 2 and 7 p.m. in the Beecher Room, Auburn Library, 350 Nevada St. Suggested donation $5 general admission and $4 seniors and children. Presented by the library. For details, call (530) 878-7938 or visit www.auburnsilverscreen.com.


Truckee/North Tahoe

July: Movies in the Park. Movies filmed in Tahoe shown every Tuesday in July at Gatekeepers Museum, Tahoe City. For details, (530) 583-1762. www.northtahoemuseums.org

July – August: Village Movie Night. Free movies in the Village at Squaw Valley 8 p.m. every Thursday all summer. For details, (530) 584-6268. www.thelilvillageatsquaw.com

August 24 – 28: Tahoe/Reno International Film Festival (T-RIFF) is a five-day exploration of discovery through spirited and soul-stirring independent films. T-RIFF also hosts workshops, tributes, parties, a Gala and short script competition. Presented at various theatres and the outdoor amphitheater at Sand Harbor State Park. For details and tickets, call (530) 583-1762 or visit www.t-reff.org.

Through August 31: Movies at the Beach. Family movies at Commons Beach, Tahoe City every Wednesday. For details, (530) 583-331.

Call for Nominations for Arties Awards

The Arts Council of Placer County is accepting nominations for the 2005 Arties Awards. The awards are given to individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions in several categories:

- Visual/Performing Arts
- Arts Education
- Arts Administration
- Arts Volunteer/Patron
- Business Support/Partnership
- Literary Arts
- Public Service to the Arts

For details and nomination forms, contact the arts council office at (530) 885-5670, or email@PlacerArts.org, or at 808 Lincoln Way, Auburn.

A scene from last year’s Shakespeare Festival at Lake Tahoe. This year the festival presents The Comedy of Errors and Macbeth.

Theatre

Loomis

August 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13: You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown, presented by Del Oro High School’s Summer Theatre Academy. Performances at 7:15 p.m.; additional performances Aug. 6 & 13 at 2:15 p.m. At Del Oro Theatre. For details and tickets, call (916) 652-7243, ext. 1551.

Roseville

Through July 23: Remember Me by Sam Bobrick. Brian and Mary live in an elegant New York apartment, comfortable with each other after many years of marriage. While Brian is playing tennis, Mary’s old boyfriend arrives. It’s a delightful romantic comedy with a surprising twist. At the Tower Theatre, 421 Vernon St. Tickets are $18 general, $15 seniors & students. For tickets, (916) 782-1777.

July 8 – August 6: Guys and Dolls. Book by Jo Swerling & Abe Burrows; lyrics and music by Frank Loesser. The quintessential musical with New York hotspots, gamblers, chorus girls, and Salvation Army bands. It’s a fast-paced story of well-meaning wise guys and the women who suffer their antics. At the Roseville Theatre, 241 Vernon St., tickets are $20 general, $18 seniors & students. For tickets, (916) 782-1777.

September 9 – October 8: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber; lyrics by Tim Rice. The Biblical saga of Joseph and his coat of many colors is set to a variety of musical styles from country-western and calypso to bubble gum pop and rock and roll. At the Roseville Theatre, 241 Vernon St. Tickets, are $20 general, $16 seniors & students. For tickets, (916) 782-1777.

Auburn

July 26 – 30 & August 2 – 6: Grease, presented by Placer High School’s Summer Theatre Academy. A satirical look at the dress, manners, morals, and music of teenagers at the beginning of the rock and roll era. Nightly at 7:15; Saturday matinees at 2:15 p.m. At Placer High Auditorium. For details and tickets, call (530) 887-5540.

Truckee/North Tahoe

July 14 – August 21: Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival: The Comedy of Errors and Macbeth. In the outdoor amphitheater at Sand Harbor State Park. For details and tickets, visit http://laketahoeshakespeare.com or call (800) 747-4697 or (775) 832-1616.
**Outside Placer County**

**Through August 14:** *My Way, a Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra* by David Grapes & Todd Olson. Featuring 56 of the Chairman of the Board's best-loved tunes. Presented by Foothill Theatre Company at the Nevada Theatre, Nevada City. For details and tickets, (530) 265-8587.

**August 26 – September 10:** *Shakespeare’s Macbeth*. Presented by the Foothill Theatre Company at the Nevada County Fairgrounds, Grass Valley. For details and tickets, (530) 265-8587.

**August 27 – September 11:** *Shakespeare’s The Comedy of Errors*. Presented by the Foothill Theatre Company at the Nevada County Fairgrounds, Grass Valley. For details and tickets, (530) 265-8587.

**Classes and Workshops**

**Roseville**

Ongoing: **Life & Costume Drawing**, unique observation of the human body & form. All levels welcome. Dry mediums; non-instructive open workshops, two-hour sessions. Last Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m. – 12 noon. $10 fee. Artful Blend Gallery, 22 S. Grant St. (916) 773-2242.

Ongoing: **Roseville Parks & Recreation Cultural Arts Classes**. For a full schedule, call (916) 774-5950 or visit [www.roseville.ca.us](http://www.roseville.ca.us), Parks & Recreation Department, Activity Guide.

**Rocklin**

December 27 – January 11, 2006: **Peru, Sierra College’s Study Abroad Program**. A short-term program to Peru with photography instructor Rebecca Gregg. For details, contact Christine Vona at (916) 781-7198 or cvona@sierracollege.edu.

January 31 – April 30, 2006: **Madrid, Sierra College’s Study Abroad Program**. Earn college credit while experiencing life and culture in Madrid, Spain. Three months abroad: $5897. For details, contact Christine Vona at (916) 781-7198 or cvona@sierracollege.edu.

**Lincoln**

Ongoing: **Poetry Class with Sue Clark**. Thursdays 3 – 4:30 p.m. Anyone can join at any time. Beginning poets are welcome. Class fees: 10 weeks – $62. Location: Lincoln Arts. To register, call Clark at (916) 434-9226.

Ongoing: **Impressionist Oil Painting Class with artist/instructor Tina Grant**. Five-week class held Mon. or Tues. evenings, 5 – 7 p.m., or Mon. mornings, 9 – 11 a.m. Class Fees: $135.00 (does not include materials). Location: Lincoln Arts. To register, call Lincoln Arts at (916) 645-9713.

Ongoing: **Intermediate Sculpture Class with Shirley Schrunk**. Tuesdays, 6:30 – 9 p.m., six weeks. Beg. and Int. students, school age to adults, including children and their parents. Step-by-step instruction in a program geared for success. Class Fee: $120 for six weeks. Location: Lincoln Arts. To register, contact Lincoln Arts at (916) 645-9713.

Ongoing: **Piano/Voice Lessons with LaVonne Murphy Boyd**. Mondays, half-hour lessons between 3:30 – 7 p.m. Fee: $85 for four half-hour lessons in a one-month period. Location: Lincoln Arts. To register, contact Lincoln Arts at (916) 645-9713.

**Loomis/Granite Bay**

July 5 – 9: **Summer Art with Susan Tonkin Riegel**. Children & adults. Students will work with clay, copper enameling, batik, and plaster masks. Class is held outside in a country atmosphere. Tues. – Sat., 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon. For details, (916) 652-6165.

**Newcastle**

Ongoing: **Beginning East Coast Swing** with the Foothills Swing Dance Society. Every 4th Saturday. Lesson 7 – 8 p.m.; dance 8 – 11 p.m. Lesson & dance $10; dance only $6. At the Portuguese Hall, 920
Perspectives

Auburn

July 19 – 31: Painting Trip with Sandy Delehanty: French Riviera. $3,400 per person double occupancy, not including air fare. For details and to register, contact Delehanty at (916) 652-4624 or sandydelehanty@yahoo.com

July – August: Arts4All Summer Classes. All ages. Instruction in visual art, drama, musicgarten, and piano by credentialed teachers. For details and to register, call (530) 745-0284.


Ongoing: Drawing with Everett Jensen. Students learn to draw accurately from a photograph, to distinguish between when they think they see and what they actually see, to rediscover an amazing visual world. Wednesdays 6 – 9 p.m., eight-week sessions. Fee: $120 per eight-week session. At The Arts Building, 808 Lincoln Way. For details and to register, contact Jensen at (530) 887-8704 or rejensen@inreach.com.

Ongoing: Swing Dance Classes with Chris & Emma of InTheSwingOfThings. Beginning and intermediate classes Thurs. and Fri. evenings. Classes available for teens and adults. At InSync Dance Studio, 242 Palm Ave. For details, contact (530) 887-8117 or www.intheswingofthings.com


Ongoing: Pastel Classes with Reif Erickson. Classes are through Placer Adult Education. Erickson will also conduct monthly Pastel Demonstrations at his studio in The Arts Building, 808 Lincoln Way. For details, (530) 887-9565.

Ongoing: Piano Classes with Juan Pena. Portrait classes, Monday & Tuesday 9 a.m. – 12 noon. Eight consecutive classes $100. Landscape classes, Friday 1 a.m. 12 noon. Twelve consecutive classes, $125. (530) 887-0312.

Ongoing: Handbuilding in Clay with Gerda Francesca. Beginning and advanced students. At the Old Library Art Studio, 175 Almond St. (530) 887-8216 or (530) 885-9928.

Ongoing: Music, voice, dance, and drama classes at Music & More Arts Academy & Theatre. For schedule, (530) 885-0594 or visit www.musicandmore.net

Colfax

August 17, 24, 31 & September 7: Storytelling Classes with Joan Stockbridge. Four Wednesday evenings of playful games and activities to enhance participants’ storytelling skills. Final session: storytell-

ing concert for family and friends. Class size will be limited. Fee: $50. 7 – 9 p.m., Camp 20 Coffee House, 46 N. Main St. For details, (530) 823-3282 or Stockbridge@sbcglobal.net.

North Tahoe/Truckee

**July 21: Art-related Travel.** Plan trips around seeing and doing art. Learn about trips planned to Mexico, Europe, Greece, and New Mexico. Brown bag lunch. 11:30 a.m. at North Tahoe Art Center, Tahoe City. For details, call (530) 581-2787.

**July 30 – August 20: North Tahoe Arts Visiting Artist Program.** Five workshops offered: “Postcards as Art” with Carole Austin (July 30); “Polaroid Transfer” with Madeline de Joly (Aug. 6 & 7); “Wax Workshop” with Madeline de Joly (Aug. 9 & 10); “Bookmaking” with Dede Tisone-Bartles & Joan Korsch; “Handmade Paper Lanterns” with Jacqueline Mallegni (Aug. 19 & 20). For details and to register, call (530) 581-2787.

**August 18: Experimental Printmaking by Suzanne Riley.** Riley will give a tour of her exhibit in the Man and Corison Galleries and review her 20 years of printmaking. At 11:30 a.m., North Tahoe Art Center, 380 North Lake Blvd., Tahoe City. For details, call (530) 581-2787.

**Through August 31: Watercolor Wednesdays with Jan Foss.** Every Wed. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. $50 per week. Students will paint a different subject and learn different techniques each week. Up to 12 students per class. Studio is located at 120 Country Club Dr., #21, Incline Village. For details and to register, call (775) 833-1144.

**Ongoing: Ballet Lessons with InnerRhythms Dance Theatre.** Ballet Level III, Thurs. 3:45 – 4:45 p.m. Ballet Level IV, Mon. 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. Classes held at the InnerRhythms Training Centre located near Truckee Airport. All community members and dance students welcome. Class registration is based on dance level. To register, call (530) 550-8464.

**Ongoing: Intermediate/Advanced Jazz Technique with Sheri Woods.** Mon., 5 – 6:15 p.m. At InnerRhythms Training Center near Truckee Airport. To register, call (530) 550-8464.

Outside Placer County

**Ongoing: The Foothills Swing Dance Society’s 2nd Saturday Swing Dance.** Beginning East Coast Swing Dance 7 – 8 p.m.; DJ Dancing 8 – 11 p.m. Lesson & dance $10; dance only $6. At St. Joseph’s Hall, 410 S. Church, Grass Valley. (530) 887-8117.

**Ongoing: One Stroke Painting with certified instructor Sharleen Snow.** For project and technique class schedule and sign up information, (916) 508-1458 or sharleen.snow@sbcglobal.net.

**Ongoing: Classes with Gayle Rappaport-Weiland.** For full schedule and sign-up information, visit www.art.grappaport.com.

**Ongoing: Color Intensive and Landscape Workshops** at the School of Light and Color. Classes include: beginning workshops, pastel, landscape, photography & digital imaging, basic drawing, pastel, watercolor, and art classes for youth.10030 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks. For class schedule, (916) 966-7517 or sarback@lightandcolor.com or www.lightandcolor.com.

Arts for Children

Roseville

**July – August: Maidu Interpretive Center.** Classes, events, and programs include: Fabulous Family Campfires (July 1, August 5, September 2, 8 – 9 p.m.); Create A Pine Needle Basket with Agate Stone Center (July 9, 9 a.m. – 12 noon); Summer Archery at the Maya Bow Club (July 13, 19, Aug. 3, 17); Incredible Insects-Live at MIC (July 25, August 6, 13, 20, 27, 2 – 3 p.m., followed by puppet shows 3 – 4 p.m.) Special summer afternoon entrance fee $2 per person, 2 – 4 p.m., Tues – Fri. For details and to register, contact Maidu Interpretive Center, 1960 Johnson Ranch Dr. (916) 774-5934.

**July – August: Summer Camps at Maidu Interpretive Center.**
- July 5 – 8: Indian Ways 1. Ages 6 – 10. Explore how California Indians lived and played. Mon. – Thurs., 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Fee: $104.
Perspectives – July/August 2005

**Arts Calendar**

**“Onions,” watercolor by Terrill Tangney, opening her studio during North Tahoe ARTour 2005, July 8 – 10.**

Insects, learn to identify, model and craft them. 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Fee: $104.


For details and to register, call (916) 774-5934.

**Ongoing: Roseville Parks & Recreation Cultural Arts Classes for Children.** For a full schedule, call (916) 774-5220 or visit [www.roseville.ca.us](http://www.roseville.ca.us). Parks & Recreation department, Activity Guide.

**Loomis/Granite Bay**

**June 27 – July 1: Summer Art with Susan Tonkin Reigel.** Ages 7 & up. Students work with clay, copper enameling, batik, and plaster masks. Mon. – Fri. 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon. Class is held outside in a country atmosphere. For details, call (916) 652-6165.

**Ongoing: Hands-On Art History (ages 6 – 8) and Creative Process Through Art (ages 9 – 11) with Terri Kent-Enborg.** Students explore the elements of art and/or the cultural relevance of art history in a process-oriented environment. Private tutoring/lessons available. At Creativity Central. (916) 652-4538 or tkborg@vfr.net

**Ongoing: McLaughlin Studios of Music** offers a complete program of individualized music instruction in flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, piano, guitar, bass, percussion, violin, cello, and voice. Jazz and youth symphony classes. (916) 652-6577.

**Lincoln**

**Ongoing: Community Drum Circle with Tim Dant.** Ages 12+. All skill levels. Drummers will meet on the second Tuesday of each month, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in McBean Park. Participants can play their favorite hand drum or percussion instrument. Free monthly event with no registration necessary. For details, contact the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Dept. at (916) 645-5298 or Tim Dant at (916) 645-0251.

**Ongoing: After School Art Classes for Children/Youth.** Held at Lincoln Arts, 580 Sixth St. For details, call (916) 645-9713.

**Newcastle**

**Ongoing: Piano lessons.** Children and adults, ages 6 and up. All levels beginners through advanced. At Music Exchange’s Keyboard Konkolte, 477 Main St. For details or to register, call (916) 663-9020. [www.musicexchangeonline.com](http://www.musicexchangeonline.com)

**Auburn**

**July – August: Arts4All Summer Classes.** All ages. Instruction in visual art, drama, musikgarten, and piano by credentialed teachers. For details and to register, call (530) 745-0284.

**July 11 – August 28: Summer Art Camps.** Ages 7 – 12. At Creative Endeavors Arts and Craft Studio. Four-day themed sessions, Mon. – Thurs, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Themes include recycled art, clay, art history, and paper-making. For details, contact (530) 355-3456 or creative@endeavors@pacbell.net

**August 11: Family Art Night at Creative Endeavors.** All ages can enjoy a variety of art stations with lots of fun materials. Event is free. At 638 Lincoln Way, Ste. 150A. For details, contact (530) 355-3456 or creative@endeavors@pacbell.net.

**Ongoing: Art for Preschoolers at Creative Endeavors.** Ages 20 months – 5 yrs. Fun, age-appropriate, hands-on classes. At 638 Lincoln Way, Ste. 150A. For schedule, contact (530) 355-3456 or creative@endeavors@pacbell.net.

**Ongoing: Swing Dance Classes with Chris & Emma of InTheSwingOfThings.** Beginner and intermediate classes Thurs. and Fri. evenings. Classes available for teens and adults. At InSync Dance Studio, 242 Palm Ave. For details, contact (530) 887-8117 or [www.intheswingofthings.com](http://www.intheswingofthings.com)

**Ongoing: CLAYart Classes with L. Luis Ortiz.** Students explore handbuilding techniques for the creation of 3-dimensional ceramic forms. The Arts Building, 808 Lincoln Way. For details, (530) 889-2787.

**Ongoing: Musikgarten Classes.** Ages birth through 7 years. 10-week sessions. Scholarships available. Keyboard Konkneton, 1515 Grass Valley Hwy. For full schedule, (530) 745-0248.

**Ongoing: Keyboard Konkneton** is now accepting students for group piano classes, ages 6 – adult, and guitar, ages 8 – adult. Keyboard Konkneton, 1515 Grass Valley Highway. For details, (530) 745-0248.

**Ongoing: Music & More Arts Academy: music, voice, dance and drama classes.** Classes for all ages in most instruments taught by master teachers. For schedule, (530) 885-0594 or [www.musarts.com](http://www.musarts.com).

**Truckee/North Tahoe**

**June 29 – July 7: MiniRhythms “Beginnings” with professional dancer P.J. Rothchild.** Ages 18 – 36 months and parents. Minis will learn body awareness, balance, group participation, and creative development. 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. at InnerRhythms Training Centre, near Truckee Airport, 22219 Business Park Dr., Ste. 3. Class size limited to 8 – 10 children. Cost: $60 for five-week session. For details and reservations, (530) 550-8464.

**June 29 – July 7: MiniRhythms “Explorations” with professional dancer P. J. Rothchild.** Ages 3 – 4 years. This fun-filled class is designed to teach minis body awareness through creative movement set to storytelling and music. 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at InnerRhythms Training Centre, near Truckee Airport, 22219 Business Park Dr., Ste. 3.
Class size limited to 8 – 10 children. Cost: $60 for five-week session. For details and reservations, (530) 550-8464.

**June 29 – July 27: MiniRhythms “Serendipity” with professional dancer P.J. Rothchild.** Ages 5 – 6 years. This class will teach the basics of dance, tap, and tumbling while students have fun in a structured classroom environment. Props will be incorporated into movement games. 12:45 – 1:45 p.m. at InnerRhythms Training Centre, near Truckee Airport, 12219 Business Park Dr., Ste. 3. Class size limited to 8 – 10 children. Cost: $60 for five-week session. For details and reservations, (530) 550-8464.

**July 25 – August 5:** **YouthART Enrichment Camp at North Tahoe Arts.** Four sessions. Children work with local artists in diverse forms of artistic expression including painting, ceramics, drawing, fiber, and more. Session 1, July 25 – 29, ages 5 – 10, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Session 2, July 25 – 29, ages 5 – 10, 1 – 4 p.m. Session 3, August 1 – 5, ages 5 – 10, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Session 4, August 1 – 5, ages 10 – 12, 1 – 4 p.m. Cost: $125 per session (non NTA member) includes materials fee & snack; $116.50 per session (NTA member). Drop-in Fee: $30 per session. For details or to register, call (530) 581-2787.

**July 26 – 29:** **Shakespeare Junior Camp.** Ages 8 – 15 years. Introduction to basic Shakespearean acting. Stage composition, movement, and vocal techniques, how to approach character, how to work with a director. Tuesday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Enrollment fee: $300. For reservations, call the Foothill Theatre Company at (530) 265-9320.

**July 26 – August 5:** **Teen Shakespeare Camp.** Ages 13 – 18. This two-week intensive builds on the foundations laid in Shakespeare Junior class. Gives an in-depth look at a Shakespeare script. Course ends on second Friday with a showcase performance for family and friends. Tuesday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Enrollment fee: $485. For reservations, call the Foothill Theatre Company at (530) 265-9320.

**Outside Placer County**

**July 12 – 16:** **Jazz Camp 2005 with Sierra Jazz Society.** Day classes with master jazz teachers. Camp ends with a concert by all participants. At Nevada Union High School, Grass Valley. For details or to register, call Bill Douglass or Nora Nausbaum at (530) 273-5489 or visit www.sierrajazzsociety.com.

### Calls to Artists


**Deadline August 31:** The Arts Building, in Auburn, is celebrating its 3rd Anniversary with an all-media juried show Oct. 31 – Nov. 31. The show will be in the gallery through the Autumn Art Studios Tour, a high-traffic time for the gallery. In addition, several artists will be chosen from participants for a group show at The Arts Building Gallery in 2006. For Prospectus, send #10 SASE to The Arts Building, 808 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603, or pick one up in person. (530) 885-2787.

**Deadline August 31:** Newly-formed Christian orchestra will be holding auditions in August for the 2005-2006 performing year. The
“Lavezza Creek, Sierra County,” photograph by Mark Stevenson. Senator Dave Cox (R-Fair Oaks) recently selected Stevenson, a Sierra County artist, as “Artist of the Year” for the First Senate District. The nomination was part of the California State Senate’s sixth annual California Contemporary Art Collection. The collection is showing by appointment at the Capital Building in Sacramento.

orchestra is a unique opportunity for accomplished Christian musicians in their teens and 20s to perform in a symphony orchestra with a vibrant atmosphere. Meets in Auburn on a weekly basis. For details, call (916) 652-8183.


Deadline October 1. 3rd Annual Artisan Festival, “Fall for Winters,” in historic downtown Winters, CA, Saturday, October 15, 10 a.m. to dusk. Artisans and volunteers encouraged to call Joyce Snyder for details at (530) 795-3297 or email artejunction@sbcglobal.net.


Deadline October 12. La Petite 13, 2005, a small-format competition open to artists residing in North America. Show is scheduled for November 2005 at Alder Gallery, Coburg, OR. 2 & 3 D entries $12 each; 3/$30, $2200 awards. Visit www.alderart.com or SASE to Alder Gallery Box 8517, Coburg, OR, 97408. (541) 342-6411 or pet@alderart.com.

Deadline October 15. 8th Annual Auburn Community Festival ScareCrow Contest. Prizes $2,125. Open and youth categories. Min.
on instruments needed. Young musicians encouraged. ACB meets
Wednesdays, 7 p.m., at 4065 Grass Valley Highway, #206, Auburn.
Contact Mary Halbrook at (530) 888-1801; Dorothy Lewis at (530)
889-9511 or lewis9841@sbcglobal.net. www.auburnband.org.

Ongoing. 2237 Gallery, in Roseville, is currently accepting portfolios
for review. All artists eligible. For more info, email Annette Picetti at
picetti@williamspluspaddon.com.

Ongoing. The Foothill Farmers’ Market Association seeks crafters and
artisans to vend their original works at any of 10 seasonal weekly
farmers’ markets around Placer County. For more information about
the producers-only markets, call (530) 823-6183.

Ongoing. Call for singers for the Sierra Gold Chorus, member of
Sweet Adelines, Int. Learn to sing barbershop harmony. Women of
all ages welcome. Rehearsals Mondays, 7 p.m., Burbank Hall, DeWitt
Center, Auburn. (916) 663-2105 or (530) 885-4202.

“The Arts Council of Placer County would like to thank our new,
renewed, and business members, patrons and affiliates — and our
private and public partners for their invaluable support.

New Members
Margot & Jeff Fulmer
Beth Lantz
Jill Mendelsohn
William O’Daly
Douglas & Nancy Van Howd
Claudette Weismantel
Elizabeth Bacon
Gary & Allie Billat
Robert Edwards
Nancy Haddad
Everett Jensen
Glenn Marshall
Renée Muramoto
Chris Schiller
Joan Stafford
Barbara Wauters
Joyce Beeman
Eileen David
Varian Mace
Terri Kent-Enborg
Megan Quarton

Renewed Members
Steve & Judy Dillon
Nancy Polli & Reif Erickson
Linda Farley
Davene Hollis
Rick & Janet Nicholson
Casey O’Connor
Ronald & Katri Kokila Uno
Arlan J. & Ruth A. Welch
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Gary M. Cairns
Gary & Donna Claggett
Joann Cochran
Claudia Cunningham
Roxanne Dacy
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Brenda Lindley, Placer
Community Theatre
North Tahoe Arts
Placer Arts League
Placer County Visitors Council
Sierra County Arts Council
Windows Art Project

The Arts Council of Placer County would like to thank our new,
renewed, and business members, patrons and affiliates — and our
private and public partners for their invaluable support.
My happiest memories of my childhood were of times when I was making art and selling it. Yet it took me more than 40 years to realize that I was born an artist. I loved to set up my card table with colored papers, glue, scissors, tape, and lose myself for hours in the happiness of creativity. I am sure that I embarrassed my parents many times when I would then drag everything out to the curb in front of my home and try to sell everything from lemonade (homemade, of course) to art work and collectibles.

As I moved on to college, I wanted to study art, but my dad discouraged that idea because he was afraid I would become a “hippie.” I earned a degree as a teacher, but I always took as many art classes as possible. I still dream of going to a famous art school. It wasn’t until many years later, when I went through a devastating divorce with three young boys, that I finally discovered what I really wanted to do with my life. A marriage counselor asked me if I liked being a “doormat.” With a resounding “NO!”, I packed up my boys, and we moved to Tahoe. I was going to be an artist.

I studied, took art classes, and read everything I could. It was not easy. I didn’t know anyone. I was raising three teenage boys by myself. I was not sure of my finances. I had many, many art failures, but I was doing what I loved. I loved the process of making art.

When I took my first printmaking class at Sierra Nevada College, I found my passion. I really mean passion -- obsession. I devoured every bit of information about printmaking that I could find, and started experimenting with the medium. It was always, “But, what if I try this?” or “What if I try that?” I bought my own press and started developing my own style.

I like contemporary art, and this was a very old conservative art form. Printmaking is about five hundred years old in the western world, and a few hundred years older in the Orient. The last 25 years have brought more technical innovation than all the previous centuries. The development of contemporary printmaking parallels the development of modern painting. After studying engravings, etchings, aquatints, collograph, and woodcuts, I fell in love with the linocut. It is very similar to a woodcut, but I carve linoleum instead of wood for my printing plate.

I draw with a carving tool into the flat surface of a linoleum block, removing the non-printed area of the design, so the desired image remains on the surface. I then apply oil base inks onto this plate with a brayer. A brayer is a hard rubber roller that rolls the ink on the top of the plate, keeping the ink out of the carved-out areas of the design. The pressure of the press removes the inked design off the plate and onto the paper. The pressure also embosses the paper from the carved-out areas of the plate. The image is one-of-a-kind because of its unique colors or distinct papers, but certain parts of the carved image can be reproduced by hand.

Now after 20 years of producing art in Tahoe, I am having a retrospective of my work in both the Main and Corison Galleries at the North Tahoe Art Center in Tahoe City, beginning in August. I will be showing a variety of series that reflect my growth as an artist. I will show the many playful pieces that I created for Tahoe ARTours. I will have many pieces from my wildlife series, my “Eat Your Art Out” series, and, of course, a lot of Tahoe imaginary. There will also be samples of embossing, metallic leaf, and handmade papers. My new series “Printmaking on Canvas” has many multiple printings on each piece. I love to use humor in my work, and to make the viewer smile.

I am so thankful for this experience. I am my art.
“I Am My Art”
Retrospective by Suzanne Riley
August 5 – 29

Opening Reception August 5, 5 – 7 p.m.
Program: “Experimental Printmaking”
by Suzanne Riley, August 18, 11:30 a.m.

Suzanne Riley is recognized nationally for her experimental printmaking style. Her prints are in many collections, galleries and museums. Besides creating artwork in the Tahoe area, she was instrumental in starting North Tahoe Arts, the ARTisan Shop, and Tahoe ARTour. Suzanne can be reached at suzriley@thegrid.net

Left: “Pigs Can Fly”
Right: “Nature’s Dance”

Left: “Just Ties”
Right: “Secret Garden”