

Press Release for Arts Symposium

From: Ginny Brush, Executive Director
County Arts Commission

RE: Annual Arts Symposium, April 17th

Director of California Arts Council to be Keynote Speaker at Arts Commission Symposium April 17th

Creating New Models for Funding the Arts and Sustaining Regional Culture

The County Arts Commission's upcoming Annual Arts Symposium set for Friday, April 17th provides an opportunity for the entire arts community to focus on funding solutions and issues that affect the vitality and future of the Arts and quality of life for our region. This year's focus will be Creating New Sustainable Models for Funding Regional Arts. Arts advocates, arts educators and youth advocates, arts administrators, foundations, artists and City and County officials will be among those attending and taking part in the lively community dialogue exploring ways to expand collaborative efforts, increase access to the art in schools and communities, and leverage technology to reduce costs.

Muriel Johnson, Director of the California Arts Council will be the Keynote Speaker. She will highlight efforts being made at the State and National level to advocate for increased funding for the arts and other current art and budget issues.

In addition to the Keynote address, Denise Sindelar, Public and Visual Arts Supervisor for the City of Ventura's Cultural Affairs Department will highlight Ventura's Percent for Art Program and its success in funding and supporting regional artists and increasing participation in the arts through its Percent for Art funding.

Rod Hare, Chair of the Arts Funding Sustainability Task Force will give a committee report on their progress and recommendations for the formation of a Santa Barbara Arts Collaborative. The committee report will be followed by a brief Q&A and break out sessions for community dialogue in areas of collaboration, marketing, innovation and technology, and public/percent for art.

The afternoon will wrap up with a panel discussion. Youth and youth advocates from diverse programs will discuss what works, what doesn't and identify barriers that currently exist to participation in the Arts and focus on new successful community building models.

Don't miss this opportunity to participate and be part of this community dialogue on the future of regional arts funding and explore new ways to collaborate. The cost for the Arts Symposium is \$20.00 per person, for reservations made by Tuesday, April 14th, 5pm., The cost includes continental breakfast and lunch overlooking the ocean at the Cabrillo Arts Pavilion. \$25.00 will be charged at the door. For more information please call Linda

Gardy at 805.568.3990 or email her at gardy@co.santa-barbara.ca.us. All checks should be made payable to the SB County Arts Commission, P.O. Box 2369, Santa Barbara, CA 93120.

This year's Arts Symposium, scheduled for Friday, April 17th from 8:30 to 3:00 at the Cabrillo Arts Pavilion in Santa Barbara is sponsored in part by the City Redevelopment Agency and County Arts Commission in collaboration with the City of Santa Barbara.

About the Arts Commission:

Recognized by the California Arts Council as a regional arts agency, the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission is committed to advocacy for the arts of our region. The Commission provides technical support, promotes access to the arts through its public art programs, and encourages partnerships and collaborations through a variety of means including its Annual Arts Symposium and recent countywide Brown Bag Arts lunches. The Commission grants more than \$450,000 in City Arts funding each year through its long-standing partnership with the City of Santa Barbara.