

Public invited to tenth annual Mayor's Arts Awards on November 5



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11/03/2014

For Immediate Release

November 3, 2014

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Ventura Mayor Cheryl Heitmann invites the public to attend the tenth annual Mayor's Arts Awards on Wednesday, November 5, at 7 pm, at the Museum of Ventura County, 100 East Main Street in Ventura. The reception honors leaders, patrons, educators and artists dedicated to nurturing our city's vibrant arts community and vital cultural life:

Miriam Arichea – Arts Educator

Miriam Chase Wille – Arts Patrons

Debbie Golden – Arts Leader

Pete Ippel – Emerging Artist

Helle Scharling-Todd – Artist in the Community

"These annual awards are an important tradition for everyone who loves the arts and Ventura," said the Mayor. "They cultivate a greater visibility and understanding of the value of the arts to the public at large and are one small way to say 'well done' and 'thank you' to all participants in our creative community--for their contributions, their dedication and their passion to serve the arts AND our city."

Music by Jill Martini Soiree and refreshments precede presentations by Cultural Affairs Commission Chair Eileen Riddle, Public Art Commission Chair Barbara Brown, Deputy Mayor Erik Nasarenko, Community Partnerships Manager Denise Sindelar and Department of Parks, Recreation & Community Partnerships Director Elena Brokaw. Each honoree receives "Mark of Excellence," a special edition work on paper created by artist Lis Schwitters.

Reception sponsors include the Museum of Ventura County, Beverlee's, Season's Catering, Ventura High School Regional Occupational Program: Floral Design and the city's Departments of Community Development and PRCP.

A selection panel (listed below) convened earlier this year to review nominations made by the public and to make recommendations forwarded to the mayor and the City's Cultural Affairs Commission for their approval: Kathy Asher, Cultural Affairs Commissioner and VUSD Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Mary Perez, owner of VITA and recipient of the Mayor's Arts Award for Arts Patron in 2013; and Margaret Travers, Executive Director of the Ventura County Arts Council.

For more information contact Georgeanne Lees at 805/658-4720 or glees@cityofventura.net.

This release is available on the City of Ventura website www.cityofventura.net. --###--