

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

October 19, 2016

Contact: Georgeanne Lees, 805/658-4720
Richard Newsham, 658-4706

501 Poli Street
Ventura, CA 93001

Mayor's Arts Awards recipients announced, public invited to reception on November 3

Ventura Mayor Erik Nasarenko is proud to announce the recipients for the Mayor's Arts Awards and invites the public to attend its twelfth annual reception on Thursday, November 3, at 7 pm, at the Museum of Ventura County, 100 East Main Street in Ventura. Seven top leaders, patrons, educators, entrepreneurs and artists dedicated to nurturing our city's lively arts community and vital cultural life will be honored this year:

- Mark & Janet Goldenson – Arts Patrons
- Dr. KuanFen Liu – Artist in the Community
- Geraldine (Dina) Pielat – Creative Entrepreneur
- Jodi Farrell – Arts Educator
- Jim Rice – Arts Leader
- Kaylie Pendleton – Student Artist

“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 our city through the arts.”

Music by Caleb Bigler and Blake Kasting Duo and refreshments from Seasons Catering precede individual presentations for each honoree who will receive “Mark of Excellence,” a special edition work on paper created by artist Lis Schwitters.

The event is presented by the City Manager's Office and the Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships Department. Reception sponsors include the Museum of Ventura County, Beverlee's, Seasons Catering, and the Ventura High School Regional Occupational Program: Floral Design.

An Awards Selection Committee (listed below) convened earlier this year to review nominations made by the public and to make recommendations that were forwarded to the Mayor and the City's Cultural Affairs Commission for their approval: Betsy Chess, Cultural Affairs Commissioner & Museum of Ventura County Director of Development; Anna Bermudez, Museum of Ventura County Curator of Exhibits and Collections; and Barbara Brown, Public Art Commissioner & CEO of BBM&D Strategic Branding.

For recipient bios and more awards information contact Georgeanne Lees at 805/658-4720 or gleees@cityofventura.net.

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