



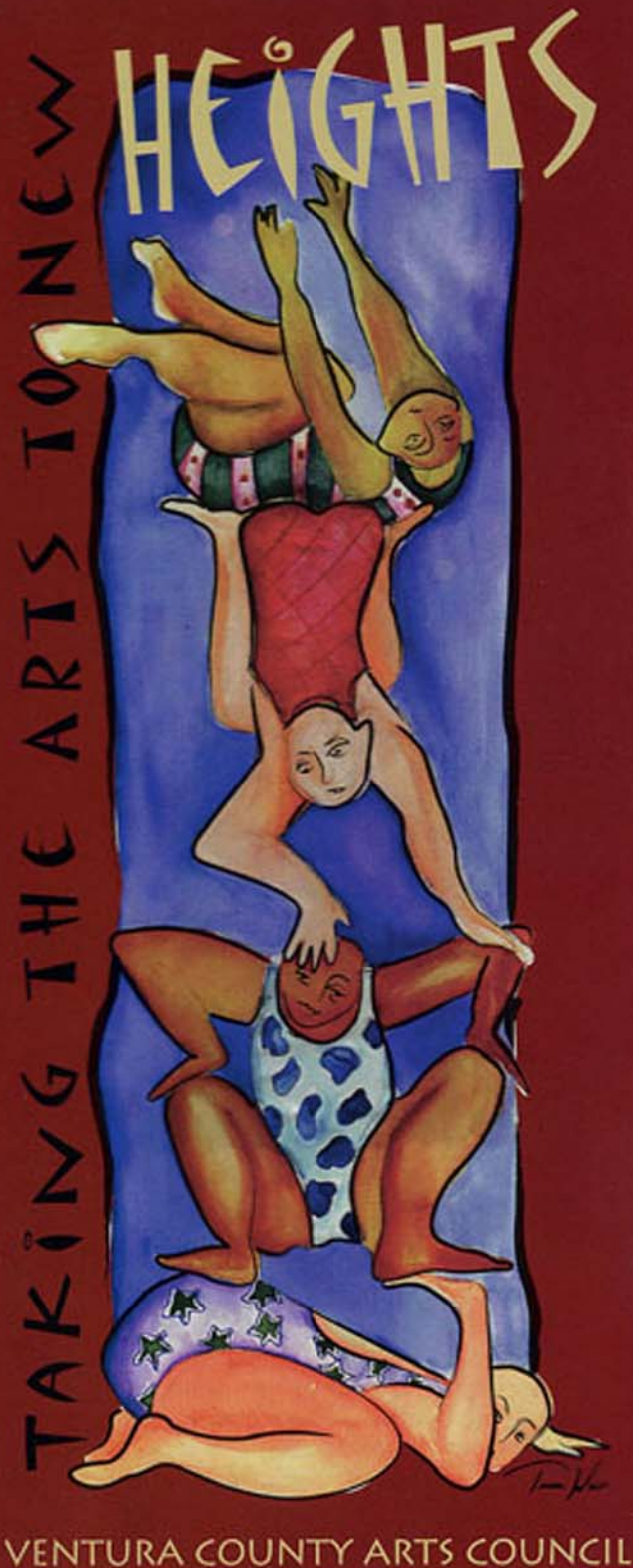
Our mission is to create greater accessibility to the arts, promote quality arts education in public and private schools, provide information and resources, expand funding, create dialogue and mutual support among arts organizations and artists, and advocate for local arts at the regional, state and national levels.



Painting by Pat Richards



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BLENDING INSTRUMENTAL PARTNERS

Founded in 1997 as a partner to the California Arts Council, the Ventura County Arts Council (VCAC) serves artists, nonprofits related to the arts, public arts organizations and the local community.

The VCAC works to promote:

- Artistic excellence
- Accessibility to the arts for everyone in Ventura County
- Quality arts education
- Support for arts organizations and artists to achieve their goals
- Cooperation, communication and mutual support between arts organizations, artists and the community



We enjoy strategic partnerships with:

- California Department of Education
- Ventura County Superintendent of Schools
- Ventura County Board of Supervisors
- California Arts Council
- California Association of Local Arts Agencies
- California Arts Advocates
- Ventura County Community Foundation
- Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation

actors, musicians, dancers and writers, we also are developing a multi-disciplinary Artist Directory that will be available on our website, www.venturacountyarts.net.

PAINTING THE TOWN

Arts Week

A 10-day celebration of the arts in Ventura County, Arts Week takes place at the beginning of October and is a chance for artists and arts organizations to schedule activities that promote the arts in Ventura County. The celebration commences with California Arts Day the first Friday in October and coincides with October's National Arts and Humanities Month.

Cultural Tourism



Working in collaboration with the local hospitality industry, chambers of commerce, visitors bureaus, municipal economic development departments and the Ventura County Star, we market our county's cultural arts amenities to our residents and visitors to the area.

Orchestrating Artist Connections

To keep artists and arts organizations connected, we maintain an updated list of cultural organization contact information on file for media and the public, and a contact list of more than 700 visual artists. Because we represent artists in many genres, including

ADDING SOME GREEN

Arts Stars Awards and the Ventura County Partnership for the Arts Fund

Each spring, we hold the Arts Stars Awards to raise funds for the Ventura County Partnership for the Cultural Arts Fund. In concert with the Cultural Arts Endowment Fund for Ventura County that was established in 2003 at the Ventura County Community Foundation, the two funds provide support for the county's arts organizations, grants to infuse arts into the core curriculum of all schools in the county and fellowships for individual artists. Donations to either fund are welcome throughout the year from individuals, businesses and foundations that wish to ensure the sustainability and growth of the county's cultural community.



CREATING A LASTING IMPRESSION

Arts Scholars

Each year, the VCAC assists in identifying Ventura County students who may qualify for the prestigious California State Summer School for the Arts/Innerspark, and then hosts a reception for the applicants selected to attend.



Arts-in-the-Classroom Mini-Grant Program

Since 2004, we have approved 30 classroom arts projects for funding through this program. The mini-grants of \$300-\$500 are seed money to be matched dollar-for-dollar by the schools. Through the grants, elementary schools partner with local arts organizations and artists to bring standards-based arts into the classroom, following the guiding principles contained in The Visual and Performing Arts Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve.

Arts in Education

We know that creativity and innovation in the arts and sciences comes from early and constant nourishment, and that starts in our schools. The VCAC advocates at the local, state and national levels for more standards-based cultural arts in the core curriculum of our public and private schools so that our kids can become leading experts in fields from fine and applied arts to medicine and science.

For more information about the Ventura County Arts Council, and how to give and participate, call (805) 658-2213 or visit www.venturacountyarts.net.