

An Overview of the Artists Guild of the Santa Ynez Valley

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Welcome to the Artists Guild of the Santa Ynez Valley! The mission of the Guild is “to encourage artists in the Central Coast area to grow in artistic ability, to enable them to exhibit their works for sale, and to promote artistic awareness in the community-at-large.”

The Guild rents an exhibit room at Gallery Los Olivos, 2920 Grand Avenue, Los Olivos, California. Shows are changed monthly. The ingathering of original art from members occurs on the first Wednesday of the month, 11 am to 1pm, in the Guild Room. Ingathering fees are charged. Also provided are a print rack and a card rack for display of matted unframed art and greeting cards and pedestals for three-dimensional fine art. (Be sure to read the inclosed flyer, “Showing your Art in the Guild Room.”)

The Guild sponsors educational programs that may include presentations, demonstrations or discussions on creating, viewing, or understanding art and the creative process. Sometimes plein air workshops, field trips and/or social events are planned. A recent innovation has been the Art Salon. Art lovers and artists gather monthly to exchange ideas with and be inspired by the fellow creators.

Special community exhibits enable Guild members to display their work in such places as wine tasting rooms, coffeehouses, restaurants, etc. As part of its community outreach, the Guild also sponsors various art events. In the past these have ranged from art supply sales and studio tours to special weekend exhibits and joining other community organizations and individuals to present an Art Festival.

The Guild always welcomes creative and innovative ideas about possible future special events.

The Guild has an active scholarship program. Each year it gives substantial art merit awards to local graduating high school students enrolling in accredited art schools, colleges, or universities. Funds for this program come from generous donations from members and supporters of the arts, fundraising events, and Guild memorial funds. (We would welcome your donation; the Guild is a 501 (c) (3) organization.)

The Guild also sponsors an annual student art exhibit. For the last two years we have partnered with Arts Outreach in presenting this show as part of their *Applause—Young Artists Program*.

A brand new initiative is the formation of Santa Ynez Valley Arts under the aegis of the Artists Guild. This group takes the place of the former Los Olivos Gallery Organization (LOGO) and encompasses the whole Santa Ynez Valley. More details will be forthcoming about this exciting plan!

The Guild’s new online newsletter, as well as periodic e-mail announcements, keep members informed about events and shows, member activities, and art opportunities in the Central Coast area. For much useful information about the Guild (including a *Members’ Handbook*, a roster of members, officers and committee chairs, and a calendar of events) visit the Guild’s website at www.agsyv.org.

The Guild has a great need for volunteers. If you want to help (and have fun too!) give your name to one of the ingathering volunteers or send an e-mail to ArtistGuildSYV@gmail.com.

NOTE: Please make sure that you sign the Guild’s Waiver Form and return it immediately. Also make sure that you have given the Guild your **up-to-date e-mail address**, as well as your U.S. mail address, so we can keep in contact with you!