

Richmond Art Center's 54th Annual Holiday Arts Festival Partners with Local Nonprofits

Five Richmond nonprofits share their missions, sell their work in the Community Gallery at the Art Center's annual holiday festival.

RICHMOND, CA — November 18, 2016—On Sunday, December 4, 2016, the largest community event and fundraiser for the Richmond Art Center returns for its 54th year, with over 50 local artists and artisan collectives participating. This year, the festival has expanded to present and give visibility to nonprofit partners with the Richmond Art Center, which include [Rosie the Riveter Trust](#), [Girls Inc. of West Contra Costa](#), [NIAD Art Center](#), and [RYSE Youth Center](#).



"We love our neighbor the Richmond Art Center and their annual Holiday Festival, said NIAD's Gallery Director, Tim Buckwalter. "What a fantastic tradition. At [NIAD Art Center](#), we delighted and honored to be a part of it. This year we're pleased to showcase work from four of our emerging artists – Vanessa Bravo, Donzell Lewis, Shana Harper and Sara Malpass – who will be amazing works in clay, fiber, and clay."



[RYSE Youth Center](#) will also be creating art to sell this year. Says Visual Arts Coordinator Vanessa "Agana" Espinoza: "The Visual arts team at Ryse Youth Center has been creating some new original handmade jewelry, art and crafts to share at the Richmond Art Center's Holiday Art Festival. We are honored to present some amazing unique pieces for sale made by the talented young artists at Ryse. We are very excited about this partnership especially after collaborating on a youth-led mural in the front entrance of the Richmond Art center."



"[Girls Inc](#) is so excited to be working with some very special young entrepreneurs, helping them to fulfill their desires for a successful career doing what they love to do," says Cristal Banagan, Associate Director of Girls Incorporated of West Contra Costa County. "With the help of personal mentors, our young ladies are creating their businesses, and finding opportunity to "make their mark" with the help of the Richmond Art Center! Stay tuned in to these incredible young marvels and their beautifully creative creations, brought to you as only Richmond can!"



"[Rosie the Riveter Trust](#) will be selling a variety of unusual 'Rosie' items to benefit its work on behalf of the Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park," says Marsha Mather-Thrift, Executive Director of Rosie the Riveter Trust. "Items will include a variety of unusual designs from the Rosie the Riveter National Park Gift Store. We are very excited to be participating in this years Arts Festival and supporting the greater Richmond community."



Also present will be staff from [The Latina Center](#), whose mission is to improve the quality of life and health of the Latino community by providing leadership and personal development opportunities for all Latinos.

The festival opens its doors to the public at 11am and ends at 5pm at the Richmond Art Center, 2540 Barrett Avenue in Richmond, CA. Attendees will be able to decorate their own canvas tote bag, perfect for shopping or carrying art supplies, create their own handmade terrariums, bid on silent auction items, mingle with many local artists and Richmond Art Center art instructors, and learn more about what's happening in the Richmond nonprofit community. All within a few steps of great

meals served up by Curbside Kitchen and Opie's Gourmet Stacked Burgers.

This year's Holiday Arts Festival features many new artist vendors, and gourmet food trucks and food vendors on site. Art collectors mark the day as an opportunity to bid on collectible, prized works by notable Bay Area artists. To see the list of vendors and community partners participating in this event, please visit the Holiday Art Festival's web page as it will be continuously updated with current information: <http://richmondartcenter.org/holiday-arts-festival/>

About the Richmond Art Center:

The Richmond Art Center is the largest visual arts center in the East Bay, delivering exciting arts experiences to young and old alike who reflect the diverse richness of our community. The Art Center features hands-on learning, well-equipped studios, Art in the Community programs and contemporary exhibitions in its galleries.

Every year, the Richmond Art Center serves thousands of students through classes and programs taught by professional artists, both onsite at the Art Center and at sites throughout Richmond. The Art Center's four galleries mount rotating exhibitions that display the works of emerging and established Bay Area artists. Artists such as Richard Diebenkorn, Jay DeFeo, Wanxin Zhang, Hung Liu, William Wiley and Peter Voulkos have been showcased here.

Now celebrating its 80th anniversary, the Richmond Art Center originated in 1936, when local artist Hazel Salmi, who worked for the WPA, traversed the streets of Richmond with a suitcase packed with art supplies, eager to teach art to anyone interested. Today, everything at the Art Center continues to breathe life into Salmi's original vision: That within every person lives an artist.

Visit the Richmond Art Center's website for more information: <http://richmondartcenter.org/>

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