



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 8, 2014

PAPA: Susan Hallsten McGarry, susanhmcgarry@msn.com, 505.982.6379,
pleinairpaintersofamerica.com

SDRVC: Ned Reynolds, reynolds.n@att.net

PAPA ANNOUNCES TWO FIRSTS!

The Plein-Air Painters of America proudly announces its first wet-paint sale in a decade. Known for its annual wet-paint show on Catalina Island from 1986-2003, PAPA has done plein-air museum exhibitions across the country since 2004 ... until now. In a partnership with the Art in Nature Alliance, PAPA members will be painting in the protected areas of the San Dieguito River Valley and San Dieguito River Park and presenting wet-paint canvases for sale during an opening weekend gala April 4-6, 2014, at the California Center for the Arts.

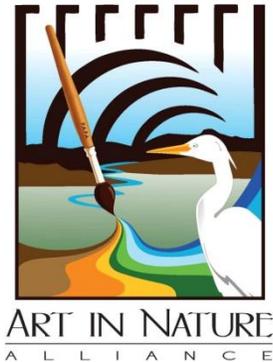
"This is not only our first wet-paint show in a decade," says PAPA President Gil Dellinger. "It is also PAPA's first opportunity to commit its expertise in the field to a nonprofit dedicated to the land that inspires us to create. All of our hearts and skills will be poured into our paintings, as well as a portion of the proceeds from sales which will benefit the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy (SDRVC). This is a win-win situation that we couldn't pass up!"

SDRVC board member Chris Khoury explained, "We wanted to develop a fundraiser that would call attention to nature's beauty and diversity, as well as the importance of preserving our natural environment. Drawing upon the philosophy of longtime SDRVC supporter and celebrated author Rich Louv, we decided to explore his concept of being 'nature-smart' by involving painters from the past, present, and future. We chose to work with PAPA members because of the group's reputation for interacting with nature one-on-one and creating paintings that remind us that every day is Earth Day."

Second Spring—Conserving Nature In Life and Art

Second Spring—Conserving Nature in Life and Art is a combination of three exhibitions focused on the landscape of the San Diego area. The exhibitions take place simultaneously at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido, April 4-27, 2014:

- **Early Artists:** An exhibition of more than 50 artworks from private collections by early California impressionist painters document the San Diego area in the early 20th century. Among the featured artists are: Maurice Braun (1877-1941), Charles Reiffel (1862-1942), Charles A. Fries (1854-1940) and Alfred R. Mitchell (1888-1972).



WHAT: Second Spring—
Conserving Nature in Life and Art
Exhibitions

WHEN: April 4-27, 2014

HOST: California Center for the
Arts, Escondido

ORGANIZER: San Dieguito
River Valley Conservancy

PAPA PAINTERS

Ken Auster, Laguna Beach, CA
John Budicin, San Bernardino, CA
John Cosby, Laguna Beach, CA
Gil Dellinger, Bend, OR
Louise DeMore, Los Osos, CA
Gay Faulkenberry, Duncan, OK
Lynn Gertenbach, Calabasas, CA
Raleigh Kinney, Mesa, AZ
Joan M. LaRue, Tucson, AZ
Jean LeGassick, Silver City, NV
Ned Mueller, Renton, WA
Ralph Oberg, Montrose, CO
Jean Perry, Tucson, AZ
Ron Rencher, Canyon Lake, TX
Ray Roberts, Angels Camp, CA
Randall Sexton, Vallejo, CA
Jane Shuss, Fallbrook, CA
Matt Smith, Scottsdale, AZ
Brian Stewart, St. Paul, MN
Linda Tippetts, Augusta, MT

- Contemporary Painters: Twenty PAPA members will document the area from an early 21st-century perspective. Subject matter includes the coast from La Jolla to Encinitas, as well as the lower portion of the lagoon to the upper portion of Volcan Mountain. Their plein-air paintings, as well as studio works derived from field studies, comprise more than 100 paintings for sale in the contemporary exhibition.
- Future Plein-Air Painters: The California Center for the Arts coordinates with local schools and art education organizations to provide schoolchildren the opportunity to observe nature by making paintings of it in the outdoors and to exhibit their work.

Opening Weekend Events

Several events, including the opening weekend of April 4-6, offer an opportunity to learn about the interaction of art and nature and to acquire paintings by the top artists in the field, as well as contributing to SDRVC projects! Tickets are available through the SDRVC at 858.755.6956.

Friday, April 4, 5 to 7 pm: Pre-opening Meet the Artists
 Saturday, April 5, 5 pm: Early California Impressionists, a visual presentation by Jean Stern, Director, Irvine Museum
 Saturday, April 5, 6 pm: Exhibition Opening Gala and Sale (Ticketed Event: \$100 per person)
 Sunday, April 6, 1 to 4 pm: Exhibition Opens to the public (museum admission)

Additional events include a lecture on Sunday, April 13, by Rich Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods* (2005) and *The Nature Principle* (2011), and a special observance of Earth Day on Tuesday, April 22.

xxxxxxx

THE PLEIN-AIR PAINTERS OF AMERICA

The Plein-Air Painters of America (PAPA) was founded in 1986 in Avalon, Catalina Island, California. As professional painters, PAPA members are dedicated to the historic tradition of working directly from life and striving to more fully explore and respond to the timeless beauty that surrounds us all. PAPA members exemplify excellence in vision and craftsmanship and actively share that knowledge by exhibiting in the finest museums across the nation. pleinairpaintersofamerica.com

SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY CONSERVANCY

The San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy (SDRVC), established in 1986, is a nonprofit whose mission is to preserve, protect, and share the natural and cultural resources of the San Dieguito River Valley through collaborative efforts to acquire lands, complete trails, restore habitats, establish educational programs, create interpretive centers, encourage recreation, and mobilize public support. The conservancy works closely with the San Dieguito River Park (sdrp.org), adding to the 60,000 protected acres within the 55-mile-long river valley, and completing its signature Coast to Crest Trail. sdrvc.org

“Being in nature is recognizing that I am a drop in the ocean, an enveloped drop that is not separate from my environment but a part of the interconnectedness of all things.”

Gil Dellinger, PAPA

CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR THE ARTS ESCONDIDO

The California Center for the Arts Escondido presents a rich and diverse array of artistic and cultural offerings enriching the lives of the community it serves. The Center includes two theaters, a museum, and community education facilities. The museum features three galleries, a sculpture court, secure collections storage and receiving areas, and administrative offices and store. The museum is located at 340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido, CA 92025, 760.839.4120. Hours: Thursday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, and Sunday 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Admission \$8. artcenter.org