



# North County Society of Fine Arts

## MAY AT A GLANCE

POWAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS (PCPA)

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MAY 5 PCPA TAKE-IN

DROP OFF: TUESDAY, MAY 5; 9:00-10:00 AM

BE SURE TO REVIEW THE PROSPECTUS ON OUR WEBSITE AT [NCSFA.ORG](http://NCSFA.ORG) FOR ALL THE DETAILS.

\*PLEASE ARRANGE FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO BRING YOUR PIECES IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FIT INTO THIS TIME SLOT.

IF YOU HAVE A NEW OR UPDATED BIO SHEET, PLEASE BRING AT THIS TIME\*

MAY 24 PCPA EXHIBITION RECEPTION

2:00-4:00 PM

POWAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

15498 ESPOLA ROAD, POWAY, CA

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AND BEVERAGES SERVED

FRIENDS AND FAMILY WELCOME

NOTE MEMBER HAND-PAINTED TILES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: \$25.00 (INCLUDES EASEL)

PCPA PICK-UP: JUNE 1, 9:00-10:00 AM



MAY 12 GENERAL MEETING

INTRODUCTION AND MEMBER APPROVAL OF THE 2026-2027 BOARD AND COMMITTEE SLATE 12:30 PM

ARTIST SOCIAL

TIME FROM 11:30 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.,

A SHORT MEETING FROM 12:00 TO 12:30 P.M.,

THE ARTIST DEMO FROM 12:30 TO 2:00 P.M.

DEMO WITH SUSAN BERKOWITZ

MAY 23 ARTIST WORKSHOP: "USING FOUND OBJECTS IN YOUR ART"

FEATURING SUSAN BEROWITZ 11:30 AM - 3:30 PM SIGN UP AT [NCSFA.ORG](http://NCSFA.ORG)



### Next Newsletter

The next Newsletter is June 2026. Please send your submissions by May 23 to [kat@katfurrowart.com](mailto:kat@katfurrowart.com)

### RB Library Upstairs Gallery

Outside community artists will be showing until the end of June, 2026.

Then ... New NCSFA member Aditi Bhatia July 1 - August 31



## OUR PURPOSE

**NCSFA is dedicated to advancing education and the appreciation of art. Our club objective is to promote education of fine arts to our members and through a scholarship program for students in our community.**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

As we move into May, I find myself reflecting on what a privilege it has been to serve as President of NCSFA. This will be my final month in the role, and I am deeply grateful for the support, creativity, and camaraderie that make this organization so special. It has truly been an honor to be part of such a talented and generous community.

May also brings one of our highlights of the year—our all-member exhibition at the Poway Center for the Performing Arts. Artwork take-in is May 5, and I hope you'll join us for the reception on May 24 to celebrate the incredible work of our members.

On May 12 at the Rancho Bernardo Library, we will begin with our General Meeting, where we will present the slate of officers and hold a vote by the membership. Following the meeting, our own Susan Berkowitz will present her demonstration, with a workshop to follow on May 23.

As we head into our summer hiatus from June through August, I invite you to join us for our all-member potluck on Tuesday, June 9, from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM at the Rancho Bernardo Library—be on the lookout for the sign-up sheet soon.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Warmly,

Joan

[joan.bonetti@gmail.com](mailto:joan.bonetti@gmail.com)

### **Things to Know**

The NCSFA Board voted to change to Membership Renewal Policy. Effective immediately, membership dues will now be due annually on the anniversary of each member's initial or renewal payment date.

We want to welcome five new members who joined in March: Michele Kruck, Robin Flink, Lydia Webber, Peggy Stokes and Jorge (Renee Garza). Welcome to NCSFA!

## APRIL FEATURED ARTIST HIGHLIGHT: ROSE IRELAN |

### An Inspiring Demonstration and a Sold-Out Workshop

April was an exceptional month for the **North County Society of Fine Arts (NCSFA)**, featuring acclaimed artist **Rose Irelan**, an award-winning **oil painter** and San Diego-based plein air artist known for luminous color and expressive light.

#### The Artist Demonstration

On **April 14, 2026**, NCSFA hosted an inspiring artist demonstration at the **Rancho Bernardo Library**, drawing **nineteen engaged participants**. This intimate and energetic session offered a rare, behind-the-scenes look at Rose's creative journey—from initial concept to a finished seascape painting. Attendees followed her process as she shared how she uses an **art journal** to capture plein air locations through quick, expressive sketch-and-paint studies. These field notes become essential references, informing palette choices, composition, and the balance of light and shadow in her studio work.

Participants watched as Rose transformed her observations into a finished seascape, painting from a reference photo while preserving the spontaneity and vitality of working outdoors. Her mastery of waves, light, and movement brought the coastal scene to life and clearly demonstrated why she is nationally recognized as both an artist and educator. The demonstration set an exciting tone for deeper learning and creative exploration.



### The Seascape Workshop

The excitement carried into Rose's **Seascape Workshop** later in April, which filled quickly to capacity with **12 happy participants**. The three-hour workshop was hands-on, fun, and highly engaging, with plenty of personal instruction, practical guidance, and moments of shared discovery. Artists left energized, inspired, and equipped with clear takeaways they could immediately apply to their own work.

Together, these successful events highlight the value of NCSFA's artist demonstrations and workshops—welcoming, educational, and creatively invigorating. Be sure to join us for future programs and register early—our April events proved that these opportunities fill fast and deliver lasting inspiration.



## ✓ JOIN US MAY 12: GENERAL MEETING, BOARD VOTE & ART DEMONSTRATION

North County Society of Fine Arts | May 12

Mark your calendar and plan to attend our May 12 General Meeting, where creativity, community, and a bit of club business come together in one lively afternoon! This meeting is especially important as members will vote to approve the 2026 NCSFA Board slate—and there are great opportunities to get involved.

### 🗳️ Board Slate Up for Approval

We'll be presenting the proposed slate below, along with several assistant positions we hope to fill at the meeting. This is a wonderful chance to contribute your talents, work alongside fellow artists, and help shape the future of NCSFA—many roles are flexible and perfect for learning the ropes.

- President: Barbara Kokaska
- 1st Vice President / Programs & Workshops: Susan Berkowitz
  - Assistant: Janet Keto
- Recording Secretary: Reva Sandmeyer
- Treasurer: Steve Berkowitz
- 2nd Vice President / Membership: Susan Berkowitz
  - Assistant Needed!
- 3rd Vice President / Exhibitions: Janet Keto, Cheryl Boeller
- 4th Vice President / Scholarships: Lynn Rehr
  - Assistants: Lydia Weber, Beatriz Mata
- 5th Vice President / Publicity: Ahna Street
- Website: Shelli West
  - Assistant Needed! (great for proofreaders/editors)
- Newsletter: Kat Furrow
  - Assistant Needed! (photos, info gathering—fun and easy!)
- Library Exhibits: Cheryl Boeller
  - Assistant Needed! (help with hanging shows)
- Hospitality / Potlucks: Christina Adamopoulos, Doris Bertch
- Corresponding Secretary: Doris Bertch

Have a suggestion, request, or interest in helping? Bring it to the meeting—we'd love to hear from you!

### 🎨 Plus... Don't Miss the Art Demonstration!

Following the meeting, enjoy an engaging art demonstration that's sure to inspire and energize. Our demonstrations are always a highlight—relaxed, informative, and a great way to learn new techniques while spending time with fellow artists.

Whether you come to vote, volunteer, learn, or simply enjoy the creative energy, your presence matters.

✨ Come for the meeting—stay for the art—and be part of what makes NCSFA thrive! ✨

## Call to Artists: Join Us for an Inspiring Art Demonstration

Artists of all levels are invited to join us for an engaging art demonstration with this month's featured, self-taught artist Susan Berkowitz. In "Using Found Objects in Your Art," Susan will walk participants through her creative process, sharing a guided, hands-on approach to transforming everyday and unexpected materials into expressive works of art. Come discover new ways to see, experiment, and expand your artistic practice, May 12. See calendar for details.



### Using Found Objects in your Art

Susan is a largely self-taught artist who has taken classes with many successful others who have provided processes, techniques, and inspiration. She has exhibited locally and in Massachusetts. She has won several prizes.

**Workshop: Saturday 5/30/26, 11:30 pm to 3:30 pm at Oasis, 17170 Bernardo Center Dr., RB, CA 92128. You must pre-register and pay for the workshop. \$45 members / \$55 non-members. Register at [NCSFA.org](http://NCSFA.org).** In this workshop, she guides artists through the process of incorporating found objects into mixed media collage with confidence and intention. Working with hand-painted papers, gel prints, vintage text, and everyday materials, you'll learn how to transform unexpected objects into expressive elements that add depth, character, and meaning to your work.

She will guide you in this 3-4 hour workshop and give you some key take aways on creating a collage that incorporates a found object.

We begin with a demonstration on selecting, preparing, and stabilizing found objects— whether they're delicate, weathered, dimensional, or simply unusual. From there, I walk you through practical composition strategies and adhesive options so you can integrate these materials without overwhelming the piece.

You'll have plenty of studio time to create your own collage. As you work, I offer individualized guidance on structure, attachment methods, and ways to build visual balance around your chosen object. We end with a brief conversation about finishing, protecting, and displaying collages that use dimensional materials.

This workshop is a chance to experiment, discover new surfaces and textures, and explore the stories embedded in the objects you choose to use. All levels are welcome. Most materials are provided, but you're encouraged to bring a few small found objects that inspire you, and any special papers you'd like to include..



## CELEBRATING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Congratulations, Kat Furrow!

We are proud to congratulate Kat Furrow on the unveiling of her mural “Aspire”, created as part of the community-wide Creek Trail Mural Project. The historical unveiling event took place on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at 3:30 PM, revealing six large-scale murals—each measuring 15 x 10 feet—to the public.

The murals are prominently displayed on the Neighborhood Healthcare building, facing the Escondido Creek Trail at 460 North Elm Street, Escondido, adding vibrant visual storytelling to this important public space. This monumental project was led by ESCO Alley Art and made possible through a grant from the Public Art Commission.

Kat’s contribution, Aspire, stands as a meaningful and inspiring addition to the trail, reflecting the power of public art to connect community, history, and creativity. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement and lasting contribution to the community!



Congratulations to Janet Keto, whose painting Checks and Balances was selected for the ABSTRACTS Exhibit at EAP this May. This 12” x 12” mixed media collage showcases Janet’s thoughtful exploration of form and balance, and we are delighted to celebrate her work being included in this juried exhibition. Well done, Janet!

Congratulations, Doris Bertch!

Congratulations to Doris Bertch on the acceptance of her 5 x 7 monoprint, “Searching,” into the Escondido Arts Partnership (EAP) Abstract Show, on view from May 9 through June 5, 2026. This achievement highlights Doris’s thoughtful exploration of abstraction and her continued artistic excellence. We’re excited to see her work included in this respected exhibition and congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition!

