

# Unifying Communities Through Visual Storytelling

Inspired by our mission, MMA tells the visual stories of Monterey County and California—unifying communities in our region and raising visibility for the legendary artistic contributions of the creatives who have lived here, as well as those who currently live here. We continue to pursue our mission because art inspires dialogues—the kind of sharing that helps people learn about and appreciate different perspectives. Each exhibition and program offered presents an opportunity for expanding cultural literacy, and everyone benefits from considering diverse viewpoints and artistic processes. As an organization, we continue on a journey of growth—just as our visitors do. With that in mind, this year and moving forward, MMA will showcase art of traditional practices and mediums alongside exhibitions of digital and multi-media works, and beyond.

Aptly, the vibrant digital photographic works of Jim Kasson will be on view starting January 9. Kasson says, “at first glance, a photograph freezes an instant in time, but...I have been fascinated with the idea of incorporating the passage of time into my photographs.” Also opening on January 9, *Richard Lofton: Portraits* will introduce us to the faces of artistic icons such as Armin Hansen, Jeannette Maxfield Lewis, Gus Arriola, Jean McComas, and others. *The Ripple Effect: The Art of Education* will be a celebration of exceptional art education and the



Jim Kasson (born 1943), *Tattoo Parlor, Hollywood, 2006*, digital pigment print.

ability of art to build community—on view starting January 16. Opening the same evening, *Stretched, Strung, and Strewn* will showcase the multi-layered art of Jennifer Brook-Kothlow and Robert Armstrong.

Looking ahead, MMA will present *Color Duet*—another excellent example of how art connects people and shapes lives. Opening May 15, *Color Duet* will feature

art by internationally-recognized textile designer, Kaffe Fassett, alongside the art of his niece and local favorite, Erin Lee Gafill. A tableau of their familial and creative bond, the exhibition will include vibrant still life paintings by both artists, alongside personal ephemera. We hope all of you will join us for these remarkable exhibitions, and so much more to come this year.



Learn more about current and upcoming exhibitions at [montereyart.org](http://montereyart.org)



## From the Executive Director

Dear MMA Members and Friends,

This month, as we focus on our strategic goals of building audience, capacity, and experience, I am filled with new hopes, aspirations, and resolutions for our future. First, my hope: that we continue to receive the support and funding we need to sustain our Museum operations, exhibitions, collections, and school programs. Second, my aspiration: to make California Art and the Museum accessible and engaging for all members of our community and beyond. And third, my resolution: to continue to listen and learn from you, our Members. Your input and participation is invaluable. Thank you for joining me as a Member of MMA and Happy New Year.

Artfully yours,

**Stuart A. Chase**  
Executive Director  
schase@montereyart.org

# La Mirada: Humble Home into Favored Hideout of Hollywood's Elite

La Mirada began its existence as a small chalk rock structure built by a retired soldier of the Spanish Crown in the early 1800s. The property remained in the hands of Spanish-heritage owners until 1922 when it was sold to novelist and screenwriter Gouverneur Morris. The original Casa Castro was turned into a modern residence, with an adjacent guest house and walled garden. The Morrisses hosted gatherings that included the great luminaries of Hollywood's silent era—Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, Harold Lloyd, and Rudolph Valentino.

La Mirada's extraordinary gardens began to be developed in the 1920s when Gouverneur Morris filled his walled enclosure with hollyhocks and other annuals reminiscent of his native New England and sowed the almost treeless hillsides below with California wildflowers. Today the garden features over 100 varieties of roses and draws visitors from near and far during the peak blooming months when the garden is open to the public.



Photo: Moss Media Carmel

The Monterey Museum of Art received the estate as a gift in the 1980s. The gallery wing, added in 1994, was named in honor of benefactors, Jane and Justin Dart, who donated their extraordinary collection of paintings and etchings by Armin Hansen to the Museum. The modern galleries complement the old-world elegance and lavish gardens of this gorgeous, historic estate which will host our black-tie Spring Gala "A Secret Affair" April 25, 2020. Let the champagne flow as we recreate—and celebrate—the legacy that is La Mirada.



Join us for an evening reminiscent of the Roaring '20s when Ruth and Gouverneur Morris hosted Rudolph Valentino and his Leading Ladies of the Silver Screen at MMA's Spring Gala "A Secret Affair" on April 25, 2020. For inquiries, please contact Shannon Damnavits at [vip@montereyart.org](mailto:vip@montereyart.org) or call **831.372.5477 x105**.

## MMA COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: JANA MAGGINETTI



As an MMA Docent, Member, and community sponsor, Jana's positive impact in the creative community is huge. In 2016, longtime Docents Dionys Briggs and John Greenwald accepted Jana into the docent training program. As the owner of Jana Magginetti Interior Design (JMID), she shares her design expertise and art background with visitors in the galleries. Choosing to expand her support, Jana was also a Community Partner for last year's Gala and is already working with MMA staff on atmosphere for our 2020 Spring Gala "A Secret Affair" at La Mirada. Thank you for your perpetual smile, Jana! Your support is invaluable.

# California Community:

## Artist Colonies Past, Present, and Future

In January 2019, MMA hosted its first annual Art of the State Symposium, a one-day forum to discuss important topics concerning California Art. The symposium attracted lecturers and audience members from across the country, and we look forward to this year's topic *California Community: Artist Colonies Past, Present, and Future*. It will be held at MMA's La Mirada Cultural Center on January 11, 2020 (10:00 am – 5:30 pm) and historians, curators, and artists will discuss a range of important topics including:

- *Modernism and the Monterey Peninsula*, Robert Pierce
- *A New Vision: The Dynaton Circle in the Bay Area*, Berit Potter
- *Artists in Simpatico: A Medley of Mid-Century Nor Cal Photographers and Fellow Travelers*, Jeff Gunderson
- *Engagement with Nature*, Susan M. Anderson, Independent Curator and Art Historian
- *On Mission: Forging Community Through California's Chicana and Chicano Art Collectives*, Salvador Guerena
- *Borderline in Collaboration*, Borderline Collective

We hope all lifelong learners will join us as we kick off the year with these important discussions about California Art.



Photo: Moss Media Carmel



For tickets and information about MMA's Art of the State Symposium, visit [montereyart.org/events](http://montereyart.org/events)

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## Expanding the Lexicon of California Art

To date, the Museum has welcomed several artists to participate in its Artist-in-Residence program, and we are welcoming artists whose goal is to expand visual representations of California, as well as scholars, educators, or writers who are interested creating written works and advancing research about California Art. The ideal Artist or Scholar in Residence aims to study and make connections to Monterey County, California, and the places they have been—expanding the lexicon of California Art and connecting the regional art community to the international art community.

Selected artists, scholars, educators, and writers are partners with the Museum, as they combine their project resources with the Museum's resources. They will have already received the funding needed to execute their project, with the Museum to provide comfortable accommodations at the MMA La Mirada Cultural Center—an elegant facility with a storied history. Here, participants will be able to carry out their project in living and working spaces—surrounded by views of the Pacific Ocean, art in the galleries and abundant gardens—in the middle of a community with a rich creative legacy.

The Museum will work with each Artist or Scholar in Residence to offer public programming connected to their project—including open studio hours, lectures, and other opportunities for engagement between members of the community and the Artist or Scholar in Residence. Each residency will provide all with new discoveries and reexaminations of California Art within contexts unique to the program.



For more information about MMA's Artist-in-Residence program, call 831.372.5477.

# Events Calendar

\* Visit [montereyart.org](http://montereyart.org) for the latest news and information regarding upcoming events. Please note programs may be subject to cancellation for reasons such as lack of pre-enrollment. All exhibitions and programs are at 559 Pacific Street unless otherwise indicated.

## JAN

**1** **MUSEUM CLOSED**  
New Year's Day

**3** **FIRST FRIDAY @ MMA**  
5:00 – 7:00 pm  
\$5 Suggested Donation

Meet and greet with artists, curators, and designers while celebrating the opening of new exhibitions at MMA's favorite monthly social event featuring *Currents* artist Mahir Agha and FLUX artist Gyöngy Laky, with live music by Singer/Songwriter Jessie Marks.

**9** **JIM KASSON: CHRONOGRAPHY**  
**RICHARD LOFTON: PORTRAITS**  
Exhibitions open

**11** **ART OF THE STATE SYMPOSIUM**  
*California Community: Artist Colonies Past, Present, and Future* (at La Mirada Cultural Center)  
10:00 am – 5:30 pm  
Visit [montereyart.org/events](http://montereyart.org/events) for ticket pricing

Historians, curators, and artists will discuss a range of topics including Modernism and the Monterey Peninsula, the Dynaton Circle in the Bay Area, mid-century photographers and fellow travelers, engagement with nature, Chicana/o and Latina/o art centers, and the importance of artist collectives.

**15** **AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
Wednesdays, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student (per afternoon)

A weekly creative outlet Wednesday afternoons for children in grades 1-4. This first 8-week unit explores a variety of media. Ask about our Members' Punch Card for a discount. On 1/15 we will experiment with Air Dry Clay!

**16** **JIM KASSON: CHRONOGRAPHY**  
**RICHARD LOFTON: PORTRAITS**  
**THE RIPPLE EFFECT: THE ART OF EDUCATION**  
**STRETCHED, STRUNG, STREWN:**  
**JENNIFER BROOK-KOTHLOW**  
**AND ROBERT ARMSTRONG**  
*Opening Reception*  
5:30 – 7:30 pm  
Free for Members, \$10 for Not-yet-Members

**17** **THE RIPPLE EFFECT: THE ART OF EDUCATION**  
**STRETCHED, STRUNG, STREWN:**  
**JENNIFER BROOK-KOTHLOW**  
**AND ROBERT ARMSTRONG**  
Exhibitions open

**22** **AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*Drawing Techniques with Pencil and Charcoal*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**25** **LECTURE**  
*Dick Crispo: Memories of Great Artists* (at La Mirada Cultural Center)  
10:00 – 11:30 am  
\$5 Members Online, \$10 Not-yet-Members Online, \$15 All at the door  
Join artist Dick Crispo as he reminisces about his memories with Richard Lofton and the artists in Lofton's portrait works.

**26** **LISTENING PLACE READERS THEATER**  
*Presents: Harvey, by Elwood P. Doud* (at La Mirada Cultural Center)  
1:30 – 3:30 pm  
\$10 All at the door

**CURRENTS: GYÖNGY LAKY**  
**FLUX: MAHIR AGHA**  
Exhibitions close

**29** **AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*Found Object Sculptures*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**31** **CURRENTS + FLUX: GLENN CARTER**  
Exhibition opens

## FEB

**1** **MAKERS WORKSHOP**  
*Hands-On Printmaking Demo + Gallery Visit* (at the MPC Printmaking Studio)  
1:00 – 3:00 pm  
\$5 Members, \$10 Not-yet-Members

Check out MPC's amazing studio and gallery, learn printmaking processes, and make your own prints.

**2** **LISTENING PLACE READERS THEATER**  
*Presents: Harvey, by Elwood P. Doud* (at La Mirada Cultural Center)  
1:30 – 3:30 pm  
\$10 All at the door

**5** **AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*Painting with Acrylics*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**6** **LECTURE**  
*Francis McComas: Rediscovering California's First Modernist* (at La Mirada Cultural Center)  
10:00 – 11:30 am  
\$10 Members, \$15 Not-yet-Members, \$20 at the door  
Lecture by MMA Scholar in Residence, Rob Pierce.

**7** **FIRST FRIDAY @ MMA**  
5:00 – 7:00 pm  
\$5 Suggested Donation  
Meet and greet with artists, curators, and designers while celebrating the opening of new exhibitions at MMA's favorite monthly social event featuring *Currents* + FLUX Artist Glenn Carter, and Artist Denese Sanders of *The Ripple Effect*. Denese will offer a book-binding demonstration and an opportunity to create your own miniature book!

**12** **AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*Digital Art with iPads*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**13 MEMBERS MATTER!**  
*Shapes, Scraps, and Sips*  
5:00 – 7:00 pm  
\$20 Members Only, Includes 2 Wine Tickets and Materials  
Join Robert Armstrong and Jennifer Brook-Kothlow of *Stretched, Strung, and Strewn* for a special evening open only to our Members. Members will work alongside Robert and Jennifer to make their own postcards using scrap material and miscellanies while sipping wine and learning from the artists themselves.

**19 AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*Textile Art*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**26 AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*Printmaking Techniques*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**29 FREE FAMILY FUN DAY**  
*Whosits and Whatsits*  
11:00 am – 5:00 pm  
This Free Family Fun Day is inspired by the multi-layered art of Robert Armstrong and Jennifer Brook-Kothlow in *Stretched, Strung, and Strewn*.

Monterey Museum of Art

**FREE  
FAMILY  
FUN DAY**

## MAR

**1 CURRENTS + FLUX: GLENN CARTER**  
Exhibition closes

**4 AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*Drawing Techniques with Inks*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**6 CURRENTS: CYNTHIA SPILLMAN**  
Exhibition opens

**FIRST FRIDAY @ MMA**  
5:00 – 7:00 pm  
\$5 Suggested Donation  
Meet and greet with artists, curators, and designers while celebrating the opening of new exhibitions at MMA's favorite monthly social event featuring *Currents* Artist Cynthia Spillman, and a live performance piece by Artist Mai Ryuno of *The Ripple Effect*.

**11 AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*The Science of Photography*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**14 LECTURE**  
*The Chronology of Chronography*  
(at La Mirada Cultural Center)  
10:00 – 11:30 am  
\$5 Members, \$10 Not-yet-Members, \$15 at the door  
Jim Kasson presents the evolution of incorporating the concept of time into his photographic process throughout his career.

**18 AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*Fluid Painting with Alcohol Ink*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**25 AFTERNOON ART CLUB**  
*Natural Dyes*  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
\$15 per student at the door

**28 MAKERS WORKSHOP**  
*Drawing Trees Workshop*  
1:00 – 3:00 pm  
\$10 Members, \$15 Not-yet-Members, \$20 at the door  
Learn to draw trees with Artist Margaret Niven of *The Ripple Effect*. All skill levels welcome, and materials are included.

**29 RICHARD LOFTON: PORTRAITS**  
Exhibition closes

## UPCOMING



**APR 25 SPRING GALA**  
*"A Secret Affair" Benefiting the Monterey Museum of Art*  
(Monterey Museum of Art at La Mirada)

6:00 pm  
Join us for an evening reminiscent of the Roaring '20s when Ruth and Gouverneur Morris hosted Rudolph Valentino and his Leading Ladies of the Silver Screen. Let the champagne flow as we recreate—and celebrate—the legacy that is La Mirada. For inquiries, please contact Shannon Damnavits at [vip@montereyart.org](mailto:vip@montereyart.org) or call 831.372.5477 x105.

**MAY 5 COLOR DUET: KAFFE FASSETT AND ERIN LEE GAFILL**  
Exhibition opens

# Local Stories:

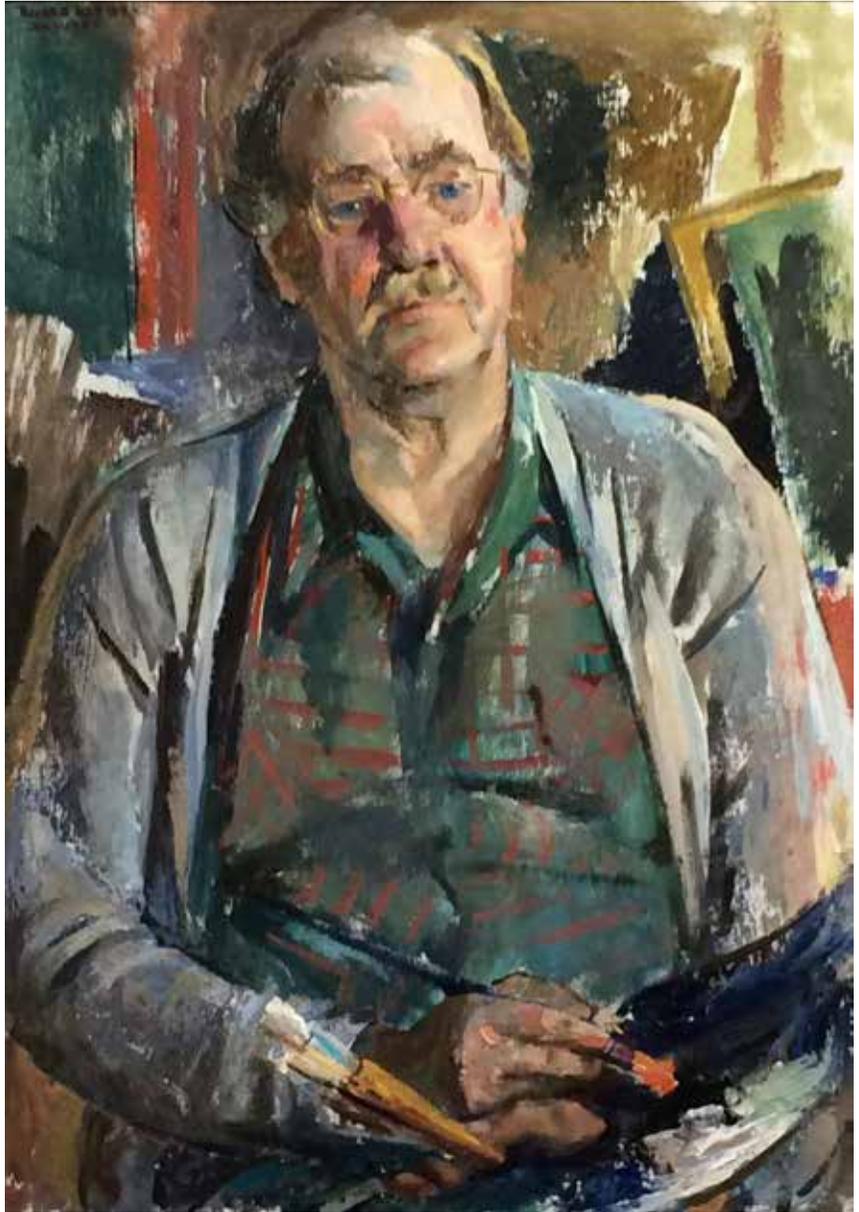
## Dick Crispo on Richard Lofton's Portrait Works

In the 1960s when Dick Crispo was 17 years old, he worked as an apprentice framer in a studio art supplies shop in Carmel. Here, Richard Lofton would visit every day for his 3 o'clock coffee. The art shop was much more than just a shop, it was a hub for artists—complete with artist studio spaces. Within the shop's thriving creative environment, and given the easy access, Richard Lofton painted portraits of the artists who were around him—Armin Hansen, Gus Arriola, Jeannette Maxfield Lewis, and many others.

Immersed, young Crispo “watched the magic unfold” in the shop and interacted with these cultural icons daily. He befriended them, learned techniques, and gained inspiration from them. He remembers Lofton bringing his portrait paintings in to get framed. Sometimes Lofton would bring his portrait works to Crispo right off the easel—paint still wet on the canvas. He remembers Lofton as a relaxed and friendly man who “loved the act of painting,” and says that Lofton painted every day.

Importantly, Lofton did not depend on commissions to make a living, and that allowed him to be free with his approach to painting. Crispo was fascinated by how Lofton frequently painted with the palette knife. He observed how Lofton was able to capture the essence of the artists in his portrait paintings—using a loose hand associated more with landscape painting at the time. In this way, Lofton was a symbol for stepping away from tradition, and this directly influenced Crispo's approach to his own paintings.

After Lofton passed, Crispo felt the loss of not only a great artist, but a great friend he could share art with. He is surprised that Lofton “never got the play” that some other artists of that generation did, but is certainly glad Lofton is “finally getting his due” with the exhibition, *Richard Lofton: Portraits* on view at the Museum



Richard Lofton (1908-1966), *Portrait of Armin Hansen*, 1950, oil on Masonite, 32 x 23 in., Museum purchase by exchange; Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Bates, Mrs. J.B. Heywood, Elizabeth George Lawlor in memory of Dorothy George Meakin, William and Renee Petersen, Mr. and Mrs. John Shephard, Mr. and Mrs. E.V. Staude, and an anonymous donor.

January 9 – March 29. In viewing the exhibition, Crispo hopes visitors will “step inside the paint,” and encourages all to remember that period of art in Carmel.

*A very special thank you to Dick Crispo for sharing and helping us keep local art stories alive.*



Dick Crispo shares *Memories of Great Artists* on January 25. For more information visit [montereyart.org/events](http://montereyart.org/events)

# Introducing Art Advocates

At MMA, our Members make up our most dedicated and enthusiastic supporters. Annual membership fees support all aspects of MMA—from purchasing art supplies for Free Family Fun Days, to conserving works from our permanent collection, to providing honorariums for guest artists and lecturers, to keeping the lights on. We strive to show our Members how much we value and appreciate their membership support through special events, programs, discounts, and benefits that match each tier of membership participation.

In July 2019, at the start of our fiscal year, the Museum introduced a new



Photo: Moss Media Carmel



To learn more about Art Advocates or to make a gift, please contact Shannon Damnavits, Director of External Relations, at [advancement@montereyart.org](mailto:advancement@montereyart.org) or call 831.372.5477 x105.

element to our membership program—the Art Advocates. Art Advocates comprise Members that make an annual membership gift between \$1,000 and \$4,999. Making up our highest tier of membership, Art Advocates have an exceptional opportunity for a deeper relationship with the Museum and all that it offers. In addition to all General Membership benefits, Art Advocates enjoy specially-designed events and tours, intimate gatherings with guest artists and curators, and exclusive behind-the-scenes experiences.

Participating as an Art Advocate allows you to increase your annual giving, while enhancing your experience as a Member and supporter. Importantly, Art Advocates are crucial partners in helping the Museum continue to be a collaborative center where art and community engage. Keep an eye on the Museum's communications for the Art Advocates in action and consider upgrading your membership to join this elite group of givers.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Adriana Hayward, Psy.D., President  
Lila Thorsen, Ph.D., President Emerita  
Tom Donnelly, Vice President  
Judith Marshall, Vice President  
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## TRUSTEES EMERITI

William G. Hyland  
Craig L. Johnson

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stuart A. Chase



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

### Eleanor Uhlinger

Eleanor Uhlinger, who retired last year from the Naval Postgraduate School, where she was University Librarian in charge of Library and Special Collections & Archives, has agreed to become the Museum's new volunteer archivist and will be building on the strong foundation laid by her very dedicated predecessor, Geri Flesher. Eleanor can be found mid-day on Wednesdays in the Betty Hoag McGlynn Archives. Please be sure to introduce yourself and welcome her aboard!

## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

Thank you to all who supported MMA's 2019 Fall Fundraiser, **Vita Sana**, on Saturday, October 26. We were able to raise over \$38,000 in critical funds to keep the galleries open six days a week and bring over 3,400 public schoolchildren annually to the Museum completely free of charge.

### HOSTS

Adriana and Bill Hayward

### PRESENTING SPONSORS

Hannah and Kevin Comolli  
Sandra and Ned Dewey  
Betty and Jim Kasson

### SPONSORS

Grasing's Restaurant  
Star Sanitation



Photo: Moss Media Carmel

# Musings...

Musings is a quarterly publication for  
Members of the Monterey Museum of Art

## OUR MISSION

The Monterey Museum of Art cultivates curiosity  
in the visual arts and engages community with the  
diversity of California art—past, present, and future.

## STAY CONNECTED

- ✉ Sign-up for enews at [montereyart.org/enews](http://montereyart.org/enews)
- 📄 Visit us anytime online at [montereyart.org](http://montereyart.org)
- 📞 General inquiries 831.372.5477
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To report a misprint or error, please  
contact [pr@montereyart.org](mailto:pr@montereyart.org)

WINTER/SPRING 2020

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# First Fridays @MMA

First Friday @MMA is *the* place to be on  
the Monterey Peninsula! Each month  
we stay open late from 5:00 –7:00 pm to  
offer this social event, featuring artists  
and curators from our *Currents* and  
FLUX exhibitions as well as from select  
special exhibitions. First Fridays also

feature live musical performances by  
local and regional musicians of every  
genre and style—from jazz to hip-hop,  
folk to electronica, and more. Enjoy  
mingling and chatting about art while  
sipping on craft cocktails, wine, or beer.  
Importantly, there is no admission fee  
to attend First Fridays (only  
a suggested \$5 donation),  
and in this way, the events  
are an important part of  
the Museum's effort to  
increase accessibility to  
art experiences, and we  
encourage everyone to  
participate.

This quarter, be sure to  
make a mini-book with  
Artist Denese Sanders,  
of the *The Ripple Effect*,  
at our First Friday event



on February 7. Then, during our First  
Friday on March 6, participate in a  
live performance piece by Artist Mai  
Ryuno—also of *The Ripple Effect*. First  
Fridays offer one-of-kind opportunities  
to be a part of the creative culture in  
Monterey County, and we hope to see  
you at our next First Friday event!



Remember to mark First Fridays  
on your calendar! For more  
information about upcoming  
events and programs visit  
[montereyart.org](http://montereyart.org) or call  
831.372.5477.

# FIRST FRIDAY

# MMA