



ART ALLIANCE of the Riverside Art Museum



President: Debra Johnson

May 2023

President's Message:

Well, our busy year is coming to a close with such great memories...Off the Wall, Holiday Brunch, Julia Morgan Birthday Luncheon, Art Market and so many delightful programs throughout the year! Our Annual Dinner Meeting, on May 18th, is an evening to celebrate all that has been accomplished this year. Whether you're brand new to the Art Alliance, or a longtime member, this is the event for you! We will take a look back at the year, thank those who worked so hard to make this year a success, and introduce the incoming 2023-2024 board. Have a great summer, please renew your membership, and I look forward to continuing our work next year with our new President, Ruth Ann Ryan. It has been my pleasure to serve you the past two years...see you soon!

Debra Johnson, *President*

ANNUAL MEETING

We have a few spots left for the annual dinner please contact Emmanuelle Reynolds to secure your spot as soon as possible.

Email: frenchconnection1231@gmail.com or Call: 951-538-5212

We look forward to seeing you on the 18th of May for the last meeting of the season.

Thank you, Tami and Emmanuelle

MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewals are going strong. Thanks to everyone who has renewed! Those of you who haven't, please do so online.

Steps to renew:

- Open the renewal link and fill in your information. Remember, active members to pick a committee, then

- click the payment link.
- When you see the confirmation that you have paid, go **back** to the membership tab, scroll down the membership application, ignoring the bio part, to page 4 and click the purple button to submit your renewal information.

Link to membership renewal form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdoEAq1JIPnyERxktnUq6wqeMDuCpo16pyWbSdKZoSdNYageA/viewform>

Of course, if you wish to pay by mail you can download the form [here](#) or email Patti at plmfunder@gmail.com and I'll send you the application.

Thanks everyone!

Patti Funder, Membership Co-Chair

PROGRAMS

This is our last newsletter for the year and the program team wants to thank everyone for making this year the best. It was wonderful for us to meet with you each month.

We have already started working on programming for next year which will include a lot of surprises, fun and laughter. Plan now to mark your calendars busy and join us on the third Thursday of the month starting in September.

Denise Kraemer, *Program Chair*

BLUE DOOR MUSEUM STORE

FEATURED ARTIST: *Debi Varvi*

Debi Varvi has been an artist since she first picked up a crayon.

Born in Texas in 1956, her father was a fighter pilot in the Air Force and her mother was a homemaker. She traveled extensively with her family, absorbing

art and culture on a global scale. With her rich Italian heritage, her family instilled in her an immigrant's pride of place, history, and a healthy suspicion concerning organized religions. Perhaps because of her exposure to so much variety and strangeness, she is fascinated and bemused by humans and their weird ways. Happily, her parents encouraged her artistic endeavors, even though they were often confused by her obsessions with mythological stories, monsters, and anthropomorphic creatures.

Making her current home in Southern California, Debra enjoys adorning festival goers with the ancient art of henna in the summers and, when she isn't traveling, spends the rest of her time in her home studio. She is currently immersed in her series on dead angels and saints, lovingly rendered on maps in color pencil, gold leaf, ink, and henna paste. In 2022 she began taking print classes at Division 9 Gallery, hungry for the challenge of learning new techniques, which she feels creates new opportunities for artistic exploration.

You can often find her work in person at the Riverside Community Art Association, The Corona Art Colony, The Riverside Art Museum, and Division 9 Gallery. Her online presence is on her website at www.debivarvistudio.com, and on Instagram @debivarvistudio.



SPRING FUNDRAISER

ARToberfest—Fall Fun!

Our Fall fundraiser, ARToberfest, is off and running. Here are some highlights!

- We have four local breweries who will host tasting stations; Euralye, Route 30, Packing House and Carbon Nation! Seems like a good start to a beer-tasting event! Thanks to Euralye for leading the way!
- Our first sponsor is the Albert A. Webb Engineering firm at the premiere level of \$5,000. Art Alliance members will shortly receive sponsorship letters, and we ask that you not only consider sponsorship at one of the many levels, but that if you know a business that might sponsor, to let us know!
- Please look in your closets and attics for artwork you no longer want to keep, and call Selina Bremenstuhl or Kathy Allavie to arrange pick-up! Or bring it by our homes! Either way, a donation of used art will be much appreciated for our Vintage Art Sale.
- Thanks to all who have been so encouraging as we tackle a new event!



For any ARToberfest questions, please call Kathy Allavie at 951-784-7377!

Kathy Allavie, *Co-Chair*

CALL FOR ANNUAL MEETING ART TREASURE DONATIONS

Plans for our fall fundraiser Arttoberfest are coming along well. Each and every Art Alliance member can help by donating Gently Used Art for re-sale at our Craft Beer event in October.

Please take time to look through your art collection for pieces you wish to donate and **bring these Treasures to our Annual Meeting on May 18**. We will be collecting your donations at the front entrance to the museum that afternoon. Our goal is to have 300 art pieces for sale. Art, framed or unframed, glass, wood, sculptures, any size, any shape, will be received with gratitude. Pieces not sold will

not be returned, but donated to support another cause.

If you are not planning to attend the Annual Meeting, but have pieces to donate, please contact either Kathy Allavie (kallavie@aol.com) or Selina Bremenstuhl (sbremenstuhl@gmail.com) to make arrangements for your donation.

TREASURER'S TALK

Attached are the Art Alliance financials for March 2023. As you can see, it was predominantly the Art Market in terms of both Income and Expenses. We close out March with a balance of \$25,736.33.

May is the last general meeting of Art Alliance for the fiscal year 2022-23, as we do not have meetings in June, July, and August. Therefore, it gives me great pleasure to recap the success Art Alliance has had this year.

To date, we have donated \$36,000 to RAM---\$10,000 of which is the remaining proceeds from Art Market 2022 and \$26,000 from our fall fundraiser Off the Wall. There are still expenses that need to be paid for Art Market 2023 and credit card payments need to be transferred, but we expect the profit to be close to \$26,000. On May 2, 2023, the Art Alliance Board made the decision to give RAM \$15,000 of this now and once all is reconciled, to give the remaining in September. In addition, the Blue Door Museum store profit (the store merchandise which is acquired and managed by Art Alliance volunteers) has exponentially increased since the opening of The Cheech due to the increased number of people visiting both museum sites. Kathy Arthur, Blue Door Chair, reported to the Board that profits from September 2022 to March 2023 are \$36,000.

If I do the calculations for this fiscal year to date, Art Alliance will have given RAM \$51,000 from our fundraisers and an additional \$36,000 in Blue Door profit for a total of \$87,000.

Kudos to Art Alliance---the superb leadership of Debra Johnson, the Fundraising chairs, the Blue Door committee, and every one of you---for

donating either time and talent or monetary donations to make this a very, very successful year to support RAM.

Pam Balys, *Art Alliance Treasurer*



Please Join us on the
roof top of RAM

Riverside Art Alliance
Annual meeting dinner
Hawaiian Theme

Pull out your favorite Luau outfit!

MAY 18TH, 2023

COCKTAILS 5:30 - 6:00

DINNER 6:00 - 7:00

MEETING 7:00 - 8:30

COST \$45.00

Menu:

Huli Huli chicken

Salmon with mango pineapple relish

Rice, Fresh fruit, Asian style coleslaw, Rolls

White chocolate macadamia cookies with tropical sorbet

RSVP: by May 4th

To: Emmanuelle Reynolds 951-538-5212

frenchconnection1231@gmail.com

"One Fine Artist": Marty Tobias



Many Art Alliance members remember prolific Riverside artist Marty Tobias and his wife Carol, a long time Art Alliance member. Upon their recent move, Marty arranged to sell his jewelry and Riverside note cards exclusively at the Blue Door Museum Store.

Marty Tobias is a talented fine artist who works in a variety of media. His paintings, etchings and other works all show the results of his diverse background and benefit from his carefully refined techniques.

He grew up in New York City where he attended the High School of Music and Art and received his B.F.A. from the Cooper Union Art School. His advanced studies continued for two years at the Art Students League and two years with Bauhaus abstractionist, Hans Hoffman.

He sharpened his skills through ten years of top-level advertising art work on Madison Avenue. As an independent Art Director, he created promotional material for leading advertising agencies and magazines including Life, Esquire, and Seventeen. His background encompasses such projects as promotional slide presentations, sales literature, corporate logos, book cover designs, and storyboards for television commercials.

The search for a more tranquil lifestyle eventually led Tobias to settle in Riverside, California, where he worked as an Art Director for Bourns, Inc., a large electronics manufacturer. He enjoyed working in corporate design and he found the techniques traditionally associated with commercial art were quite applicable to fine art. He shifted his emphasis to producing fine art works, still retaining his sensitivity to the needs of the business world.

In recent years, Tobias has become widely known for his limited edition giclées and etchings. He also paints with acrylics and watercolors and employs various mixed media techniques for specific projects. Frequently portrayed themes include country scenes, Mission motifs, French village scenes of Provence and other harmonious representational designs. Locally, he did many interpretations of the Mission Inn and various Riverside points of interest.

His works are visually appealing and executed with contemporary color schemes. "I'm constantly interpreting what I see and enjoy into a comfortable composition that I'd like to share with the viewer," Tobias said, with his characteristic manner of calm understatement. The wide public acceptance of his work and favorable comments by art reviewers indicate that other discerning people enjoy them too!

Tobias has been represented by numerous art dealers, publishers and distributors including Christie's of London. His work has shown at many galleries located throughout the United States and in other parts of the world. Corporate clients proudly displaying art works by Tobias include several large hotel chains, law offices, banks, restaurants, manufacturers, hospitals, and various businesses.

Please stop by the Blue Door Store who is exclusively selling his jewelry and note cards with Riverside sites.



Marty and his wife Carol Tobias have moved to Boise, Idaho to be closer to their daughter Mia. You may contact them:

Marty and Carol Tobias
c/o Mia McNeal
[13263 W. Tapatio Dr.](https://www.google.com/maps/place/13263+W+Tapatio+Dr,+Boise,+ID+83713)
[Boise, ID 83713](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Boise,+ID+83713)

Kathy Arthur, *Blue Door Museum Store Chair*

[April General Meeting Minutes](#)
[Financials](#)

CALENDAR

MAY

Thursday, May 18	5:30-8:30pm	Annual Meeting - RAM Rooftop
Sunday, May 21	3:00-5:00pm	Colliding Visions Exhibit Reception -
RAM		

JUNE

Tuesday, June 6 Ryan's Home	5:15-7:30pm	In & Out Board Meeting - Ruth Ann
Saturday, June 17 Auditorium	7:00-10:00pm	Music from Below - Municipal
Sunday, June 18	12:00-7:00pm	Pura Pachanga at The Cheech



Riverside Art Museum
3425 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501
951.684.7111
www.riversideartmuseum.org
