

ART ALLIANCE of the Riverside Art Museum



President's Message

Tami Maio – September 2025

A New Season, A New Chapter, and a Fresh Start for the Art Alliance!

As summer's golden days begin to give way (Hopefully soon!) to the cooler promise of

autumn, there's something magical in the air and the beginning of a brand-new Art Alliance year!

I'm absolutely thrilled (with just the right amount of butterflies!) to step into the role of your President. The year ahead is bursting with possibility, and I can't wait to experience it with all of you, our vibrant, passionate, and dedicated Art Alliance family.

This Year's Theme:

Every president chooses a theme — a guiding light for the months ahead. Mine arrived like a spark of inspiration late one night, perfectly capturing the heartbeat of who we are:

"For the Love of ART." and what **ART** stands for.

- **Action:** Expressing ideas and emotions through art and supporting RAM and the Cheech
- **Relationships:** Building a strong community through art, education, and shared experiences
- **Transformation:** Honoring six decades of impact by inspiring creativity, growth, and positive change in the community.

Because that's what unites us — a deep, shared love:

For art. For each other. And for the difference we make in our museums and community through art.

Let's make this our rally chant as we celebrate creativity, connection, and the power of art to bring us together.

A Fond Farewell to Drew

We began our year with a heartfelt celebration of the incomparable Drew Oberjuerge at her farewell gathering on August 7 at the Riverside Art Museum in the Art Alliance gallery.

On behalf of the Art Alliance, I was honored to present her with our Past President's Pendant, a small gesture of our immense appreciation.

Drew's leadership, generosity, and unwavering dedication have left a beautiful and lasting legacy. Her vision has elevated the Art Alliance, The Cheech, and RAM. As she steps into her next adventure, we send her off with love, gratitude, and our very best wishes. She will always be part of our story — and forever in our hearts.

Kickoff Event: First General Meeting of the Year

Thursday, September 18th – 6:00 PM

Riverside Art Museum in the Art Alliance Gallery.

Join us as we launch the new year with inspiration and community! Our featured guest is the remarkable photographic artist, Andrew K. Thompson, whose exhibit “The Pleasure of Being Wrong” lit up RAM from fall 2024 through spring 2025.

Andrew’s work, a blend of photography, chemistry, and hand-sewn threads, explores the beauty and imperfection of Southern California’s landscapes. You won’t want to miss his talk or the chance to gather with fellow members, reconnect, and welcome new faces.

 **Save the Date: Saturday, October 18th**

ARToberfest is Almost Here!  

Get ready for our first fundraiser of the year — **ARToberfest** is back, and it’s going to be better than ever! Join us at the Riverside Art Museum Saturday, October 18th – 6:00-10:00 PM

Enjoy amazing art, fabulous beer & wine, and a night of fun — all in support of the museum we love.

We need support by donating any art pieces you no longer cherish for the Art sale, contact Amanda Pitchford ([\(951\) 570-2334](tel:9515702334)) Or Patti Funder ([\(951\) 203-8173](tel:9512038173)) AND also need incredible volunteers to help make this event a smash hit — and we’d love your energy and enthusiasm. 

Let Kathy Bocian (kathleen.bocian@gmail.com) know if you can pitch in!

 **Here’s to a Beautiful Year, For the Love of ART**

It’s an incredible honor to lead this amazing organization. I’m filled with gratitude and excitement for all we’ll do together in the months ahead.

With heartfelt thanks,

Tami Maio

President, Riverside Art Alliance 2025 - 2026

ARToberfest 2025



Hello all,

So much has happened over the summer regarding the fall fundraiser ARTtoberfest. Our committee has been very hard at work!

The ARTtoberfest is turning into a wonderful festival of ART and BEER, just as the name suggests!

Date: Oct 18th

Time: 6:30-10:00 PM. Sponsors will be admitted at 6:00 for a reception on the roof. General admission will start at 6:30

Price: \$45.00 presale, \$50.00 at the door, \$35.00 designated drivers. The price includes a souvenir glass and a drink ticket.

ART:

- Denise Kramer and her sub-committee have gotten some of the most renowned artists in Southern CA to donate their original art for a silent auction. Many of these artists have presented programs for the Art Alliance General Meetings, so you will recognize their names. The silent auction will go online on Oct. 1st. Bidding will be stopped at the ARTtoberfest at 9:30PM. The art will be on display at the ARTtoberfest

the Art Alliance.

- The art sale, which will be in the atrium, has around 200 donated wonderful pieces of framed and unframed art, prints, posters, ceramics and art glass, all priced from \$10.00 to \$50.00
- Art activities. There are two: Debi Varvi will be sharing her henna art skills with us. She will be doing henna tattoos in the Taylor Family Gallery on the second floor. Second: We will be making collages in the large classroom on the second floor.

Everyone will have art to take home.

BEER:

We are excited to have 6 local microbreweries and 2 home brewing clubs ready to pour their special brews for you.

The microbreweries are: All Points Brewery, Carbon Nation Brewing, Euryale Brewing Company, GreyWolf Brewing Co., The Packing House Brewing Company, and Storytellers Brewery and Meet House. The Home Brewing Clubs are Beer Me Brew Club and Inland Empire Brewers Club.

ENTERTAINMENT: Chimera and Calliope will play on the rooftop from 6pm to 10pm.

FOOD: Two Trees Kitchen will be serving scrumptious small plates for our enjoyment.

FUN: We will have a bar trivia game on the roof during the switching of the bands courtesy of Anne Deem. Anne will also be orchestrating a “best in Brew” contest for the breweries and brew clubs.

This will be an evening full of ART, BEER and FUN!

We will be distributing a flyer digitally, so watch your emails. And we have some post cards to hand out at the General Meeting.

What can you do to help?

First, please answer **Kathy Bocian** and **Margo Chabot’s** call to VOLUNTEER some time to help with the event. We cannot do this without your help!

Second, Get the word out! Please share flyers and post cards with friends and neighbors and on your social media. Plus look at the Art Alliance’s and RAM’s social media and share those posts.

Third, The success of all the Art Alliance’s fundraisers rests on the shoulders of the Sponsors. Please become a sponsor. The sponsor letter has been mailed so

you've already seen the levels of sponsorship. Whether you decide to sponsor the event or not, please share the sponsor letter with friends and family. Maybe they won't want to sponsor but might be interested in buying tickets. I have extra sponsor letters in case you need a sponsor letter or two, and I have envelopes and stamps. Just let me know.

Here is the link to sponsor and buy tickets.

<https://tinyurl.com/ARToberfest2025>

Thank you all for everything you do that contributes to the Success of the Art Alliance and RAM!

Cheers!

Patti Funder

Chair: Fall fundraiser: ARToberfest

RIVERSIDE ART MARKET 2026



APRIL 11, 2026 • WHITE PARK • RIVERSIDE

HOLD April 11, 2026 from 10 AM to 4 PM in White Park!

PROGRAMS



SEPTEMBER SPEAKER...Andrew K. Thompson

The speaker for our September program will be **Andrew K. Thompson**, a photographic artist from the Inland Empire. His work has been exhibited at the Lancaster Museum of Art and History, the Riverside Art Museum, the California Museum of Photography, the Cheech Center for Chicano Art and Culture, the Walter N. Marks Center for the Arts and the Center for Fine Art Photography, Gallery1/1 and Klotz Gallery.

Andrew was a competitive bicycle motocross (BMX) racer. He has been a member of Incredibly Strange, a punk rock pro wrestling performance group and was the founder of Punk Rock Pillow Fight, a national pillow fighting tournament.

Thompson co-founded The Little Gallery of San Bernardino (TLGSB) an artist run space focusing on San Bernardino and the greater Inland Empire. TLGSB has presented over 30 solo and group exhibitions featuring artists of various ages, genders and identifications for six years and counting.

Teresa Chamiec & Elisa Lopez
Programs Co-chairs

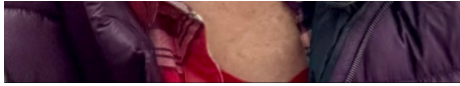
BLUE DOOR MUSEUM STORE

Mary Gehley



A Southern California native, **Mary Gehley** creates vibrant mixed media pieces inspired by the laid-back, colorful California lifestyle. Her love of nature was shaped by childhood camping trips to mountains, deserts, and beaches. Creativity was a constant, nurtured through sewing and crafting with her grandmothers. Though her professional path led elsewhere, Mary later returned to art—teaching gourd techniques through classes and videos. She continues to grow as an artist by attending workshops, online

... ..



courses, and life drawing sessions with Riverside artist Chick Curtis.

Artist Statement

I'm driven by curiosity, a love of color, and a deep fascination with how things connect. I enjoy experimenting—asking “what if?”—and letting intuition take the lead. Color helps me tap into emotion, transcend the everyday, and evoke the essence of my subjects. I see art as a way to explore the invisible threads that link light and dark, order and chaos, science and spirit, connection and solitude. Everything is connected. Through my art, I follow those threads—and share them, hoping others feel them too.

Mindy Griffith, Blue Door Museum Store

MEMBERSHIP

For this month, we are sharing portraits of two of our new members who are part of the Artoberfest Committee. We love their spirit and energy!

Kimberly Earhart

The first time I met Kimberly she was off on a quest with Patti Funder to recruit breweries for Artoberfest. Can Do attitude... YES!

“I’ve been teaching history at Mt. San Antonio College since 2005. I’ve always enjoyed the events and exhibits at the museum and wanted to find a way to give back. Joining the Art Alliance seemed like a win win to me! If I get any free time, I’m reading, reading, reading.”

Violet Evergreene

“ I first heard about the Art Alliance while looking for ways to be more involved in the local arts community, and I decided to join because I love the sense of community here and wanted to help out with events like Artoberfest.

My “day job” is being a full-time artist. I focus on quilling, pen-and-ink, and mixed-media work, often blending surreal and meditative themes. What I enjoy most about art is how it can turn both everyday moments and deeper reflections into something tangible and meaningful.

meaningful.

Riverside has become a special place for me and my family over the last few years. My child has participated in C.A.P. and EAA programs, I often walk Mt. Rubidoux and Ryan Bonaminio Park, and many of our favorite date nights happen in downtown Riverside. The city feels like a second home, and I'm excited to be more involved through the Art Alliance. For now, I call myself a "vintage-in-progress" as a reminder that good art, like good wine, takes time."

If you have any questions regarding membership (either in Art Alliance or the Riverside Art Museum), feel free to contact **Kathy Bocian** ([951 206-0928](tel:9512060928)) or **Elizabeth Lossing** ([951 333-2727](tel:9513332727)). Thank you!

Volunteers for Artoberfest

Along with Cal Baptist Students and Rotary members, we will be leaning on our Art Alliance Members for help with setup, ticket checking, room monitoring, art guidance and helping with the art sale of 'gently used' art for sale. We will keep the shifts short so you can continue to enjoy the event!

Saturday October 18th 6:00 PM (sponsors only) 6:30 PM (general admission) until 10:00 PM

Riverside Art Museum Julia Morgan Building

Thank you.

Kathy Bocian & Elizabeth Lossing
Art Alliance Membership Co-Chairs

ICONS in Transformation is Back!





Artist Ludmila (Mila) Pawlowska is back in Riverside. The exhibit titled “Icon in Transormation” was shown at All Saints Episcopal Church and the Riverside Art Museum in 2015. Mila has created many new pieces and is dedicating this exhibit to the people of Ukraine. All proceeds from the artist will be donated to Ukrainian organizations. We invite you to see her new artworks and hope to see you again. Mila is offering free tours for Art Museum and Art Alliance members at the Immanuel Lutheran Church on **Saturday, September 6th and September 13th at 1:30 p.m.**

Please RSVP by texting: Margo Cabot at [951-312-3367](tel:951-312-3367).

DIRECTORY

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR DIRECTORY at the September 18th General Meeting.

If you are not able to attend, please ask one of your friends to pick up your directory for you.

Many thanks to all of you who responded so kindly to the plethora of emails, texts, and calls that went out. Thanks to all who got information to me in a timely fashion, who proofread for me, and who were just overall supportive! It was a big job this year – next year will be a piece of cake!

Three notes:

1. The directory will use your same photo next year unless you send me a different one.
2. Regarding email addresses: Unlike passwords, they are not case-sensitive. This means that it doesn't matter if an email address is written in lowercase or uppercase or some random mixture of the two. Several of you asked that your email be in all lowercase letters, and I have tried to honor those requests. My apologies if I missed yours; a lot of requests came in at the same time.
3. Feel free to email me with any questions/concerns: LKieding1963@gmail.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Talk - September, 2025

Attached are the Art Alliance Financials for May, June, and July. We began May with a balance of \$25,425.77. The three months covered income mainly from Membership and our Annual Dinner. The remaining Art Market expenses and the caterer for the Annual Dinner comprised the bulk of our expenses. We ended July with a balance of \$23,611.75.

Art Market reconciliation took place in late June. Art Market 2025 made just short of \$35,000. The Art Alliance Board approved \$38,000 to go to RAM for this fundraiser — (\$35,000 + \$3,000 additional). Congratulations to the terrific chair-team and all the volunteers who worked so hard to make this fundraiser a success.

The Board also approved a total of \$5,000 of our excess operating funds to be gifted to RAM for the Ofelia Valdez-Yeager Tribute Plaque. The Auditorium at the Cheech will bear her name and in so doing, Art Alliance of the Riverside Art Museum will now have an official recognition at this site. Ofelia was a huge supporter of Art Alliance both financially and in her recognition of the important role we play at RAM. This is a wonderful way for Art Alliance to be a part of her recognition.

Pam Balys, Treasurer

https://mcusercontent.com/5bbd2f5501a9dcbfd97adfdade/files/c4451e6e-c7eb-25d5-f7d3-def570cf0362/May_July_2025_Financials.pdf

CALENDAR

Exhibits

- I.E.H.C, Now until November 2, 2025 at RAM
- Electrolyte Printmaking Workshop Invitational with Bernard Hoyes, Now until October 12, 2025 at RAM
- The Versatility of Pulp, Now until October 12, 2025 at RAM
- Eclipse: What's Your Perspective?, Now until November 2, 2025 at RAM

- Hecho en Park Avenue, Now until October 26, 2025 at the Cheech
- Joel Sternfeld: On this Site, Now until September 14, 2025 at RAM
- Tamara Cedré: To Rise Above Ruins, Now until September 28, 2025 at RAM
- Cheech Collects IV, Now until May 3, 2026 at the Cheech

Meetings

- **Art Alliance General Meeting, September 18, 2025, 6:00 - 7:30 PM at RAM.**
- **Art Alliance General Meeting, October 16, 2025, 6:00 - 7:30 PM at RAM.**

Events

- First Sunday: The Cheech and the Julia Morgan Building, Sunday, September 7, 2025 12:00 - 5:00 PM. Free Admission.
- Riverside Arts Walk: The Cheech and the Julia Morgan Building, Thursday, October 2, 2025, 6:00 – 9:00 PM. Free Admission.
- First Sunday: The Cheech and the Julia Morgan Building, Sunday, October 5, 2025 12:00 - 5:00 PM. Free Admission.
- **ARToberfest, October 18, 2025, 6:30 - 10:00 PM (sponsors 6:00 - 10:00 PM) at RAM.**

Classes: Sign Up On Line

- **Adult Classes:**
 - Mix Media and Art Journaling with Tina, Saturdays, 10 AM - 1:00 PM, Each session: \$35 - \$45. September 27th: Beginning Portrait Drawing, October 25th: Intermediate Portrait Drawing, November 22th: Watercolor for Relaxation.
- **Youth Classes:**
 - After School Classes (ages 6 - 15), Tues., Wed. or Thurs. 4 - 5:30 PM. 5-class session: \$99 - \$110.
 - Home School Classes (ages 6 - 15), Tues., 10 - 11:30 AM. 5-class session: \$99 - \$110.
 - Saturday Art Club (ages 5 - 12), Saturdays, 10 - 11:00 AM, 5 - class session: \$72 - \$80.
 - New Saturday Afternoon Class, October 11 & 18th or December 6 & 13th, Saturdays, 12:30 - 3:00 PM, 2 class session: \$58.50 - \$65.
 - Minicamp - Thanksgiving Week, Monday, November 24 - Wednesday, November 26th:
 - Morning session Mon - Wed: 9 AM - 12 PM.

- Afternoon session Mon - Wed: 1 PM - 4 PM.
- Early Bird Price: Sign up by November 3, 2024: 3 - class session, Mon - Wed is \$103.50 - \$115.
- Beginning November 4, 2024: 3 - class session, Mon - Wed is \$148.50 - \$165.
- Minicamp - Holiday Break, Monday, December 29 - 31 and Friday, January 2, 2026 (no class on Thursday, January 1)
 - Morning session Monday - Wednesday & Friday: 9 AM - 12 PM
 - Afternoon session Monday - Wednesday & Friday: 1 PM - 4 PM
 - Early Bird Price before December 1: 4 Class session - \$138 - \$153
 - Regular Price after December 1: 4 Class session - \$148.50 - \$165



Riverside Art Museum - Julia Morgan Building
3425 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501

[951.684.7111](tel:951.684.7111)

www.riversideartmuseum.org

The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art and Culture
3581 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501

Website: www.RiversideArtAlliance.org

Facebook: Art Alliance of the Riverside Art Museum

Instagram: @RiversideArtAlliance

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