

CURIOSITY COMPASSION CONNECTION

Cara F

Message from The Barbara Barnard Smith Executive Director, Elena Brokaw



Over a century ago, the Museum of Ventura County was founded: partly as an homage to the people and cultures who had shaped the community as it stood in 1913, and partially as a cabinet of curiosities—a collection of souvenirs and curios meant to evoke awe.

The Museum of Ventura County has changed a lot since its inception. While we still aim to inspire wonder and curiosity in everyone we reach, our institution exists today in order to change the world. And yes, we know that sounds lofty. But we are certain that, with your help, we can nurture big changes.

How do we plan on achieving our ambitious goals? Everything starts with our belief that by bringing our collective history to light, we will spark

curiosity, instill compassion, and foster connection. With every interaction we facilitate and every person we reach, we see how these elements of individual expression can lead to positive, community-wide change.

To catalyze emotions into actions, we aim to illustrate that the world, as we know it, is not fixed. It has changed before, and it will change again. We want our visitors to leave with a sense of agency—an awareness that the future is not just something that happens to them. In everything we do, we create and shape the future.

The Museum of Ventura County hopes you will invest in our mission and join us in creating a more connected future. As we invite you to embark on this journey with us, we ask not only for your patronage but for your partnership.

Our Vision: Inspiring vibrant communities by connecting the past, present, and future.

Our Mission: The Museum of Ventura County, through its collections, exhibits, educational programs and publications, celebrates the history, art, and culture of Ventura County and the Channel Islands.

So, we urge you to delve deeper into our digital offerings, to explore our exhibitions, and to consider how you can contribute to our shared vision of a brighter tomorrow. Whether through a donation, a membership, or simply by spreading the word, your support is instrumental in helping us realize our mission.

Together, let's write the next chapter in the story of the Museum of Ventura County—a chapter filled with curiosity, compassion, and connection.

With gratitude,

Gle Bronur

Elena Brokaw The Barbara Barnard Smith Executive Director



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YOUR MUSEUMS

The Museum of Ventura County first opened its doors in 1913 as the Ventura Pioneer Museum. For its first decade, it shared one room with the Chamber of Commerce and Farm Bureau in what was then the County Courthouse. The Museum has come a long way in the last century, and now has multiple sites:



THE MUSEUM OF VENTURA COUNTY IN DOWNTOWN VENTURA

The flagship of the Museum facilities, the downtown Ventura campus has presented programs, exhibitions, and educational activities since its opening in 1977. Situated in the heart of downtown's historic district, the Museum has 3,000 square feet of gallery space, a research library, an events pavilion, an open-air courtyard, plaza, and gardens. These spaces work together to spark curiosity and encourage learning about Ventura County and the region.

THE RESEARCH LIBRARY AT THE MUSEUM OF VENTURA COUNTY

MVC's Research Library houses a vast collection of photographs, maps, oral histories, family papers, and other archival records that together, tell the story of our community. The Research Library is free and open to the public by appointment—its online archive allows researchers access to digitized materials from anywhere in the world.

THE AGRCULTURE MUSEUM IN SANTA PAULA

Located in the historic Mill Building in downtown Santa Paula, the Agriculture Museum is a compelling tribute to the region's farming and ranching history, exploring the legacy of the farmers and innovators who shaped the local landscape. This campus engages visitors with its rotating community-focused exhibitions, broad collection of farming equipment, raised garden beds, a native plant garden, a live observation beehive, and interactive, agriculture-focused activities for children.

MVC'S ONLINE CAMPUS - AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE

Founded in 2020, the expanded online presence through MVC's website and social media platforms acts as the Museum's newest "campus." With virtual tours and exhibitions, lectures and talks hosted digitally, history blog posts, educational resources, digital jigsaw puzzles, and more, the Museum's online offerings bring our community together to celebrate art, history, and culture from anywhere across the world.

MUSEUM VENTURA COUNTY AT A GLANCE: 2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS



EXHIBITIONS UNVEILED IN 2022-2023

| Always Keep Creating: The Resiliency of Carol Rosenak | MVC |
|--|--------------------------|
| Chromatic: The Museum in Six Colors | MVC |
| All That Glitters is Not Gold | MVC |
| Behind the Curtain: An Insider's Look at The George Stuart Historical Fi | igures [®] MVC |
| Going Wild | MVC & ONLINE |
| Pollination Investigation – The Essential Role of Pollinators in the Natur | ral World AG |
| Finding the Light: Works from MVC's Permanent Collection | MVC |
| Proximity to Water: Works from MVC's Permanent Collection | MVC |
| Spin Cycle: Unfolding the Science of Laundry | MVC |
| Murder of Tom More: A True Crime Story | MVC |
| Nosferatu: A George Stuart Historical Figures® Exhibition | MVC |
| Winter: A George Stuart Historical Figures® Exhibition | MVC |
| Ventura County, The Place We Call Home | AG & SATELLITE LOCATIONS |









IN-PERSON RE-SEARCH LIBRARY APPOINTMENTS 439

NUMBER OF MUSEUM MEMBERS 1,043

ATTENDANCE OF 5,111 SCHOOL TOURS

NUMBER OF SCHOOL 12 DISTRICTS SERVED

NUMBER OF K-12 SCHOOLS SERVED

NUMBER OF INTERNS 8

NUMBER OF 78



PROGRAMS AND EVENTS 2022

| JANUARY | MVC Insider: Season 3 Workshop: Legal Issues for Artists: Protecting Your Works Ivor Davis: Up Close and Personal with Harry Benson | ONLINE MVC MVC |
|----------|--|-------------------------------|
| FEBRUARY | Family Fun Day: Celebrating Black History Month Bilingual Storytime with Ventura County Mobile Library | AG MVC |
| MARCH | <i>Nowruz:</i> Persian New Year Celebration Ivor Davis: Up Close and Personal with Dianne Lake Documentary Screening: <i>Margaret Garcia: An Intimate Portrait</i> Bilingual Storytime with Ventura County Mobile Library | MVC MVC MVC |
| APRIL | Documentary Screening: <i>Mariposas del Campo</i> Monoprint Workshop with Margaret Garcia and Bonnie Lambert Documentary Screening and Wildfire Awareness: <i>Not If, But When</i> Ventura County Flower and Weed Show and Exhibit Ivor Davis: Up Close and Personal with Bob Eubanks Author Talk: <i>El Oz</i> by David Damian Figueroa, with Dolores Huerta | MVC MVC AG MVC AG |
| MAY | Poetry Reading: Poesia Para la Gente Save the Pollinators: A Youth-Led Environmental Restoration Project | MVC AG |
| JUNE | Ivor Davis: Up Close and Personal with Steve Binder All That Glitters Is Not Gold, Always Keep Creating, and Chromatic Exhibition Openings Bilingual Storytime with Ventura County Mobile Library | MVC MVC MVC |







| JULY | Life Drawing Sessions with Cathy Barroca and Barbara Brown | MVC |
|-----------|---|-----|
| | Play-Well TEKnologies LEGO Summer Camp | MVC |
| AUGUST | Bilingual Storytime with Ventura County Mobile Library | MVC |
| | Play-Well TEKnologies LEGO Summer Camp | AG |
| | National Honey Bee Day Event | AG |
| | Book Launch: Arty's Amazing Accordion by Amada Perez | MVC |
| | Going Wild Exhibition Opening Reception | MVC |
| SEPTEMBER | Bilingual Storytime with Ventura County Mobile Library | MVC |
| | 8th Annual Labor Day Vintage Tractor Fair | AG |
| OCTOBER | Oaktober: A Celebration of Oaks and Native Plants with Ventura Land Trust | MVC |
| | Local History Happy Hour with John Krist | AG |
| | California Native Plant Society's Plant Sale | AG |
| | U.C. Master Gardeners: Winter Vegetable Gardening Workshop | AG |
| | Dia de Los Muertos Altar-Building Session | AG |
| | Dia de Los Muertos Celebration | AG |
| | Ivor Davis: Up Close and Personal with Joe Sohm | MVC |
| NOVEMBER | 27th Annual De Colores Music & Art Festival | MVC |
| | Ivor Davis: Up Close and Person with David Leaf | MVC |
| DECEMBER | Las Posadas Procession with De Colores Multicultural Folk Art | AG |
| | Holiday Sip n' Shop at MVC's Boutique | MVC |

2022 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS FUNDED IN PART BY:

- Ventura County National Historical Publications Farm Credit West and Records Commission City of San Buenaventura Pierpont Racquet Club Heritage Fund at VCCF • Finch Family Foundation John Hammer Family Chrisman Estate Company Hoffman/Haley Marina Village Harriet H. Samuelsson Foundation EJ Harrison and Sons
- Charles D. and Mary A. Bauer Foundation

Busch Family Foundation

BRIDGE BUILDER Lunchean 2022

Honoring The Extended Families of Isabel Winemiller and William Dewey Hobson

In 1854, William Dewey Hobson and his wife Isabel Winemiller Hobson moved to what would become the city of San Buenaventura, and changed the future of Ventura County forever. Almost two centuries later, in July 2022, the Museum celebrated the accomplishments of seven generations of the Hobson family. At a special gathering at the home of Julia Campbell Namba in Hobson Heights, 200 Museum supporters gathered to dine, dance, and appreciate the achievements of this incredible family.















MUSEUM VENTURA COUNTY OPENING OF THE ESTHER AND THOMAS WACHTELL FAMILY GALLERY

When Esther and Tom Wachtell moved to Ventura County in the 1990s, they quickly discovered the Museum of Ventura County. Esther in particular was impressed with the breadth and depth of the collection, and in the ensuing three decades has worked to ensure that the collection is protected and shared with the community. In recognition of the family's transformative endowment gift in 2022, the Museum officially opened the Wachtell Family Gallery with *Finding the Light*, the first of an ongoing series of exhibits of work from MVC's permanent collection.





PROGRAMS AND EVENTS 2023

| JANUARY | Ventura Land Trust (VLT) Environmental Speaker Series: Marcus Erikson and Anna Cummings of 5 Gyres Institute | MVC |
|----------|--|----------|
| | Finding the Light Exhibition Opening Reception and Dedication of the Wachtell Family Gallery Publication of MVC Journal Bootleggers, Rumrunners, and Blind-Piggers: Prohibition in Ventura County | MVC |
| FEBRUARY | Reading by California Poet Laureate Lee Herrick | AG |
| | U.C. Master Gardener Open House with Dr. James Downer | AG |
| | Book Talk: Squatters, Scandals, and Surfing: A History of Rincon by Stephen Bates and Vincent Burns | MVC |
| | Book Launch: Coyote Rescues Hawk, A Chumash Story by Alan Salazar and Mona Lewis | MVC |
| MARCH | Summer Vegetables Gardening Workshop | AG |
| | Nowruz: Persian New Year Celebration | MVC |
| | Ivor Davis: Up Close and Personal with Malcolm McDowell | MVC |
| | Playdate in the Children's Garden with Diane Ippel | MVC |
| APRIL | Book Launch: Images of America: Fillmore by Carino Monica Montoya | AG |
| | VLT Environmental Speakers Series: Embracing Change through Ocean Exploration with Holly Lohuis | MVC |
| | The River Next Door: Come Meet Your Neighbor! | AG |
| | Ventura County Plants to Know and Grow: An Earth Day Weekend Celebra | ation AG |
| | Regenerative Agriculture Panel presented with Leap Lab: | AG |
| | Law and Disorder: An Evening with Michael Bradbury | MVC |
| MAY | Chumash Plant Knowledge: Presentation by Jam Timbrook, PhD | MVC |
| | Art in the Garden with Activities by 4H | AG |
| | Workshop: Human Resources for Non-Profits | MVC |
| | Kids Drum Circle: Celebrating International Children's Day | MVC |
| JUNE | VLT Environmental Speaker Series: Microfibers in our Marine Life with Dr. Andrea Huvard | MVC |
| | Santa Paula's LGBTQ+ Youth Pride Celebration | AG |
| | 150th Anniversary of Ventura County Kick-off Celebration (VC150) | MVC |
| | VC150 Memories (VC150) | ONLINE |
| | Voices of Ventura County (VC150) | ONLINE |
| JULY | Doggie Days: Humane Society of Ventura County | AG |
| AUGUST | Pop-Up Celebration at Ventura County Fair (VC150) | VENTURA |
| | Feast or Flop Video Series (VC150) | ONLINE |
| | An Introduction to Obon: A Japanese Summer Festival | AG |
| | National Honey Bee Day Event | AG |
| | MVC Exhibition Spotlight: Ventura County Land Use Panel Discussion | MVC |
| | Playdate in the Children's Garden: Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office | MVC |



| SEPTEMBER | Pop-Up Celebration at Ragtime Revival (VC150) | SIMI VALLEY |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| | Digital Jigsaw Puzzles (VC150) | ONLINE |
| | ArtWalk at MVC | MVC |
| | Pop-Up Celebration at Banana Fest (VC150) | PORT HUENEME |
| | The Santa Clara Valley Wellness Foundation Festival | |
| OCTOBER | Family Fair: Mountains to Sea Jubilee (VC150) | AG |
| | Ventura County, The Place We Call Home Exhibition Opening (VC | 150) AG |
| | Music Festival: Mountains to Sea Jubilee (VC150) | SANTA PAULA |
| | VLT Environmental Speaker Series: Oak Regeneration | MVC |
| NOVEMBER | State of the County Address and Reception (VC150) | SIMI VALLEY |
| | Ventura County Farm Day with Students for Eco Education and Agriculture | AG |
| | Pop-Up Celebration and Exhibition Opening (VC150) | THOUSAND OAKS |
| | Small Business Saturday | AG |
| DECEMBER | Home for the Holidays | MVC |
| | Holiday Sip n' Shop at MVC's Boutique | MVC |

2023 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS FUNDED IN PART BY:

- Ventura County Finch Family Foundation Ventura County Credit Union City of San Buenaventura Hoffman/Haley Marina Village John Hammer Family Farm Credit West Paul and Anne Leavens Family Fund
 - Schwemm Family Foundation
 - Smith-Hobson Foundation Fund
- Gene Haas Foundation
- TOLD Foundation
- Williams-Corbett Foundation
- Charles D. and Mary A. **Bauer Foundation**
- Heritage Fund at VCCF

11

TOLD Corporation

Index Fresh



2023 JUNE - NOVEMBER THE **150**TH ANNIVERSARY OF VENTURA COUNTY



2023 marked the 150th anniversary of the founding of Ventura County. With your support, we engaged the community in 150 days of celebration!









CO-PRESENTING PARTNERS







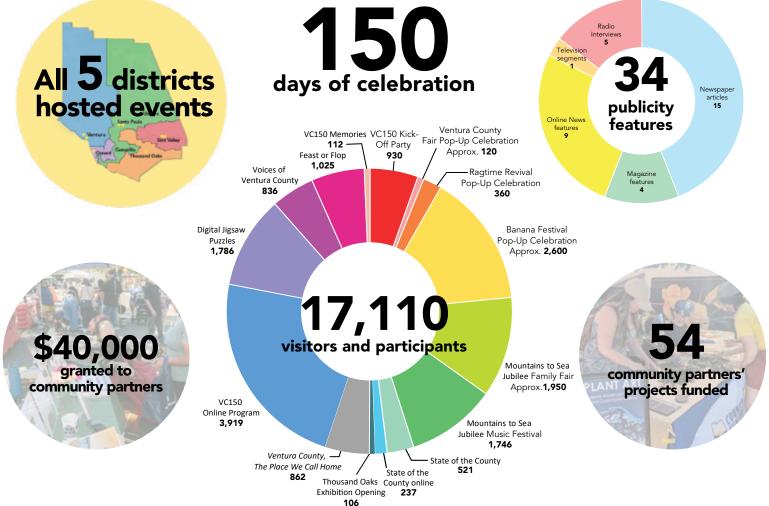


ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATIVE

VC150 IN REVIEW

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF VENTURA COUNTY





Funding for this series of programs and events provided in part by:

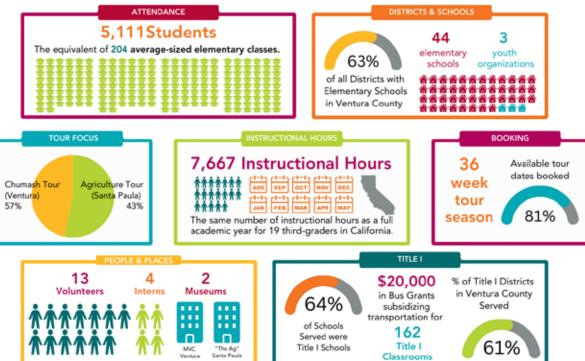


The Brokaw Family, Nursery, and Ranch | The Kearney Family | The Orr Family | 13



MVC EDUCATION IMPACT REPORT

2022-2023 SCHOOL TOURS



2022 and 2023 were busy years for MVC's elementary school tour programs, booking 81% of all available tour dates and serving 5,111 students from 44 schools across our Ventura and Santa Paula campuses.



BONITA C. MCFARLAND SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE VISUAL ARTS



2023 Bonita C. McFarland Scholarship awardees meet with MVC's Chief Curator Carlos Ortega and members of MVC's Fine Arts Committee at the Bonita C. McFarland Scholarship Awards Reception on June 7, 2023, at the Museum of Ventura County's downtown Ventura campus.

Through the **Bonita C. McFarland Scholarship for the Visual Arts**—initiated by the late Ms. Bonita C. McFarland's dedication to the arts—MVC recognized 12 remarkable emerging artists in Ventura County across the years 2022 and 2023. This scholarship, which splits \$10,000 per year between awardees, aims to celebrate and amplify the arts as a fundamental part of our local community.

2022-2023 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IMPACTS

| 35 applications | 10 finalists | | 2 honorable mentions | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| 10 high schools reached | | 4 colleges reached | | |
| \$20,000 in scholarships awarded | | | | |

All 5 Ventura County Supervisorial Districts served



2022 FINALISTS

Billie Bowman, *Ojai*; Emily Kirkland, *Moorpark;* Esmeralda Velasquez, *Ojai*; Grace Morton, *Ventura*; Quincy Unseth, *Camarillo*

2023 FINALISTS

Audrey Abbe, *Ventura*; Alex Lozano, *Simi Valley*; Piper Snowber, *Camarillo*; Anya Spiers, *Thousand Oaks*; Charlotte Scott, *Oak Park*

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Danae Olivares, Oxnard; Elora Bacon, Westlake Village/Oak Park

Temari balls sculpture by Piper Snowber, 2023 fianlist

MUSEUM VENTURA COUNTY

MEET MVC'S NEWEST TEAM MEMBERS

Discover the names and roles shaping your Museum's narrative. In 2022 and 2023, MVC continued to pay its interns a fair, livable wage and reached pre-pandemic levels of employment. Together, this passionate team works towards a more sustainable, equitable, and connected future.

MVC EMPLOYED 18 SCHOOL-TERM INTERNS:

Allison Phelps (San Jose State University), Library and Archives Intern Amihan Franada (Ventura College), Education Intern Carla Valdez (California State University, Northridge), Library and Archives Intern Cecilia Lopez (California Lutheran University), Education Intern Chase Woodard (California State University Channel Islands), Marketing and Communications Intern Danielle Tusi (San Jose State University), Library and Archives Intern Douglas Joys (University of Denver), Library and Archives Intern Isabel Cline (University of California, Los Angeles), Library and Archives Intern Jairo Rios Ponce (California State University Channel Islands), Education Intern Jennifer Dawes (San Jose State University), Library and Archives Intern Kelli Couse (California State University Channel Islands), Library and Archives Intern Peter Smilanick (California State University Channel Islands), Library and Archives Intern Rebecca Ritchie (San Jose State University), Library and Archives Intern Samuel Ponce (California State University Channel Islands), Education Intern Stephanie Zager (University of California, Los Angeles), Library and Archives Intern Susana Delgadillo (University of Washington), Library and Archives Intern Vincent Romero (California State University Channel Islands), Library and Archives Intern William MacNeil (University of California, Los Angeles), Library and Archives Intern



AND 12 NEW EMPLOYEES:

Alex Bruzzese, Human Resources Office Manager
Angie Brinkhoff, Marketing and Communications Program Manager
Carlos Ortega, Chief Curator
Heather Williams, Development and Outreach Director
Karen Hernandez, Finance and Operations Coordinator
Josh Ortiz, Development Specialist
L.E. Brown, Development Manager
Loribeth Gregory-Beck, Senior Education and Engagement Manager
Michelle Hoover, Visitor Experience Associate
Samuel Ponce, Visitor Experience Associate
Thomas Blood, Events and Facilities Associate
Violet Loza, Visitor Experience Associate

MVC 2022-2023 IN REVIEW

MUSEUM VENTURA COUNTY

MVC proudly recognizes its dynamic collaborators and committed volunteers, whose impact on the community is immeasurable. Across 2022 and 2023, MVC remained dedicated to facilitating meaningful connections, championing diverse narratives, and creating lasting educational and cultural experiences for all.

MVC COLLABORATED WITH 64 COMMUNITY PARTNERS:



Alan Salazar and Mona Lewis • ÁNIMO Theatre Company • Art Trek, Inc. • Arte & Cultura Collective of Santa Paula • Ballet Folklorico Bell Arts • Barbara Brown • Bell Arts Factory • Blanchard Community Library • Blue Ridge Honey • Breastfeeding Coalition of Ventura County • C.R.E.W. (Concerned Resource and Environmental Workers) • California Lutheran University • California Native Plant Society • California State University Channel Islands • Camarillo Ranch Foundation • Carina Monica Montoya • Cathy Day • Channel Islands Maritime Museum • City of Ventura • David Damian Figueroa • De Colores Multicultural Folk Art, Inc. • Diversity Collective Ventura County • Flamenco 805 • Focus on the Masters Arts Archive & Library • Harry Selvin Orchestra • hi stok'oy hil xus Chumash Cultural Group • Humane Society of Ventura County • Inlakech Cultural Arts Center/Lucha • Interfaith Council • Iposi Women Veteran and Two-Spirit Native Drum • Ivor Davis • John Krist • Margaret Garcia • Memorias Tejidas • Mike Bradbury • New West Symphony Association •

Niñes del Maíz • Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters (OAHI) • Open Door Studio • Pedro Chavez • Play-Well LEGO • San Buenaventura Friends of the Library • Santa Clara River Conservancy • Santa Clarita Organization to Protect the Environment (SCOPE) • Santa Paula Bee Club • Santa Paula Chamber of Commerce • Santa Paula Concert Series at the Universalist Unitarian Church • Santa Paula Historical Society • Santa Paula Latino Town Hall • Santa Paula Theater Center • Simi Valley International City of Peace • Stephen Bates and Vincent Burns • Studio Channel Islands • The Laby Harmony Project of the New West Symphony • The Santa Paula Police Department • Togen Daiko • Topa Topa Flywheelers • University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources & University of California Master Gardeners • VC Mobile Library • Ventura County Agriculture/Weights & Measures • Ventura County Community College District • Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office • Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council • Vita Art Center

and worked alongside 97 volunteers:

DOCENTS AND VOLUNTEERS:

Alberta Word • Andrea Pfister • Andy Ludlum • Ann Huston • Barbara Dupree • Barbara Hilburn • Barbara Laubacher • Bruce Schoppe • Betsy Chess • Bob Delaney • Carole VanOrsdol • Carol Hardison • Cherie Brant • Christine Kovell • Clyde Hofflund • Craig Hodson • Danielle Bonnici • David Bayer • Gary Butler • Glenda Cardona • Ilse Lang • James Holden • James Moahan • Jane Blackman • Jean Hefter • Jeanne Hunt • John Brant • Joyce Cantrell • Joyce Schoppe • Judy Gilliard • Judy Hodson • Kathy Abbott-Mayer • Kathy Franklin • Kathy Ginsberg • Kathy Shearer • Kris Olson • Linda Hadlen • Linda Kimbrough • Linn Butler • Logan Hardison • Lynne Hofflund • Marilyn Hilton • Mark W. Capehart • Mary Stewart • Mary Volpe • Merle Oberg • Mimi Allin • Nancy Maxson • Phillip Allin Robert Tovias • Roberta Cordell • Robin Lamar • Royce Hill • Russell Richardson • Sandra Sanders • Sandra Tovias • Shelly Footes • Vivian Nelson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Banks Pecht • Barbara Barraza-Ordonez • Bill Kearney • Caryn Bosson • Catherine De La Torre • Chuck Cohen • Cliff Rodrigues • David Fukutomi • Doreen Villanueva • Eric Boys • Frank Barajas • Gabriella Navarro-Busch • George Sandoval • Hector Guerrero • Jackie Bermudez • Jessica Arciniega • Jim Scanlon • John McConica • John Orr • Jorge Corralejo • Jose Alamillo • Joyce Chavez • Kate McLean • Lori Sanchez • Dr. Maria Munguia • Mike Sedell • Monica Frazier • Peter Zierhut • Ray Vargas • Dr. Richard Rush • Rick Castaniero • Roberto Vargas • Rose Fields • Sally Yount • Sue Chadwick • Tom Wolfe • Tomas Almaguer • Vanessa Acosta • Yenelli Law

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

CHRISTINA ALLISON FUND

Supports operational priorities as identified by the Board of Directors. Established by bequest 2019.

LILA ATKISSON FUND

Supports the cataloguing, digitization, and preservation of the Library's visual print collection. Established 2021.

BERRY RESEARCH LIBRARY FUND

Supports the acquisition, conservation, storage, display, and accessibility of historical library materials. Established 2006.

FORUM OF THE ARTS ENDOWMENT FUND

Supports art installations and projects at both Museum campuses. Established 1990.

BONITA C. MCFARLAND FUND

Supports the purchase and exhibit of fine art, promotes appreciation and awareness of art, and awards one or more scholarships annually to art students. Established 1990.

KAREN AND TOM PECHT FAMILY FUND

Supports operational priorities, as identified by the Board. Established 2018.

MIRIAM SCHWAB FUND

Supports operational priorities as identified by the Board. Established by bequest 2018.

FRED W. SMITH GALLERY FUND

Supports the purchase, maintenance, and restoration of the Museum's collection of George Stuart Historical Figures[®], and/or repairs and improvements to the Fred W. Smith Gallery. Established 1992 by Barbara Barnard Smith and Helen M. Smith.

SMITH-HOBSON FAMILY COLLECTIONS MANAGER FUND

Supports the Collections Manager position. Established 2019 by Jeff Smith, Marilyn Cassidy, Barbara Stupay, and Greg Smith.

THE BARBARA BARNARD SMITH MUSEUM OF VENTURA COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FUND

Supports the Museum's long-term stability by providing funding for its Executive Director position. Established 2017.

HARDISON KIMBALL THILLE FAMILY FUND

Supports operational priorities as identified by the Board. Established 2017.

TOM AND ESTHER WACHTELL FAMILY FUND

Supports the exhibit of works from the permanent collection. Established 2018.

HELEN YUNKER COLLECTIONS PERSERVATION FUND

Supports the Museum Research Library and Collections Department, and exhibits materials from these areas. Established by bequest 2018.

MUSEUM OF VENTURA COUNTY ENDOWMENT FUND

Supports Museum operations. Established 2001.

MUSEUM OF VENTURA COUNTY-AGRICULTURE MUSEUM ENDOWMENT FUND

Supports the Agriculture Museum. Established 2019.

ENDOWMENT FUND CONTRIBUTORS

We thank the many generous donors who have made contributions to the Museum of Ventura County Endowment Fund:

Arthur Bliss and Toy White

Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Brown In memory of Bob and Betty Pfeiler

Nancy Gallagher

Nancy and Spencer Garrett

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William and Elise Kearney

James Lloyd-Butler In memory of Cynthia M. Lloyd-Butler

Patrick Lloyd-Butler

Martin V. and Martha K. Smith Foundation

Brianne McGrath

Barbara S. Meister In memory of Larry Meister

Mr. & Mrs. John J. Menne

John and Stephanie Orr

Andrea Pfister In memory of Edith Hobson Hoffman

Allan M. Pinkerton Family Janice Petit Willis

Leave your legacy with a planned gift. It can be as simple as naming the Museum of Ventura County as a beneficiary in you will with a gift of \$1,000 or above. If you are interested in remembering the Museum in your trust or estate, please contact MVC's Development Team at (805) 653-0323, Ext. 330.

<u>MUSEUM</u>≞ <u>VENTURA</u> COUNTY

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The Museum of Ventura County gratefully acknowledges these individuals, foundations, organizations, and businesses for their generous support of the Museum.

\$200,000 and above

City of San Buenaventura County of Ventura TOLD Foundation Esther Wachtell

\$50,000 to \$199,999

Barbara Barnard Smith Museum of Ventura County Executive Director Fund Bonita C. McFarland Fund The Charles D. and Mary A. Bauer Foundation Helen Yunker Collections Preservation Fund John Hammer Family William and Elise Kearney National Historical Publications & Records Commission John and Stephanie Orr Dorcas Thille The Heritage Fund, Ventura County Community Foundation Janice Willis

\$25,000 to \$49,999

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\$1,000 to \$4,999

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IN MEMORIAM: HONORING THE LEGACY OF TWO MVC ARTISTS

As we reflect on the legacies of those we have lost in 2022 and 2023, MVC honors two beloved artists from the collection of the Museum of Ventura County.

OMAR D'LEÓN (1929 - 2022)



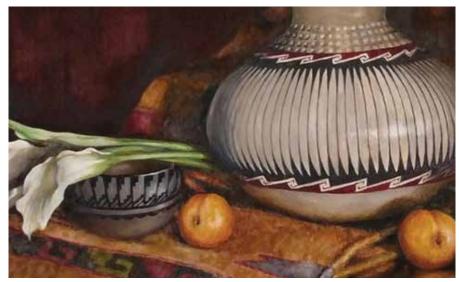
Omar d'León, Freedom of the Sweet Bird of Enchantment, 2000, oil on canvas, 22" x 30". Gift of the artist. In the collection of MVC.

Nicaraguan artist Omar d'León (born Omar d'León Lacayo y Estrada) leaves behind a profound legacy. Regarded as one of Nicaragua's most distinguished artists of recent decades, Omar gained international acclaim while making Ventura County his home.

Escaping the turmoil of the Nicaraguan Sandinista Revolution of 1979, the artist settled in Camarillo, where he resided until his passing in 2022. In his artistic journey, Omar drew inspiration from the frescos of Pompeii, evident in his distinctive crosshatching technique infused with elements of impressionism. His life was a tapestry of contrasts—comfort and hardship, beauty and destruction, exuberance and lifelessness—all of which are evidenced in his expressive artworks.

GAIL FAULKNER (1947 - 2023)

With an unwavering passion for capturing the natural world in its most tranquil and balanced state, Gail Faulkner's art embodies harmony and equilibrium. Gail's artistic realism transports viewers to lush, serene environments, each moment deliberate yet immediate, where the magic lies in the ever-unfolding array of shapes and colors. From delicate reflections on ceramics, to intricate weaves of antique textiles, to the vibrant array of produce and nature's verdant offerings, Gail's precision in painting blurs the lines between reality and the artistry of watercolor.



Gail Faulkner, Zapotec Weaving, 2019, watercolor, 21" x 27". Gift of the artist. In the collection of MVC.

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Maria Anastazia Saviak Older Leon Older

Betty Pfeiler Claire M. Carty

Mary Pfeiler Craig and Denise W. Held

Marry Anne Pinkerton Craig and Denise W. Held **Richard Pidduck**

Supervisor Carmen Ramirez

Jessica Arciniega Barbara Barraza Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller Betsy Chess Jorge Corralejo Docent Council of the Museum of Ventura County William and Elise Kearney Leslie Leavens Roy Prince Clifford Rodrigues Dr. Richard Rush Bruce and Joyce Schoppe George J. Sandoval Reinaldo Vargas

Donald William Reeder

Mary Bemis William Bowie Craig and Denise W. Held Richard Pidduck Allan M. Pinkerton Joe and Sarah Wigert

The Richardson Families David Schmutte

Jere Robings

Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller William and Elise Kearney

Craig Nelson Robinson Milton and Heather Daily

Lois Sandall Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller Gary and Valerie Gray William and Elise Kearney Joanne and Tom Young

Patricia "Pat" Scholle Craig and Denise W. Held

Ann Schreiner Collins Claire M. Carty

Joseph Collins Claire M. Carty

Phil and Betty Selby Edward Selby

Ted Selby William H. Boezinger Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller Steve and Linda Cassinelli Carol and Bob Cole Shelly Littleton Rosena McConica Marilynn Schmitt Viles Sharol Vaughan-Rawls

Truman "Glenn" Sipes

Craig and Denise W. Held William and Elise Kearney The Richard Lagomarsino Family

Kathleen "Kathy" Sisson

Elena Brokaw Gerry P. Browning Docent Council of the Museum of Ventura County Linda M. Hadlen Jeanne Hunt Carol Jensen Linda Kimbrough Jennifer Sporl Sylvia Wikholm James and Alberta Word

Richard A. Slater

William and Elise Kearney

Harriet Rae "Midge" Stork Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller William and Elise Kearney Kate McLean

Bruce Montgomery Strathearn Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller William and Elise Kearney Kate McLean and Steve Stone

Esther Tefertiler

Ed Russell

Anne Roundy-Harter Joy Thomas Dodge Claire M. Carty

Marie McLaughlin Thomas Claire M. Carty

Richard Charles Utter Craig and Denise W. Held Steve Vacca

William and Elise Kearney

Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller

Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller

Robin Ann Whipple Bollinger

Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller

Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller

Docent Council of the Museum of Ventura County Linda M. Hadlen

Patricia M. Masterson

Charles Ellery Whipple, II

Donald Steve Waunch

David John Whipple

Duane Wikholm

IN HONOR OF:

Mimi and Phil Allin's

170th Birthday Brenda and Jerry Bodie Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller Gery Wetzel

Noel Arthur

Anonymous Mimi and Phil Allin's

Anna Bermudez

Barbara Barraza Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller Patti Channer Betsy Chess Catherine DeLaTorre Barbara Dupree Jeanne Hunt William and Elise Kearney Marcia and Brad Marcus Kate McLean Vivian and Tom Nelson Arturo and Amada Perez George Sandoval Bruce and Joyce Schoppe Deya Terrafranca Sylvia Wilkholm

The Brokaw Family Julie Ward

Elena M. Brokaw

Martha Jaffe William and Elise Kearney Al and Petra Lowe Kate McClean Barbara Meister Canalino and Aliso Schools Jamie Persoon

The Chumash Community Anonymous

Andrea Contarino Penelope H. Barnds William and Elise Kearney

Ivor Davis David Bayer William and Elise Kearney Jude Southerland Kessler Robert and Ann J. Warnagieris

Spencer Garrett Rebecca and Jeffrey P. Smith

Friday Gretchen David and Jessica Goldstein William and Elise Kearney

Tish Harris's 80th Birthday William and Elise Kearney

Patricia "Anne" Hendrickson Carol Peterson

Phoebe and Jacob Hopps Lydia Hopps

Zoey, Lily, and Vincent Johnson Jennifer Johnson

Bill and Elise Kearney Nancy and Spencer Garrett Martin and Maryann LaVere Al and Petra Lowe Brian and Judy Robertson

Linda Kimbrough, Docents

Volunteer Council President Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller Docent Council of the Museum of Ventura County William and Elise Kearney

Rosemarie Magness Timothy and Elizabeth Sullivan

Pete Marriott Ed Russell Ken Merideth

Ed Russell Kate McLean

Al and Petra Lowe Mothers and Daughters of the National Charity League Jeanne Hunt

Bill Norin Julie Fox

The O'Donnell-Cross Family Erin O'Donnell

John and Stephanie Orr Michael Case William and Elise Kearney Dr. Bill and Francie Parr Dianne and John Ruby

Jean Ruggles Joseph Smith

The Dedication of the Richard R. Rush Hall at CSUCI Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller Richard Rush's 80th Birthday Vanessa and Jim Bechtel William and Elise Kearney

Jeffrey Smith William and Elise Kearney John and Stephanie Orr

Charlie Snyders Elena Brokaw and Pat Miller

Topa Topa Flywheelers Tractor Club, Camarillo Fern and Lynn Vacca

Teri Willson Lorelle Dawes

Dr. Richard Yao's Appointment as President of CSUCI William and Elise Kearney

Mike Zmaj Tricia Murdoch





LIGHTO MAENTA









FINANCIALS

| INCOME | 2022 | 2023 | EXPENSES | 2022 | 2023 |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Grants | \$265,000 | \$647,000 | General | \$512,000 | \$573,000 |
| Donations | \$1,270,000 | \$1,105,000 | Occupancy | \$256,000 | \$254,000 |
| Earned Income | \$191,000 | \$335,000 | Exhibits and programs | \$253,000 | \$773,000 |
| Government Funding | \$438,000 | \$422,000 | Library and Education | \$43,000 | \$35,000 |
| Bequests | \$508,000 | \$15,000 | Capital Expenditures | \$27,000 | \$32,000 |
| Endowment Earnings | \$379,000 | \$447,000 | Salaries and benefits | \$1,674,000 | \$1,965,000 |
| (Increase)/Use of reserves | \$(78,000) | \$862,000 | Other | \$208,000 | \$201,000 |
| TOTAL | \$2,973,000 | \$3,833,000 | TOTAL | \$2,973,000 | \$3,833,000 |

* Other = development expenses, membership program, event facility rental costs, Museum stores, marketing and communications

This financial information is prepared internally and is subject to audit adjustment. The audited financial statements for these years are posted on the Museum's website when issued by the Board of Directors.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF MVC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WILLIAM KEARNEY



In 2016, I received an urgent call from Esther Wachtell, a long-time volunteer and major donor to the Museum of Ventura County. The museum was at a pivotal crossroads, and Esther urged me to join an exploratory committee to seek innovative and industrious leadership for the museum.

It didn't take long for me to recognize the Museum of Ventura County's far-reaching impact. Its collection is a priceless repository of our community's history oral histories, photographs, maps, documents, paintings, agricultural implements, historical objects, and personal accounts of significant events, such as the St. Francis Dam collapse and the 1918 flu pandemic. What the Museum has is no more nor less than the heartbeat of Ventura County, and it captures the essence of this vibrant region.

In the past eight years since that phone call, I am proud to say I am fully committed. And I hope that after reading this short summary of the Museum's remarkable impact, you are too.

This is just a glimpse into the incredible work our museum does. As a museum both in and of the community, over 50% of our funding comes from individuals like you and me. Today, I ask you to join me in supporting our museum's vital activities. Your contribution, no matter the size, makes a significant impact on our ability to share Ventura County's history with all.

However you engage, I hope this note urges you to dive deeper into the importance of the museum and our collective history—just like Esther's phone call did to me.

Thank you for your generosity and for being part of this engaged and dedicated community!

With my sincerest regards,

Bill Kearney



FEELING INSPIRED TO GIVE BACK?

The single most impactful way you can donate to MVC is by becoming become a sustaining monthly donor! Sustain our mission and become a member online for as little as **\$6.25 per month.** Your tax-deductible monthly dues enable us to continue championing the stories of Ventura County.

Learn more by visiting our website: www.venturamuseum.org/membership



MUSEUM OF VENTURA COUNTY

100 East Main Street Ventura, CA 93001 (805) 653-0323

Open Thurs – Sun, 11:00am-5:00pm

Admission: Adults \$10 | Students/Seniors \$5 Under 18 and Members FREE



AGRICULTURE MUSEUM

926 Railroad Avenue Santa Paula, CA 93060 (805) 525-3100

Open Thurs – Sun, 11:00am-5:00pm

Admission: FREE

RESEARCH LIBRARY AT MVC

100 East Main Street Ventura, CA 93001 (805) 653-0323, Ext. 320

OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY Weds – Fri, 11:00am-5:00pm

Admission: FREE

ALBINGER ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM BY THE CITY OF VENTURA

113 East Main Street Ventura, CA 93001 (805) 658-4728

Open Sat – Sun, 11:00am-5:00pm Admission: FREE

Thank you to MVC's outstanding, passionate, and dedicated staff: Alex Bruzzese, Angie Brinkhoff, Carlos Ortega, Christine Ballestero, Deya Terrafranca, Elena Brokaw, Emma Thorne-Christy, Friday Gretchen-Treur, Hannah Eaton, Hannah Rogers, Heather Williams, John Treur, Joshua Ortiz, L.E. Brown, Leila Benoun Kaseke, Liisa Pynnonen, Loribeth Gregory-Beck, Michelle Hoover, Miguel Aguiar, Renee Tallent, Samuel Ponce, Shelley Littleton, Suzanne Soprano, Thomas Blood, and Violet Loza.

SELECT PROGRAMS COMING IN 2024

We hope you will join us at our Ventura and Santa Paula campuses for these exciting programs in 2024:



INNOVISION - Ventura County Artists to Watch Opens June 8, 2024

Museum of Ventura County

InnoVision is an interactive exhibition that highlights the work of nine Ventura County artists. Through their innovative use of common materials, they create installations that reflect their personal visions and views of current issues.







MASTERS - From the Museum of Ventura County Collection Opens June 8, 2024 Museum of Ventura County

Masters from the Museum of Ventura County Collection celebrates the extraordinary artistic legacy of seven artists in MVC's collection who have significantly shaped Ventura County's art history and achieved international

ARTISTS & AMPLIFIERS FÊTE (Feat. Bonita C. McFarland Scholarship for the Visual Arts 2024 Award Ceremony) Saturday July 20, 5:00-7:30pm Museum of Ventura County / Members ONLY

This members-only fête celebrates our Bonita C. McFarland visual art scholarship award winners in an elevated garden party with private gallery tours, a silent auction, and comments from the Chief Curator.

9TH ANNUAL LABOR DAY TRACTOR FAIR

Monday September 2, 11:00am-2:00pm

Agriculture Museum

acclaim.

The annual Labor Day Tractor Fair returns to encourage sustainable practices and motivate the next generation to explore agricultural careers.

WINTER SOLSTICE STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

Sunday December 15, 2:00-4:00pm Museum of Ventura County

A vibrant Winter Solstice Festival with our Chumash communities, this event is designed to honor tradition, culture, and storytelling in a way that brings history to life.