



Linked Visual Arts & Poetry: Open Call for Poets and Junior Poets

In Downtown Pleasanton, as a precursor for the 10th Annual Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival, the Pleasanton Art League (PAL) and the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council (PCAC) will exhibit visual artists' works which will be responded to in poetry by local competing poets.

This year, we are inviting two groups of poets to respond to the artwork that will be on display, so we can encourage poets of all ages! One group will be for ages 15 and up, and the other group will be for ages 9-14.

This downtown Arts event is sponsored by the Pleasanton Art League (PAL) and the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council (PCAC) to celebrate the linking of the arts and to celebrate the 10th Annual Poetry, Prose, and Arts Festival of March 26 & 27, 2011. Visual art will be on display which will be responded to in poetry by local competing poets.

Poets may respond to the visual art works in a couple of ways: by explaining or analyzing what is happening in the work, or by deriving a meaning from the visual piece and going from there. Either way, there is a visual basis to the response which is enhanced by things that only a mind can see.

We hope that these displays will raise community awareness about visual arts expression and poetic expression, that they will enrich the community, and that they will bring recognition to local artists and poets, while at the same time acting as an appropriate precursor to announce the 10th Annual Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival of March 26-27, 2011.

Visual artists will be selected by invitation only. Winning poets, whose work will hang with the visual arts pieces, will be chosen by a judge. Selected works will be displayed in Downtown Pleasanton at businesses on Main Street.

Poet and Artist Reception

The Poet and Artist Reception will take place from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2011 in the foyer of the Firehouse Arts Center at 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton, CA. All poets and artists who submit will be invited to the reception. The reception will also open to the general public and to all attendees of the Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival.

RULES & GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS

STEP 1

Visual Art Rules and Guidelines

- ◆ Visual artists will be selected by invitation only. PAL will be responsible for contacting artists to hang at the appropriate locations.
- ◆ Visual artists will be limited to one piece which is no wider than 24" (no three dimensional work) and which they will be responsible to hang and remove their art.
- ◆ Art must be framed and wired for hanging.
- ◆ Visual art pieces must be submitted to PAL by **Tuesday, January 25, 2011**.
- ◆ Invited artists will have their visual arts works hung in Downtown Pleasanton at businesses on Main Street by Tuesday, January 25, 2011. PAL will be responsible for contacting artists to hang at the appropriate locations on Main Street. Paintings will be hung by the artists with PAL supervision.
- ◆ Artists will remove their work at the time designated (date and time to be announced) by PAL after the Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival.
- ◆ It is understood by the artists that a poet may be inspired by any work of art that the poet chooses.

Open Call for Poets

Poets will have from Tuesday, January 25, 2011 until Tuesday, February 22, 2011 to view the visual art. Each visual art piece will be numbered so that the poet's response to it may be linked with the appropriate work. Poets can find the visual art in the heart of Downtown Pleasanton at the to-be-designated businesses along Main Street.

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Poem Rules and Guidelines

- ◆ Each poet can submit a maximum of two poems. The poet is limited to writing one poem per painting; the poet can pick two paintings to write a response to.
- ◆ Poems submitted must be no more than one page, with a maximum of 42 lines.
- ◆ Poems must be original, unpublished, and not a previous award-winner in any contest.
- ◆ Poems must be in response to one of the paintings or photos on display. Note that each visual art work will be identified by a unique number. Please write down this number when you visit so you can reference it on your poem.
- ◆ Poems must be submitted on 8.5" x 11" paper. The poems selected by the judges will be framed for hanging with the visual art, so the poem must fit into a 8.5" x 11" frame opening. Poems must be submitted in this size to ensure exhibit uniformity and standardization. Poets are asked to adhere to this requirements to promote uniformity to the exhibit.
- ◆ Poems must have a title (title does not count in the 42-line count).
- ◆ Poems must be submitted in duplicate:
 - **1st COPY:** In the upper right hand corner, include your name, address, phone number, and email address. Also include the painting title and the number of the painting to which you wrote your poem.
 - **2nd COPY:** Only include the painting title and the number of the painting to which you wrote your poem. Put the title and number in the upper right hand corner – nothing else.
- ◆ Poets should mail both copies of their poem so that they arrive by **Tuesday, February 22, 2010**.
- ◆ Mail the poems to: **Dave Wright, Attention: Linked Art, 5331 Northway Rd., Pleasanton, CA, 94566**.
- ◆ Poems may also be hand-delivered to Dave Wright.
- ◆ Poems will be framed and hung beside the associated artwork on Monday, February 28, 2011 for public viewing.
- ◆ Poets should keep copies of their works because they will not be returned at end of show.
- ◆ Unhung poems will be placed in a binder for public perusal.

STEP 2

Submitted poems will be evaluated by a judge. Judging will be blind – the judge will not know the names of entrants until after the poem has been selected. One poem will be selected for each visual art piece – those which are considered the first place poem for the selected visual work. The selected poems will be exhibited with the associated artwork from Monday, February 28, 2011 until after the Poetry, Prose, & Arts Festival.

STEP 3

The poems of the poets selected by the judges will be framed for hanging by the linked-art committee, then hung with the appropriate visual art pieces on Monday, February 28, 2011. Unhung poems will be placed in a binder for public perusal.

Questions?

Feel free to contact Dave Wright of PCAC at 925-484-0614 or dawright@sbcglobal.net or Pat Smith of PAL at 925-846-4138 or psmithrlrtr@comcast.net.

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Arts...They're for **everyone.**