



NEWS RELEASE

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2nd Annual “Out West Art Fest” Fine Art Show set for Fri., Sat. & Sun., Feb. 26, 27 & 28

More “Green” Art at Sonoran Arts League Event at Stagecoach Village

75+ local and nationally-acclaimed artists will exhibit and sell contemporary and Western original art – Juried show features live music, food, and artist demonstrations

(CAVE CREEK, Ariz.) – Back by popular demand, the non-profit Sonoran Arts League will once again host “**Out West Art Fest**,” the first, original fine art show that took place last year at Stagecoach Village in Cave Creek. The juried show is one of the few Arizona fine art shows coordinated by artists and takes place Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, **February 26, 27 & 28, 2010** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Stagecoach Village, 7100 E. Cave Creek Road, in Cave Creek.

Michelle Russell, event co-chair, said the number of art shows in the area can sometimes confuse the general public.

“The Sonoran Arts League was honored to be the first fine art show at Stagecoach Village last year and we were very fortunate to receive a tremendous response,” Russell said. “Our juried show is truly unique in that we, as artists coordinating the show, go the extra mile to ensure that the art exhibited is of high caliber and original, and that our patrons have a very positive experience at the show.”

Russell said the Western setting by no means indicates the type of art that will be exhibited.

“Out West Art Fest showcases a mix of both contemporary and Western artists,” she said. “This year’s event feature more than 75 local and nationally-acclaimed painters, sculptors, jewelers, wood and glass artists, photographers, and artists working with mixed media.”

More Eco-Friendly Art

Russell said several participating artists will exhibit “green” art, made from found and recyclable objects. In addition, many painters, sculptors, and other types of artists have switched to more eco-friendly products to create their original pieces of fine art.

“Companies that produce products for artists are thinking about longevity and are producing more eco-friendly paints, sealers, clays, glazes, and equipment,” she said.

Russell and her husband, Kevin, will exhibit colorful, contemporary wall sculptures, mirrors and other mixed media original pieces of art during the event. The couple uses a variety of items to create their mixed media sculptures, including mesh from potato and onion bags, pulp from their Mulberry tree, empty packages of gum, blue jeans, and pizza box lids.

“We have always been interested in reusing and recycling in all parts of our life,” she said. “We think everyone should visit a landfill and then they might think twice about what they buy and how to reuse it.”

Sally Watters is another talented artist who has seen a deeper appreciation for “green” fine art.

(more)

Out West Art Fest set for Feb. 26, 27 & 28 – Stagecoach Village

“People are more aware of and appreciate work created with recycled and found objects,” Watters said. “I am finding more shows actually have jury selections that fall under the “recycled category.” I think more people grasp the concept of “one-of-a-kind,” and know the value in what they are buying. No one will ever have the same piece.”

Watters creates functional and decorative art that incorporates found objects such as beach glass from the shores of Lake Superior, metal pieces, driftwood and sandstone, similar to flagstone. During “Out West Art Fest,” she will display and sell beautiful, contemporary jewelry as well as mirrors and vases.

Among the diverse artists who will exhibit at “Out West Art Fest” is the event’s featured artist, stone and bronze sculptor Mike Greenfield. The juried fine art show will also feature a dynamic line-up of live music including Native American flutist Lorrie Sarafin, Jazz keyboardist Dave Kenney, and keyboardist Grady Soine. In addition, as guests stroll through the show, they can indulge in a variety of cuisine served by several local restaurants that will participate in the show.

Admission to “Out West Art Fest” is **FREE**. For more information, visit www.SonoranArtsLeague.org or call **(480) 575-6624**.

EVENT: **2nd Annual “Out West Art Fest**
The first, original fine art show at Stagecoach Village
Patrons will find a mix of both contemporary and Western art at this juried fine art show, which features more than 75 local and nationally-acclaimed painters, sculptors, jewelers, wood and glass artists, photographers, and artists working with mixed media. The event also includes live entertainment, food, and artist demonstrations.

Hosted by: **The non-profit Sonoran Arts League**
Dates: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, **February 26, 27 & 28, 2010**
Times: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Location: Stagecoach Village, 7100 E. Cave Creek Road, in Cave Creek

What makes this art show different: “Out West Art Fest” was the first, original fine art show that took place at Stagecoach Village in 2009. This juried art show is the one of the very few art shows in Arizona that is coordinated by artists. The Sonoran Arts League is also the oldest and largest arts league in Arizona and adheres to strict guidelines during the jurying process.

ADMISSION: FREE
INFORMATION: Call **(480) 575-6624**, or visit www.SonoranArtsLeague.org.

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Based in Carefree and Cave Creek, Arizona, Sonoran Arts League is dedicated to the promotion of art, artists, and art education, affirming the belief that art and artistic awareness is essential to the well being of life and the community. The non-profit organization’s 350+ members actively participate in community outreach programs, including mentoring programs, workshops, seminars, fundraisers, and other activities, such as the Empty Bowls Project each October, the Hidden in the Hills Studio Tour every November, Out West Art Fest in February, and the Sonoran Festival of Fine Art in March.