



OJAI STUDIO ARTISTS

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OJAI STUDIO ARTISTS OFFER WORKSHOPS AT STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

Ojai, CA – April 13, 2009. Ojai artists will enhance the magic of the Ojai Storytelling Festival with a program of free art workshops in Libbey Park on Saturday, May 2nd. Sponsored by the Ojai Studio Artists (OSA) and a matching grant from the City of Ojai, the workshops will take place before and during Family Fest, an exciting new event at the four-day Storytelling Festival.

Family Fest will celebrate creativity by combining storytelling with up close and personal experiences in the arts. Art workshops, donated to the community at no cost, will be held near the Libbey Park ticket office and by the fountain. Expressing the imagination and talent of Ojai's extraordinary visual artists, the workshops will appeal to young and old alike.

The Ojai Valley, with its well-deserved reputation for nurturing the artistic temperament, has supported creativity in the arts for many decades. OSA, now numbering 52 professionals in fields like painting, prints, sculpture, drawing, ceramics, photography, jewelry and mixed media, has developed outreach programs that give back to the area at a time when public support for art education is in crisis. The "art play" workshops on May 2nd reflect the dedication of OSA members to the promotion of visual arts in the community.

Art workshops will start at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. Participating members of the Ojai Studio Artists include Linda Taylor, offering the workshop "Creating Your Own Story With a Hand-Made Accordion Book." A two-part workshop called "Paint with Music and Frame It!" will be taught by Gayel Childress and Kris Grey, beginning with mural painting in the morning, portions of which will be framed when dry in the afternoon.

At 11:00 a.m., Gretchen Greenberg and Ruth Farnham will teach the "Shibori Banners" workshop including folding, dipping and tying. Also at 11:00, Richard Flores will teach "Sidewalk Chalk Painting." Other OSA members will assist, either as volunteers or as instructors, to help make the workshops an enjoyable experience for Ojai families and visitors.

Ojai Studio Artists is a 501(c)(3) California nonprofit organization focused on bringing the visual arts to the community through tours, outreach educational programs and scholarships to worthy students. For more information on OSA activities, please visit www.ojastudioartists.org.

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