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## **SEVEN NEW MEMBERS ADDED TO OJAI STUDIO ARTISTS MEMBERSHIP ROSTER FOR 2010**

(Ventura, CA – June 8, 2010) The Ojai Studio Artists are expanding their membership in 2010 with seven new members who will be featured on the annual fall tour to be held the second weekend of October 9 & 10. The new members will also be featured in the “Made in Ojai” exhibit taking place at the Ojai Valley Museum beginning July 29th and running through September 19th.

“This year’s new members bring a wealth of creativity to OSA,” said Patrish Kuebler, membership committee chair. “Along with three painters, we have one ceramic artist, a digital photographer who also works in mixed media and a wood craver who creates sculptures and furniture. The variety adds to the rich mixture of practices exhibited by OSA members.”

The new members are:

- Christine Beime, painter, adapts her study of music and its influence to create her landscape paintings.
- Eilam Byle, Israeli born wood sculptor and fine furniture maker, is new to Ojai and brings 20 years of working with wood to his pieces of art and furniture.
- Larry Carnes, ceramics, is inspired by his Native American heritage to create works combining a love for early man and his art to contribute to his techniques in clay.
- Steven Curry, painter, is a second-generation artist who moved to Ojai in 2002 for its beauty and inspiration in his landscape paintings.
- Valerie Freeman, digital photography and mixed media, is inspired by life and nature that dominate her approach of experimenting with media and technology to create expressive works of art.
- Ray Harding, painter, using both color and bold black and white graphite on hot press board to express his study of man and nature.
- Sandy Wolk, sculptor, uses her art to show the many dimensions of our human/spiritual nature as she views art as a vehicle for healing.

A sample of the artists’ work can be found on the Ojai Studio Artists website <http://www.ojaistudioartists.org/artists.html>. One piece by each will be among the annual “Made In Ojai” exhibit taking place at the Ojai Valley Museum in August.

***Photo Caption: Larry Carnes, Sandy Wolk, Valerie Freeman, Christine Beirne and Eilam Byle, all new members of the Ojai Studio Artists and will be part of this fall’s tour.***

***Photo Credit: Cindy Pitou Burton.***

### *About Ojai Studio Artists*

*The organization’s mission is to encourage interest and excellence in the arts through organizing the annual Ojai Studio Tour and Made in Ojai exhibit; to raise funds for scholarships; to facilitate the exchange of information and promote art education through community outreach. Ojai Studio Artists is a California 501 (c)(3) nonprofit corporation focused on arts education in the visual arts.*