

Orinda Arts Council

Spotlight

January/February

*"The trumpet of a prophecy! O Wind,
If winter comes, can spring be far behind?"
Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822)*

Happy New Year to all! The Orinda Arts Council Christmas luncheon was a wonderful beginning to a season of parties, friends, family and shopping. Thank you, Myrna, for arranging such a joyous event for us. It was great to see so many OASIS members.

Our next meeting will be on January 13th and we'd like to begin at 9:00 A.M.

The executive committee will be meeting at 8:30, and since we voted to forgo refreshments, let's begin our agenda for the general membership at nine o'clock. If coffee is important to keep your creative side going, please remember to stop by Café Teatro en route to the meeting. We have some very exciting news concerning our budget for the coming year. Your co-presidents look forward to sharing the good news with you at the meeting. Opportunities to be involved in fun and meaningful ways include: helping both Nancy Daniels and Myrna Witt to make the high school arts awards competition happen for our young people, and working on our May event, planned at CeCe Werson's beautiful home. Be sure to come and start 2005 with renewed commitment to the arts in our community!

Orinda Union School District Superintendent, Dr. Frank Brunetti, is enthusiastic about working with us to benefit the children in our local schools. Our first collaboration is already off the ground! **MOSAIC**: Merchants of Orinda Supporting Arts in the Community is a series of art frames which will display student artwork in many commercial venues throughout Orinda. This project supports our mission of increasing awareness and advocating of the importance of excellence in arts education in our schools. Let us hear from parents with children in the schools at our meetings. Our funds and our efforts will make a difference. Help us make 2005 a banner year for the Orinda Arts Council!

On Saturday, January 8th, there will be an Arts Marketing workshop at Susan Mautner's, to develop strategies for Orinda Arts Council to market the arts, arts education and our organization in the community. Please call Susan (254-7551) if you are interested in participating and have not already rsvp'd.

Nancy Daniels presented an overview of the plans for the second **OAC High School Visual Arts Competition** to about eight of us who met at her house in December. Nancy outlined all the steps to be taken to bring this competition to fruition. Accepted entries will be exhibited in the Orinda Library Gallery this year, for a two-week showing, and will kick off with a **gala reception on March 18th**. If you'd like to be involved in this endeavor, please contact Nancy at 253-1623. Members with children in the schools are especially welcome to help in any way they can.

Shirley Towbis and Cherry Benzie are always happy to see more volunteers at **Oakland Children's Hospital**. Their creative art projects continue to brighten a difficult time for young patients. We meet at Rite Aid at 10:00 to drive over to the hospital on the following dates: Tuesday, **January 11th**; Friday, **February 11th**; Tuesday, **March 8th**; Friday, **April 8th**; and Tuesday, **May 10th**. Please contact Shirley at **254-6607** or Cherry at **254-0846**, if you would like to join them.

OUTINGS: By popular demand, **Mary Jane Duthie** is organizing another evening at the theatre at Lafayette's Town Hall, Friday, February 18th. The show is ***The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*** by John Bishop. It's a comic romp filled with mystery, love, music, and, of course, murder. Tickets are \$26 or \$23 for seniors (good heavens) –lower prices are available if we have more than 15 as we did last October-. **Call Mary Jane at 254-5953** if you want to be a part of this Lafayette murder. We may meet for dinner before the show again.

Calendar of Events:

- ❖ January 8 - **Arts Marketing Workshop** at Susan Mautner's home, 1:00 to 5:00 pm.
- ❖ January 11 – **Oakland Children's Hospital** outing with Shirley Towbis & Cherry Benzie: meet at the Rite-Aid parking lot at 10 am to join this merry band of helpers.
- ❖ January 13 – **OAC general meeting** will begin promptly at **9 am** in the **Garden Room** at the **Orinda Library**. For those who like their morning caffeine, you may pick up coffee at the Café Teatro.
- ❖ January 28 – **OASIS** meeting, 11:45 am at the Orinda Library
- ❖ February 10 – **OAC evening meeting** at the home of Sue Farmer; 679 Tahos Road, will begin at **7:30 pm**
- ❖ February 11 – Oakland Children's Hospital outing; meet at 10 am at Rite-Aid.
- ❖ February 14 – **Happy Valentine's Day!** Eat chocolate!
- ❖ February 18 – Theatre excursion at Lafayette's Town Hall to see ***The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940***. Contact Mary Jane Duthie at 254-5953.
- ❖ February 25th – **OASIS** meeting, 11:45 at the Orinda Library
- ❖ March 8 – Children's Hospital outing.
- ❖ March 10 – OAC general meeting will begin at 9:30 am in the Garden Room at the Orinda Library.
- ❖ March 18 – **Gala Reception** for the **OAC High School Visual Arts Competition** in the **Orinda Library Gallery**. The works will be on display for two weeks.

See you on January 13th at nine o'clock!