

TO: Newport Beach City Arts Commission

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TITLE: Cultural Arts Activities for September 2015

Britain's Finest: On Sunday, September 27, Beatles tribute act Britain's Finest presented an evening of spot-on renditions of the Fab Four's greatest hits. The simulation – including costumes, instrumentation, stage banter and most importantly, the music – was uncanny. The crowd was estimated at over 3,000 attendees. This concert concluded the City's 2015 summer concert series.

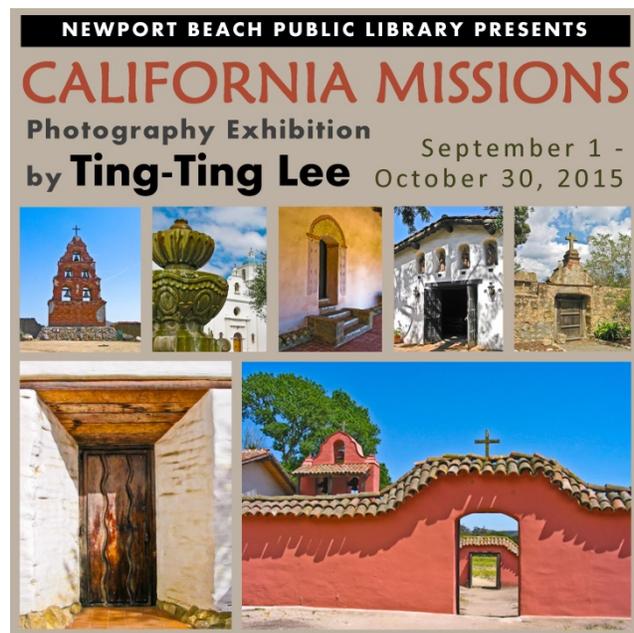


Fine Art Exhibitions at Central Library:

Ting Ting Lee's photography of the California Missions is currently featured in the Central Library gallery space. Her exhibition will run through October.

The following artists are scheduled for exhibitions in the Central Library gallery space:

- November 2015: Joe Lewis
- December 2015/January 2016: Charlotte Lerner
- February/March 2016: Joan Irving Brandt
- April 2016 – To be determined.
- May 2016: Bea Riley



A display of three dimensional items commemorating the Sister City relationship between Newport Beach and Antibes, France is also scheduled for October.

Sculpture Exhibition in Civic Center Park: The Grand Opening ceremony on September 12 included docent tours, refreshments, and children's activities for over 200 attendees. The Newport Beach Arts Foundation hosted a luncheon for artists featured in both phases of the exhibition.



Ben Carlson Memorial Sculpture: The Ben Carlson Foundation is working with the City to unveil the statue in late march/early April 2016. The statue's infrastructure will be created by Valley Crest Landscaping. On a related note, Ben Carlson's heroism was a contributing factor to the passage of Bill No. AB 489, "Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act". This bill adds "ocean lifeguards" to the list of public safety officers eligible to receive the Public Safety Medal of Valor (Medal of Valor) for extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty and expands the membership of the Public Safety Medal of Valor Review Board (Review Board) by adding a representative selected by the United States Lifesaving Association. Proponents state that in July of 2014, Ben Carlson, a 32 year-old Newport Beach lifeguard lost his life in the line of duty attempting to rescue a swimmer in distress in waves estimated to be in excess of ten feet. Proponents note that, "Every day of the year, people go to the beach to enjoy the amenities it provides. However, there are inherent risks involved with the ocean and many municipalities and government agencies provide a service to protect and educate the public. California ocean lifeguards rescue around 45,000 individuals annually and undertake millions of preventative actions to reduce injury and prevent drowning. California lifeguards risk their lives and safety to perform such duties in large surf, around rocks and piers, or other dynamic and unpredictable forces of nature."