

## City Manager's Newsletter – January 21, 2010

### *Artist's Reception*

On Monday evening, January 11 Steven Looman held a very successful reception at Central Library. Steven's art exhibition, titled "Steven T. Looman Fine Art" has been very popular with the public (and with library staff) and will be on display in the main foyer through the month of February. Arts Commissioners Robyn Grant, Carole Boller, Gil Lasky and Robert Smith attended the reception as well.

"Shutters"



### *Civic Center Public Art*

Several additional meetings have taken place to further develop a campaign for purchasing or renting public art for placement at the new civic center site. Arts Commissioner Robert Smith is leading this project with Commissioners Grant and Trela. On Tuesday, January 12 a meeting was held with the Orange County Museum of Art to discuss their possible involvement with this endeavor. Mr. Smith has been contacting various organizations throughout the country to find a suitable method for adding public art in myriad locations to the civic center and park site.

### *Newport Beach Sister City Association Annual Dinner*



Last Wednesday evening the Newport Beach Sister City Association held their annual dinner. This was the first time the event was held at the lovely Newport Beach Vineyard and Winery, located rather discreetly on Mesa Dr. in Newport Beach. The group welcomed the Honorable Mayor Keith Curry as their guest speaker. Additionally City Manager Dave Kiff spoke to the Newport Beach Sister City Association about their continuing and valued relationships with our three sister cities, Antibes, France; Okazaki, Japan; and Ensenada, Mexico. Music was provided by the very talented Samantha Smith. Many dignitaries attended the event along with new members of the Newport Beach Sister City Association.

The NBSCA will be holding their monthly board meeting this evening at Central Library. Of particular import to this meeting will be the selection of committees and assignments. These include the nominating committee, secretary, holiday breakfast, membership/welcoming new members, legal secretary, social committee, historian and annual dinner.

### *Arts Commission Monthly Meeting*

Last Thursday evening the Arts Commission held their monthly meeting at Central Library. The group had asked staff to prepare a budget report for their review, noting the amounts spent on community arts programming. Additionally, staff had asked the commissioners to consider adding another museum bus tour this year, and the commissioners agreed. On Monday March 1, the Arts Commission will host a docent-led tour to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art to see "Renoir in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century". The exhibition "American Stories: Paintings of Everyday Life 1765-1915" will also be on display.



"Woman and Man" by Pierre August Renoir

**Artist's Reception at Central Library** n Monday and Tuesday of this week staff installed two outstanding art shows sponsored by the City Arts Commission. The first, a series of landscapes and portraits by artist Steven T. Looman, will be on display at Central Library through February 28.

The public is also invited to meet the artist at an Artist's Reception on Monday, January 11 in the Friends Meeting Room from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Steven Looman is a Southern California based painter and sculptor. His art career began almost

40 years ago working as a commercial sculptor for a wide variety of companies. In recent years he has focused entirely on fine art oil painting. Looman states "My passion is to express in oil paint the beauty I see in the world around me, whether it be a new mother's face, a quiet garden path, or a sunlit patio." Looman's exhibit will include a variety of subjects including portraits, gardens, seascapes, and florals.



### Jenny Shaw Dancers Adorn the Walls at City Hall



"Soar with Me" By Jenny Shaw

Newport Beach artist Jenny Shaw, a ballroom dancer herself, has been using dancers as her subject matter since 2002. She loves the way the dancer's bodies extend to the extreme and the poses that are full of passion and emotion. She borrows the images of the dancer as the vehicle to convey her own feelings and focuses on translating the positive and happy effect that ballroom dancing brings to people.

Shaw states, "Layers of color and texture represent one's life-long memories, some you cherished, some you would rather bury. Bright or dark, revealed or scraped away, they all leave a mark on the surface." She uses her personal symbols to express different emotions in each painting: butterflies symbolize freedom, beauty, peace, and sometimes, fantasy; bubbles represent happiness, free spirit, illusion or completion as a circle; a fan means living life to the fullest. Chinese poetry and music are Shaw's other passions, echoing the feeling of the painting.

The Newport Beach City Arts Commission Hosts a Museum Motorcoach Tour to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Monday, March 1



**Renoir**  
in the 20th Century

An exclusive, docent-led tour of LACMA's "Renoir in the 20th Century"

Join your art-loving friends for a tour of this special exhibition at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. It's the first monographic study dedicated to Renoir ever mounted by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Participants will also have the opportunity to view the acclaimed "American Stories: Paintings of Everyday Life 1765-1915," featuring major artists such as Thomas Eakins and Winslow Homer, John Singleton Copley, George Caleb Bingham, John Singer Sargent and Mary Cassatt.

Space is limited! Fill out the form and return with your payment to the Arts Foundation address below.

\$55 per person includes motorcoach transportation and docent tour.  
 \*Motorcoach from Newport Beach Arts Foundation on motorcoach and parking charges. \*Balance by credit only.  
 \*Tuition will be a credit for purchase at LACMA or bring your cash to pay on the museum's behalf. \$200 per person.  
 \*Motorcoach will leave from the Central Library, 10900 Avenida Encinas, Newport Beach with check-in at 9:15 a.m. and departure at 9:30 a.m. Docent tour is at 11:15 a.m. We will return to the Central Library at approximately 4 p.m.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_


 No. of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ \$55.00 per person  
 \$50.00 per person for Foundation members  
 (or new members before February 31)  
 Make checks to Newport Beach Arts Foundation

\*Newport Beach City Arts Commission and Arts Foundation assume no responsibility for any and all liability for persons attending a museum or other activity. Participants must bring a valid ID and proof of insurance. We will not accept any liability for persons attending a museum or other activity. Please make a copy of this form for your own records before mailing. Payment will be honored on the day of this mail. For more information contact the Newport Beach Cultural Arts Office, 724-7373.

Mail checks and completed sign-up form to: Newport Beach Arts Foundation, 200 West 19th, Newport Beach, CA 92660

### LACMA Tour "Renoir in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century"

This week publicity was coordinated for the upcoming motor coach tour on Monday, March 1 to the Los Angeles Museum of Art to experience a docent-led tour of "Renoir in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century" exhibition as well as to see the exhibit "American Stories: Paintings of Everyday Life."

Our marketing efforts included printing a flyer "entry form" that is displayed at all branch libraries and at City Hall. Additionally, the event has been advertised on the City website.

This will be the second time the City Arts Commission has sponsored a museum tour in Newport Beach and there has been a great deal of interest from the public and staff has received numerous calls. Reservations are being taken by Pat Jorgenson of the Newport Beach Arts Foundation. Staff is particularly appreciative of the Foundation's assistance with these events.

### Newport Beach Art Exhibition and Sale

A mailing was coordinated on Tuesday to 950 artists who have participated in Newport Beach art exhibitions. Members of the Newport Beach Arts Foundation, as well as Arts Commission Exhibition Committee Chair Carole Boller, Commission Chair Robyn Grant and Commissioner Smith assisted with the mailing. Entry form flyers have been printed and sent to City Hall and all branch libraries. The form is also available on the City website.

The Newport Beach City Arts Commission invites Orange County artists to participate in the 2010 Newport Beach Art Exhibition and Sale to be held on Saturday, April 10 at the Central Library. This one-day exhibition will give art lovers the opportunity to view and purchase paintings, photography and sculpture created by hundreds of regional artists.



### Cabinets for the Library

Newport Beach Central Library will soon get some new cabinets for the display of 3-dimensional art. The Arts Commission will oversee what is placed in them on a rotating basis.

### Photographic Journal

Staff has been setting up days and times in the next few weeks to re-catalog artwork that is considered part of the City art collection in offices and in public spaces and has been given names of contacts in each department to go through when reviewing the various works.