



*“Building a Healthier Community through Personal and Professional Example”
Peer Recovery Art Project is our continuous campaign to end stigma, revitalize downtown areas, while implementing new strategies for an all-inclusive and, therefore, healthier community.*

Volume 4 Issue 8

September 2012

EXECUTIVE OFFICER NOTES

It's action packed at our gallery and some really heavy events are coming to Peer Recovery Art Project in September 2012. August Art Walk was amazing! Mick Rubalcava (Mick Williams) was on guitar and vocals. I've known Mick for some time now as Modesto News.org but he is also really a top notch entertainer. A new artist, Crystal Moreno, is now displaying her photography in September's Architectural Festival exhibit. Along with her great photos, Crystal also shared her family with us as they relaxed in our socialization meditation area. Add the over 250 visitors who dropped in and our own volunteering "Bixby boys", Eli and Lucas, this night was certainly a family affair. It makes us proud when whole families rendezvous at our 1222 J Street home to enjoy the art, the music and our hospitality together. Simply marvelous!



We will gather under our big top at Modesto Pride Festival, Saturday, September 15 and are blessed to participate in the Taste of Mc Henry Village event, Thursday, September 20. This is our second year hosting the wine and art arena. Please join us!

We invite artists to drop by the gallery and sign up to be part of our arts organization. There is no cost to join our movement. Our big gala will be hosted in the gallery, Saturday, September 29, as Peer Recovery Art Project presents "Life, Art, Love... a show". That's right, an exclusive showing and sale by the most incredible artist, Yvette La Force (see article, page 3). A portion of sales go back in to the Peer Recovery Arts Project budget to help us continue providing our all-ages, all-inclusive family arts atmosphere. Yvette has maximized art quality while keeping prices reasonable. Bring the whole family to our shows. Classes, peer support, mural projects, festival and exhibits make us your pick for an action-oriented community service arts organization.

PRAP PARTICIPATES IN ARCHITECTURE FESTIVAL

The American Institute of Architects, Sierra Valley Chapter and the Modesto Art Museum announce the fifth annual Modesto International Architecture Festival, **Saturday, September 15 to Sunday, September 23, 2012.**



The festival opens on Saturday with exhibits and self-guided tours and continues through the following weekend. Events include a gala reception on Saturday evening; two Architecture Cafés, informal conversations over a cup of coffee; self-guided walking, driving, and bicycle tours of Modesto's architecture; an evening of architecture movies at the State Theatre; Architecture Graffiti, an outdoor screening of movies projected on building walls; and an afternoon of fun free activities for families and kids.

New this year is the Architecture Poetry Walk, a guided tour through downtown Modesto with poetry readings at each site. The walk is scheduled for Sunday, September 16. This is the first architecture poetry walk in the world. Also new this year is an all-day architecture fair with a variety of activities including exhibits, tours, booths, talks, and movies. The fair is scheduled for Saturday, September 22.

All festival events are free for AIA or Modesto Art Museum members. Tickets for the movie night will be available at the door the night of the screening. Information about the festival can be found at: <http://modestoarchfest.com/index.html>

The Peer Recovery Art Project gallery at 1222 J Street, Modesto, will host FREE ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITS, Saturday, September 15, and Thursday through Saturday, September 20-22, and will provide free refreshment for those doing self-guided architecture tours. You are invited to stop by!

VOLUNTEERING CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

By Barbara Bixby

Thursday, August 2, I had an opportunity to participate in a community-related event at the Behavioral Health and Recovery Services department, 800 Scenic Drive in Modesto. The event was a simple art set-up for a volunteer appreciation ceremony the County was holding. Those of us helping set up were just expecting to help, as always, but John Black had other plans. He pulled all of us on stage and recognized each of us for volunteering for Peer Recovery Art Project.

The group pulled on stage included my six-year-old son Lucas, who then got to help John pull names from a basket for the raffle. Lucas has never been publicly recognized for anything before this event. He had only been recognized for being ADHD and a problem in school.

Now, for most children this day may be forgotten, but not for Luc. He was so proud of being recognized that he came right home and pinned the button he received on his backpack for school. He then called all of his grandparents and told them



what happened. At school, Lucas told his friends, classmates and new teacher about spending all summer working as a volunteer for Peer Recovery Art Project's gallery. He tells anyone who will listen about it. He tells them that volunteering is good because it helps other people to feel good and it helps you to feel good.

Lucas is only six and, because of this one recognition, he now plans to be a lifelong volunteer. His

self-esteem has improved and he feels better about himself for being able to help others. This is how volunteering can make a difference in someone's life; even the life of a small child.



August Art Walk. James B. Abuan (left) and fan with one of Jimmy's paintings

ART MEETS FASHION

The Art Meets Fashion show held at the Peer Recovery Art Project gallery, Saturday, August 11, was an inspiring event that gave the community a chance to preview Glam Graphics' fall clothing line, featuring accessories by NeffyK Designs.

Shellie Smith, CEO and Lead Designer of Glam Graphics, is a graphic artist who collaborated with local seamstresses to gather her ideas and create the apparel, then teamed up with I'll Say Anything (a print shop located in Escalon, CA) to get her custom artwork and designs printed onto the showcased apparel.



Once she ventured into doing all this, Shellie realized there was so much more she wanted to do. She brought in Kathleen Neff of NeffyK Designs to add handmade crocheted accessories to finish the looks. If that was not enough, Shellie also teamed up with a co-worker to create the Little Miss Diva doll, representing one of Shellie's illustrations and the youth girls line titled "Little Miss Diva."

The Art Meets Fashion show was professional and well-organized with just the right music and video done by the talented Pen Point Entertainment. "Seeing everything come together and be a success was very touching for me; a dream come true. I would like to send a special thank you to all who made the event possible!" exclaimed Shellie.

If you did not get a chance to attend this event, then you truly missed out.

Fortunately, Glam Graphics has recently opened their own [Etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com) store, currently featuring some of Shellie's custom artwork and accessories by NeffyK Designs. Glam Graphics is currently working diligently to find a manufacturer that can create her apparel on a larger scale so that those items may also be purchased.



To contact Shellie at Glam Graphics, feel free to follow her on one or all of these sites: www.glamgraphics.net, [Etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com) - store name: Glam Graphics. Twitter - @GlamGraphics, or Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Glam-Graphics-and-Web-Design/270064253014066>

ARTIST YVETTE LAFORCE



Yvette is an artist schooled in “Watercolor,” which is the medium she knows and loves. She evolved to include mixed media in her paintings, such as charcoal, acrylic and ink. After spending many years at other wonderful galleries, Yvette is excited to become a member of the PRAP family!

“I have been welcomed with open arms and know that this union did not happen by chance. Life is pure art; my inspiration is as close as the person standing on the street corner. I am excited to be involved in all aspects of the gallery, from teaching youth art classes to showing my art. By displaying my passionate works with PRAP, I hope to find them appreciative and loving homes! I feel I have come full circle in many areas of my life, and this opportunity knocks at a perfect time”.



Saturday, September 29, 2012, Yvette will have an evening show at the Peer Recovery Art Project gallery, 1222 J Street, Modesto. Everyone is welcome. Keep your eyes open for the flyer. Yvette will exhibit her new paintings full of life, love and color! Please join us in celebrating the beauty of life and art!

Peer Recovery Art Project
Proudly Presents:

LIFE, ART, LOVE a show

Creations by:

Yvette LaForce

SAT. SEPT 29, 2012

Special Preview: 11 am - 5:00 pm
Show and Sale: 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Gallery Located
1222 J, Corner 13th & J
Modesto, CA

More Info 209 556-8580

MO-PRIDE 2012 PRESENTS

PRIDE LINKS

Along With Capi & Interpride

US TOGETHER

September 15, 2012
11AM to 7PM
Graceda Park
401 Needham St.
Modesto, CA

FEATURING

Vendors: Recover Art Project, Kids Zone, Teen Garden
Food Court: Beer & Wine Garden, Free Live Entertainment

*Opening Ceremonies Honored Guest
The Mayor of Modesto
MAYOR GARRAD MARSHI*

SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCES

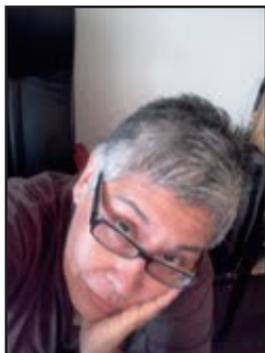
The Phenomenal **SASHA STEPHANE**
The Fabulous **ETHAL MERRIMAN EXPERIENCE**

Join us @ the "OFFICIAL" Mo-Pride Festival Reception, Modesto's newest Bar & Nightclub, **CLIMAX** Located @ 607 7th St. just off of 9th.

For More Information: Pride President, Ramiro Avencia @ 209.605.9420 or Pride Vice President, Jeremiah Sosa @ 209.352.3366

InterPride, CAPI, CLIMAX, Coca-Cola, Interpride, RainbowPride, TULLA, BLUE LIGHT, and other logos.

FAREWELL FROM MONICA SILVA



Being a part of one of the greatest teams for the past seven months has been an exciting adventure! I leave as part of staff with mixed emotions, happy and sad. I feel happy because of my new adventure working in the Housing & Employment Department for Behavioral Health and Recovery Services. It is a journey I welcome with open arms of excitement. I feel sad because I will miss the crew at the PRAP gallery. Although I am leaving as part of staff, I will be a part of the volunteer crew. You all have not seen the last of me!

~Monica

LIVE CD COMING SOON!



Peer Recovery Art Project, Inc. has recorded our first live CD. Dellanora Green has been on our team for years and we are proud of her talent and style. So proud that we partnered with Gordon Grots of G-Cubed studios and, thanks to his recording genius, we now have 10 tracks of our iconic, amazing street artist, Dellanora. "Woman

of the Ghetto" Raw! Just like we love. Raw! Just as she sings while strolling through town. Stay tuned for the red carpet gala CD release party coming to our gallery soon.

Peer Recovery Art Project gallery, home of the ARTS FOR FREEDOM program is located at:

1222 J Street, Modesto CA

Email, call or text:

Peerrecoveryart@yahoo.com

(209) 581-1695

Open Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; 3rd Thursday Art Walk nights, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Find us at the intersection of 13th and J Streets between the State Theatre and Crow Trading; right next door to the Camera Center.



Arts for Freedom is sponsored by Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors and Stanislaus Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

Send your TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS to:
Peer Recovery Art Project, Inc.
PO Box 5354, Modesto, CA 95353
Drop us a line or send a request to be included on our list of supporters.

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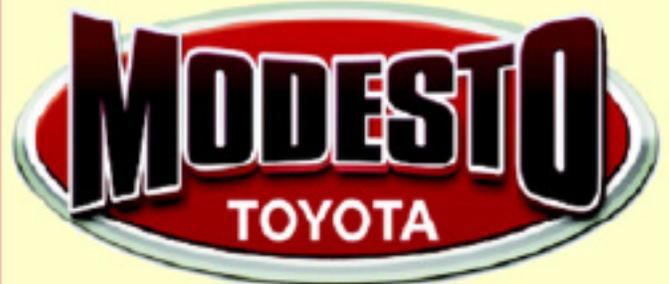
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