

15th De Colores Art Show!



Xavier Montes and Veronica Xochitl Valadez hang paintings for the De Colores Art Show. Paintings shown from l-r are by artists Pablo Ruvalbaca; two paintings by Ray Cirerol; tortilla art by Joe Bravo, and metal art by Arturo Rivas, Jr. Photo on the sofa by Jose Moreno.

The *De Colores Art Show* is a group show of either Latino artists or non-Latino artists depicting their affinity for Latino life. What this implies is that this unique art show is open to all artists. At this art exhibit, you will view paintings (oils and acrylics), photography, metal art, sculpture/ceramics, and mixed media. In the mixed media category we have installations and a rebozo as wearable art! There is a diversity in artists and diversity in art media. *De Colores Art Show* is designed to initiate a dialog among the viewers and between the artist and viewer.

Among the artists on exhibit are:

Veronica Xochitl Valadez

Veronica Xochitl Valadez is the owner/proprietor of the *Gallery Under the Sun*. The Gallery specializes in unique art, folkart and gift items from throughout the world. She also is a fellow presenter with Carmen and me of the *De Colores Art Show & Festival*. Veronica is both a visual and performing artist: she is a painter and a *danzante*.

At the age of 8, Veronica won a statewide art contest for the United Way. Since Veronica's attendance at UCSB, her artwork has become the Department of Chicano Studies' logo and is also used on the Chicano/Latino Student Graduation's certificates of completion. She has created illustrations for two books written by UCSB professor Dr. Yolanda Broyles-Gonzalez, *Re-emerging Native Women of the Americas* and *Lydia Medoza's Life in Music*.

Veronica works in dry pastels, colored pencils, and acrylics. Her artwork depicts her love for her Mexican culture and her Mexican indigenous roots. As a disciplined Aztec dancer and because of her love of learning, Veronica will only paint something after she has studied and learned the significance behind it. She believes in using her artwork as a forum for educating others about her people's history, traditions, and culture.



Veronica has exhibited her artwork in the Santa Barbara and Ventura areas. She is an emerging artist with a rich background and an even richer future.

Veronica served as president of the board of directors of the Santa Barbara Mexican Museum (2002-2003);

and currently, she is on the board of directors of the *Bell Arts Factory*, this year's site for the **De Colores Art Show & Festival**. Veronica has received two grants from the City of Ventura in order to promote Aztec dance and the Mexican culture.

Veronica is the principal *danzante* for **Danza Mixtec Cuauhtémoc** who will provide the Aztec blessing at the **15th De Colores Art Show & Festival**.



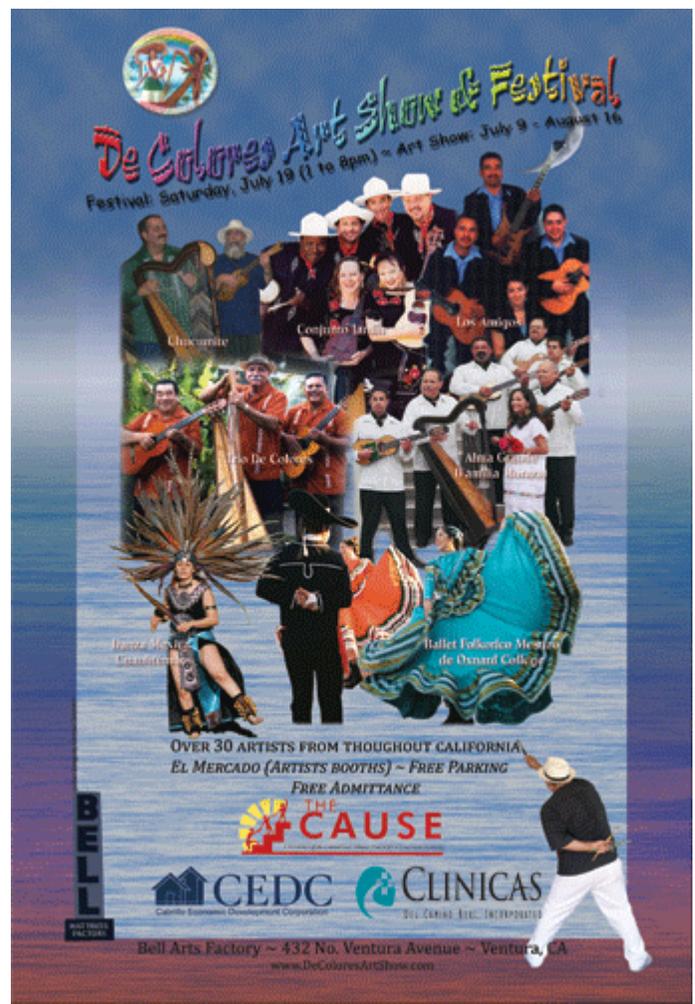
Frank Ramirez

Frank Ramirez is third generation Californian of Mexican descent, a lifelong resident of Oxnard. Frank's grandparents came from Mexico in the early 1900s, fleeing poverty and the aftermath of the Mexican Revolution. Frank's art comes from inspiration derived from his grandparents' experiences, his and their heritage. He also looks to the indigenous cultures for inspiration. Frank is a self taught painter whose work is depicted by beautiful colors and vivid images. Frank is also legally blind. He lost sight in one eye due to an industrial accident while working as a carpenter. After his accident, Frank trained in Los Angeles and became the "One-eyed Lettering Artist." In 1996 Frank was diagnosed with *retinitis pigmentosa* in his remaining "good" eye. You will be inspired by Frank's determination to live life to its fullest and by his art.

There are many more inspirational stories of artists exhibiting their work at the **15th De Colores Art Show**. AND don't forget the fabulous FESTIVAL we have planned. The *De Colores Art Show* is on exhibit until August 16.

The **De Colores Art Show** is on exhibit until August 16. **DON'T CONFUSE THE TWO DATES!** The art exhibit continues until August 16, AND,

The **De Colores Art Show Festival** will be held on July 19. Many of the exhibiting artists will be present and available for you to meet and dialogue with. At the right is the 2008 De Colores Art Show Poster. Our sponsors this year are **CAUSE** (Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy), **Cabrillo Economic Development Corp.**, **Z Pipeline Construction Co.** and **Busy Bee Café**. Thank you to these organizations for their support. (We still need help -- any amount. In the history of the De Colores Art Show, I have always been a 100% volunteer -- so has Carmen. No one associated with organizing this art show & festival receives any compensation. Everything goes to pay expenses so that all who attend have a great cultural experience.)



For the **FESTIVAL** our lineup of musicians and performers includes an Aztec Blessing by *Danza Mexica Cuahatemoc*; *Conjunto Jardin* will be making a rare appearance in Ventura County and playing selections from their new CD, "Yerba Buena"; also performing will be *La Familia Moraza (Alma Grande)* a local family who grew up on the Avenue; *Chucumite* (John Robles and Robert Peralta); my group *Trio de Colores*; and a great local latin-band, *Los Amigos*, who play a variety of music that includes boleros, baladas, rancheros and cumbias. You will love their sound.

Our folklorico dance group is the great *Ballet Folklorico Mestizo of Oxnard College*. You have seen this very talented group of dancers at both of our *Fandangos* and at our most recent *De Colores* in 2006.

We will also have artist booths and a *Rincon de Niños* (our Children's Art Korner).

REMEMBER, don't be confused with the dates. You don't want to miss out.

The ART EXHIBIT will continue until August the 16.

The FESTIVAL will be on Saturday, July 19, 2008 ~ save the date!

On August 30, (the Saturday of Labor Day weekend) we will be bringing another great concert to Santa Paula's Glen Tavern Inn. *Noche Tropical* will be an evening of romantic *trios* singing romantic Mexican ballads and rancheras. Come prepared to dance the night away or just sit back and listen to these beautiful songs from the 40s, 50s, and 60s – songs our parents and grandparents danced to, to that of our own youth. Food and beverages will be available from Ironhorse Restaurant.

Where: Glen Tavern Inn, in the front garden area

When: *Saturday, August 30, 5 to 10 pm* (this is the Saturday of Labor Day Weekend)

For more info: email me (Xavier) at bigx93061@aol.com or call me at 805.525.8961

Copies of all my e-newsletters are available at my website: www.XavierMontes.com just click on "newsletters".

..... "X"

Xavier Montes
805.525.8961
www.XavierMontes.com

You are receiving this e-mail because you requested our messages to be sent to you. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please reply to this e-mail and place REMOVE in the subject line.