

ALLIANCE OF ARTISTS COMMUNITIES

255 South Main Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

tel 401.351.4320
fax 401.351.4507

www.artistcommunities.org
aac@artistcommunities.org

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Contact: Caitlin Strokosch
401.351.4320 or cstrokosch@artistcommunities.org

Alliance of Artists Communities announces recipients of the 2009 *Visions from the New California Awards*

July 25, 2008 – The Alliance of Artists Communities recently named visual artists **April Banks, Terry Berlier, Jane Castillo, Glynnis Reed, Josué Rojas, and George Two Horses** as the 2009 recipients of the *Visions from the New California* award.

A collaborative initiative of six California artists' residency programs, funded by The James Irvine Foundation, the award supports highly talented, yet under-recognized, California visual artists who represent the new California demographic. The Alliance of Artists Communities, the nation's only service organization for artists' communities and residency programs, administers and directs the *Visions from the New California* project.

Selected from a pool of over 180 visual artists state-wide, the six award recipients will each receive a one-month residency at one of the participating California programs next year, and a \$4000 unrestricted stipend. The artists and their work will also be featured in a widely distributed publication documenting their residency experiences at the host programs.

Artists' residency programs support working artists of all disciplines by providing them with both time and space to create new work, and with opportunities for interaction and collaboration with artistic peers and mentors.

The *Visions from the New California* project recognizes and supports six California visual artists each year. The 2009 award recipients with their host residency programs are:

- **April Banks**, Photo/Installation, from Oakland – **18th Street Arts Center** in Santa Monica
- **Terry Berlier**, Sculpture/Installation, from La Honda – **Exploratorium** in San Francisco

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- **Jane Castillo**, Installation, from Chino – **Headlands Center for the Arts** in Sausalito
- **Glynnis Reed**, Photography/Photo-Based Art, from Los Angeles – **Djerassi Resident Artists Program** in Woodside
- **Josué Rojas**, Painting/Video, from Los Angeles – **Montalvo Arts Center** in Saratoga
- **George Two Horses**, Mixed Media, from Long Beach – **Kala Art Institute** in Berkeley

A record number of applicants this year submitted work samples which were reviewed by a prestigious panel including: **Armando Cid**, a multi-talented, multi-disciplinary artist based in Sacramento; **Ramekon O'Arwisters**, curator of exhibitions at the San Francisco Airport Museums; and **Lorraine Garcia-Nakata**, publisher and executive director of Children's Book Press in San Francisco.

The James Irvine Foundation is a private, nonprofit grantmaking foundation dedicated to expanding opportunities for the people of California to participate in a vibrant, inclusive, and successful society. The Foundation's grantmaking is organized around three program areas: Arts, Youth, and California Perspectives, which focuses on increasing public understanding of critical issues facing the state. Since 1937, the Foundation has provided more than \$900 million in grants to nonprofit organizations throughout California. For more information about The James Irvine Foundation, please visit their website at www.irvine.org or call 415.777.2244.

Based in Providence, Rhode Island, the Alliance of Artists Communities is the only national network of artists' communities, colonies and residency programs, with more than 250 members worldwide. The Alliance contributes to the nation's cultural vitality by giving a collective voice to artists' communities, promoting successful practices in the field, and advocating for creative environments that support the work of today's artists. The Alliance represents programs that support artists in all disciplines, believing that collaboration and exchange that cross traditional boundaries furthers our culture's progress. For more information on the Alliance and this project, visit www.artistcommunities.org, or contact the Alliance at 401.351.4320.

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