

MARIPOSA COUNTY ART AND CULTURE

Mariposa County Arts Council, Inc.

www.arts-mariposa.org
5009 5th Street, Mariposa Ca 95338

(209) 966-3155

Established in 1981, the Mariposa County Arts Council is an incorporated, non-profit organization created to encourage, support, and promote all forms of the cultural arts for all ages throughout Mariposa County.

Entering Mariposa is like stepping into a bygone era. Nestled in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains, Mariposa is home to Yosemite National Park, BLM and National Forests. Residents are separated by huge ranches or towering mountains. With high quality of life standards and strong values, The Mariposa County Arts Council is a non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors, who served nearly 21,000 people throughout Central California in 2008 with programs in the performing arts, visual arts and school programs. School programs reach rural, underserved student populations who have little or no access to the arts.

Gallery and Gift Shop

The Art Council's 5th Street Gallery, located at 5009 5th Street in historic downtown Mariposa, is a premier retail venue in Mariposa County for the work of regional artists offering original paintings, prints, fine art photography, basketry, pottery, sculpture, wood, jewelry, note cards, and more!



Lewis Wong, Guest Artist MSO

Mariposa Symphony Orchestra

The 50-member, multi-generational Mariposa Symphony Orchestra presents quarterly concerts with the opening concert in October, a December holiday concert, Spring, an Independence Day concert, Fall and a free public performance at the Mariposa County Fair on Labor Day Weekend. MSO hosts appearances by nationally acclaimed guest artists and has premiered original compositions. Les Marsden is a retired actor once nominated for London's Laurence Olivier Award, an accomplished musician, composer, founder and conductor of MSO.

Mariposa Evenings

Summer weekends in the Mariposa County Art park include a popular summertime tradition, Mariposa Evenings. Friday and Saturday evenings feature regional artists in musical performances that are free to the public. A variety of musical styles are featured, including swing, folk, classical, jazz, blues and country to rock.

Mariposa Storytelling Festival

The Mariposa Storytelling Festival event is acclaimed for the quality of professional storytellers and is one of the Arts Council's most popular and successful programs! Six of the nation's best Storytellers are selected each year to perform at this three-day event, which takes place in Mariposa and Yosemite on the second weekend of March. The Festival is followed by a week of touring performances throughout Central California, serving more than 8,000 youth and 3,000 adults. Of the Mariposa Storytelling Festival, it is "One of 11 festivals to visit" in the nation, states *USA Today!*



2008 Storytellers Lyn Ford, Milbre Burch, Patrick Ball

Art in Education

- The Conductor of the Mariposa Symphony Orchestra and nationally recognized guests artists present "Welcome to Classical Music" at local school assemblies in every Mariposa County school.
- Nationally acclaimed professional Storytellers perform in schools and communities throughout Mariposa and neighboring counties of Central California each March.
- Grades K-6 Story Writing Competition and Tellabration! Winning Grand Authors are invited to tell their stories at a free, public Storytelling Performance, Tellabration!, which is a world-wide night of story sharing.
- Young Masters Art Competition is a visual arts competition and exhibit to provide a venue for Mariposa artists in grades K-12 to compete and display their work in a Gallery.
- Young Masters Composers Celebration for youth 8-18 honor winning compositions with the orchestration and MSO premier of winning compositions at a public performance.
- Shakespeare to Go along with National Endowment for the Arts curriculum materials.

Compliments of the Mariposa County Arts Council

The Sixth Street Cinema

www.sixthstreetcinema.org
4994 6th Street, P. O. Box 898, Mariposa CA 95338

(209) 966-1333

The Sixth Street Cinema, located upstairs at the Old Masonic Lodge in downtown Mariposa, screens world and American independent films on Friday and Saturday nights, and free admission documentaries, taped interviews, forums, and fine arts performances on Thursday nights.

The mission of the Cinema is to be more than an art house theatre, however. They developed and implemented the concept of "public cinema" as a way of uniting a community of thinking, creative people to talk and share ideas about important issues through post-film audience discussions.

As a public cinema, our mission is to open up access to a wide variety of thoughtful, creative programming, acting as a "cultural clearinghouse," and presenting these programs in a noncommercial setting. Films and other media presented in a public cinema are not disposable commodities. A public cinema is about the story.

The Cinema also attempts to increase access to cultural and educational opportunities with the Kids Film Club, which screens films based on world folk and fairy tales or children's literature and includes a short media literacy exercise afterwards; its outreach to the local schools through film-and-discussion events and presentation of Global Nomads, a live videoconference between Mariposa high-school students and their peers around the world on topics from the environment to American foreign policy; and by hosting film-and-discussion presentations with nationally known filmmakers.

Sierra Artists Gallery

<http://www.sierraartistsgallery.com/>
Hwy 140 & 6th Street, Mariposa CA 95338

(209) 742-7035

The Sierra Artists Gallery is a co-operative gallery located on the corner of Hwy 140 and 6th Street in historic downtown Mariposa. The Sierra Artists Gallery and the Northern California Society of Arts in Miniature host the "Miniatures in Mariposa" Fine Arts Juried Exhibition each March. The competition receives entries from around the world.



Yosemite Renaissance, Inc.

www.yosemiterenaissance.org
P. O. Box 767, Yosemite National Park, CA 95389

The programs of Yosemite Renaissance, Inc. are intended to encourage diverse artistic interpretations of Yosemite. Our goals are to bring together the works of serious contemporary artists that do not simply duplicate traditional representations, to establish a continuum with past generations of Yosemite artists; and to help re-establish visual art as a major interpretive medium of the landscape and a stimulus to the protection of the environment. Historically, the arts have played a very important role in the establishment of our State and National Parks. It is our hope that they can be just as important in future efforts to preserve and protect that heritage. Yosemite Renaissance sponsors an Artist in Residence Program in Yosemite for professional artists and an annual competitive exhibit open to professional and aspiring artists. Yosemite Renaissance is a non-profit corporation.

Community Performances

Programs, events, performances and activities are planned for every weekend to enjoy the best of the region's weather. The local newspaper, the Mariposa Gazette, Goldrushcam.com, the Mariposa Chamber of Commerce, newsletters and flyers advertise events throughout the year. Examples include the May Coyote Howl in Coulterville, the Civil War Reenactment each Spring, High School performances, Mountain Music Fest by the Chamber of Commerce, Agrinature Trails, Sierra Art Trails, Butterfly Days, Rotary Fine Art and Wine Festival, Rodeo, the Mariposa County Fair and exemplary programs offered through Delaware North and Yosemite National Park.