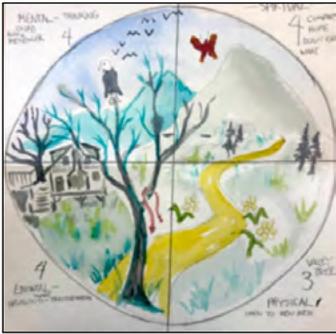




Community Outreach — Oakland Veterans

Following Maori Wisdom Tradition to Find Their Own Year's Vision



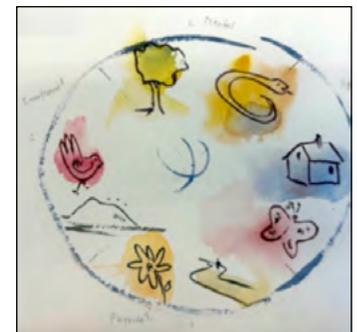
Nancy Redden led our veterans group following an annual exercise practiced by the New Zealand tribe of the Maori people. On a square piece of paper, we drew a circle and then placed eight images: mountain, shelter, snake, tree, flower(s), butterfly, path, and bird. Next, we divided the page into four equal quadrants and delved into the symbols of each. We will each make our own interpretation of what we drew and painted.

The upper left quadrant is the valley of the birds—our thinking and mental territory. The lower left is the valley of the flowers—our emotional territory. The upper right hand is the valley of the mountain—our spiritual territory. And the lower right is the valley of the trees—our physical territory. After finding our quadrants, we counted how many of each symbol image, or even a sliver of the symbol images, was in each. Learning the various meanings of the snake and bird or birds was interesting as we reflected on our year to come.

This group was in a reflective mood as one of our members of 25 years had suddenly passed away. George was a wonderful fellow and a terrific artist. He had many health challenges but was always upbeat. Our group is just one of the many, including his family, who have had the honor of knowing George. Rest in peace, George Archibeque.

Sheila Cain

Co-Director, Community Outreach



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Community Outreach

"Together We Shine" Art & Music Festival



On February 22, 2025, the California Watercolor Association's (CWA) Community Outreach played a key role in the "Together We Shine" Art & Music Festival in Lafayette. Hosted by St. Anselm's Episcopal Church in celebration of its 65th year, the event brought the community together to celebrate creativity through art and music.

CWA proudly sponsored the loan of display panels and took on the intricate task of designing and installing the art exhibition. The careful planning and expertise involved in arranging over 140 works from 12 artists ensured that each piece complemented the next, creating a visually inviting space that encouraged visitors to stroll through and appreciate the diverse talents on display.

A special highlight was the children's art tables, where young artists painted vibrant watercolor butterflies. With the guidance of renowned watercolor artist and teacher Pat Moseuk, children joyfully created their masterpieces, surrounded by butterfly-themed inspiration.

Also invited to display their works at the festival were the high school art students of Campolindo in Moraga, contributing 38 pieces of artwork. It was a wonderful opportunity for these young artists to share their creativity with the community.

The event, attended by more than 150 people, truly reflected the vibrant artistic spirit of Lamorinda. Through efforts like these, CWA continues to foster artistic expression and community engagement, bringing people of all ages together to celebrate the beauty of watercolor.

Georganne Zaro
Co-Director, Community Outreach

