

Entertainment

Wet Paint raises funds for SVMA



MEMBERS OF THE Wet Paint Steering Committee in front of the picturesque home of Steve Ledson and Amy Ackerman, who will host the annual fundraiser for the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art. Submitted photo

Museum benefit

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The Sonoma Valley Museum of Art will hold its ninth annual Wet Paint dinner and auction on Saturday, Aug. 1, at the historic home and grounds of Steve Ledson and Amy Ackerman, where guests will be greeted at 5 p.m. with a welcoming cocktail (try the famous Paintini).

Wet Paint is the largest fundraiser for the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art and highlights local artists as they put finishing touches on their unique work.

The live and silent auction raises a significant portion of the funds needed to sustain the museum's education and exhibition programming.

"We hope that our museum friends will again support Wet Paint as patrons, as it is the singular event that ensures the quality of the museum's education and exhibition programming, its Free Sunday policy and other community-related activities," said newly appointed executive director Kate Eilertsen. "This fun-filled evening will include amazing art and delicious food with good friends, while supporting SVMA's extraordinary programs."

The live auction led by local auctioneer Ed Vaughn will include exotic trips, impressive wine lots, creative dinners and unique art.

The "Fund-A-Need" portion of the auction will directly benefit the museum's rapidly expanding education program.

A number of local chefs will provide specialty dishes for the "French Market"-themed strolling dinner, which will be coordinated by Catherine Driggers of Olive & Vine.

Award-winning Ledson wines have been donated for the evening.

SVMA president Jane Milotich said, "Steve and Amy's generosity is especially important this challenging year. Their gorgeous property ensures that Wet Paint will once again be a highlight of the season."

The 2009 Wet Paint Steering Committee includes Yvonne Hall, Kathe Hodgson, Cherie Hughes, Sandra Larson, Marcia Levy, Cal Vander Woude, Simon Blattner, Executive Director Kate Eilertsen and board president Jane Milotich.

Hall, who also chaired the event four years ago, said, "Wet Paint remains a unique event, where we celebrate Sonoma's vibrant arts community and demonstrate the museum's commitment to that community."

Tickets are now available online at www.svma.org or by calling the museum at 939-7862.