Call for Entries

"Portraits"
3 Floors of People Up Close

Juried Show, Cash Awards
Friday, July 7th – Tuesday, August 22nd

Your opportunity to exhibit in one of the largest and most visible art venues in Ventura County! Thousands of people pass through the space every weekday!

About the Show Theme
No pet portraits! This show is about people, all sorts of people, up close and personal. From mug-shots to formally posed paintings, each gives us insight into the individual’s personality, mood, job, and station in life. The subjects can be anyone, or a fictional “everyman/woman”.

Eligible Works
1. The artwork is consistent with Show Theme.
2. It is the original artwork in any medium by the show entrant, unless specifically exempted by VCAC.
3. The artist resides in (Ventura, Santa Barbara, or Los Angeles County).
4. The work can be exhibited using the available spaces and mounting systems of the gallery, and is “prepared” to the standards listed herein (see “About the Atrium Gallery” and “Artwork Preparation” below).
5. The work extends not more than 12” from the wall; has outside dimensions between 8” x 10” and 72” x 72”; OR is free-standing work. Discuss exceptions to these standards with the Gallery Coordinator before submitting work.
6. The artwork content is appropriate for the work place where the gallery is located. See “Limits On Subject Matter” below.

Submission of Images for Jury Review
You may submit without charge up to 10 images of your artwork for review by the jury. Indicate how many pieces you are willing to enter at the applicable charges listed below, e.g. 5 of 10 submissions. See our website (vcarts council.org/Atrium Gallery) for the on-line submission form. Email questions to info@VCArtsCouncil.org or VCArts@pacbell.net

Jurying & Judging Artwork
The Arts Council will jury the work submitted and notify artists which pieces are accepted for this show. A separate judge will select prize-winners.

Entry/Release Form & Fees
A signed Entry/Release Form and entry fees will be collected when accepted artwork is brought in. Entry fees will ONLY be charged for work that is accepted for the show. Entry forms are available when art is brought in, or at the Atrium Gallery webpage.

Non-member – 1/$20; 2/$38; 3/$45;
each additional entry $15
VCAC Member – 1/$15; 2/$20; 3/$25;
each additional entry $10
VCAC Student Member (12 units) – 1/$12; 2/$25;
each additional entry $10
Paid member of a VCAC Member Arts Organization –
1/$18; 2/$33; 3/$40; each additional entry $12

Limits On Subject Matter
The gallery is located in a public office building where citizens must come to conduct business. Therefore, some limits are placed on artwork content. Nudity, violent images, and promotion of a religion or political parties are not acceptable. Contact the Gallery Coordinator for guidance.

Gallery Management
The Atrium Gallery is managed for the County of Ventura by the VCAC with input from accomplished artists, arts professionals, and arts advocates from across Ventura County. The goal is to enrich the community by promoting a broad range of quality visual arts from diverse artists.

Key Exhibit Dates
• Submission of images for jurying to VCAC by
  Friday, June 23, 2017
  Submissions after the deadline will be considered when feasible
• Acceptance Notification via Email on or about
  Friday, June 30, 2017
• Art Bring-in to the Atrium Gallery
  Wednesday, July 5, 2017
  (Ideally between 10:00 am and 2:00pm)
• Exhibition Opens
  Friday, July 7, 2017
• Reception & Awards Ceremony
  Friday, July 21, 2017
  5:30 – 7:00pm, main floor of the Gallery
• Art Pick-up ($10/wk charge for work not picked up)
  Wednesday, August 23, 2017
  (Ideally between 10:00am and 2:00pm)
  Artwork MAY NOT be removed before this date,
  unless permitted by VCAC
AWARDS FOR COMPETITIVE SHOWS
Cash awards will be provided from the entry fees - the more entries, the larger the awards. Honorable Mentions winners receive a free entry into a future show. 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners typically split $300 in prize money.

ABOUT THE ATRIUM GALLERY
Capacity - The gallery includes three floors and 400+ linear feet of wall space. Some 3000 citizens and 1200 employees pass through the gallery daily. There are usually seven competitive shows annually that display some 50 pieces on the first two floors of the Gallery, and some 100 pieces when three floors of the gallery are used. The upper floor (4th) is often set aside for curated exhibits that are staged simultaneously with the competitive shows (see Atrium Gallery Calendars).

Security - An information kiosk is located on the 1st floor of the gallery area and staffed 24/7 with security personnel. CCTV covers some of the Gallery. County employees monitor the artwork as well and promptly report problems to the Gallery Coordinator. Nevertheless, the VCAC and the County are not liable for loss or damage to artwork.

Photographing Artwork – Artwork may be photographed during receptions, but at other times permission must be obtained from the County General Services Agency – Stephanie Peres (805) 477-7187 or (805) 207-6679; Stephanie.peres@ventura.org

Wall-Mounted Work - Is suspended from ceiling-level tracks by steel cables that carry sliding hooks, and collectively support up to 40lbs. Heavier work can be supported with multiple cables. Light-weight work can be attached to the few carpeted walls with "hook & Loop" material. NO holes are allowed in the walls, i.e. no nails, hooks, staples, etc. etc.

Free-Standing Work - Three 4' diameter pedestals are available for three-dimensional work. These may be covered with Lucite cases (one 30" x 18" & two 30" x 24"h) to protect small work. Limited additional space is also available for free-standing artwork adjacent to these pedestals, or for an artist's personal pedestals. Check with the Gallery Coordinator before entering such work. Delicate work can be cordoned off to further protect it. Use of electricity is very limited.

ARTWORK PREPARATION
All art must be clean and ready for display. It should be appropriately presented, whether framed or un-framed. Mounting hardware (e.g. cross-wires, eye-hooks, etc.) MUST be securely attached to the back of the work and be strong enough to support the work. Hanging wire should be attached somewhere in the top 1/4th of the piece so it will hang parallel to the wall. The center of the cross wire when stretched should be at least 2" below the top of the work so it and the hanging hooks are not visible. No saw teeth or plastic framing, please. Light-weight work may be attached to carpeted walls with "hook & loop" fasteners. VCAC will work with artists to display their artwork, but reserves the right to return it to the artist if it cannot be properly displayed.

ARTIST STATEMENT
Artists are encouraged to provide a 1-2 page Statement about their work in general and the work in the show. It will be included in the Exhibition Catalog. Provide your printed Statement when your work is delivered to the show.

SALES & COMMISSIONS
Sales of artwork must be coordinated through the VCAC office or Gallery Coordinator. Buyers provide payment to the artist, but the VCAC withholds this payment to the artist until the artist provides the applicable commission to the VCAC (15% from Arts Council members and 25% from non-members). This process helps finance the Gallery program and allows the VCAC to track sales. The Gallery Coordinator actively facilitate sales whenever possible.

LIABILITY & EXHIBITION CONDITIONS
The terms for participating in the exhibition are laid out on the Entry/Release Form and address damage or loss of artwork; hold harmless clauses; and photographing artwork on exhibit.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Arts Council
Ventura County Arts Council
646 County Square Drive, Suite 154
Ventura, CA 93003 – 0436
(805) 658-2213 (805) 658-2281 Fax info@VCArtsCouncil.org or VCArts@pacbell.net www.VCArtsCouncil.org

Gallery Coordinator
Todd Collart (805) 644-2923

VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED
Mounting some 14 shows a year is a challenge. We therefore welcome your help. We are most busy on the Wednesdays when shows change out – monitoring out-going and in-coming work, and hanging the new show. If you are available on these days you might be granted sainthood. Your energy and imagination would be appreciated if you want to help in other ways. Artists with work in a show are particularly encouraged to assist with installing that show and the related reception.

GALLERY & VCAC OFFICE LOCATIONS
Atrium Gallery – Three Floors:
Ventura County Government Center
Hall of Administration
800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA
Viewing Hours: Mon. – Fri. 7:00 am – 5:30 pm

VCAC Office:
646 County Square Drive, Suite 154
Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 to 12:00

Exit 101 or 126 freeways onto Victoria Ave. Enter Government Center grounds from Telephone Rd. at Lark St. and make a hard left into Lot “G” (long narrow one). It has a 3hr. limit, but allows you to park nearest the Atrium Gallery that is located in the Hall of Administration Bldg.