



210 Maud Street ● Punta Gorda, FL ◆ 33950
www.VisualArtCenter.org

941.639.8810 ■ ExecDir@visualartcenter.org

VISUAL ARTS CENTER, PUNTA GORDA CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) POSTPONEMENTS & CANCELLATION UPDATE

The Visual Arts Center (VAC) is closed to the public, however, staff will be onsite to facilitate removal and pick-up of National Art Exhibit (NAE) artwork. Artwork may be picked up from 9am to 4pm, Wednesday, March 25, Thursday, March 26 and Friday, March 27. If the VAC door is locked when you arrive for artwork pick-up, please ring the doorbell and someone will let you in. Until 4pm on Friday, if you need art supplies, you may ring the doorbell and we will help you. Beginning Friday, March 27th at 4pm, the VAC will be closed until 9am on Monday, April 13th. We will carefully monitor official information and let you know if this closure will continue beyond April 13th. Phone monitoring during the closure will be limited. If you need to contact the VAC, please email info@visualartcenter.org. We are monitoring the situation daily and everything is subject to change based on health and government recommended activity.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS: Classes and Workshops for the season have been completed or postponed. Classes beginning April 13th and later are available for registration on the website www.visualartcenter.org. If it becomes necessary to remain closed after April 13th, your registration fees for any cancelled class will be fully refunded. During this period of class suspension, VAC staff is exploring the potential for live online classes. More to come . . .

EXHIBITS:

NAE Removal:

- 9am to 4pm: Wednesday, March 25, Thursday, March 26, Friday, March 27.
- If you are unable to pick up your artwork during this time, we will hold it until we re-open.
- A limited number of VAC staff and Exhibit Committee members will be onsite through Friday, March 27th to pack artwork for those who provided return packaging and mailing labels. Although we cannot guarantee transport pick-up by Friday, we are making every effort to ship all NAE artwork by Friday.

New Beginnings: Scheduled for Receiving March 30, 2020 from 9am to 12pm is **cancelled**.

Charlotte County Public Schools Exhibits: A decision to hold or not hold will be made in early April.

Future Exhibits: We currently anticipate all exhibits from May forward will go on as planned. If for some reason we are not able to be open, we are exploring the potential of online exhibits.

GIVING CHALLENGE: Noon April 28 to Noon April 29. Please consider supporting the VAC during the Giving Challenge, a one-day online giving event with matching funds from The Patterson Foundation for donations up to \$100 per person. As you can imagine, this event is more important than ever to sustain the VAC from the economic repercussions from the virus. Please mark your calendar and watch for future information about how you can help the VAC during this 24-hour online fundraising event.

A special thank you to those who have stopped by the VAC over the last week and donated funds to help keep us going. Your donation is very much appreciated.

We wish all of you well and look forward to seeing you again soon.

Janet Watermeier
Executive Director

Alexia Martin
VAC Board President