

SAN DIEGO ART INSTITUTE

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WHAT WE DO

Donations, grants and membership dollars support, in part, continuation of SDAI programs and events to advance the visual arts through exhibition, outreach and education. SDAI is the largest & oldest (since 1941) all-media regional artist's advocate and exhibition organization in the region.

Our mission, to maintain a center for the regional professional as well as emerging artists and the visual arts in San Diego, is expressed through some of the following programs.

- **REGIONAL EXHIBITIONS:** SDAI's most visible activity focuses on showcasing the work of San Diego emerging area visual artists through a program of over 30 juried shows a year, (regular show, "One-Foot" show, special outreach shows, youth art & others). Different art professionals are selected as jurors for each show assuring exhibitions of high quality and great variety. Jurors' Choice and Honorable Mention certificates are awarded at monthly public receptions.
- **SOLO FEATURED ARTIST:** A coveted showcase for individual regional SDAI Participating Member Artists. Approximately 12 earned shows are produced each year of members work awarded through an annual cumulative equitable point system.
- **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL AWARD EXHIBITION:** This juried show provides a special opportunity for regional artists to win recognition among their peers/, art patrons and the public at large. Awards are presented at a public reception.
- **ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL AWARD EXHIBITION:** Since 1955 SDAI has produced the "Annual" - a juried show drawing interest from artists all over the world. A different internationally known juror is invited each year. This show is juried by slides and makes available international competition to regional artists. Awards are presented at SDAI's annual Gala Celebration.
- **OUTREACH THROUGH EXHIBITION:** A call to artists to respond to social and community issues. This is a unique visual art venue that marries the artist's talent with community awareness. Some previous exhibitions have been: "Winged Victory - Transcending Breast Cancer"; "Art Without Frontiers/Hasta La Raya"; "eARTh"- environmental awareness; "Our Healing Arts" - AIDS awareness; International Youth Art Exchange. Social outreach through the visual arts continue to be an important part of SDAI's mission.
- **ART EDUCATION:** Studio life drawing is offered in the Main Gallery twice weekly. SDAI maintains a separate facility for comprehensive computer classes in multimedia and animation plus various workshops on specific computer programs.
- **LECTURES, DIALOGUES AND TOURS:** A program of special evening informative lectures/discussions in addition to The Critic's Panel, Poetry in Art, and The Gathering art discussion/critique groups, aimed at both artists and the interested public as well as tours to regional art venues such as museums, galleries and artists' studios.

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- **YOUTH ART PROGRAM:**

David Fleet Young Artists' Gallery: The mission of this gallery is the exposure to the creative process of the youth of San Diego within the curriculum of the school.

1. The "Fleet", on a monthly basis, showcases youth art by regional elementary, middle and senior high public, private & parochial schools. SDAI liaisons with the San Diego City/County Art Educators Association for curators, school participation and selection.

2. SDAI recognizes by certification all participating young artists.

3. SDAI regional jurors chose the SDAI/Spiazzi Youth Achievement Awards each month.

4. Presentations for Certificates and Achievement Awards occur at our public receptions for each exhibition.

Youth Art Month: A regional award show (in collaboration with SD City/County Art Educators Assoc.).

Storytelling: An interactive program using verbal and visual skill

SDAI Youth Tour: A docent tour of the SDAI galleries aimed at young audiences. Exposure to living regional artists (and peers in the "Fleet") brings greater awareness of the possibilities in self-expression.

- **ARTWALK:** An annual community arts festival event sponsored by SDAI and a variety of corporate entities to showcase the visual and performing arts in four downtown neighborhoods linked by trolley Ticket proceeds benefit all non-profit partners.
- **ALTERNATIVE EXHIBITIONS:** Occasional shows are mounted at SDAI's educational facility, i.e. student and teacher shows; bi-monthly selections from current shows and previous featured artists' shows at SDAI are installed at our corporate sponsors on a rotational basis: UNISYS' headquarters in Rancho Bernardo; the corporate gallery of the EMERALD WYNDHAM HOTEL in downtown San Diego; & the DEL MAR HILTON HOTEL. SKY GALLERY exhibitions are planned for the SDAI, Balboa Park stairway clerestory walls - large works by alumni artists, not eligible for regular shows, will be curated for extended exhibition after the completion of the planned expansion..
- **WEB SITE & WEB PAGES - www.sandiego-art.org :** The SDAI website has dedicated web pages available to each Participating Member Artist & Non-participating Member Artist. Contact SDAI to take advantage of this unique benefit of the two types of SDAI Artist Membership. The web site also has a full report of upcoming gallery events, copy of the current Journal/newsletter, documentation of the current gallery shows and other interesting information.

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