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**Mission Federal ArtWalk Celebrates 35 Years in San Diego,  
April 27-28, and Announces 2019 Featured Artists**

*-San Diego's Little Italy will come alive with artwork from more than 350 artists from around the world, entertainment, immersive art experiences, live music, food, drinks and more-*

**SAN DIEGO** (January 23, 2019) –[Mission Federal ArtWalk](#) is back for its 35<sup>th</sup> year bringing San Diego's Little Italy a weekend-long premier arts and culture event on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28. The free festival brings more than 120,000 locals and visitors to San Diego's Little Italy—giving attendees an opportunity to meet more than 350 local, national and international artists and purchase art directly from the creators. Mission Federal ArtWalk will also feature its hand-selected Featured Artists—a group of artists that show a strong commitment to promoting creativity and art expression. The largest and longest running arts festival in Southern California showcases every medium of art including painting, sculpture, glass work, photography, fine jewelry and more. After browsing and purchasing one-of-a kind art, attendees can enjoy live music, dance performances, interactive art experiences, street food, family-friendly art projects at KidsWalk and more.



“We are thrilled to present the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Mission Federal ArtWalk festival. This fine art festival is a celebration of both visual and performing art, and connects San Diegans and visitors to fine artists from all over the US, Mexico and beyond,” said Sandi Cottrell, director of ArtWalk San Diego. “Mission Federal ArtWalk has become a time-honored tradition that encourages everyone to explore different facets of artistic expression and enjoy a friendly environment whether you are a consummate collector or just beginning to purchase original art. Each of our three annual festivals also include interactive art activities for family participation as well as a variety of food and beverage choices and terrific entertainment.”

“Mission Federal ArtWalk creates an environment that’s truly inspiring,” said Debra Schwartz, president and CEO of Mission Federal Credit Union. “At Mission Fed, we believe that arts and culture are critical to the health and vibrancy of

San Diego, and this free cultural festival is the perfect event to enjoy the talents of more than 350 visual and performing artists all assembled in Downtown San Diego's Little Italy neighborhood in a unique open-air setting. As the largest locally based financial institution exclusively serving San Diego County, Mission Fed is proud to support this festival for the 11th year."

**Below is a list of new and unique elements coming to Mission Federal ArtWalk in 2019:**

**Surfboard Art Auction** | To celebrate San Diego's oceans and beachy surf culture, Mission Federal ArtWalk is partnering with [Rerip](#), a nonprofit organization that specializes in repurposing surfboards. Rerip will provide Mission Federal ArtWalk with more than 25 surfboards that will be transformed into original artwork and auctioned off at the event. Artists will use various mediums of art including painting, mosaic and woodwork to create one-of-a-kind art pieces. The silent auction will be held at the Piazza della Famiglia and will benefit [ArtReach](#), ArtWalk's nonprofit partner that provides free art classes to over 20,000 students who wouldn't normally have access to art programs in San Diego County. Individuals who are interested in purchasing a board but cannot attend the event can bid online. By upcycling the surfboards, Rerip is fulfilling its mission of keeping surfboards out of landfills and protecting the environment. More information about the project and list of artists participating will be released in the upcoming weeks.

**Ocean Tunnel** | Students from Scripps Institution of Oceanography will host the "[Ocean Tunnel](#)," a 120-foot-long walk-through tunnel encompassing painted canvas that creates an open ocean, underwater experience for participants. The hand painted art installation signifies the changing ocean conditions from a bright blue ocean filled with schools of large fish to a green, gelatinous soup. Participants will feel as if they're underwater, while hearing sounds from the ocean as they walk through the tunnel. The artwork aims to create an impactful experience of mankind's effect on the ocean, spark conversations about altering the predictable future and provide a platform for sharing reactions, thoughts, and ideas with the worldwide community. The "Ocean Tunnel" will be located at the Piazza della Famiglia.

**Interactive Art Project** | [Artist & Craftsman Supply](#) will also be returning to Mission Federal ArtWalk to host an interactive art project where attendees can come together and participate. Details of the interactive art experience will be announced in the upcoming months.

**ArtMoves** | Mission Federal ArtWalk will launch ArtMoves, a set of one-of-a-kind performances that will be located on India Street near Grape Street. Rebekah Brown, San Diego Dance Theater's performing arts coordinator and Ian Isles, a San Diego based choreographer and dancer will produce the spectacular acts. A full lineup of ArtMoves performances will be released in February.

**Featured Artists** | In addition to unforgettable interactive experiences, Mission Federal ArtWalk will return with eight Featured Artists—a select group of artists that demonstrate a strong dedication for the arts. This year's featured artists include:

#### [Bart Aldrich](#)

Bart Aldrich is a mixed media artist with a focus on "abstract photo-painting" and photo art based in Indio, CA. Originally a landscape and travel photographer, Aldrich has more than 25 years of hands-on, real-world photography experience. He uses his years of experimentation and travels to create art pieces that combine his original abstract paintings on canvas with a myriad of photogenic elements, demonstrating his own unique style and genre.

#### [Tania Bolin](#)

Inspired by the natural world, Bolin's acrylic art relies on the imaginative use of bright and bold colors to create an emotional connection with the viewer. Her unique paintings showcase ecosystems desire to survive and reproduce in order to continue existing. She has received numerous awards including the respected Helios Award for her exceptional aspiration to be an advocate of the Arts in Yuma.

#### [Chris Dellorco](#)

A Los Angeles native, Dellorco was inspired by cultural icons to pursue his art career. He graduated from U.C. Berkley with a degree in Developmental Economics but later switched his focus to the arts. He's widely recognized as one of

Disney's top illustrators, creating popular Disney DVD covers from "The Lion King" to "Lilo and Stitch." His oil paintings exhibit photo-realistic technique, typically depicting the female figure in richly colored fabrics, while set against Old World European architecture.

### [Yves Goyatton](#)

Yves Goyatton is a sculptor originally from Lyon, France where he studied art at L'école de Condé. He moved to the United States and started classes at El Camino College in Los Angeles where he capitalized on his knowledge of sculpting. His artwork represents his fascination with the mystery of abstract shapes and their juxtaposition with human form.

### [Michael Rumsey](#)

Originally from San Diego, Michael Rumsey makes hollow wood surfboards that are shaped, fiber glassed and ready to ride. He uses exotic, salvaged and reclaimed lumber to create his art pieces and carefully hand selects each segment of wood to bring out an array of natural colors and patterns. As a lifelong surfer and ocean fisherman, Rumsey's passion for the ocean inspires his art.

### [Kara Unland](#)

Kara Unland is a clay sculptor who intricately carves mysterious, feminine creatures inspired by an abandoned garden. Her unique technique includes hand-building her pieces from ceramic clay fired with pigments, finishing with rich mixed media stains and inks and lastly using colored pencils to create the illustrated style.

### [Jennifer Hannaford \(represented by Adelman Fine Art\)](#)

Jennifer Hannaford is an emerging contemporary artist who earned a degree in Forensic Science from California State University of Sacramento and a master's in Biomedical Forensic Science from Boston University. As a forensic scientist based in New York City, Hannaford uses her deep understanding of the human form to convey her underwater series, a collection of oil paintings that illustrate how the body feels and reacts underwater. In the early stages of her art career, Hannaford developed a series of mug shots created entirely from her own fingerprints.

### [Ruth Fromstein](#)

Residing in San Diego since 2010, Ruth Fromstein is an abstract acrylic artist. She uses a variety of elements including textured mediums, chalk pastels, miscellaneous papers, graphite, charcoal and metal leafing to give her work depth and complexity. Fromstein's art work can be found in private collections and commercial enterprises across the country.

The yearly art festival is brought to San Diego by the same team that brings ArtWalk @ Liberty Station to the Arts District in Liberty Station every August and ArtWalk Carlsbad to North County, which debuted its inaugural event in September 2018.

Mission Federal ArtWalk will be located between Ash and Grape Streets in San Diego's Little Italy neighborhood. The event will run from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28. Attendance is free. More information will be released in upcoming months. For details about Mission Federal ArtWalk, visit [www.artwalksandiego.org](http://www.artwalksandiego.org).

#### **About Mission Federal ArtWalk:**

Mission Federal ArtWalk in San Diego's Little Italy is the City's first outdoor fine art festival and will celebrate its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2019. Mission Federal ArtWalk will run from Saturday, April 27, 2019 to Sunday, April 28, 2019, featuring professional artists from across the globe. Mission Federal ArtWalk offers collectable and approachable art from all kinds of media, such as drawings, jewelry, sculpture, paintings, photography, metal work, wood work and much more. More than just a visual arts festival, the event also features five performance venues for music and dance, as well as interactive art projects for both adults and children. For more information on Mission Federal ArtWalk, the featured artists or other details, please visit [www.artwalksandiego.org](http://www.artwalksandiego.org). Become a fan at [Facebook.com/ArtWalkSD](https://www.facebook.com/ArtWalkSD) or follow us on Twitter and Instagram @ArtWalkSD for updates.

#### **About Mission Federal Credit Union:**

Mission Federal Credit Union is a not-for-profit organization providing a wide variety of financial services to meet the needs of its customers. With over \$3.5 billion in assets, 31 local branches and more than 240,000 customers, Mission

Fed is the largest locally based credit union exclusively serving San Diego County. Mission Fed enhances the lives of its customers through financial education and financial services. In addition, Mission Fed contributes to hundreds of educational and nonprofit organizations. At Mission Fed, your success is our bottom line. All San Diegans are welcome. Insured by NCUA and an Equal Housing Lender. To learn more, visit [MissionFed.com](https://www.MissionFed.com).

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