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Media Contact:

Lauren Spinelli

Olive PR Solutions, Inc.

o. 619.955.5285 x 107

m. 973.738.2459

lauren@oliveprsolutions.com

Mission Federal ArtWalk Returns to San Diego’s Little Italy to Celebrate 33 Years

-Seventeen blocks of Downtown San Diego will be filled with artwork from over 350 artists, live entertainment, food, drinks and more the weekend of April 29-30, 2017

SAN DIEGO (January 26, 2017) – Mission Federal ArtWalk will return to San Diego’s Little Italy on Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, April 30 to celebrate its 33rd year as San Diego’s premier arts and cultural event and the largest fine art festival in Southern California. The free weekend-long event attracts thousands of visitors each year to San Diego’s Little Italy. Attendees will be able to enjoy over 350 local, national and international artists showcasing every medium, including painting, sculpture, glass work, photography, fine jewelry and more; live music and dance performances; interactive art activities; street food; and family-friendly craft projects at KidsWalk. The 2017 Mission Federal ArtWalk theme is “Vivid Expression.”



“Each year we work closely with our sponsors, vendors, featured artists, entertainment, community and local non-profit organizations to bring an extraordinary art experience to San Diego,” said Sandi Cottrell, Director of Mission Federal ArtWalk. “Mission Federal ArtWalk is for everyone—serious collectors, first-time art buyers, families and visitors to San Diego. Each year, one of our goals is to ensure attendees feel

like they can be a part of the art. That's why bringing interactive art activities and kid-friendly projects to the event is so important to us. We encourage attendees to express themselves throughout the weekend and find their inner artist, which exists in all of us."

New to this year's event will be the live mural work of famous local muralists Mario Torero and Maxx Moses. Attendees will be able to participate in mural-making alongside these well-known mural masters. The 2017 Mission Federal ArtWalk featured artists include [Moni Blom](#), [Franco Forte](#), [Mildred Gil Parada](#), [Matthew Grabelsky](#), [Jason Humphrey](#), [Iris Scott](#), [Ivano Stocco](#) and [Michael Summers](#).

Among the many interactive art experiences, one can also participate in a printmaking project with sponsor Artist & Craftsman Supply.

The Mission Federal ArtWalk non-profit partner, ArtReach, teams up with Knockaround Sunglasses, a popular Southern California sunglass company for their Class Acts campaign that supports art education by donating money, resources and supplies to local elementary schools with limited budgets. Knockaround will release this year's winning design by a fifth grade student. These shades with a colorful peacock feather design will be revealed and available for purchase at Mission Federal ArtWalk and all proceeds will be donated to participating elementary schools and ArtReach.

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. Mission Federal ArtWalk attracts over 100,000 art collectors and visitors from all over the country to purchase art from established and emerging artists during the two-day festival.

"Visitors are inspired at Mission Federal ArtWalk because there are over 350 artists showcasing a variety of art displayed in one central, beautiful location. Browsing for art at this event is rewarding because you have an opportunity to meet the artists that created the work and learn about their story. The festival environment surrounds you with live music and dance, rich culture and interactive art activities—all in the heart of one of San Diego's most vibrant neighborhoods, Little Italy," said Cottrell.

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 29 and Sunday, April 30. Attendance is free. For more information about Mission Federal ArtWalk, visit www.artwalksandiego.org or watch last year's wrap up video [here](#).

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 33rd anniversary this year. Mission Federal ArtWalk will run from Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, April 30 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 six 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. 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 \$3.1 billion in assets, 30 local branches, and more than 205,000 customers, Mission Fed is the largest, locally based financial institution 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. Federally insured by NCUA and Equal Housing Lender. To learn more, visit MissionFed.com.

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