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Mission Fed ArtWalk Returns to Little Italy with an In-Person Event Celebrating 37 Years on October 2-3

San Diego's oldest annual fine arts exhibition returns to one of San Diego's most iconic neighborhoods showcasing musicians, dancers and artists from around the world

SAN DIEGO (June 15, 2021) – <u>Mission Fed ArtWalk</u> returns with an in-person event to the streets of Little Italy with a weekend-long premier arts and culture event on Saturday, October 2 and Sunday, October 3. This year marks 37 years of the premier fine arts festival bringing visual and performing arts to the historic San Diego community. Locals and visitors will have the opportunity to purchase artwork from local, national, and international artists in a variety of mediums.

This free festival will take place in Little Italy, one of San Diego's most historic and celebrated neighborhoods. Every medium of art will be on display including painting, sculpture, glasswork, fine jewelry, photography, and more. Attendees will also enjoy the convenience of being just a few steps away from some of San Diego's best restaurants.



"We are thrilled to be returning to Little Italy with a festival that is a celebration of both visual and performing art, connecting San Diegans and visitors to fine artists from all over the US, Mexico and beyond," said Curt Booker, 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. This year's event also takes place the same weekend as Art San Diego, giving art lovers the opportunity to celebrate with an art-filled weekend."

As one of Southern California's longest-running art festivals, this year's Mission Fed ArtWalk will also feature an art guitar auction benefiting <u>ArtReach San Diego</u>, a nonprofit organization aimed at increasing equity in visual arts education in K-8 schools throughout San Diego County by delivering free or low cost workshops to schools that have no other resources for art. Over 30 guitars have been designed by participating artists including world-renowned musicians Jason Mraz and Tom DeLonge of Angels and Airwaves, as well as several well-known artists based here in San Diego. Bidding for the auction will open on September 1 and can be accessed on the <u>ArtReach website</u>.

"Mission Fed exists to enhance and improve the lives of all San Diegans by giving back to the community," said Debra Schwartz, president and CEO of Mission Fed Credit Union. "Arts and culture are critical to our positive health and well-being, and as the title sponsor for the last 13 years, we are proud to help ensure the Mission Fed ArtWalk is free to all. We encourage all San Diegans to come visit to enjoy the unique open-air setting and soak in all of the culture."

Mission Fed ArtWalk will be located between Beech and Grape streets in San Diego's Little Italy neighborhood. The event will run from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 2 and Sunday, October 3. Attendance is free and more information will be released in upcoming months. For more information on ArtWalk and its programs, please visit www.artwalksandiego.org.

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About Mission Fed ArtWalk

Mission Fed ArtWalk in San Diego's Little Italy is the City's longest-running outdoor fine art festival. In 2021, it will celebrate its 37th anniversary. Mission Fed ArtWalk will run from Saturday, October 2 through Sunday, October 2, featuring professional artists from across the globe. Mission Fed ArtWalk offers collectable and approachable art from all kinds of media, such as drawings, sculpture, paintings, photography, metal work, woodwork and much more. More than just a visual arts festival, the event also features several performances by professional musicians and dancers. For more information on Mission Fed ArtWalk, please visit www.missionfederalartwalk.org. Become a fan on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

About Mission Fed Credit Union

Mission Federal Credit Union (Mission Fed) is the largest member-owned, not-for-profit, full-service financial institution exclusively serving San Diego County. Mission Fed enhances the lives of its members through financial education and services, providing stability and strength to help San Diegans with financial wellness and success. Banking at Mission Fed means doing good for San Diego. Mission Fed gives money back to our local communities, has helped hundreds of nonprofits and important causes, and builds deep relationships with community partners.

Mission Fed has served the financial needs of San Diegans for 60 years through checking, savings, loans, credit cards and insurance offerings. Mission Fed has in excess of \$4.5 billion in assets, nearly 270,000 members, 32 convenient local branches, 30,000 fee-free CO-OP ATMs nationwide and free mobile and online banking services. Mission Fed was recognized as a 2020 Top Workplace by *The San Diego Union-Tribune* and named a Top Workplaces USA winner in 2021. Federally insured by NCUA and Equal Housing Lender. To learn more, visit www.MissionFed.com.