

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Art Extravaganza – Dreams on Canvas at the Civic Center Gallery in Encinitas**

March 14, 2013, between the hours of 5 to 7pm will be hosting an opening reception for the youth arts exhibit at the Encinitas City Hall, Civic Center Gallery located at 505 S. Vulcan Avenue, Encinitas, 92024 and a percentage of the proceeds will go to the Encinitas Boys and Girls Clubs of San Dieguito, Griset Branch, art program.

The Stardust Arts students of the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Dieguito, Griset Branch. “*Art Extravaganza – Dreams on Canvas*”, will flood the walls as 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade art students show off their advanced artistic talents. Filled with color, creativity and exceptional artwork, displayed in an array of styles and themes the art is influenced by their concepts, dreams and surroundings, and will surprise the public.

Never before has a youth art program been selected by the Arts Commission, and it's colleagues to represent the arts in this venue. The pride of the students, under the instruction of Cheryl Ehlers of The Stardust Arts will prove to be an unusually exciting exhibit for all. The students are involved in the Stardust - Angels Program, sponsored in part by the City of Encinitas and the Mizel Family Foundation Community grant program.

18 students have been working for many months on artworks created, drawn and painted in acrylics on 24X36 canvas. The pieces will make a person ponder as they step into the world of young minds of these artists who are filled with imagination and wonder. They have learned to utilize and incorporate new techniques, ideas and develop skills that allow for creative processing and spacial organization, stretching their abilities to reach farther, believe in themselves, and becoming confident in their skills.

The pride of the young artist's beam a light through any clouds of doubt, as they express their needs to be creative. “Art is the core of the communication and expression, states Ehlers. It spans time and reaches out to everyone in one way or another, and we need to support it's important in our youths lives and nurture the creative mind. After all they are the creators of the future”.

*Art Extravaganza* will bring to the forefront the magnitude and value of art, and express the value of art in schools or anywhere there is a lack of visual art opportunities. The Stardust Arts strives to develop confidence and positive attitudes. Creativity is what art is all about, and channeling over 8100 students in the past 4 years

Art Extravaganza – Dreams on Canvas



have proved an amazing accomplishment. Cheryl is a past grant award winner of the prestigious Kenneth A. Picerne Foundation, Artists Outreach Program 2009, and two time awardee of the City of Encinitas and Mizel Family Foundation Community grant, with an emphasis on enriching the lives of youth that are underserved in the local community.

Cheryl defines art as "experiences, dreams, feelings and passion," and she has dedicated her life to ensuring that aspiring artists have the opportunity to learn, create and grow. An accomplished artist herself, she is involved with many art organizations, including Teri Inc., which serves those with autism or other developmental disabilities, the Artsonia Kids Art Museum, all of which enrich the community and allow her to share her love of art with others. Cheryl's efforts have received recognition for the California State Assembly and the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, for her service to the youth in local communities in San Diego and is joint-ventured non-profit, with the Dr. Wilderness Show, an environmental educator for youth, bringing children to the forefront and communicating the values and respect of one's self. As an avid community arts advocate, she find the rewards are vast, and her model is "believe that anything is possible, if you simply try!"

The exhibit will remain open from March 5 until April 15<sup>th</sup> and open to the public Monday through Fri 7:30-5:30pm.

For more information you may contact the Arts Administrator, Jim Gilliam, at 760-633-2746 or Cheryl Ehlers, The Stardust Arts at 760-519-1551. Visit The Stardust Arts at [www.thestardustarts.com](http://www.thestardustarts.com).