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EVENT WILL HONOR THOSE WHO PRESERVE VENTURA COUNTY'S HERITAGE

Heritage Fund at VCCF to celebrate grantees' work at Santa Paula Art Museum on May 18

CAMARILLO, Calif. (May 3, 2010) –The Heritage Fund at the Ventura County Community Foundation will highlight achievements of its grantees and announce a return to grantmaking from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 18, at the new Santa Paula Art Museum.

“We are delighted to be the first organization to hold an event at this museum, which preserves and showcases Santa Paula’s artistic heritage,” said Hugh Ralston, president & CEO of the Community Foundation

The museum, which opened in February, houses a collection of more than 300 paintings, including works by Santa Paula artists Jessie Arms and Cornelis Botke, Douglas Shively and one-time local Robert Clunie. The museum is at 117 N. 10th St., in the historic Limoneira Building.

The Heritage Fund has awarded \$64,500 in historical preservation grants since its inception in 1999. To bolster the fund’s future grantmaking potential, the Vision Committee will announce its fund-raising campaign to reach a \$500,000 endowment by the end of 2010. This represents an increase of approximately \$164,500 over the Heritage Fund’s current endowment.

The Fund last awarded grants in 2008.

Four grantee projects will be highlighted at this 2010 event:

- Ladies of the Conejo tells the stories of 17 women pioneers of the Conejo Valley. The Conejo Valley Historical Society received \$4,000 for design and printing of this book.
- Photographs will show the progress in the Red Barn renovation at the Camarillo Ranch. The Camarillo Ranch Foundation used a Heritage grant of \$4,000 to collect and restore antique farm equipment and for framing and mounting historical photos of the ranch.
- The Santa Paula Airport will be captured in two short documentaries. The Saticoy Historical Society received \$3,000 to complete these videos, transfer them to the DVD format and provide copies to the Museum of Ventura County.

- The Stagecoach Inn Museum produced a book for third-graders and their teachers to give students a broad exposure to the Conejo Valley from its native peoples, to its explorers and pioneer families.

For reservations, contact Heather Short at hshort@vccf.org or (805) 988-0196, Ext. 132. There is no admission charge, and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

VCCF is a family of charitable funds with combined assets of \$100.5 million. Its mission is to promote and enable philanthropy to improve our community for good for ever, which it does through grantmaking, scholarships and leadership training programs through the Center for Nonprofit Leadership. VCCF has been certified in compliance with national standards by the Council on Foundations, the highest form of peer review in the United States. For more information, visit vccf.org or contact VCCF at (805) 988-0196.



