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PRESS RELEASE

The Alameda County Arts Commission announces the artists awarded contracts to create new public artwork for the future Castro Valley Library.

The Alameda County Arts Commission, in partnership with the Alameda County Library, is pleased to announce that 12 local artists will receive County contracts to complete public artwork projects for the future Castro Valley Library. The library is scheduled to open in 2009. Five art selection panels met in July and August to evaluate the artwork proposals and interview the artists. Each panel was comprised of approximately 10 members, most of them Castro Valley residents. In total, the panels included 29 Castro Valley residents plus local arts professionals and county staff. The panels also considered over 250 written comments collected while the artists' proposals were on view for community feedback at the current library and other locations. The recommendations were accepted by the Alameda County Public Art Advisory Committee on August 23rd and by the members of the Alameda County Arts Commission on September 12th. The contracts received final approval by County Board of Supervisors on December 4th. The recommended artists by project are – Small-Scale Framed Artwork: Marion Coleman (Castro Valley), Karen Frey (Oakland), Lisa Kokin (Berkeley), Mark G. Mertens (Castro Valley); Wall sculpture placed on the exterior entryway: Eric Powell (Berkeley); Sculpture placed on the walls facing the main library room: Andre Caradec & Robert Fukuda (Oakland); Tile mural placed on the walls facing the children's area: Jos Sances (Berkeley); Mixed-media artwork integrated into the glass wall of the teen room: Nancy Mizuno Elliott (Oakland) & Norman Moore (Alameda); and a sculptural fence placed along the pathway adjacent to the newly day-lighted Castro Valley Creek: David Duskin & David Whippen (San Francisco). This program is funded through Alameda County's "2% for Art" public art ordinance managed by the Alameda County Arts Commission, on behalf of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. For more information about the Public Art Program or the public meeting of the Arts Commission, please contact the Office of the Alameda County Arts Commission at (510) 208-9646.

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