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Michael Buss, President



President's Message for New Year 2013

"Be at War with your Vices, at Peace with your Neighbors, and let every New-Year find you a better Man."

Quoted in Benjamin Franklin's 1755 Poor Richard's Almanac, December.



Although each new year inevitably continues from where the old left off I still cherish the image of a landscape, fresh brushed with a blanket of pure white snow, in which each one of us must make our first foray. Like the exuberant child we might rush into the future with abandon simply to revel in the newness of it all; or like the

more cautious adult we might tread with care knowing that beneath the crisp coverlet of snow lies many an icy trap to bring down the unwary.

Your image might be that of the new journal – January 1st – as yet unscripted, but on which history will very soon be writ. The year ahead brings challenges for us all, individuals, families, businesses, the nation, and the Anaheim Arts Council. And as always, we face those challenges best together. The outstretched hand, the supporting arm, the voice of encouragement – all these conspire to console our sorrows and strengthen our endeavors.

The Arts in Anaheim face a number of challenges in the year 2013.

A new Performing Arts Center

Will this be the year when the long-hoped for home for the Anaheim Ballet and the Orange County Symphony becomes a reality? When the tenth largest city in California will be able to boast not just a magnificent convention center, great sporting facilities, a world-renowned entertainment resort and a new travel interchange center, but a focal point for performing and visual arts? This will require bold thinking by the City Council and staff, grit and determination from the Anaheim Performing Arts

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING—January 10th at 5:30pm

Downtown Community Center

President's Message for New Year 2013—continued

Center Foundation, and strong resolution from the Cultural Heritage Commission. While the facility now known as the Heritage Forum may yet go to a mega-church, we all know it would far better serve the needs of the City as a performing arts center. And just as the arts at Disneyland brings jobs and revenue to Anaheim, so also will a new PAC. We wait with bated breath.

The opening of the Grand Plaza at the Anaheim Convention Center



There is little waiting for this! Saturday January 12th at 4:30pm will witness the official opening and public dedication. The Orange County Symphony will be playing. I trust we shall see landscaping and public art that will be whispered as appropriate for nomination for Art In Public Places recognition.

The restoration of the mural in Little People's Park

You may find [this wonderful mural](#) facing the Park on Elm Street (between Clementine and Lemon). The mural retells the story of the Mexican-American history from the Aztecs through the Mexican

Revolution up to the Chicano Power era. It has only ever suffered from the weathering of time. The City is exploring how the Park itself can be brought up to standard with public restrooms, a water fountain and BBQ grill. It will be up to the initiative of Arts and Latino groups to devise how we find the estimated \$16,500 to restore the mural. [Read the background in the OC Weekly.](#)

Art classes for children

Since budget restrictions removed most art classes from Anaheim elementary schools many people have wondered what could be done to remediate the situation. There is scope for a new conversation to imagine what can be done to bring after-school art classes to the children of our city. An indicator of the importance of art to children comes from the tragedy at Sandy Hook. The traumatized kids in Newtown were given an opportunity to draw or paint what they felt about the events. Art connects so profoundly with our inner life and emotions that it is stifling for kids not to have the arts available to them at school.

Related to this, the remaining arts supplies from the October Come Together Community Fair have been donated to the Boys and Girls Club. We have agreed to help by finding artists to work with the B&G Club when the time is ripe to do an art project with the teenagers.

Champion of the Arts

Fund-raising is an ever present necessity, so all non-profits seek to make it as fun and painless as possible. Our own spring fund-raiser focuses on our Soiree at the Anaheim White House on Thursday April 4th. You may expect good entertainment and tasty food and wine. The silent and live auctions should be fun. The climax will be the announcement of this year's Champion of the Arts – the only 'election' in which you may shamelessly buy votes! If your organization has not yet understood how much they could benefit by jumping on board with the contest you may get all

the [full details here](#).

Scholarships and Grants

One of the main outlets for Arts Council funds is the annual apportionment of scholarships to aspiring young artists, and grants to qualifying organizations. All these details are available on our website and will get further attention in the coming weeks.

The Children's Festival

We are delighted to announce that Andrea Manes has been appointed as the coordinator for the 2013 Children's Festival on May 18th.

Arts Council Expansion

At the beginning of the year we set ourselves the goal of enlarging the membership of the Arts Council. In the coming months we will be seeking to make this a reality. We are almost ready to print new outreach materials (fliers) that will bring a fresh image to what we say about ourselves. We will be looking to engage the business community, bring more arts organizations into membership, and develop ways in which our General Meetings can be made more relevant to the arts community.

Try these questions and see what answers you might come up with:

- What would the Arts Council need to do to become an attractive group for Anaheim music bands to join?
- How could we make membership of the Arts Council more compelling for Anaheim artists?

Please drop me an email with your thoughts:

michael@anaheimartscouncil.com

At the family level

All of are consumed with our own family, financial and health issues. What we do above and beyond by way of volunteer work and giving is enormously appreciated. But let's take a moment to remember that none of us of gets any younger. Recently we



shared the sad loss of the husband of Andrea Manes, and then [our dear member Dorothea Stephenson](#) (left). When you see the City Councilors and staff arriving at memorial services you understand that such private citizens made a great mark in public affairs. Carol Latham joined with Dorothea's family members to speak of her great contributions to sports

and the arts in Anaheim at the service in St Boniface on December 14th – just one year after we lost Dennis Hollow.

For those of you have health and family anxieties ahead, we wish you strength and endurance. Please allow us, wherever possible, to bring the extra support of love and caring.

Whatever your challenge in the coming months, let heart always be touched by art.

Wishing you a happy new year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael C. Buss". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

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On into 2013 ...

The Anaheim Art Association is celebrating 50 years of art fellowship. At the December monthly meeting



President Tony Podue received The Anaheim Arts Council Award for best picture—although such a choice was quite invidious since all the pictures were so good—and a check for the handsome amount of \$19.63 to celebrate the

AAA's commencement in 1963! His lighthouse painting is now on display in the Center Gallery. The Art Association will host a celebration in the Center Gallery on January 8th. I am guessing at a 7pm start time.

Above: Michael Buss presents the award to Tony Podue. Below—another Podue painting.



First General Meeting of the New Year
Thursday January 10th
Downtown Community Center. 5:30pm

January Flamenco Workshop

We are so delighted at the progress of the Naranjito Flamenco Studio run by new member Justine Grover.

Direct from Spain
 Flamenco Workshop with
Manuel Reyes
 January 18, 19, 20 & 21
 Naranjita Flamenco
 Anaheim, CA

Info & Registration
www.naranjitaflamenco.com
 Contact: Justine Grover
justine@naranjitaflamenco.com
 (323) 687- 4300

Click the picture above to go to the full website.

GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE

- Inspiration from the President
- Welcome to new member Justine Grover
- A program from the Orange County Symphony
- Refreshments from The Chance Theatre