

# CREATIVE SONOMA

---

## For Immediate Release

Contact: Kristen Madsen, 707-565-6120

August 19, 2016

### **Creative Sonoma Announces Finalists for Fourth Annual Discovered: Exceptional Visual Artists of Sonoma County**

SONOMA COUNTY, Calif – Creative Sonoma, a division of Sonoma County’s Economic Development Board, is pleased to announce the 11 finalists for the Discovered: Exceptional Visual Artists of Sonoma County award. “Discovered” is a juried exhibition program designed to advance the careers of Sonoma County artists whose work has previously not been well recognized.

These 11 finalists will receive studio visits from the jurors who will select up to 6 awardees to receive a \$2,000 stipend. The artists’ work will be exhibited in a professionally curated show at the Petaluma Arts Center from January 21 – March 19, 2017. The show opening is scheduled for Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>.

“Sonoma County has a wonderful abundance of visual artists who live and work our community,” said Supervisor Efren Carrillo, Chair of the Board of Supervisors. “‘Discovered’ puts a spotlight on the remarkable artistic diversity and excellence that is evidenced here, across every genre and style.”

Finalists include: Jenny Harp – mixed media, Briona Hendren – mixed media, Karen Hess - photography, Dayana Leon - oil, Kate Oltmann - lithograph, Gregory Pagel - sculpture, Julia Pozsgai - acrylic, Catherine Sieck - paper, Kala Stein - porcelain, Darryl Vance – oil/acrylic and Jaynee Watson – mixed media. Jurors for the show include Kate Eilertsen who is also the lead curator, Michael Schwager from Sonoma State University, and local visual artist Jessica Martin.

The Artist Awards Endowment Fund was created by more than 50 donors from 2007-2011 with support from the James Irvine Foundation.

For more information, please contact Kristen Madsen at [kristen.madsen@sonoma-county.org](mailto:kristen.madsen@sonoma-county.org). For information on the Petaluma Arts Center, please contact Val Richman at [vrichman@petalumaartscenter.org](mailto:vrichman@petalumaartscenter.org).

Creative Sonoma supports and advances the creative community of Sonoma County.

141 Stony Circle, #110 · Santa Rosa, CA · 95401 · 707.565.6120

