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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

“Third Thursday Family Arts Night” Steel Drums July 20th, 2006 6-8pm

Kids and families should plan now to attend the Humboldt Arts Council’s *Third Thursday Family Arts Night!* Thursday, July 20th, 2006 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Morris Graves Museum of Art. This Thursday’s presenters for the evening will include *Steel Drums from the Pan Arts Network* 6-6:30pm in the Performance Rotunda, *International Folk Dance with Becky Deja* 6:30-7:15pm in the Performance Rotunda, *Folk Stories from North Coast Storyteller Anita Punla* 7:15-7:45pm in the Performance Rotunda, *Still life Painting in the style of Wayne Thiebaud* in the Youth Classroom from 6-8pm, and *Art and Crafts for Summer* in the Thonson Gallery all evening.

Come play the Steel Drums! Since 1999 the Pan Arts Network, featuring member of the Pan Dulce Steel Orchestra, has been bringing the art of steel pan music into the lives of countless local adults and children. In addition to offering weekly community steel drum classes, the Pan Arts Network has shared this unique art form with students from many local schools, created a non-profit youth program through the Ink People Center for the Rats, and developed a 30 piece performance group, the Pan Dulce Steel Orchestra. Pan Arts Network co-founders and co-directors Kate Lang-Salazar, John Salazar and Michael Skweir along with members of Pan Dulce will offer a brief performance and then invite the audience to participate in the joy of playing the steel pan! For more information please call 822-PANS or visit www.panartsnetwork.com.

The International Music and Dance session from 6:30-7:15 pm lead by Becky Deja will offer a taste of our ethnic roots. Musaica, a local group of musicians, will weave together musical textures from Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania, Hungary, Serbia, and Scandinavia. The following will be performing with Musaica: Randy Carrico singing and playing tambura, clarinet, trumpet, duduk, and kaval; Dan Chandler on violin, viola and recorder; Ryejee on tupan, dumbek and piano; Sara Janus on vocals; and James Wroble on bass, brach and flute. Members of the Humboldt Folk Dancers, a local group dedicated to enjoying and preserving ethnic music and dance, will demonstrate a Hungarian couple dance from the Mezőség region of Transylvania as well as line dances from the Shope region of Bulgaria and the Oltenia region of Romania. They will also include a traditional Serbian dance that is still done today at gatherings of families and friends. After the dance demonstrations, Becky Deja will teach a Macedonian lesno, a Rom čoček, and a Swedish waltz. These basic “walking” dances will provide an opportunity for participants to experience moving to the varying rhythms. The Humboldt Folk Dancers meet on Fridays at the Arcata First Presbyterian Church on the corner of 11th and G. The first Friday parties, beginning at 8 pm each month, feature live music and everyone is welcome. Greg and Becky Deja, Craig Kurumada, and other guest teachers offer international folk dance instruction all other Fridays from 7:30-9:30 pm. For more information about parties or dance instruction contact Becky Deja at 839-3665.

Children can enjoy Still Life Painting in the Style of Wayne Thiebaud lead by artist Kelly Bonsall from 6-8pm in the Youth Classroom. Wayne Thiebaud (born November 15, 1920) is a painter whose most famous works are of cakes, pastries and other foods from shop windows, toys and lipsticks. His last name is pronounced "Tee-bo." In addition to pastries, Thiebaud has painted landscapes, streetscapes, and popular characters such as Mickey Mouse. Thiebaud was born in Arizona and was brought to Long Beach, California at the age of six months. Thiebaud spent over ten years working in Hollywood and New York as a cartoonist and advertisement designer, interrupted for four years, from 1942 to 1946, while he served as a member of the United States Army Air Forces. Wayne Thiebaud's formal art training was paid for by the G.I. Bill, and he studied at San Jose State College and the California State University, Sacramento. He received a teaching appointment at Sacramento Junior College in 1951, while still in graduate school. He remained there for eight years after which he joined the University of California, Davis as an art professor, where he is today. He currently (2006) teaches about one class per year, which is very popular. The art of Wayne Thiebaud will be on exhibit at the Morris Graves Museum of Art from July 16 through September 2, 2006. Kelly Bonsall is a local artist who has been painting in Humboldt County

The Humboldt Arts Council is dedicated to providing leadership in support of the rich heritage of North Coast arts and to bringing this legacy fully into community life.

since 1999. During this time she has been studying art at Humboldt State and is currently working on entering the Teaching Credential Program to pursue a career in Art Education.

The Humboldt Arts Council would like to recognize our Third Thursday Family Arts Night Underwriters: AG Edwards, Citigroup, Living Education and Arts Foundation, McLean Foundation, Sidney Stern Memorial Trust, Umpqua Bank, and US Bank. Thank you for all of your support!

Family Arts Night is every third Thursday of the month. To be a presenter or for more information about Family Arts Night contact Rebecca Froehlich at (707) 442-0278, ext. 201. The Morris Graves Museum of Art is located at 636 F St., Eureka, Ca.