



The Humboldt Arts Council
in the Morris Graves Museum of Art

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: "Second Saturday Family Arts Day"
Celebrates Women's Her-Story Month on Saturday, March 10, 2007 2-4pm**

Join the Humboldt Arts Council and the Morris Graves Museum of Art as they celebrate **Second Saturday Family Arts Day!** Saturday, March 10, 2007, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Morris Graves Museum of Art. This Saturday's presenters will include **Stories of Triumphant Women** with Anita Punla from 2-2:40pm, **The Music Teacher's Association** mini-recitals from talented students 2:40-3:10 pm in the Performance Rotunda, **The Irish Company Dancers** from 3:15-4pm in the Performance Rotunda, still life oil pastel project based on the art of impressionist artist **Mary Cassatt** with Lindsay Coats from 2-4 in the Youth Classroom and displays and brochures from **the local Redwood Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild** along with **Art and Crafts** in the Atrium all afternoon.

March is the annual celebration of **National Women's History Month**, a time to honor the achievements and contributions of women. To address the absence of information about women in America's schools, the National Women's History Project led a movement to have Congress designate a celebration to recognize women's historic achievements. The goal was to ensure that information about the myriad ways women have changed America would be part of our children's education. In 1980, President Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation calling on the American people to remember the contributions of women. By 1987, fourteen governors had declared March as Women's History Month, and that same year, Congress and the President followed by declaring March as National Women's History Month.

This year's theme, **Generations of Women Moving History Forward**, is an expansion of the theme of the Houston Conference, "**We Are Here to Move History Forward.**" This theme recognizes the wisdom and tenacity of the generations of women who have come before us and those who will follow. Recognition of the historic anniversaries of 2007 presents special opportunities to acknowledge and celebrate the courage, determination, and steadfastness needed to move history forward.

March is also **Youth Art Month**. Be sure to visit the Second Saturday Family Arts Day Youth Art Month Exhibit in the Youth Classroom. The theme for this March is "Art Helps a Child Bloom". Youth Art Month, or YAM, was created in 1961 by ACMI (Art & Creative Materials Institute), a non-profit association of art and craft materials manufacturers, in cooperation with the NAEA as an annual observance to emphasize the value of art education for all children and to encourage support for quality school art programs. Art education develops self-esteem, appreciation of the work of others, self-expression, cooperation with others, and critical thinking skills, skills vital to the success of our future leaders --- our children.

Come and listen to the **Myths and Lores of Triumphant Women** from Anita Punla. Anita was first introduced to the power of story in the early 1990's when she heard storyteller Clarissa Pinkola Estes speak on her book "Women Who Run with the Wolves". With the birth of her daughter She'ifa, she was motivated to find and tell stories of wisdom and enchantment. "I began storytelling in schools and the Eureka Library in 2000 with my program for children called "Drumming Up a Story". Storytelling is a way of gently sharing different perspectives from many cultures and generations, and has become a way of clarifying my own understandings. As a member of the Northcoast Storytellers, I welcome opportunities to give the gift of story."

For this program, she will tell the story of three women in "her-story":

- Rose Kennedy who was the mother of President John F. Kennedy and Bobby Kennedy,
- Wilma Pearl Mankiller who was the first female in modern history to lead a major Native American tribe and who received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, and
- Maria Sibylla Merian who was a writer and painter and whose love for nature and whose understanding of the interconnectedness of nature helped open a new era in science.

She had also selected three complimentary tales:

- *Beruriah's Jewels*, a story from Israel, about how our understanding comforts us in grief,
- *She Cannot Speak*, a Northwest Coast Indian myth, about finding our unique voice, and
- *Night Visitors* by Ed Young and adapted from a Chinese tale of the 6th Century about the connection and importance of the world's smallest creatures.

The Music Teacher's Association will be conducting a 30 minute piano recital. Guests will enjoy these well-practiced performers. The Music Teachers Association of California is among the most highly respected professional music teacher associations in the nation. To belong, teachers must have a college degree in music or its equivalent. The Humboldt Chapter offers programs, master classes and recitals during the year. In addition, students of member teachers also can participate in state-wide programs such as the Certificate of Merit program, Composers Today, the state concerto competition and opportunities to play at the State Convention. For more information contact Felicia Oldfather at felicio@suddenlink.net.

The Irish Company Dancers will be lead by Anne Schomus from 2:40-3:10 in the Performance Rotunda. The Irish Company Dancers are students from the Studio of Dance Arts in Eureka. They will demonstrate their latest steps, in both soft and hard shoes, including reels, jigs, hornpipes and both traditional and non-traditional set dances.

Lindsay Coats, Art Education Director for the Humboldt Arts Council will be leading a still life oil pastel project based on the art of impressionist artist **Mary Cassatt**. Mary Cassatt was an American artist who lived and worked in France. She is best known for painting women and children enjoying relaxed and quiet activities. Lindsay Coats who received her MFA in Studio Art from the University of California, Davis. Lindsay was born and raised in Wenham, Massachusetts and currently paints from her studio in Eureka

Displays and brochures from **the local Redwood Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild** will be available all evening in the Thonson Gallery. **The Piano Technicians Guild** will be displaying piano action models and providing information about how a piano works along with many other interesting facts. The Piano Technicians Guild, the official organization of the Registered Piano Technician, is the world's premier source of expertise in piano service and technology. Based in Kansas City, KS, the PTG has over 4100 members throughout the United States, Canada and around the world. The mission of the Piano Technicians Guild is to promote the highest possible standards of piano service by providing members with opportunities for professional development, by recognizing technical competence through examinations, and by advancing the interests of its members. For more information contact Carmen Gentile at (707) 441-1017.

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 Day is every second Saturday of the month. To be a presenter or for more information about Family Arts Day contact Rebecca Froehlich at 707.442.0278, ext. 201. The Morris Graves Museum of Art is located at 636 F St., Eureka, Ca.

The Morris Graves Museum of Art, located at 636 F Street, Eureka is open to the public Noon-5p.m., Thursday through Sunday. Museum admission is by donation: \$4 for adults, \$1 for seniors age 55 and older; HAC Members and children age 12 and under are admitted free. Admission is always free for everyone during each First Saturday Arts Alive!, 6-9 p.m.