ACC 7-28-2025

Item No. 3 Presentation by Jean Zuo

Presentations

An Illustrator of Cupertino's Wild Beauties

Jean Zuo

Art, Community, and Conservation

- About Jean Zuo
- My journey through Wildlife Photography
 - 2025 National Park Foundation Annual Photo Contest 2nd Place
 - 2024 California Wildlife Photo of the Year
 - 2023 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Annual Photo Contest 2nd Place





Red-winged Blackbird, Rancho San Antonio

Jean Zuo.com

Bobcat, Rancho San Antonio

Bobcat and Ground Squirrel, Rancho San Antonio

Lazuli Bunting, Rancho San Antonio





Jean Zuo.com

Great-horned Owlets, Rancho San Antonio

Zuo Qiao-Qiao



Western Screech Owl, Blackberry Farm Park

Western Screech Owl, Blackberry Farm Park

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Zuo Qiao-Qiao

Conclusion

- Digital Photography vs. PhotoShop vs. AI
- Art can change minds and save wild lives
- Art can also archive Cupertino's nature history

Thank you

ACC 7-28-2025

Item No.4 Artists Award Program

Presentations

2025 Artist Awards Program

Arts and Culture Commission

July 28, 2025



Agenda

- Background
- Artist Awards Descriptions
- Art Submission Types
- Application Requirements
- Evaluation Criteria
- Timeline
- Next Steps

Background

- Program started in 1988
- Recognition of Artists in Cupertino
- Program Materials updated in 2024



The 2024 Artist Award Winners Display can be viewed at the Cupertino Library

Artist Awards Descriptions

Distinguished Artist

- Recognizes established artists having a substantial body of work that display merit and excellence, as well as a history of contributions to their artistic field and the community.
- Prior winners of the Distinguished Artist Award have taught art classes, participated in shows or performances, and won awards for their work.

Artist Awards Descriptions

Emerging Artist

- Established to encourage and recognize demonstrations of artistic promise.
- This award recognizes younger artists as well as those rediscovering their love of artistic expression later in life.

Artist Awards Descriptions

Young Artist

- This award is presented to deserving young artists in recognition of local achievements in the visual arts in the following age groups:
 - Group A (6 to 10 years old)
 - Group B (11 to 14 years old)

Art Submission Types

- Visual Arts (Painting, drawing, photography, sculpture)
 - Young Artist Award Category focuses on Visual Arts Only
- Performing Arts (Dance, music, theater)
- Literary Arts (Poetry, essay writing)
- **Digital Arts** (Film, video)

Application Requirements

Distinguished/Emerging Artist Award Online Application

- Personal Statement (maximum 1 page)
- One Letter of Endorsement and/or Support
- Digital Portfolio (up to 3 pieces)
 - One piece in the portfolio must connect to the 2025 awards program theme.
- Resume and Exhibition Record (if any and maximum 2 pages)
 Young Artist Award Online Application
- Artwork Entry

All applicants must live in Cupertino or attend an educational institution or art school physically located within Cupertino.

Evaluation Criteria

- Media/Tools
- Creativity and Originality
- Personal Statement*
- Design and Composition**

*Emerging and Distinguished Artists Only **Distinguished Artists Only

2025 Timeline



Next Steps

Discuss and Select 2025 Artist Awards Program Theme

- Examples from Previous Years:
 - Your Vision for the Future of Cupertino*
 - Your Dreams for the Future*
 - A Day Without Screen Time*
 - What Makes Me Smile*
 - The Year 2020 The New Normal*
 - Artist's Identity: What Influences You*
 - Building Sustainable Community

*Young Artist Awards Category Only