

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2016/616

Honoring the winners of the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County 2016 Arts Recognition Awards

Whereas, the Richmond RYSE Center, Sylvia Amorino and Solo Opera, Michael and Shannon Demers, Jay Bedecarre, and Lawrence Kohl have each advanced the appreciation of the Arts in Contra Costa County; and

Whereas, Richmond RYSE Center Performing Arts works with youth from the City of Richmond; the youth have written, directed and performed multi-media plays dealing with violence, drugs and crime creating a platform for Richmond youth to share their own stories, pain, joy and dreams; and has provided a safe space for them to come together with the community through expressive media and art; and

Whereas Sylvia Amorino, founder and Artistic Director of Solo Opera runs the day-to-day business of the Solo Opera, has worked with Cantabella Children's Chorus and Contra Costa Children's chorus to perform operas that include children and teens that help teach audiences, adults and children alike about social aspects of living in Contra Costa County; and

Whereas, Michael and Shannon Demers, known throughout the performing arts community as the backbone of Contra Costa Musical Theatre, who are celebrating their 56th year of performing quality productions in the Diablo Valley area, and have shared their talents and skills to productions teams, casts and crews for a collective 70 years; and have supported and mentored many of the performing arts organizations throughout the area including Diablo Theatre Company, Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble, Chevron Family Theatre Festival, and Diablo Regional Arts Association Annual "On Broadway"; and

Whereas, Jay Bedecarre has been involved in the Contra Costa County art scene since 1974; was the Marketing Director for the Concord Pavilion for the first 12 years, booking regional performing arts groups including as San Francisco and Oakland symphonies, Oakland and San Francisco ballets, and world famous acts such as New York Philharmonic with Leonard Bernstein, Rudolf Nureyev, Jose Greco, and Peking Opera; and has produced the Concord KidFest since 2010, a festival that reaches thousands of diverse audience members each year; and

Whereas, Lawrence Kohl was president of the Orinda Art Council as well as music director and conductor of the Pacific Chamber Symphony, which performed in the Lamorinda area and in Livermore; recently led the expansion of the Orinda Art Council to become the Lamorinda Arts Council; and supported the establishment and growth of new programs including the Film Fest, Moraga Pear Festival, High School Visual Arts Competition and the Lamorinda Short Docs Film Festival and the very popular Lamorinda Poet Laureate program.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors hereby recognize and congratulate Richmond RYSE Center, Sylvia Amorino and Solo Opera, Michael and Shannon Demers, Jay Bedecarre, and Lawrence Kohl for their outstanding achievements and contributions to arts and culture Contra Costa County.

CANDACE ANDERSEN

Chair,
District II Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor

MARY N. PIEPHO
District III Supervisor

KAREN MITCHOFF
District IV Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: October 25, 2016

David J. Twa,

By: _____, Deputy