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NEWS RELEASE

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Cupertino Names ‘Distinguished Artist’ and ‘Emerging Artist’ 2013

CUPERTINO, CA – The Cupertino Fine Arts Commission has selected Mina Chyou as the 2013 “Distinguished Artist of the Year,” and Connor Church as the “Emerging Artist of the Year.”

Mina Chyou, the 2013 Distinguished Artist, studied Chinese painting in high school in Taiwan and began painting again when her two children were grown. She is now retired from work and has spent many hours perfecting her style. In 1996, she joined the East Asia Art Assembly which had exhibitions in Taipei and other locations abroad every year. She has also taught Chinese painting at the Rainbow Chinese School.

Connor Church, the 2013 Emerging Artist, is a student in the Homestead High School Advanced Placement studio art class. Many of his works have been displayed at a variety of venues. Last year, the San Jose Downtown Association chose one of his paintings to digitally enlarge as public art, and this year, two more pieces were chosen to enlarge for display. He has received awards for his paintings from the Museum of Los Gatos annual high school exhibition and the Homestead High School Annual District Art Showcase.

Previous winners of the Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award include textile fiber artist Consuelo Jimenez Underwood, fashion designer/textile artist Charlotte Kruk, visual artist/sculptor Corinne Okada Takara, ceramic artist Janet Leong Malan, visual artist Kate Curry, ceramic artist Mahoko Dahte, singer-composer Robert L. Harrison, visual and performing artist Ann Stamm Merrill; pianist Makiko Ooka, visual artist Sara Loesch Frank, visual artist Brother Joseph Aspell, S.M., Ikebana flower artist Fusako Seiga Hoyrup, watercolorist Floy Zitten, and digital artist Carrie Zeidman.

Previous winners of the Cupertino Emerging Artist Award include visual artist Christina Jung, classical guitarist Steve Lin, and painter Emily Wang.

This year’s recipients will receive their award on stage at the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival performance of Macbeth on Sunday July 21, at 7:10 p.m. in Cupertino Memorial Park.

For more information on the Distinguished and Emerging Artist Program contact the Aki Honda Snelling, 408-777-3313 or email akis@cupertino.org.

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