

"... a place for meetings, readings, showings and other creative doings." Frank Bette

FRANK BETTE

CENTER FOR THE ARTS

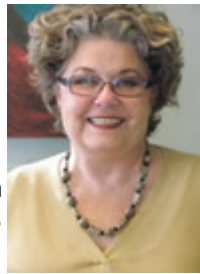
Support Our Survival
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5
December 16, 2010

Did you know Frank?

Welcome to week five. I'd like to share this letter from Nelly.

Did you know Frank Bette? I didn't, I don't live in Alameda nor do I live in California. So why am I compelled to write this note to you? To ensure that Frank Bette is heard, and heard loudly!



I am the volunteer webmaster for Frank Bette Center for the Arts. I give about 40 - 60 hours a week to the Frank Bette website to get the word out to the Alameda Arts community. Why would I give so much time to a man I never knew? In the beginning it was for a different reason, Debra Owen the Executive Director, and also my sister, had a wish for the Frank Bette Center for the Arts to have a website that would stay current with information about the exhibits, classes & workshops, creative doings, literary arts, annual events, artist member galleries, and all the happenings at the center. To get the word out to the community, and share the open arms of FBCA. So I work the website every day with pleasure, but not for Debra. I do it for the man I've never met but wish I had known, Frank Bette.

In creating the website I've become familiar with Frank and his dream through his papers, his poems, writings and his beautiful paintings and sculptures. So why did this gentleman leave his home, beautiful antiques and his 7,000+ pieces of art to the Alameda Art community? He wrote on a piece of paper, "a place for meetings, readings, showings and other creative doings" describing what he wanted for his legacy.

Did perhaps Frank see the need for a place to give voice to artists because he had no voice for his own art? Well, I think he did. Only a handful knew he was an accomplished artist, published writer and poet until after he died.

number of the week

still 500

**Yep, it didn't change.
I feel certain that you'll support
quality art programming for our
youth because I've heard your
request for it so many times.**

**You can make a donation of any
amount toward matching Gerry
Long's gift of \$500 to support the
launch of our new youth
programming.**

Get this one done!

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**What the 2011 youth
program looks like ... so far.**

**First, thanks to Krystal Alvarez for
pulling the parts together.**

Here's is Krystal's description:

FB Youth is a mini version of the adult programs and classes offered at the Frank Bette Center for the Arts. By utilizing its resources of artists, classes, and programs, the Frank Bette Center unites youth with the artistic community.

There is a need for more art programs in and out of schools. Getting youth involved in community art projects nourishes their need for expression and teaches them positive means of spending their time. What better way to give back to the community than to create a program which develops tools of expression and a sense of community in young people?

Classes and programs will be for children and teens from the ages of 12-18. The program will provide a venue

Frank's place was where you got your antique furniture restored. Who knew that when he closed his doors at night he transformed into Frank the artist? Did you? Are you doing this very same thing? Are you a hero of the daily routine, but secret creator in the night? Do you tuck yourself away in a dim corner writing your novel, chiseling away at a piece of marble, making dust with a stick of charcoal, dropping dots of oil paint onto your clothes? Frank was.

So why didn't he share his creative works with the world? Was there no safe place for him to share his creations? Could it be that Frank desired the input of a friendly critique, the nudge of another artist to show his work and the friendly embrace of an artist community? I believe this is the very intent of his gift to the Alameda Arts Community. I remember my own struggle to share my artwork. Now I am an accomplished artist, in great part because I met other artists who encouraged me to continue with my artwork . . . and who welcomed me with open arms.

Thank you Frank, for seeing the need and giving us all a friendly place to talk art, to do art and to share our art.

Take time to visit the Frank Bette Center for the Arts. View the website in full. Read Frank's journey. Enjoy his artwork, become familiar with them, become a part of Frank's Dream and help it thrive with your donation of time or a financial gift. With this his dream will continue to bring us all together.

Donna (Nelly) Stirnaman

Thank you Nelly! Love you!

Unleash Creativity!

It's going to take all of us to do it.

Debra Owen
Executive Director
2009 recipient Alameda County
Arts Leadership Award
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Thanks to Rhythmix Cultural Works for generously hosting our 2nd Annual Holiday Bash! Thanks to all who attended and performed. Thanks to the program hosts and all the volunteers who made the Bash! possible.

Thanks to Urban Island for generously hosting the Clement St Art Fair & BBQ. Thanks to all who donated yummy baked goods for our sale table. Thanks to all the patrons and volunteers who made it a success!

Thanks to our most generous sponsor



for youths interested in music, visual arts, literary arts, and creative doings.

This is the latest exciting project for the Frank Bette Center, so we will be updating the website with more details soon.

btw - Krystal is a volunteer.

**Support Krystal!
Get this one done!**

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A tea party ...



Thank you to **Nancy Gordon** for passing the hat for Frank at her tea party (not the political kind). **Thank you to the Tea Goddesses for a generous donation of \$100!**

Do you get together with a few friends for tea or coffee too?

Gift your friends a chance to feel wonderful. Everyone can give and giving feels so good.

It doesn't matter how much you can give. What really matters is how many people give as much as they can.

Please...

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Thanks to everyone who has responded to our appeal with donations and memberships:

Diane Coler-Dark, Gail Rubman, Michael McCarthy, Barbara Rockhold, Claire Redstone, Elaine Carpenter, Julia Munger Seelos, Judith Marsh, Carol Woermann, Virginia Chabre, Nathan Wood, Nancy Gray, Laurie Miller, Joanne Robinson, Shirley McCloskey, Leonie Holzman, Glenna Mills, Karen McCloud, Dorothy Noel, Gerry Long, Janice Mason, Allyson Nolte Tilles, The Life Drawing Group, Ruth Belikov, Nip Hadlock, Elizabeth Sibley, Katie Cameron, Nancy Gordon, Jan Vlahos, Mi'Chelle Fredrick, Joen Barbera, Michael Singman-Aste, Ken Peterson, Karen Coulter, Stephen Sims, Jeff Gear, Beth Remenap, Karen Lee, Linda Benmour, Julie

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Alter, Michelle Lange, Dorothy Thompson, Mark States, Jas A Hudkins CPA, Christine Lyons, Beth Bourland, Lynn O'Connor, Mary Louise Higgins, Priscilla Otani, Linda Castellani, Christa Burgoyne, Mark Wagner, Sally Ann Jessie, Sarah Dunham, Peggy & Michael Hazen, Carol Squicci, Marian Fagan, Heidi Meyers, Carmine Gaidarsz, Rick Ortega, William Williford, Carolina Lee and many other... I'm still collecting names. ;-)

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