

ARTVENTURE 2023 Costa Mesa's Art Extravaganza

BY JULIE LEAH, ARTS AND CULTURE

Every year, artists in Costa Mesa and across Southern California look forward to the arrival of ARTVenture, an annual juried art exhibition. Last year, art enthusiasts may recall that the ARTVenture exhibition, along with the community arts family fun day, was held at the splendid venue of the Segerstrom Performing Arts Center and Plaza.

This year, the event boasted a much larger space at the Norma Hertzog Community Center, located at 1945 Park Avenue. Unlike previous years, the art remained on display for an entire week instead of just two days, allowing for extended enjoyment. The city also organized shuttles to ferry attendees from the community center to the awards ceremony held in the evening at the esteemed Orange County Museum of Art.

My personal highlights from this marvelous community arts event and its family-friendly programming included the enchanting puppet show by the Bob Baker Marionette

Theatre. If you've never had the pleasure of witnessing this famous puppet show, I highly recommend adding it to your list of fun family outings. The Bob Baker Marionettes are about to celebrate their 60th birthday and continue to captivate audiences with shows throughout Southern California.

Other delightful experiences included the mesmerizing Day of the Dead Sand Painting at OCMA's booth, live painting demonstrations from Costa Mesa High School students, the creative expression of Art Therapy Orange County, the innovative works of Inspired Art Wine, and the colorful sidewalk chalk artistry on display.

We've prepared a captivating photo collage that captures the essence of the community arts celebration, the impressive artworks on display, and the grand awards ceremony held at OCMA.

The Orange County Museum of Art (OCMA) is located at 3333 Avenue of the Costa Mesa, CA 92626. Phone: (714) 780-2130.



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BY SON VU

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 - **Durty Nelly's**, linktree.com/durtynellyys_oc, 2915 Redhill Ave, Suite G-101, Costa Mesa
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