

# 2026 San Mateo County Directory of Arts and Culture Nonprofit Organizations

A collaborative effort by the  
San Mateo County Office of Arts and Culture  
and  
Thrive Alliance of Nonprofits

This list includes known non-profit (or fiscally sponsored) arts and cultural organizations in the County as of 1/2026.  
If you know of an organization not on this list, or have additional questions or concerns, please contact  
[artsandculture@smcgov.org](mailto:artsandculture@smcgov.org).



# SAN MATEO COUNTY ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

## ‘ANAMATANGI

‘Anamatangi Polynesian Voices (‘APV) is a California grassroots organization advancing systems-impacted communities through heritage preservation and civic engagement. Formerly known as Pacific Islander Outreach, ‘APV was founded by Appollonia ‘MamaDee’ Grey Uhilamoelangi and Senita Uhilamoelangi in July 1997. Since then, ‘APV primarily serves families in East Palo Alto, the Peninsula Valley, and the wider San Mateo County.



## ANGELS ON STAGE

Angels on Stage enhances the lives of children and young adults with special needs by breaking down stereotypes and empowering them to develop friendships, independence, confidence, self-esteem, and general life skills through the medium of professional performing arts.



## ART IN ACTION

Our mission is to provide an art curriculum that expands their knowledge in art techniques, cultural understanding, and core subject topics, along with providing the art supplies and training for educators and volunteers to bring the curriculum to life!



## ART ON THE SQUARE

To bring art to Redwood City and Redwood City to art. ART on the Square features the best in fine arts and crafts by local makers. We believe that art creates strong and vibrant communities.



## ARTBIAS

Art Bias’ mission is to be an inclusive community where diverse artists have access to the resources and opportunities they need to thrive and create positive community impact.



## ARTS UNITY MOVEMENT

AUM is a collective of professionals: including artists, therapists, educators, and performers with a shared vision to use the power of the arts to create positive change in our world.



## ATELIER FOR HEALING

Atelier for Healing makes art a pathway to healing and well-being. By making creative expression more accessible to the public, we aim to nurture mental wellness and inspire personal growth.



## AYUDANDO LATINOS A SOÑAR

ALAS is dedicated to working for social wellness through multicultural practices, mental health care, individualized and collective support related to education, immigration processes, and work, and advocating for the wellbeing of the whole community.





## **BALLET FOLKLORICO MEXICO VIVO**

To promote our Mexican culture through the music and dance and share it with our community. All the families in this group are united with the same passion as the dancers, which is to share with the public the pride that we have in our Mexican culture.



## **BAY AREA CREATIVE**

Bay Area Creative is a collective of programs using creative arts to support positive change in under resourced communities.

## **BAY AREA EDUCATIONAL THEATER COMPANY**

Bay Area eTc is an educational, family-oriented, non-profit organization dedicated to fostering self-esteem, individuality, and teamwork while creating quality theatrical productions. eTc's method provides comprehensive theater training in a fun, safe, and nurturing environment while exposing participants and audiences to theater arts.



## **BAY AREA YOUTH BALLET**

To engage and inspire an appreciation for the performing arts within our surrounding community by providing quality educational programs, opportunities and performances. Beyond rigorous training, our company dancers gain invaluable skills such as creativity, problem-solving, time-management, self-discipline, teamwork and resilience.



## **BEACH BREAK ENTERTAINMENT**

Through storytelling and post-film discussions with filmmakers and community experts, we aim to empower audiences to take meaningful action in their communities.



## **BRAVEMAKER**

To educate, entertain and create community for justice, diversity and inclusion with film. We create and curate original film.



## **BRISBANE DANCE WORKSHOP**

Brisbane Dance Workshop partners with professional artists to facilitate classes and experiences in the performing arts. We believe in nurturing the creative and magical spirit of each participant.



## **CASA CIRCULO CULTURAL**

Casa Circulo Cultural is a grassroots, community-based multidisciplinary art organization dedicated to creating bilingual arts, cultural, and educational programming reflective of the experiences of the San Francisco Bay Area Latino communities.



## **COAST REPARATORY THEATER**

A community that surprises, inspires and delights its patrons with memorable dramatic, musical and comedic performances. Coastal Rep provides opportunities for artistic development in all aspects of the theatre.





## COASTAL ARTS LEAGUE

Recognizing the power of arts and artists to create positive change in the world, the Coastal Arts League seeks to encourage and support visual artists in the SF Bay Area.



## COASTAL CURRENTS CONSERVATORY

At Coastal Currents Conservatory, we're proud to be the Peninsula's go-to resource for music, dance, drama, and improv - creating spaces where creativity thrives, confidence grows, and every student shines.



## COASTAL LITERARY ARTS MOVEMENT

Coastal Lit is a creative community organization bringing people together through storytelling, art, and education.

## COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND ARTS

Inspires excellence through music and art education for people of all ages and abilities. The school is dedicated to making the arts accessible to all.



## DE COLORES ARTS

To create inclusive space for connection and self-expression through the arts, and to celebrate the unique abilities of all individuals



## DJERASSI RESIDENT ARTISTS PROGRAM

To support and enhance the creativity of artists by providing uninterrupted time for work, reflection, and collegial interaction in a setting of great natural beauty, and to preserve the land on which the Program is situated.



## DRAGONFLY COMMUNITY ARTS

Dragonfly Community Arts is committed to providing 100-percent free arts education and programming to all underrepresented voices wherever it is needed in San Mateo County and beyond. We accomplish this by partnering with artists and art non-profits to fund new educational art opportunities or help expand already existing art programs in an effort to ensure future success.



## EPACENTER

EPACENTER is a community hub for creativity and learning, offering low and no cost, inclusive programs, workshops, and job training that empower people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities across the greater San Mateo region.



## ESZERLÁNC HUNGARIAN FOLK ENSEMBLE

To promote, preserve, and present traditional Hungarian folk dances and to preserve the history of Hungarian folk culture in all its forms.



## FUSE THEATRE

Creating meaningful theatre experiences to foster civic engagement.



## HĀLAU O KEIKIALI'I

A Hawaiian cultural and dance group whose goal has been to educate the general public about the Hawaiian Culture, its traditional customs, values and protocols.



## **HALF MOON BAY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY**

To produce classic theatre each summer in the community of Half Moon Bay that is accessible, entertaining, challenging, educational and enlightening for both audiences and players alike.



## **HILLBARN THEATRE**

To create theatre with the community, for the community.



## **HOUSE OF SAMBA KIDS**

An interactive educational workshop that uses music, rhythm, percussion instruments, and drums as tools for capturing the imagination of the participants.



## **KAPWA KULTURAL CENTER**

To create a welcoming space that supports cultural identity and strengthens community connections.

## **KEPLER'S LITERARY FOUNDATION**

Kepler's Literary Foundation enriches the community through literary and cultural programs that foster creative thinking and explore the wonder of new ideas. The Foundation provides a vital forum for notable writers, artists, and original thinkers to engage with audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Its nationally recognized programs deliver intriguing content, bring writers into local schools, and promote literary and creative writing initiatives. Kepler's Literary Foundation is a catalyst for exploring new perspectives, initiating conversations, and inspiring the community through the arts, culture, and literature.



## **KIDS & ART FOUNDATION**

To use the power of the arts and creativity to mitigate stress, anxiety, and trauma induced from the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric cancer and other critical medical conditions.

## **LYRICAL OPPOSITION**

We use the power of storytelling and contextual narratives through lyrical art forms like spoken word poetry, hip-hop, film, jazz and theater.

## **MASTERWORKS CHORALE OF SAN MATEO**

Masterworks Chorale shares the transformative energy of music - empowering lives, connecting communities, and inspiring joy.

## **MIDPEN MEDIA CENTER**

Midpen Media Center's mission is to encourage and support community engagement, facilitate free speech, inspire expression, and reflect on our local cultural diversity by providing high-quality media resources and training to community members.



## **MISSION FUSION**

To use powerful dance performances, elaborate costumes, and emotional dialogues and imagery, to encourage high school performers and writers to build a personal connection with the audience and provide them with a unique experience.





## MUSIC AT KOHL MANSION

Inspired by the belief that the arts strengthen communities, Music at Kohl Mansion presents world-class chamber concerts at the historic Kohl Mansion and music education in public schools on the San Francisco Peninsula. Outreach programs provide access to interactive musical experiences for diverse audiences of all ages.



## MUSIC FOR MINORS

To nurture in children a lifelong love of music by providing equitable access to high-quality music education.



## NOORANI DANCE

Through Kathak dance of South Asia, Noorani Dance is committed to enlightening minds and hearts through the arts, offering traditional and innovative training and performances, and unique collaborative partnerships and projects.



## OCEANICA BALLET

To enliven the San Francisco Bay Area cultural landscape by making professional level ballet performances accessible and relatable to Bay Area audiences. We enrich the artistic careers of locally-based, diverse, professionally trained dance artists.



## PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

At PICP, our mission is to actively engage, educate, and empower Pacific Islanders through culturally enriching strategies and comprehensive educational programs with an emphasis on youth development and cultural preservation. We are dedicated to fostering civic engagement and enhancing community involvement, ensuring that our communities thrive and contribute meaningfully to the broader society. Together, we will uphold our heritage, promote leadership, and create pathways for sustainable growth and development.



## PACIFICA PERFORMANCES

We are a non-profit, volunteer organization, presenting live music at Mildred Owen Concert Hall (“The Hall”) in Pacifica. Almost every week, you can experience world class artists in an intimate, casual environment that enhances and enriches the experience for both the listener and performer. We showcase a variety of musical styles, including blues, Americana/roots, world music, bluegrass, classical, and jazz, as well as dance, comedy and spoken word events.



## PALOMA PRESS

Led by Filipino immigrant women, our press is a cultural experiment in transcending boundaries. Our mission is to publish poetry and other literary works that honor our shared histories and inspire our creative futures.



## PARANGAL DANCE COMPANY

To give tribute to Philippine heritage by preserving and promoting ethnic attire, music, and dance through research, workshops, and performances, to serve as a bridge, inspiring and connecting Filipinos in diaspora to their roots to give them a sense of pride and identity, while educating diverse communities to foster awareness and appreciation of Philippine culture.



## **PENINSULA BOOK COLLABORATIVE**

To build the next generation of readers.



## **PENINSULA GIRLS CHORUS**

The mission of the Peninsula Girls Chorus is to engage the hearts and minds of girls from diverse backgrounds through a comprehensive experience in choral music.



## **PENINSULA LIVELY ARTS**

A not-for-profit dance company, Peninsula Lively Arts serves as a home for diverse, inclusive, and dynamic performances and dance education and has grown alongside the evolving cultural landscape, expanding the vision to embrace a broad array of performances and educational programs.

## **PENINSULA MUSICAL ARTS ASSOCIATION**

To bring our diverse community together in song through education in vocal techniques, appreciation of diverse musical genres, eras, and cultures, and performances at public, civic, and cultural events. We provide a supportive group environment that welcomes community members of all singing abilities to share the love of singing and performing choral music.



## **PENINSULA YOUTH THEATRE**

Providing outstanding theatrical learning experiences that develop leadership, emphasize responsibility and foster teamwork in a supportive, respectful, and fun environment.



## **PIED PIPER PLAYERS**

Started in 2001, Pied Piper Players is an award-winning family theater organization dedicated to theater education and to promoting confidence, community, and excellence through participation in the theater arts. Founded by Leslie Stupple and a group of dedicated parents, we pride ourselves on being a workplace that works hard, has fun, and serves this community with creative, educational programs in the performing and technical arts.



## **PORTOLA VALLEY THEATRE CONSERVATORY**

To create community and inspire individuals to discover their unique passion through pursuit of excellence in theatre arts.



## **QUINTETO LATINO**

Quinteto Latino exists to celebrate, empower, and amplify Latina/o/e identity in classical music, creating a more inclusive and equitable future through performances, education, and mentoring. By increasing authentic representation and fostering cultural diversity, we strive to inspire a classical music landscape that reflects the richness of our communities and empowers the next generation of artists.

QUINTETO LATINO

## **RAGAZZI BOYS CHORUS**

To provide outstanding musical education and performance opportunities for boys and young men ages 5 to 18, shaping the lives of boys from diverse backgrounds, developing tenacious and confident young musicians who pursue choral arts of the highest caliber together.





## **REDWOOD CITY CENTER FOR CREATIVITY**

The Center for Creativity is a grassroots initiative driven by individuals who believe in the transformative power of the arts. Our mission is to create an inclusive, accessible arts center that nurtures creativity, strengthens community bonds, and empowers everyone to experience, create, and connect through the arts.



## **REDWOOD CITY PARKS & ARTS FOUNDATION**

To advocate, advance, and develop support for parks, recreational programming, community services, cultural activities, and the arts in Redwood City and surrounding unincorporated areas.



## **REDWOOD SYMPHONY**

Dedicated to the performance of ambitious, contemporary repertoire, as well as the great orchestral classics, innovative programming and emphasis on education.



## **SAMOAN SOLUTIONS**

We exist to help enhance the lives of our Pacific Islander Community in the San Francisco, Bay Area through a series of programs, services, collaborative efforts and our community space Le Maota.



## **SAN CARLOS CHILDREN'S THEATER**

San Carlos Children's Theater is a non-profit organization committed to educating youth in all aspects of theater production and engaging its extended community, all while nurturing creative expression, self-confidence, teamwork, and an appreciation for the arts.

## **SANCHEZ ART CENTER**

The mission of the Sanchez Art Center is to create community through art. The art center provides exhibitions by emerging and established California artists; education and outreach programs designed to make art accessible to people of all ages and backgrounds; and affordable studio space for up to 30 Bay Area artists.



## **SILICON VALLEY OPEN STUDIOS**

Silicon Valley Visual Arts is a leading arts organization in the SF Bay Area. Supporting the SF Bay Area community by bringing together the region's artists and art enthusiasts, helping other non-profit organizations, and providing artist education programs.



## **SOCIETY OF WEST COAST ARTISTS**

Our goal is to encourage and promote our artists and art education as well as bringing a closer relationship between the fine artist and the public.



## **SOUTH COAST ARTISTS ALLIANCE**

To be an inclusive and welcoming non-profit dedicated to promoting art and artists in the San Mateo coastal region.



## **SPINDRIFT SCHOOL OF PERFORMANCE ARTS**

To train and inspire students of all ages in the performing arts while instilling the qualities of confidence, self-discipline, creativity, and respect for others.



## STIR FRY STORIES

To weave in Asian American stories and artworks to enrich the tapestry of San Mateo County and forges bonds between Asian and non-Asian arts enthusiasts at-large while also offering refuge to Bay Area API artists, drawing them to resources and venues on the Peninsula.



## THE ART OF YOGA PROJECT

To bring mindfulness-based practices to system-involved and other marginalized youth for their healing and empowerment. We understand that youth require a predictable, safe, supportive environment to heal. Our model includes specially trained trauma-informed teachers who bring tools for self-awareness and self-regulation to move youth from vulnerability into resilience. We are leaders in the movement to ensure mindfulness-based practices are accessible to all creating innovative collaborations within systems that serve youth.



## THE GUILD THEATRE

The Guild Theatre endeavors to create an everlasting, joyful, and uplifting hub that brings people together and enriches lives.

## TOONES ACADEMY MUSIC

To bring mindfulness-based practices to system-involved and marginalized youth for their healing and empowerment using the Yoga and Creative Arts Curricula designed to meet the needs of system-involved, trauma-impacted youth.



## VISHWA SHANTHI DANCE ACADEMY

Promoting peace through dance and allied arts.

## WEST COAST SONGWRITERS

At West Coast Songwriters, our mission is to foster a vibrant and inclusive community where songwriters of all levels and backgrounds can thrive. Through our supportive network, educational resources, and collaborative events, we aim to empower creativity and cultivate the next generation of songwriting talent on the West Coast and beyond. With a commitment to excellence and innovation, we strive to elevate the art of songwriting while enriching the lives of individuals and strengthening the fabric of our musical community.



## ZAWAYA

Our Mission is to preserve, produce, and promote Arabic Arts in San Mateo County and the larger San Francisco Bay Area.

## ZIRU DANCE

ZiRu Dance, a BIPOC non-profit dance company, provides unique community programs that promote healing and improve mental wellness through the art of dance with increased inclusiveness and education opportunities in the Peninsula/Silicon Valley of California. ZiRu Dance emphasizes the creation of new dance work, curated festival production, mentorship of emerging artists, diversity, cross-cultural dialogue, community engagement, and outreach.

