



## Lamorinda Artists Bring Lots of Talent to Spring Art Show

By Sally Hogarty



Sculpture by Tamara Selvig

Eagerly awaited by art aficionados and bargain hunters, Civic Arts Education and Clay Arts Guild's annual Spring Art Show will have something extra this year – lots of beautiful creations by Lamorinda artists. From decorative gourds to beautiful pottery to dramatic photographs and stunning fused glass jewelry, shoppers can find one-of-a-kind gifts perfect for that June graduate or blushing bride.

Avid gardeners and talented artists, Orinda's Kate Chenok and Kay Van Hoesen will be among the Lamorinda residents in the April 17-20 show.

"I love the creative process in which a form emerges from a piece of clay," says Chenok. "It's immediate gratification which is so different from my life as a corporate executive. The enterprising artist has also converted a ½-acre hillside at her Orinda home into a native plant garden decorated with her earth-toned bowls and planters. The garden will be featured in the "Bring Back the Natives" garden tour this May.

Photo provided

Kay Van Hoesen not only creates beautiful art pieces, she also grows them in her backyard. Twelve years ago, the former teacher for the Orinda Union

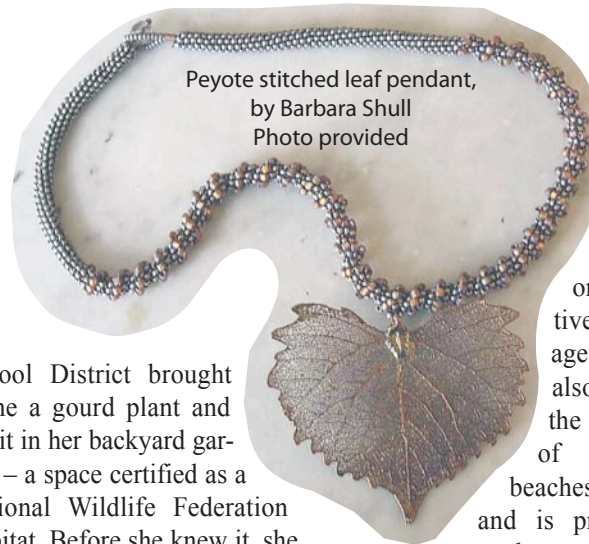
particularly like working with pine needles," Van Hoesen adds. "Some of my gourds are functional and serve as bread baskets, bird houses and such. Others are purely decorative such as my gourd Santas."

Lafayette photographer Liane Abrams has not only captured the poignancy of the white crosses in her home town that represent those who have died in Iraq, she has also shown the sorrow left behind in hurricane ravaged New Orleans in her stirring black and white prints. The freelance photographer, however, does not dwell

get light. It's just breath-taking how the light can add to the piece."

A long-time Clay Arts Guild member, Tamara Selvig is looking forward to participating in the annual art show. The Lafayette artist will be displaying both her pottery and sculpture. "My favorite activity is to craft the human figure," says Selvig. "I do my best to project the beautiful curves, muscles, and face of the models while trying to capture their energy and spirit."

Lafayette's Barbara Shull and Patricia "Pitter" Scanlan will also be displaying their artwork at the April 17-20 show. For an opportunity to meet the artists, attend the opening reception on April 17 from 5 – 9 p.m.



Peyote stitched leaf pendant, by Barbara Shull  
Photo provided

School District brought home a gourd plant and put it in her backyard garden – a space certified as a National Wildlife Federation Habitat. Before she knew it, she had 10 large gourds growing and was taking classes in how to turn them into art objects. Now, her decorative gourds delight art lovers with their colorful decorations and unique materials. "Gourds are really the pottery of the plant world," says Van Hoesen, who has incorporated pinecones into her pieces and stenciled others to resemble jack-o-lanterns for Halloween. "I

on negative images. She also brings the beauty of sunlight beaches to life and is preparing several new pieces for the April show.

Moraga's Barbara Davis will display her colorful fused glass jewelry and wall hangings at the art sale. Formerly a mixed media painter, Davis discovered fused glass a few years ago. "I've always been attracted to color and texture," says Davis, "but with the fused glass, I not only get color and texture, I also

### Civic Arts Education and Clay Arts Guild

- Arts and Crafts Extravaganza
- April 17 - 5 – 9 p.m. (opening reception)
  - April 18 – 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
  - April 19 – 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
  - April 20 – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Civic Arts Shadelands Campus (all visual arts media)  
111 Wiget Lane (at Ygnacio Valley Blvd.), Walnut Creek

Civic Arts Park Studios D&E (all ceramics)  
1313 Civic Drive (adjacent to Civic Park), Walnut Creek

For information, call  
925-943-5846