



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Mike Roche and Riley Street Art Supply WINS RECOGNITION
Selected for Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award**

SAN RAFAEL, CA –Mike Roche, owner of Riley Street Art Supply has received the tenth annual Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award. In memory of the dedication and commitment of Youth in Arts' former Executive Director Pamela Levine, the Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award recognizes exceptional accomplishments in arts education in Marin County,

On behalf of the board and staff, current Executive Director Miko Lee will present the \$1,000 award to Mike at the YIA Gallery Inspire opening on December 8th. "Since RileyStreet opened in downtown San Rafael's Cultural District, we have partnered on a variety of projects. RileyStreet strongly believes in creativity and the power of artists to be changemakers. Mike exemplifies the passion and spirit of the Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award," stated Lee.

Youth in Arts and RileyStreet have been working to aid families who have been impacted by the North Bay fires.

"Miko and RileyStreet have partnered with Youth in Arts and the Sonoma County Department of Education to make sure that every kid who lost a house to fires, get a free art kit. They are also helping to provide supplies for artists who have lost their studios. Right now Riley Street is providing Youth in Arts with all the art supplies for Free Family Art nights for schools that have been impacted by the fires. It is powerful for us to work alongside a partner that believes in community and artistry as strongly as we do," said Lee.

The Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award is awarded to an individual or organization demonstrating exceptional achievement in arts education program design and implementation, and ongoing support for learning in and through the arts in Marin County. Other important criteria include the integration of arts into the life of a school or district, effective collaborations, and success in building links between the program and the community. Awardees are selected by the staff and Board of Directors of Youth in Arts in consultation with the family of Pam Levine.

Youth in Arts is a nonprofit organization founded in 1970 that provides visual and performing arts programs for PreK-Grade 12 students in and out of school. Through artist residencies, professional performances, school and community events and intensive out-of-school programs for teens, Youth in Arts helps young people of all abilities develop skills and confidence to share their unique creative voices at school and community events and at YIA Gallery, the only art gallery in the North Bay dedicated to showcasing student artists.

More information is available on the web at :

<http://www.youthinarts.org/blog/free-family-art-night-for-fire-impacted-schools/>

<http://www.rileystreet.com/wildfire-relief-efforts-for-creatives/>

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