

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
First Night Monterey www.firstnightmonterey.org
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First Night Monterey 2010 “Kaleidoscope”

Note: The complete press kit for First Night Monterey 2010, including program guide and images can be viewed at <http://www.firstnightmonterey.org/PressRoom10.html>

(Monterey) First Night Monterey is the premier New Year’s Eve arts celebration in historic downtown Monterey.

On Dec. 31, 2009 from 3 p.m. to midnight, First Night presents a day-long festival of art, music, dance, and more. First Night is an alcohol-free event that welcomes children, families and revelers of all ages to celebrate community and unity through the arts. First Night Monterey offers a wide array of classical music this year. Most performances occur twice and last 45 minutes. For complete schedules including updates, please visit www.firstnightmonterey.org.

Kid’s Night Out! The First Act

Afternoon programming begins at 3:00P.M., with the Opening Ceremony, culminating with the Twilight Parade at 5:30P.M. as the kid’s finale. Join us on Colton Lawn on Pacific Street, for music, song, puppetry, poetry, magic, dance, art and more!
Check out the Colton Lawn and the Conference Center activities and don’t miss the Art Museum and Youth Art Collective Gallery - a Kaleidoscope of art and fun! Make sure to have your FNM button to participate in all the fun! Please refer to the afternoon grid to plan your afternoon and make sure that you have your button on to enjoy and participate in all the fun!

Opening Ceremony - Colton Lawn Free

Site: 1: Colton Lawn

Time: 3:00 - 4:00P.M.

Traditional Aztec dancers provide an Opening Blessing and Invocation to the Four Directions to mark the closing of the old year and the beginning of the new. The Taiko Drummers complete the ceremony with their drums calling us with their ancient and compelling harmony...Bringing us together as we open FNM 2010 the 16th Celebration of the Arts in downtown Monterey. Please join us on Pacific Street at Colton Lawn

The First Night Monterey Puppet Art Theater (FNMPAT)

Site: 2: Pacific Street Stage Free

Time: 3:30 - 4:00; 4:30 - 5:00P.M

"Mami Wata Save The Sea" is fun, interactive puppet play adapted from a Ghanaian folklore. Mami Wata is the story of this high priestess of the sea. Mami is a protector of the ocean who becomes alarmed by some mysterious monster that is killing sea creatures. With life-size puppets, songs and African drums she brings attention to a current problem in the Pacific Ocean. This original play based on the was written by Kira Corser and collaborated with script advisors and Pacific Grove Students. The foam puppets were designed and created by Nina Parris and painted by Greenfield Art Class who workshop students also designed and painted the back drops.

Twilight Procession

This year’s Twilight Procession kicks-off our evening’s performances. Join us as we process down Alvarado Street from Portola Plaza towards Pearl Street. Procession starts at 5:30P.M. First Night Monterey is first and foremost about community, so we hope you will join us in the Twilight Processional as we feature, feature artists, clowns, dancers, giant puppets, marching moms and many other local friends and neighbors. Master of Ceremonies, Michael Coleman will announce the parade units and keep us informed.

Ballet Folklorico “Aquila Real” (DA) Free

Site: 11: Alvarado Street OrdWay

Time: 4:00 – 4:30; 4:45 – 5:00

Folkloric dance, representing the state of Jalisco, Mexico, accompanied by Mariachi music.

Carmel Academy of Performing Arts (DA)

Site: 21: Conference Center Steinbeck

Time: 4:00 – 4:30; 4:45 – 5:15

Dancers from 7 to 18 years of age perform jazz, ballet, lyrical, and contemporary style dances to various genres of music.

Marylee (FK, CH)

Site: 20: Conference Center Ferrante

Time: 4:00 – 4:30; 4:45 – 5:15

One of Monterey's best-loved children's entertainers, Marylee is the winner of four parents Choice Awards and two American library Notable Children's Recording Awards. Her performances delight and entertain with songs and audience participation.

Monterey Bay Belles Women's Barbershop Chorus (FK)

Site: 7: Monterey Art Museum Upstairs

Time: 6:15 – 6:45; 7:00 – 7:30; 7:30 – 8:00

Monterey's only women's chorus dedicated to the craft of four-part a cappella harmony in the barbershop style.

Shinsho Mugen Daiko (Taiko Drummers) (WM) Free

Site: 1: Colton Lawn Stage- Opening Ceremony

Time: 3:15 – 3:30; 4:00 – 4:30; 5:00 – 5:30

Shinsho means "Celestial Bodies" and Mugen means "Source of Dreams". Experience the thunderous roar and exquisite physicality of these Taiko Drummers as they perform traditional Japanese drumming.

SpectorDance (DA)

Site: 21: Conference Center Steinbeck

Time: 6:15 – 7:00; 7:15 – 8:00

SpectorDance presents four dance productions.

The Little Match Girl: Inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's poignant story. Using a blend of traditional dance, classical music, and storytelling, this piece will touch your heart. Four Essays: Music by Handel, choreographed by guest artist Mark Foehringer.

It's a Secret: Drumming and music by Mickey Hart, choreographed by guest artist and dancer, Pamela Keindl. Opus XVII: Inspired by the music of London-based composer, Christiane Boesch. This work is about the process of making choices.

The Magic of Richard Myer and Phil Ackerly (Magic, CH)

Site: 17a: Conference Center Serra Ballroom

Time: 4:00 – 4:30; 4:45 – 5:15; 6:15 – 6:45

A family magic show filled with visual wonder, gasps of astonishment and peals of laughter. Children of all ages will enjoy this entertaining performance.

2010 Resolution Sculpture

Site: 24: Conference Center Colton 1

Time: 3:00 - 11:00P.M. Button venue

It's our portal to the evening's celebration and to the new decade! Walk through our colorful interactive kaleidoscope and capture the fragments of color and light. Artist, Kira Corser designed this room and the Arts Council of Monterey County hosts this installation.

Stain Glass Wishes

Site: 22: Conference Center Upstairs Lobby

Time: 4:00 - 11:00P.M. Button venue

With you - we celebrate our hopes and dreams of 2010 and we welcome in a new decade.

Write your wish for 2010 and paste the colorful cellophane paper on our mosaic. By the end of the night, you will have been an artist that helped us create a colorful stain glass work of art!

Hyert Mural – The Art Room Free

Site: 6: Colton Lawn Art Room

Time: 3:15 - 5:30 P.M

Become a Picasso and help paint this hyert, as the night progresses the work of art unfolds! Hexayurts are made using simple tools from standard 4'x8' sheets with zero waste. They are made from plywood, OSB, coroplast, composites, hexacomb cardboard or polyisocyanurate insulation boards. Hexayurts are public domain with no patents, originally developed as a disaster shelter and widely used at the Burning Man festival in Nevada. Our hexayurt is made of light polyiso boards called Thermax, and has six-foot tall walls rather than the standard four-foot walls. It has been set up twice at Burning Man. Meet the Hyert owner, find out how he constructed the structure and join us as we paint a mural on this unusual building!

Artful Objects - Kaleidoscope

Site: Conference Center

Time: 4:00 – 10:00P.M.

Children and adults can create their own works of art by decorating or making kaleidoscopes, celebration hats, drums and shakers.

Celebration Hats

Site 6: Art Hexayurt, Colton Lawn

Time: 3:00 - 6:00P.M. Button venue

Turn a paper grocery bag into a top hat with pizzazz using tulle, beads, pipe cleaners, colored paper, prismatic mylar strips and more! Fun for all

ages - and an absolute must for First Night participants with flair!

Chalk Art “Bringing in the New Year”

Site 4: Pacific Street - Free

Time: 3:00 - 6:30P.M.

Pacific Street becomes a community canvas for First Night Monterey 2010. Leave your mark on the street by growing our chalk drawing using art and creative expression as our tools.

Bubble Stomp

Site 4: Pacific Street - Free

Time: 3:00 - 6:00P.M.

Pop! Pop! Pop! Who can resist squishing and twisting bubble wrap? Jump, hop, stomp, do the electric slide or break dance your way to popping every single bubble!

Drums and Shakers, Sound OFF! Rattles, Shakers and Drums!

Site 7a: Monterey Art Museum, Lower Level

Time: 3:00 - 7:00P.M. Button venue

Create a drum or rattle to play with the drummers on the lawn, puppet show or the parade. It's a fun project for little ones, but they'll need some help from their grown-up.

FNM Living Masterpieces

Site; Art Attack!

Time 4:00-11:00P.M.

Put yourself in the paintings and take a picture, it will last longer! Youth Art Collective made this in 2005 as part of an outreach workshop and we are bringing them out for you! Ten large canvases with holes in the right places for YOU and your friends! Bring your camera, bring a smile, and become part of the First Night Living Masterpieces – fun and funny for everyone! Enjoy the ART!

UnSpoken Word

Site: Conference Center

Time: 3:00 - 11:00 Button Venue

Express Yourself! Take a literary break from the evenings festivities and create some of your own poetry. Let your creative juices flow and invent your own unique poem by arranging the stick-on- words on our poetry wall.

Henna Tattoos

Site: 6: Colton Lawn, (closes at parade)

Time: 3:30 - 5:00P.M. Button Venue

Site: 19: Conference Center

Time: 6:00 – 10.30P.M. Button Venue

Creative Henna artists are staged throughout the footprint ready to paint a temporary work of art. Please note, this a popular activity, waiting line will be formed.

New Years Blinkys Sales Booth

Site: 3, 19, 16: Colton Lawn, Portola Plaza, Alvarado Street

Time: 3:00 - 11:00P.M.

First Night® Monterey takes pride in providing New Year's Eve novelty items at family friendly prices. Blinky lights and glow in the dark wands will add a magical sparkle to anyone's New Year's Eve look. Only FNM booths are official and legal sellers of merchandise at FNM. All proceeds benefit First Night® Monterey. Thank you for your support by buying our merchandise!

First Night Monterey was founded in 1992 as a private non-profit organization to produce Art Works! free year-round community outreach programs and arts education workshops that culminate in the landmark New Year's Eve Celebration of the Arts on December 31st in historic downtown Monterey. With more than 30 venues, this event provides a family-friendly, alcohol-free setting for our community to come together to participate and celebrate the arts in welcoming and accessible ways, and has become a local tradition.

Find First Night Monterey on Facebook and Twitter