

**November, 2013 Co-Featured Artists
Claudia Solomon & LINDA DUNN**



BIOGRAPHY OF LINDA DUNN

I grew up in the San Joaquin Valley on a ranch. Long summer days were filled with horseback rides around the ranch and my box of crayons and any paper I could scrounge up for drawing as entertainment. I never thought of myself as an artist but my older brother was "an artist". He was always sketching something and went on to pursue art as an adult making a living in art design

positions. I continued to not dabble much in art myself getting a teaching degree & credentials with special training for special needs children. In 27 years of working with all types of challenged students, art became an important part of their therapy.

It wasn't until retirement that I personally even gave art any thought. Always appreciating art, I volunteered as a docent in The Cambria Schoolhouse Gallery and became the Docent Director the following year. Being surrounded by art and artist I decided that I should give it a try.

I enrolled in Emeritus classes at Cuesta and attended workshops with known painters, Elizabeth Tolley, Julia Seelos Munger, Brian Blood, all plein air artist. I liked the thick consistency and mix ability of oil as compared to acrylic and watercolors.

I would consider myself leaning toward impressionistic painting and would like to be known as a colorist, using color to express a feeling rather than sticking with the color one might expect. I belong to various Art Associations & have been accepted in several juried exhibits. Paintings have been purchased by Californians as well as out of state buyers.

My involvement with Allied Arts really began with my taking on the position of Gallery Director the year the organization made its big move to the Old Grammar School. Everything had to be set up on a much larger scale. A lot of new procedures for taking art in and displaying it were put in place and we are still adjusting the forms. Gallery lighting and a hanging system had to be installed transposing the school hall ways into a first rate gallery. Display cases needed upgrading and it seemed a never ending to do list kept me pretty busy. The facility has a lot of potential with our collaboration with the theater and work areas for art workshops. We have attracted well known artist that have displayed their works as well as many new local artist. We have developed a reputation as one of the best receptions in town. Best food, live music and wonderful art. After a big year I retired to be just a Director on our board, then in 2013 the Gallery Director resigned and someone had to keep the momentum going. Jeanette Wolff and I took on the job. I certainly didn't think I would be back as CO-Director when I agreed to be a featured artist with my friend, Claudia Solomon. Oh well, the best laid plans.....

We have a unique situation at The Cambria Center for the Arts and I have great hopes of putting us on the map as a destination for fine art and theatre on the Central Coast. We a definately not just a local art gallery with an auditorium!
