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For immediate release

di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art extends closure through 2020; efforts underway to strengthen operations and community connections

Napa, CA (April 24, 2020) – di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art sees a bright future ahead as efforts are made in the coming months to strengthen operations and community connections. The Board of Directors of the Rene and Veronica di Rosa Foundation announced today that the temporary public closure of di Rosa's campus will be extended through the end of 2020. Community and civic education activities will continue remotely this year and the di Rosa campus will reopen to the public in January with new exhibitions planned for 2021. Staff reductions also were announced.

"While the COVID-19 pandemic has forced this temporary closure of the di Rosa campus, our mission to engage the community with important ideas through art is steadfast," said Girish Satya, co-president of the di Rosa Foundation board of directors. "The di Rosa board and core staff will work to map out our future and prepare to emerge from these uncertain times ready to engage with our community in full once more. We believe this is the perfect time to work diligently on our strategic thinking and financial management."

Even before the COVID-19 outbreak, di Rosa had not been immune to the financial difficulties that many art museums have experienced. di Rosa is continuing work to define a focused legacy collection. "The process remains part of the board strategy going forward and is proceeding with careful consideration," co-president Linda Fine said.

According to Fine, this also will be a time of staff transitions. Several di Rosa staff members will be laid off or furloughed during the extended closure. The remaining staff members will maintain di Rosa facilities and critical operational functions.

Serving the community is an important component of the di Rosa mission. "We are actively working to support key community partners during this time and stand ready to do more in the community as partner organizations resume their activities," Fine said.

Partners include the Boys and Girls Club of Napa Valley, with clubhouses in Napa and American Canyon; Community Resources for Children; Napa County Public Library and Sonoma Valley Regional Library; La Luz in Sonoma; Napa Valley College and Shakespeare Napa Valley; Sonoma State University; and California College of the Arts.

In addition, di Rosa is steadily increasing its online presence to include fun, thought-provoking and informational content for all ages, including weekly bilingual art activities, Satya said. Looking ahead to 2021, we will reopen in January with a showcase of exceptional works from the di Rosa collection.

Fine and Satya asked di Rosa patrons for patience as the board and staff work toward reopening in January. "These decisions were not easy ones to make, but are necessary for di Rosa's long-term sustainability," they said.

For more information, visit the website.

About di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art

di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art offers visitors transformative experiences with the art of Northern California. The site features two galleries and a sculpture meadow, located on 217 scenic acres in the Carneros region of Napa Valley, an area that has few offerings in contemporary art. To allow access for families, admission is free for all children ages 17 and under.

About the Rene and Veronica di Rosa Foundation

The Rene and Veronica di Rosa Foundation is a private foundation established by Rene and Veronica di Rosa in 1983. di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art is the only organization the Foundation supports.

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