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<u>Media Contact:</u> Sara Wacker, APR Bloom Public Relations (858) 945-1104

Sara@BloomPRSanDiego.com

Mission Fed ArtWalk Celebrates 40 Years in San Diego's Little Italy Neighborhood, April 27 & 28, 2024

San Diego's Little Italy will come alive with artwork from more than 250 artists from around the world, plus entertainment, live music, food, drinks & more!

San Diego, Calif. (Jan. 3, 2024) – <u>Mission Fed ArtWalk</u> – the largest and longest-running fine art festival in Southern California – is back for its 40th year, bringing a weekend-long celebration of arts and culture to San Diego's Little Italy on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28, 2024.

Celebrating its ruby anniversary, the free festival attracts locals and visitors to Little Italy, giving all an opportunity to meet more than 250 local, national, and international artists, and purchase art directly from the creators. The event boasts artists from every medium of art, including painting, sculpture, glass work, photography, fine jewelry and more. After browsing and purchasing one-of-a-kind works of art, attendees can enjoy four stages of live music, interactive art experiences, street food, family-friendly art projects at KidsWalk and more.

"Mission Fed ArtWalk has become a spring tradition that encourages everyone to explore different facets of artistic expression in a welcoming environment," said Curt Brooker, Director of ArtWalk San Diego. "Whether you are an art aficionado or just beginning to build a collection, we are proud to help connect San Diegans and visitors to talented fine artists from all over the U.S., Mexico and beyond, for 40 years!"

The annual festival is brought to San Diego by the same team that brings ArtWalk @ Liberty Station to the ARTS DISTRICT in Liberty Station (this year, Aug. 2-4, 2024) and ArtWalk Carlsbad to North County (Sept. 21-22, 2024), along with the second year of their newest event, Bella Vita Fest – a mix of chalk art and Italian wine (October 2024).

Each of ArtWalk San Diego's festivals support their non-profit partner, <u>ArtReach San Diego</u>, an organization aimed at increasing equity in visual arts education in schools throughout San Diego County by delivering free or low-cost workshops to schools that have no other resources for art, focusing on Title One Schools. Many of the programs ArtReach offers are provided at no cost to schools.

"At Mission Fed, we strive to enhance and improve the lives of all San Diegans by giving back to the community," said Doug Wright, president, and CEO of Mission Fed Credit Union (as of March 1, 2024). "As the title sponsor for the last 15-plus years, we look forward to this year's spring festival. Arts and culture are critical to our positive health and well-being. The rows of artwork combined with live music, cultural expression, and art activities, fosters an environment that celebrates visual and performing arts in San Diego. We encourage all San Diegans to save the date!"

Mission Fed ArtWalk attracts 100,000 art collectors and visitors from all over the country to purchase art from established and emerging artists during the two-day festival, located throughout San Diego's Little Italy neighborhood.

The event will run from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 27 and 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 28. Attendance is free. More information will be released in the coming months.

For more information on ArtWalk and its programs, please visit www.artwalksandiego.org.

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About Mission Fed ArtWalk

Mission Fed ArtWalk in San Diego's Little Italy is the city's longest-running outdoor fine art festival. Mission Fed ArtWalk offers collectable and approachable art from virtually every medium, such as drawings, sculpture, paintings, photography, metal work, woodwork and much more. More than just a visual arts festival, the event also features performances by professional musicians on four stages. For more information on Mission Fed ArtWalk, please visit www.missionfederalartwalk.org. Become a fan on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

About Mission Fed Credit Union

Mission Federal Credit Union (Mission Fed) is the largest member-owned, not-for-profit, full-service financial institution exclusively serving San Diego County. Mission Fed enhances the lives of its members through financial education and services, providing stability and strength to help San Diegans with financial wellness and success. Banking at Mission Fed means doing good for San Diego. Mission Fed gives money back to our local communities, has helped hundreds of nonprofits and important causes, and builds deep relationships with community partners.

Mission Fed has served the financial needs of San Diegans for over 60 years through checking, savings, loans, credit cards, and other financial offerings. Mission Fed has more than \$6.0 billion in assets, over 300,000 members, 34 convenient local branches, 30,000 fee-free CO-OP ATMs nationwide and free mobile and online banking services. The credit union is regularly named a Top Workplaces USA winner, and has placed in the top five California credit unions on Forbes' Best-In-State Credit Unions list. Mission Fed is also the first San Diego-based credit union to receive the "Juntos Avanzamos" designation, honoring its commitment to serving and empowering Hispanic/Latinx consumers. Federally insured by NCUA and Equal Housing Lender. To learn more, visit www.MissionFed.com.