



COMMITTEE FOR  
GREEN FOOTHILLS

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Contact:  
Holly Van Houten, Executive Director  
Phone: (650) 968-7243 x360; [Holly@GreenFoothills.org](mailto:Holly@GreenFoothills.org)

## PRESS RELEASE

### Third Annual Winner of the Jane Gallagher Award Announced

Palo Alto – The Committee for Green Foothills today announced that Cupertino artist Floy Zittin has been selected as this year’s winner of the Jane Gallagher Award. This award will be presented in conjunction with the *Nature’s Inspiration: Celebrating the Arts* event to be held on Sunday, October 15, 2006.

Floy Zittin is a painter whose work, like Jane’s, honors the places, people and organizations that inspire the protection of open spaces. "In their stylistic distinctiveness, Zittin's works on paper hold their own against larger-scale oil paintings or photographs," said Peter Lipman, one of the jurors who selected Ms. Zittin to receive this award from the 23 applications submitted.

“Our Nature’s Inspirations event provides a wonderful opportunity to view the work of Floy Zittin and the five other juried selected painters and photographers. It is exciting to see their varied and beautiful interpretations of our open spaces,” said Peter LaTourrette, Event Co-Chair.

The Committee initiated this award in 2004 in memory of Jane Gallagher, a celebrated painter and passionate defender of open space on the Peninsula, who served as a board member of the Committee for Green Foothills. In describing her work, Jane said, “The quiet untouched lands are what appeal to me and what I wanted to capture and share.” This arts exhibition is an opportunity to view paintings and photographs by contemporary artists working in a similar vein.

*Nature’s Inspirations: Celebrating the Arts* will be held on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 6:30 pm at the Willow Heights Mansion, overlooking Coyote Valley. The exhibition sale and live auction proceeds will benefit the work of Committee for Green Foothills to protect local open space. Individual tickets are \$75/person and can be purchased by calling (650) 968-7243 or on the web at [www.GreenFoothills.org](http://www.GreenFoothills.org).

“This location gives us a bird’s-eye view of the Coyote Valley, an area being planned for development yet an important open space and agricultural area for Southern Santa Clara County,” said Holly Van Houten, Executive Director of the Committee. “Come see for yourself what is at stake here and local artists that interpret the value of this land.”



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Other exhibiting artists will include David Cardinal, a photographer from Portola Valley; Mimi Kearns, a painter from Saratoga; Lin Ching Peng a painter from Palo Alto; Dan Quinn, a photographer from Portola Valley; and Sheila Sondik, a painter from Berkeley. Exhibited art will be available for sale throughout the afternoon and during the live auction.

About Floy Zittin: 2006 Jane Gallagher Award Winner: Floy Zittin has been interested in drawing and in nature studies since she was a child. She began her career as a biological illustrator working on a taxonomic project for her Master's thesis and was soon working on college textbooks. From 1976 to 1988 she provided drawing for a field guide put out by the National Museum of Natural Sciences of Canada. Floy's husband is also a biologist and his career took them to British Columbia where they lived for ten years. Part of that time was spent in an isolated fishing village where Floy taught herself to paint watercolor portraits of fish with the help and criticism of the fishery biologists. After returning to California in 1983, her paintings have won numerous awards in local shows and have been accepted in regional competitions. She is currently pursuing her own studies in watercolor as well as teaching adult painting classes. More information can be found at [www.floyzittin.com](http://www.floyzittin.com)

About Committee for Green Foothills: Committee for Green Foothills is a regional grassroots organization working to establish and maintain land-use policies that protect the environment throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, including supporting efforts to preserve and strength agriculture on the San Mateo coast and southern Santa Clara County. Established in 1962, CGF is a Bay Area leader in the continuing effort to protect open space and the natural environment of our Peninsula and Coast. For more information about CGF, visit [www.GreenFoothills.org](http://www.GreenFoothills.org).

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