

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We all play a vital role in this world of visual arts...

Another fantastic Art in the Redwoods has blessed us with over 200 artists participating. Following AIR was Gualala Arts' first official Artist in Residence, international artist Xia Gao, with her solo installation *Changing Urban Landscape* exhibit. She worked tirelessly with several local artists to create a feast for the senses that was something a bit out of the norm for us here on the coast. She concluded her residency with an installation on Bowling Ball Beach of 40 meditation pillows that she created with the assistance of even more artists at several workshops she led while here.

If you are fortunate, you are playing an active roll as an individual artist, co-creator on an installation, volunteer hanging an exhibit, staff member creating title cards, maintaining databases, cutting checks, writing up publicly articles or creating posters, preparing food for an opening, pointing lights, taking workshops, sponsoring prizes, underwriting events, judging or jurying art exhibits, reading about them in Sketches and/or viewing art as a patron. Some wear many of these hats every month. It really does take all of us to have such a vibrant arts community.

Over the last 10 plus years I have had the great opportunity to see behind the scenes while many

artists, judges and jurors created a myriad of fantastic exhibits at the Gualala Arts Center

In October we will have an exhibit, the *Gualala Salon and Salon des Refusés*, juried and judged by noted California artist Ira Yeager, an internationally renowned artist. You, the viewing public, will be encouraged to wear a hat you might not normally put on, a juror and judge hat. Ever think, "I would have juried that differently," or "I would have given that one first place?" Well, now your voice will be heard and we have a venue and outlet for all you armchair jurors and judges out there.

As always, I look forward to seeing what the artists create and decide to share, what our talented guest juror and judge will pick and I look forward to seeing all of YOUR jurying and judging decisions.

I think we will all find this exhibit and process very enlightening!

David 'Sus' Susalla  
Executive Director  
Gualala Arts, Inc.

