

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR



# MAY FLOWERS...



As I write this I think of the old adage April showers bring May flowers...

We just had a pretty good April rainstorm and now, as my Dad used to say and my Mom still says, "another diamond day!" My favorite days are the warm sunny days after the spring rains. The smell of the puddles evaporating, drops of water clinging to the new growth of the maple trees, the reflection of distorted redwood tree landscapes repeated in beads of water on our polished stone slabs, each one deserving of a macro photo or 10 foot canvas painting.

Yes indeed the inspiring spring is in the air at the Gualala Arts Center. The cycle of life is ever so present for me this time of year. I keep drifting to a PBS program that Harmony and I recently watched titled: NOVA - Earth from Space. "This special takes data from earth-observing satellites and transforms them into dazzling visual sequences, each one exposing the intricate and surprising web of forces that sustain life on earth."

As I drive into the Arts Center grounds I turn in noticing the new Gualala Arts Center sign (donated by Peter Mullins Thank You!), with Angie Bailie's father's



coral bark maple just beyond. I park my car and our local Raven Papa Doodle Bug greets me with a good morning "Caw Caw," I pass Marilyn Lafferty's magnolia tree just starting to bud with new growth reflecting in the Robert Holmes sculpture.



I round the corner and look up to our Yakutian Serge totem pole with the eagle at the top greeting the morning sunrays. I see hard working volunteers with smiles on their faces pruning and sweeping up the grounds. A myriad of colors and smells surprise me at every glance. As I walk up to the main entrance of the building a Dogwood tree is in full bloom and Frank Klembeck's weeping pear tree beckons me come closer. On the DePrima Terrace, I pass "Steve's Bar," a 1.5 ton stone bar donated in memory of Steve Serdahely by Sumedha Mona Khanna. I spy the beautiful flowering Carpentaria bush donated in honor of our friend Ingaborg Raynham. I am tempted to walk off into the woods on the easy access trail and see what is just around the next corner.

We are so fortunate to have this special time together, every moment just as magical as the next, and the previous one. Spring is a time of new possibilities, new growth and realizing that we all do make a difference in the interconnectivity of our lives together as we seamlessly transition through the cycles of the life...

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