

Friday,
January
22, 2021

La Jolla Community Center establishes Marilyn Nass Creative Arts Fund

The La Jolla Community Center's new Marilyn Nass Creative Arts Fund honors the legacy of former art student Marilyn Nass, who participated in a weekly Acrylic Art Painting for Beginners class at the Center, taught by instructor Nicole Caulfield.

"She was new at painting, yet her works immediately caught my eye," said art instructor Nicole Caulfield, "Right away, she jumped in with very little instruction and weekly produced a collection of colorful works inspired by images I provided. She had a mysterious way of knowing exactly when to set the brush down and how to interpret any image. She will be missed."

Nass died last August and is survived by her beloved husband, Martin; a son, a daughter; and grandchildren.

"I established the fund to honor Marilyn who began to paint in her 90s and produced many beautiful works of art," said Ruth Yansick, CEO of the Center. "She exemplified the joy that can be experienced by seniors who have never tried painting."

"Her natural gifts came through and now her lovely paintings bring joy to her family as well. I believe the fund will benefit many seniors, especially those who are isolated and who can discover their hidden talents regardless of age," Yansick said, adding that the fund exemplifies a vital component of the Center's mission to provide lifelong learning to adults and seniors.

"In offering a variety of art classes through the years, we understand that the benefits for seniors in creating art include increased motor skills and coordination, improved cognitive function, improved mood and mental health and social connection," said executive director Nancy Walters. "Members would often stop by my office to share their joy and show me their paintings. The Fund will continue to make these kinds of opportunities possible." She added that the Center's transportation program in La Jolla can also facilitate bringing seniors to the Center when re-opened.



Marilyn Nass

For more information or to donate to the Marilyn Nass fund, visit ljcommunitycenter.org/marilynnass.