



**Ventura College**  
**4667 Telegraph Road**  
**Ventura, California 93003**  
**Tel: 805.654.6400**  
**[www.venturacollege.edu](http://www.venturacollege.edu)**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Cindy Jones, Marketing Specialist  
[Cindy\\_jones1@vcccd.edu](mailto:Cindy_jones1@vcccd.edu)  
805-289-2610

**VENTURA COLLEGE WELCOMES COMMUNITY FOR WEEK OF ARTS**

(VENTURA, Calif.) March 8, 2019 – Ventura College will be hosting two exhibitions and a performing arts production during the week of March 11-15. Exhibitions will be opening on both the main Ventura College campus (4667 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA) and at the Ventura College East Campus (957 Faulkner Road, Santa Paula, CA). Please join Ventura College as we celebrate women in the arts during Women’s History Month. For a full listing of events please read below:

**I AM WHAT I AM**

Presented by the International Women Artist Group Rootless, the exhibit I AM WHAT I AM will be on exhibit at Ventura College East Campus March 12 through March 21. In honor of Women’s History Month, Ventura College East Campus celebrates women in the arts with a special exhibition and reception featuring Rootless, a network of international women artists, who explore the diversity of life through art. The exhibition, I Am What I Am, is named after Eleanor Roosevelt’s words, “I am what I am today because of the choices I made yesterday.”

The community is invited to attend the meet the artist reception, Tuesday, March 12, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Classical guitar will be played by Ventura College students and appetizers will be served. The gallery will be open throughout the week 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information call (805) 525-7136 or visit [www.venturacollege.edu/eastcampus](http://www.venturacollege.edu/eastcampus)

Featured artist include: Anne Bendig (Germany), Belinda di Keck (Germany), Phyllis Doyon (USA), Ursula Gallenkamp (Germany), Dorothea Heger (Germany), Ulli Langenscheidt (Germany), Mariana Peirano (Argentina), Anu Subramanian (India), Nahzy Tabrizi (Iran), Renate Wetzstein (Germany).

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*Ventura College, an accredited two-year institution of higher education, has been a part of the beautiful seaside community of Ventura, California, since 1925. It is conveniently located approximately 60 miles north of Los Angeles and 30 miles south of Santa Barbara. The 112-acre campus, set in the rolling hills of Ventura, has an enrollment of 14,500 students. Ventura College offers Associate of Arts and Associate of Sciences Degrees in 33 majors, and Certificates of Completion and Proficiency Awards in 61 areas of study. Ventura College also has Transfer Guarantee Agreements with CSUCI, CSUN, UC Davis, UC Santa Barbara, and UC Santa Cruz. Class schedules are posted at [www.venturacollege.edu](http://www.venturacollege.edu). For more information, contact the Ventura College Welcome Center at 805.289.6420.*

### **Hold Me: An Entertainment**

Directed by Nathan Cole, the Ventura College Theater Department will be opening *Hold Me: An Entertainment* with a free public preview on Wednesday, March 13. This charming comic revue explores the all-too-human characters made famous by legendary cartoonist, novelist, and playwright, Jules Feiffer.

Through a blend of monologues, sketches, and short vignettes, Feiffer highlights the plight of urbanites through their hang-ups, identity crises, and assorted mishaps which beset those trapped in a fast-paced world. With each performer assuming a variety of roles, the play abounds in affectionate and comic situations that allow us to laugh at the anxiety life brings, yet value the commonalities we share in everyday reality.

On Wednesday, March 13 there will be a Free Public Preview at 7:30 p.m. The show opens Thursday, March 14 through Saturday, March 16 showing at 7:30 p.m. at the Ventura College Performing Arts Center (4700 Loma Vista Rd, Ventura, CA 93003) and Sunday, March 17 at 2:30 p.m. General admission is \$15 and \$5 for students and seniors. Tickets can be purchased one hour before at the door or online at [www.venturacollege.edu](http://www.venturacollege.edu). Parking is \$2.

**\*This production is not suitable for children under the age of twelve due to some adult content.**

### **Empoderamienta: The Art of Latina Artists**

On display at the Ventura College New Media Gallery will be *Empoderamienta: The Art of Latina Artists* curated by Ann H. Bittl. This exhibition explores the art of Latin American women artists with an emphasis on the art object as a form of cultural, artistic, and social expression. The exhibition also explores the historic and artistic constructs of women artists in Latin America, who re-created themselves as beguiling personalities, posed uneasily between the worlds of artifice (art) and nature, or the instinctual life.

The exhibit will run March 14 through April 18. The community is invited to the reception on March 14, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Ventura College Studio Arts Building, New Media Gallery. Parking is \$2. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information call 805-289-6074.

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