

# Arts Council survey

**By MICHELLE WILLIAMS**

*For the Register*

Are you a singer, painter, sculptor, actor, photographer, musician or other creative type? Are you part of an artist's collective, musical band, theater company, gallery, cultural group or any other arts group? If so, it's time to get your voice heard for Napa Valley arts.

Arts Council Napa Valley has launched two separate surveys: one for individual creative people, and one for arts and cultural organizations. These anonymous surveys take about five minutes to complete and will give us vital information about your needs and challenges, as well as the first hard data on the economic impact of Napa Valley arts.

Links to the surveys are on the Arts Council Web site. Go to [www.artscouncilnapavalley.org](http://www.artscouncilnapavalley.org) and click on "Cultural Planning in Napa County."

These surveys will help us further discover the story of arts in this community. The "maps" we have developed of artists and arts organizations in each city create a startling picture. For example, St. Helena, with 5 percent of the popula-

tion, has 16 percent of the artists and 18 percent of the arts resources in the county. This begs a question: Why do artists want to live in St. Helena?

Yountville, with only 2 percent of the population, has 3 percent of the artists and a whopping 12 percent of the resources.

American Canyon, the county's fastest growing city with 12 percent of the population, has only 2 percent of county arts resources. How can we ensure that American Canyon arts resources grow to match its population? And Napa is emerging as the Big Kahuna with 59 percent of the population, 59 percent of the artists and 55 percent of arts resources.

Of course, these statistics are only part of the story, but they go far in identifying the opportunities and challenges in each city. Moving forward, we'll use all of this information to help shape a cultural plan. Only through community input can we best answer these questions.

The deadline to fill out the survey is Friday. Please join us in our effort to make an arts and cultural plan for Napa Valley and fill out the survey today.