

The Napa Chamber Foundation and Mechanics Bank
are proud to present the 5th annual

Outstanding Nonprofit Employee of the Year



Kristina Young
Arts Council Napa Valley

It's an innovative way to entice a young, hip crowd to downtown Napa and the arts: treasure hunts in which participants decipher clues on their smart phones via Twitter and Facebook to locate a piece of art. The finder of the art, hidden in plain view, gets to keep it.

Napa Valley
Community Awards

Handling logistics is Kristina Young, an artist, educator and savvy organizer who is the new executive director of Arts Council Napa Valley. Her leadership has driven the council to cutting-edge territory, promoting to a younger audience and tourists.

While other visionaries often generate the spark of a great idea, she contributes strategic skills to translate it into reality.

That includes developing Napa ARTwalk, with sculptures studding the downtown Napa landscape, and last autumn's inaugural Napa Valley ARTS 2010 festival, which brilliantly linked arts organizations countywide.

"Kristina Young rejoices for every single artist among us when we succeed," Ann Trinca, marketing manager for the di Rosa Preserve, has said. "By bringing us together through her generosity of spirit, she has transformed the culture community in Napa."

Young is an artist herself, earning her bachelor's degree in painting via the University of British Columbia and Richmond College in London, and studying illustration at California College of the Arts. In fact, one of her creations is included in di Rosa's collection: a collage incorporating painting with old photos of women in farm gear, and designed to appear clothes-pinned to the wall like laundry.

She also has educational credentials, having worked at Salvador Elementary School to establish Artlinks, which taught core curriculum through visual and performing arts. "Children make awesome art – just thinking about it makes me smile," Young said. "They are so open and haven't yet been scared out of trying new things."

A former graphic artist and layout designer for the Napa Valley Register, she discovered that creating solo didn't suit her temperament. Instead she craved interaction with a community.

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**Tuesday Luncheon,
May 24, 2011**

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ~ \$55 pp
Napa Valley Marriott
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*Please join us in recognizing all
the award winners, nominees
& past winners!*

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