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Suffrage

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Can waterfalls make me feel happy?

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Fish Ladders

Restoring threatened fish migration routes in Alameda Creek



By J.D. FLATEN

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY ALAMEDA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT AND ALAMEDA CREEK ALLIANCE

More than five decades ago, Alameda Creek teemed with central California steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*), a species that spawns upriver before returning to the Bay and the Pacific. Before it was re-engineered in the 1970s, Alameda Creek "sort of meandered through the region and was 'flashy,' susceptible to floods during heavy rains," said Robert Shaver, Alameda County Water District (ACWD) general manager. Alameda Creek is a vital source of water (40 percent) for Fremont, Newark and Union City.

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Artist Spotlight

Diego Marcial Rios

By DAVID R NEWMAN

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DIEGO RIOS AND BY STEVE B PHOTOGRAPHY

At the age of three, local artist Diego Marcial Rios knew what he wanted to be when he grew up. Born in Fresno, CA, he would often visit his father, a professor at the University of Guadalajara in Mexico. It was there that his dad brought him to see *Hombre del Fuego* (Man of Fire) by Jose Clemente Orozco, a breathtaking, bold fresco that depicts the emancipation of the human spirit, adorning the cupola of the Hospice Cabanas (now a museum). The site is often referred to as the "Sistine Chapel of the Americas." Rios' fate was sealed.

Some 50 years later, Rios has established himself as an internationally renowned artist whose work has appeared in over 500 exhibitions worldwide. His pieces are featured regularly in public collections, including the Museo Nacional De La Estampa in Mexico City and the San Francisco Mission Cultural Center. He also teaches local workshops on making paper mache masks and sugar skulls, two traditional Mexican art forms that he hopes to keep alive. And on top of that, he has numerous speaking engagements throughout the year.

If you had asked a young Rios about the importance of his artwork, he would have just laughed. "Here I was, this poor Mexican

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SUBMITTED BY VICKILYN HUSSEY
PHOTOS COURTESY OF MUSIC AT THE MISSION

After the last-minute postponement of the Music at the Mission Masquerade Ball in March, artists, volunteers, and organizers were looking forward to meeting and thanking Music at the Mission supporters in person at a later date this year. Unfortunately, that isn't going to happen, so Music at the Mission decided to bring the event to you, right in your living room, with Music at the Mission's first Virtual Ball!

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