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Casino Royale: Take a Chance on the Arts, a fundraiser to support the Merced County Arts Council.

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Casino Royale: Take a Chance on the Arts, a fundraiser to support the Merced County Arts Council.

The Arts Center, 645 W Main Street in downtown Merced.





Date: Saturday, March 10, 7pm – 10pm.

The Merced County Arts Council is announcing the 3rd Annual Casino Royale! The main gallery will transform into Vegas and the theatre to swanky nightlife on Saturday, March 10.

New this year, the Arts Council invited Kimberly Zamora to lend her artistic style to the event. Zamora, a Merced County native, is a professional artist and fashionista, as well as the owner of downtown business, Tallulah Brigitta. When asked what kind of artist Zamora is, she replies, “I don’t like to label myself because it limits my creativity.” Those who saw her recent exhibit at the Merced Multicultural Arts Center know that she will not disappoint.



The new look will complement the feeling Mercedians have had at Casino Royale for the last two years. With classic games like black jack, poker, craps and roulette, as well as Vegas-style cocktails and a tantalizing buffet of appetizers and desserts, guests will feel like they've been transported to Vegas, itself.

Ladies, no need to squeeze that camera into your evening bag. Nationally recognized photographer, Roger Wyan will be on hand again this year, to capture guests' good luck and charm. For only \$5, guests can go home with a professional portrait to remember the night for years to come.



long-time supporter of the arts community, Wyan is now the Project Manager/Photographer at Venice Arts Merced, empowering underserved kids through photography. Wyan donates his talent for this event because, “I love helping out the Arts Council because it is such an integral part of the health and well-being of our community,” he said. “Besides, casino night is a really fun night for my wife, Sheryl and me too!”

This time last year, the Arts Council was at risk of closing the Arts Center doors indefinitely, due to lack of funding. The Arts 24: Rescue the Arts campaign, organized by Janna Rodriguez, was a pivotal turning point for the organization. “The Arts Council wasn’t rescued by one magic bullet,” said Staci Santa, Executive

Director. “People like Roger and Janna, and all the people who supported Arts 24—they’re the reason we’re here today.” Though not out of the woods, Santa said that events like Casino Royale make a big impact, and give people who want to support the arts in Merced County a fun and rewarding way to make a difference.

Tickets are only \$30 for members or \$40 for non-members; tables of ten are \$300. Sponsorship opportunities are available, starting at \$500.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Merced County Arts Council at www.artsmerced.org

or (209) 388-1090.

Pokerplayers.jpg: Joey Essig, Tom Price, Adam Miller, Forest Hansen, Rob Hypes, and friends play poker.

PhotobyRogerWyan.jpg: Katie & Michael Winder pose with cut-out by local artist, John Harrell.

Roulette.jpg: Learn to play roulette and win these chips.

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When Do I Get the Senior Discount? I got another magazine offer the other day in the mail. This one