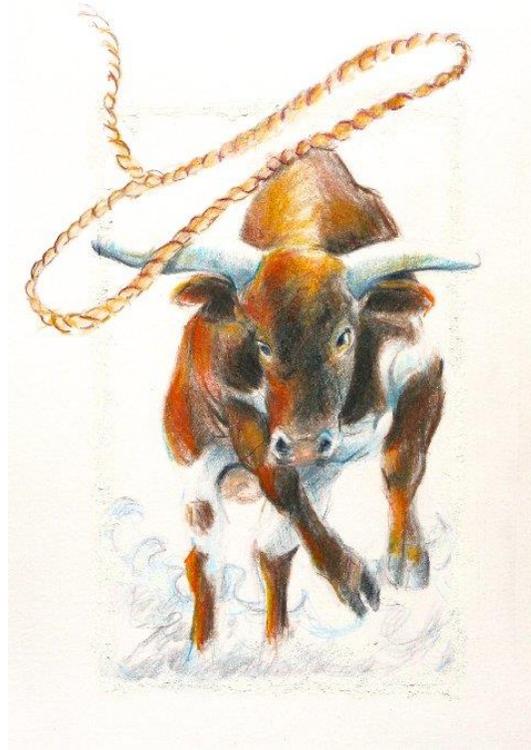


Press Release

Valley Center Stampede Rodeo Tickets & T-Shirts Available at Five Local Businesses



This year's Stampede Rodeo t-shirt logo was generously designed pro bono by wildlife artist Marla Epstein.

As an artist, Epstein's fascination with animals is evident. Whether by painting or sculpting, she has an amazing ability to depict the strength and beauty of any creature. There is no exception in her rendering of the bull featured on this year's rodeo t-shirt.

Epstein says she begins each piece by observing, photographing, drawing, and researching the animal she is portraying. "I like to fill the canvas to allow myself and others to get up close and personal with each creature," she shared. "I don't feel the necessity to paint every detail; rather, I concentrate on expressing the animals' compelling presence."

Epstein's work has earned her numerous awards including 3rd place for "Animals and Wildlife" at the San Diego County Fair, 1st place for "Wildlife in Art" at Foot Hills Gallery in La Mesa, CA, and the Louis Tiencuff Award. Epstein was also selected to design the National Newfoundland Dog Championships awards and commissioned by Lions, Tigers & Bears in Alpine, CA to paint Conga, their resident leopard.

"We can't thank Ms. Epstein enough for her generous donation of time and talent to this year's rodeo," stated Rodeo Chairwoman Joyce Holmes. "It is an honor to have her artwork displayed on our t-shirts."

Rodeo tickets, t-shirts, and sweatshirts are now on sale at **Joe's Country Feed & Pet, Armstrong Feed & Supply, A1 Irrigation, Community Pharmacy, and Valley Center Oil**. General admission to the rodeo is \$15, Friday VIP tickets are \$40 and Saturday VIP tickets are \$50. The cost for a t-shirt is \$15 and sweatshirts are also available for \$25. Get your one-of-a-kind shirt today and proudly wear it to the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo this Memorial Day weekend (May 26-28, 2017).

More information on this year's rodeo can be found at www.VCStampede.com.

Marla Epstein's artwork will be on display at the Encinitas Community Center Gallery through May 3. Her pieces will also be part of "The Reflections of Wildlife" show at the Fallbrook Art Center from May 5 to May 7. For more information, visit www.marlaepsteinart.com.