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Award-Winning Regional Artist to be Featured by ESLT

Inspiring land conservation, one painting at a time

Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) has met many artists who recognize how important it is to preserve the Eastern Sierra's fragile wilderness, breathtaking vistas, and rural heritage. As a part of its ongoing *Art for Conservation Show and Sale* at Mono Council for the Arts Gallery in Mammoth Lakes, ESLT has featured several of these talented artists over the course of the summer in its Celebrated Artists Series.

This weekend, August 16-17, ESLT welcomes award-winning regional artist Lady Jill Mueller to Mono Council for the Arts Gallery to discuss her works with visitors and offer an expanded selection of her paintings.

Lady Jill was born in 1944 in Los Angeles, California. She took every art course throughout her early schooling years, and was later awarded a scholarship to the Laguna Art School. As she grew up, Jill was always drawn to the peacefulness of being in nature. Moving away from southern California in 1971 allowed her to explore the Sierra Nevada mountains that she grew to love. In 1983 Lady Jill moved from California to the Eastern Sierra, "to live closer to the great, rugged mountains." Lady Jill's painting philosophy is based on her love of nature - being there as one, allowing the world to go by - hence she almost never puts people in her paintings, as she wishes the viewer to be the only one there.

She has taught watercolor both to private students and during plain air watercolor workshops throughout the Eastern Sierra. In 1993 she had her first class at Blackcraig Castle in Scotland and has been teaching there once or twice a summer since. Annually, she teaches in Virginia City, Nevada and Rock Creek and Hope Valley, California.

Those unable to join Lady Jill Mueller at her Celebrated Artist show this weekend are encouraged to visit Mono Council for the Arts Gallery during normal business hours, between 12pm and 5pm seven days a week. Running through September 17th, ESLT's *Art for Conservation Show and Sale* offers a collection of purchasable artwork that captures all the things we love most about the Eastside: from the towering Sierra Crest to the winding Owens River, and everything in between. Twenty-five percent of all art purchases associated with the show support ESLT's important work to preserve the inspiring landscapes of the Eastern Sierra.

ESLT works with willing landowners to preserve vital lands in the Eastern Sierra for their scenic, agricultural, natural, recreational, historical, and watershed values. ESLT's goal is to preserve a healthy balance of land uses that can be sustained forever, ensuring both a strong local economy and environment. For more information about ESLT's mission and preserved lands, visit our website at www.eslt.org.

High resolution photos are attached to email. Low-resolution images with captions are shown below. For additional images, contact Marguerite Burkham at (760) 873-4554.



Lady Jill Mueller, pictured painting in the "plein-air" style in Nevada's scenic Washoe Valley.



Summer Evening Shadows – Hope Valley, by Lady Jill Mueller