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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WOMEN RISING COLLECTIVE PRESENTS *A NIGHT OF CREATIVE EMPOWERMENT II*
AT THE BACKWATER ARTS GALLERY**

Women Rising: A Night of Creative Empowerment II
June 8, 2012
Backwater Arts Gallery
San Jose, CA

WHAT:

Women Rising is pleased to present ***A Night of Creative Empowerment II***, an event dedicated to promoting and supporting women in the arts and social justice community of San Jose. The event is **free** with a **suggested donation of \$5** to fund Women Rising's **community mural**, which is set to be released at the end of summer 2012 in downtown San Jose at Pomegranate Café.

The evening will feature over 30 women artists, poets, and performers from the San Jose and greater Bay Area. From 7pm-8pm a panel discussion featuring four local women working in various realms of social justice and the arts in the community of San Jose will be hosted by Fiza Najeeb of Women Rising. The evening will continue with performances from **Kinsey Lee** of The Wild Reeds, **Audiafauna**, **Chara Bui**, **Dream House**, **Mates**, **Veronica Malki**, **Teri Paschere** (cello), and **Keyanna Bean**. In between sets the audience will be treated with live **poetry** and special performances by **Rakas Africa**, a belly dancing duo of Oakland who "integrates belly dancing with writing, mindfulness activities, and art-making."

WHO:

Women Rising is a community collective founded in 2010 by students, artists, and community members that focus on women empowerment through the arts and open dialogue. Women Rising recognizes the importance of the arts to facilitate and promote both self and political consciousness. Through artistic express, Women Rising encourages women of all ages to rise up and become leaders in the movement towards discovering one's identity amongst the perpetual misrepresentation and underrepresentation in our social culture.

WHEN:

Friday, June 8, 2012 from 6 p.m.-midnight.

WHERE:

Backwater Arts Gallery
681 Quinn Ave (between Tully Rd & Senter Rd)
San Jose, CA 95112

MORE INFO:

Website: www.womenrising.wordpress.com
Facebook: <http://goo.gl/ZGNEK>