



Art in Action Honors Artist, Athlete and Philanthropist Vernon Davis *Davis to Receive Art Visionary Award for His Leadership in Art Appreciation and Education*

MENLO PARK, CA, January 4, 2016 - Vernon Davis, artist, athlete and founder of the Vernon Davis Foundation for the Arts, has been selected to receive the [Art in Action](#) Art Visionary Award given in recognition of his work promoting art education and supporting young artists.

Art in Action, a nonprofit dedicated to bringing comprehensive visual arts programs to schools throughout the region and beyond, created the award to honor an individual who inspires a culture of art in our society. The Art in Action Art Visionary Award will be presented to Davis at Art in Action's annual benefit, **Object: Art** on March 3, 2016.

Vernon Davis joined the NFL as a tight end for the San Francisco 49ers in 2006. He was drafted from the University of Maryland where he played football and majored in Studio Art. Throughout his celebrated football career, Davis maintained his connection to fine art as an avid painter, art collector and philanthropist. In 2010 he funded the Vernon Davis Visual Arts Scholarship Fund and, later, the [Vernon Davis Foundation for the Arts](#) to promote arts education and art appreciation among youth from disadvantaged backgrounds. The foundation provides scholarships to dedicated art students and grants to nonprofits whose programs share similar ideals.

"Growing up in my community in Washington, D.C., it was tough to pursue your dreams, and the dream in my heart was always to pursue the arts," Davis said. "I want to help young people find new ways to express themselves, to lift their spirits and fulfill their dreams through an arts education."

OBJECT:ART will take place at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, California and will raise funds to support Art in Action's work to bring visual arts education to elementary and middle schools throughout the country. Proceeds fund curriculum development, teacher and volunteer training and art materials for schools that have limited access to art due to financial hardship. For sponsorship opportunities and tickets to the event, visit <http://artinaction.org/events/>.

About Art in Action

[Art in Action](#), based in Menlo Park, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to changing children's lives through art. Founded in 1982, Art in Action enriches the lives of thousands of students each year through an engaging, hands-on curriculum that teaches 21st Century learning skills through art history, appreciation and practice.

Media Contact: Mary Ellison, maryellison@artinaction.org, 650-566-8339, x 210.

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Art Visionary Award Honoree Vernon Davis. Photo credit: www.imageandstyle.com

