

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 4, 2011

**PRESS CONTACT:**  
Kelly Kapaun/Chris Davis, (805) 687-3322

## **Exhibition Charts Artist's Path to Recovery as She Battled Cancer**

**Michele Zuzalek – local artist to display at Hospice of Santa Barbara**



*"Full Circle" by Michele Zuzalek*

**April 4, 2011, Santa Barbara, CA**— Hospice of Santa Barbara welcomes local artist Michele Zuzalek, who will display her art in its Leigh Block Gallery.

**On Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7 p.m., Hospice of Santa Barbara will host a wine and cheese open house reception for the new exhibit.**

The exhibition, entitled *Full Circle*, charts Zuzalek's path to recovery as she battled cancer. Zuzalek, a single mother, was diagnosed with cancer and told she had three to six months to live. Her increased devotion and commitment to painting during her eight months of chemotherapy helped her retain her strength and passion for life as cancer caused her to face her own mortality. The paintings are transcendent and spontaneous; coming from a deep place. It is from this place that Zuzalek gained the strength to go on during her illness. Zuzalek remains in remission – happy, healthy and whole.

Zuzalek, who has been painting since she was a child, graduated from the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, and has studied painting with Jack Lynwood, Tom Wudl, Harry Carmean, L. Feitelson and Leo Carrillo. Zuzalek has been a graphic designer and fine artist for 20 years, and she maintains a successful graphic design business in Santa Barbara, MZDesign. She presently teaches art to grade school children, and she is an active member of Southern California Artists Painting for the Environment (SCAPE) and is a member of an abstract painting group.

An award winning painter, Zuzalek is featured in numerous galleries as well as international corporate and private collections. Additional work and information can be found on Zuzalek's Web site:

[www.michelezuzalek.com](http://www.michelezuzalek.com)

**Zuzalek will donate a portion of the proceeds from her art sales to Hospice of Santa Barbara, Inc., a volunteer hospice organization. Hospice of Santa Barbara “volunteers” its free professional counseling and support services to more than 360 children and adults every month who are experiencing the impact of a life-threatening illness, or grieving the death of a loved one.**

**Wine, refreshments and cheese will be provided at the open house reception. Zuzalek’s exhibition will be on display at Hospice of Santa Barbara through the end of June.**

The mission of Hospice of Santa Barbara, Inc. is to provide care to anyone experiencing the impact of a life-threatening illness, or grieving the death of a loved one. For more information, please call (805) 563-8820 or visit [www.hospiceofsantabarbara.org](http://www.hospiceofsantabarbara.org).

###