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### LOCAL WOMAN PAYS BILLS WITH PAINTBRUSH

Santa Rosa, CA. April 2010— Karen Baker of FairyDust Faces never thought when she face painted at her kindergartner’s class picnic that her artistic talent would be putting food on the table years later. As one of the ‘newly’ self employed she is finding creative ways to make ends meet as our economy continues to bump along at the bottom.

According to the Kaufman Foundation of Kansas City, Mo. roughly a half a million people start their own businesses every year. How many of them actually make it into their second year is another matter entirely. Baker laughs at the thought that her party entertainment business would falter “we’re just about at the end of our second year and there is never a shortage of children having birthdays!” Noting a full festival and event schedule she adds “actually this year we are doing four of the local high school sober graduation events.”

Baker has expanded her company’s vision to include all types of body art from face painting and temporary tattoos to the traditional Indian body art, mehndi, known in this country as henna tattoos. She has taught face painting to children, teens and adults and currently has 11 free ‘henna for teens’ workshops scheduled with the Sonoma County Library system beginning in June. She hopes to be offering an additional henna class through CHOPS teen center and adds “the other exciting thing we’re doing is starting a storytelling for children session, where the kids are being coached to tell their own stories using professional storytelling skills.”

Does the economy worry her? “Nope, I’m a firm believer if you love what you do and come from a place of abundance, things will take care of themselves.”

Karen Baker, founding artist of **FairyDust Faces**, is extensively committed to the success of art instruction in public schools and to the success of local youth organizations. She teaches face painting in schools as well as ‘storytelling for children.’ **FairyDust Faces** can transform your average corporate event or private party into a show-stopping crowd-pleaser. Guests can choose from fabulous face painting, glitter or airbrush tattoos, or awesome original henna designs. Experience the magic of FairyDust!

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