



# ART MATTERS

Magazine of The Art Center  
of Western Colorado

Volume 11, Issue 3  
Summer 2026

Our Mission: The Art Center of Western Colorado is a regional arts organization dedicated to enriching lives by promoting the enjoyment and understanding of the arts.

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### Art Center Hours

9am to 4pm Tuesday through Saturday  
Admission \$5 (free to members and children under 12)  
*There is no charge to visit the Gift Gallery*  
Contact Us: 970-243-7337 | [gjartcenter.org](http://gjartcenter.org)

Operational funding provided in part by:

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On The Cover: Barbara Churchley

# *Donor Spotlight*

## *Robert Armstrong (1933-2024)*

The Art Center is blessed with many wonderful friends and supporters who have helped build this community institution into the cultural treasure it is. One of those generous patrons and very effective volunteers was Robert (Bob) Armstrong, who sadly passed away on April 19, 2024. But, thanks to his bequeathed gift to The Art Center Foundation, his impact will continue for many years to come.

I met Bob after his wife, Lou, died. He wanted The Art Center to have all her art and art-related items. We went to his house and picked up art, art supplies, and several pieces of furniture he had made her over the years. Several of those cabinets remain at TAC and are used daily.

Bob and I became close friends. We would eat out regularly. He also prepared many excellent meals for me and my husband over the years. We

would take trips to the Mesa to hunt for mushrooms, and to other areas around the Grand Mesa to see flowers or autumn colors.

Bob was also an excellent woodworker. He made the floating shelves in the Ancestral Puebloan pot display, along with floating shelves for use in exhibits. He made the wood slats we use to display our Native American textiles. He made coffee tables and wine storage racks that were sold at our auctions. He bought the wood and made all these items at no expense to TAC.

Bob was a wonderful person. Because of our friendship, Bob gave a part of his estate to The Art Center Foundation; for this we are most grateful. His is the largest single gift the Foundation has ever received.

Robbie Breaux



Dear Friends of The Art Center,

There is a unique, vibrant energy that takes hold of western Colorado during the summer months. As the days grow longer and we spend more time connecting with one another, the season presents a perfect opportunity to share the things we love most with the people we care about.

As a member, you are the heartbeat of The Art Center of Western Colorado. You already know the profound impact the arts can have—how a compelling exhibition can shift a perspective, or how a hands-on studio class can ignite a hidden passion. You are our greatest ambassadors, and this summer, I want to personally invite you to help us spread the word about the wonderful things happening right here at TAC.

When you are making your summer plans, consider inviting your friends, family members, and out-of-town guests to spend an afternoon wandering through our galleries. Introduce them to the spaces and the art that inspire you.

If you are searching for a meaningful way to celebrate a birthday, an anniversary, or simply want to treat someone special, consider giving the gift of art. A gift membership is a fantastic way to welcome someone into our creative family, offering them a full year of inspiration and community. Alternatively, you might find the perfect, one-of-a-kind treasure by purchasing an original piece of artwork from one of our current exhibitions or our beautifully curated Gift Gallery.

For the creatively curious in your life, a gift certificate for a class can be the catalyst for a lifelong artistic journey. And if you're looking for a fun way to show your support while you're out and about this season, we have some fantastic Art Center merchandise available. Grab a TAC travel mug for your morning commute, a cap or t-shirt for your outdoor adventures, or a wine tumbler for those relaxing summer evenings on the patio. Every purchase directly supports our mission and helps spark conversations about our work.

Your enthusiasm is contagious. By sharing your love for The Art Center, you help us grow, thrive, and continue improving the quality of life for everyone in our community. Thank you for your unwavering support, your advocacy, and for making TAC the vibrant hub it is today.

I look forward to seeing you—and the friends you bring along—in the galleries this summer.

Warmly,

Lee Borden

Executive Director

The Art Center of Western Colorado

# The Art Center Foundation Endowment Fund



The Art Center of Western Colorado Foundation is exclusively committed to the long-term success of The Art Center through the acquisition, management, and distribution of legacy endowment gifts and other gifts. The foundation supports TAC's operations, educational programs, and exhibitions. Through thoughtful stewardship, we ensure that TAC thrives as a place where art, learning and, community come together.

In order to provide information on how you can benefit from a planned gift, the Foundation's Marketing Committee is updating our Foundation brochure, and we have added a Foundation tab on TAC's web page. Our goal is to share with you the many ways you can join the foundation in strengthening every aspect of TAC financially.

The most common form of planned giving is a bequest, which allows individuals to

maintain control of their assets during their lifetime and direct a charitable gift upon their passing. Such gifts are typically arranged through a will, trust, or beneficiary designation.

It is also possible to make a gift during your lifetime. Often, individuals gift appreciated stock or IRA required minimum distributions (RMDs), which can potentially lower their annual tax liability. Cash donations are also always appreciated.

We are excited to share that our assets have surpassed one million dollars, including our valuable art collection. Building on this milestone, our next goal is to reach one million dollars in donated financial assets.

Your TAC Foundation board is busy working to improve our communication with you. You are our most important asset!

Howdy My Friends,

I often tell people that The Art Center is fortunate to have an Foundation. Many then ask, “What does the Art Center Foundation do?” I explain that it helps secure a long-term financial future for The Art Center. Specifically, The Art Center Foundation is a permanent investment fund that provides a continuous stream of reliable funding for The Art Center.

After this explanation, many ask how they can help with The Art Center’s long-term financial future. In response, I say that we need to have a longer conversation. During that conversation, I explain the many ways they can contribute to The Art Center’s Foundation:

- **Make a Cash Gift Now!** A gift today keeps giving year after year. Gifts of all amounts are appreciated and tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.
- **Give an Asset** such as stocks, bonds, insurance policies, or real estate. There may be significant tax advantages.
- **Give a Charitable Gift Annuity:** A charitable gift annuity allows you to transfer assets to charity in exchange for fixed, lifetime income or other personal benefits.
- **Give from a Retirement Account**, such as an IRA: Name TAC Foundation as a beneficiary in an unneeded retirement fund, or your Required Minimum Distribution.
- **Leave a Bequest in your Will:** Name TAC Foundation as a beneficiary in your will or trust for a future gift.
- **Other Types of Planned Giving:** There are even more ways to make planned gifts.

Of course, I emphasize that they need to consult with their financial advisor to determine the best approach for them.

If you, too, want to help secure a long-term financial future for The Art Center, give me a call. Let’s have a conversation.

Peter Booth, Ph.D.

Assistant Director

# TLC For TAC

While wonderful in many ways, the Art Center of Western Colorado (TAC) building is showing its age. Thanks to your support, TAC offers a variety of amazing programs, events, exhibitions, and educational classes. In order to continue producing top-quality exhibitions and events, our home urgently needs some serious TLC.



Scan the QR code or visit

<https://www.gjartcenter.org/tlc>

to donate today

We have compiled and prioritized a list of the most essential repairs, additions, and improvements. While the building has other needs, we have focused this campaign on a more targeted and tangible list totaling around \$250,000.

Join us in this campaign to bring some TLC to TAC. Every dollar or in-kind donation helps. Donations of \$1,000 or more will earn you a peach on our growing Giving Tree.

**We have a special home—help us give it some love.**

New Outdoor Sculpture – *Music to my Eyes*

Studio Colorado Sound and Lighting system

Motion Sensor Lights

New Exterior Look for TLC

Refresh the Gallery Walls

Integrated Gallery Sound System

HVAC for the Red Door Studio

Upgraded Gallery Lighting

Landscaping along Orchard & 7<sup>th</sup>

Install Card Reader System

New and Repaired Doors

New Exhibit Case Glass

Upgraded TAC Computer Server

New Security System

Roof Repairs

Redesigned & Refurbished Lavatories

Parking Lot Improvements

Permanent Collection Storage

Room Upgrades

Relocate *Climb* Sculpture

Repair Piano

Building Deep Cleaned

## **TLC Progress: It Takes a Village**

It's very exciting to see TLC for TAC progress. Plans are coming together, estimates are arriving, and momentum is increasing. It's thrilling to imagine giving The Art Center building a completely new look.

The phrase “it takes a village” has never been truer than it is with this project. The landscaping improvements and the development of a new sculpture garden prove that the TLC for TAC will require all of us.

If you have not seen it yet, the new landscaping along 7<sup>th</sup> Street is beginning to take on a whole new look. This landscaping is thanks to the volunteer efforts of Fran Phillips, Bill Richardson, and the Garden Gurus. Contributions to the effort included a donation from the Desert Vista Garden Club and in-kind gifts from Dragonfly Gardening.

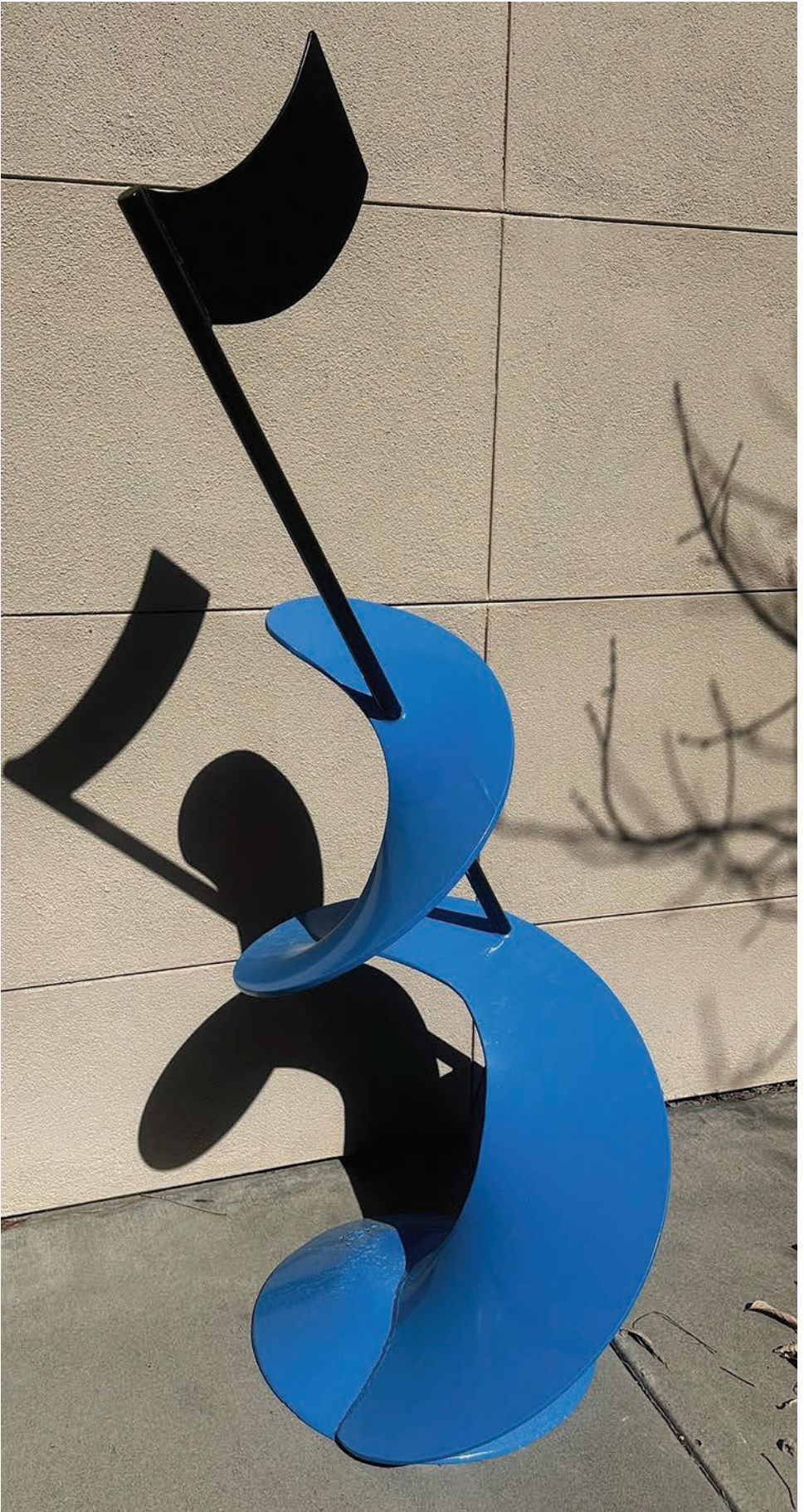
When complete, the landscaping renovation will include a new sculpture garden. As part of that garden, there is a sculpture titled *Music To My Eyes* by the recently departed William S. Morrow. He completed the piece in 1992 for Grand Junction's Art on the Corner program. The work is coming to The Art Center on a long-term loan. The sculpture garden is being developed with in-kind help from Joe Milton and Whitewater Building Material. A donation from Gail & Robert Brown made the project possible. Finally, the sculpture garden is being created in collaboration with Downtown Grand Junction.

We at The Art Center are excited for the new landscaping along 7<sup>th</sup> Street to begin blooming as warmer weather arrives. But this project has only been possible because of the efforts of an entire village. Let's keep the momentum going.

Thank you,

Peter Booth, Ph.D.

Assistant Director



William S. Morrow, *Music to My Eyes*



# Come Play With Us!



Nunsense II

When:  
August 14-16

Where:  
@ The Art Center



Romeo and Juliet

When:  
This Halloween

Where:  
@ The Art Center

## Summer Theatre Camps

the theatre project

### The Theatre Project Summer Camp 2026

June 1 - Aug 7

Age groups  
range from 6-18

For more advanced  
students, check out our  
website for our new Music  
Theatre Intensive Program!

Registration available on [theatreprojectgj.com](http://theatreprojectgj.com) now!

For information on sponsorship  
opportunities, contact Peter Booth  
at The Art Center

Learn More @  
[TheatreProjectGJ.com](http://TheatreProjectGJ.com)



# THE GRAND JUNCTION SYMPHONY PRESENTS SEASON 48



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# Everything Under the Stars

## Rocky Mountain Collage Society Annual Exhibit 2026

Sponsored by Elizabeth Owens and LeAnn & Les Zetmeir

May 8 - June 26

Opening Reception Friday, June 5, 6:30-9pm



Collage and assemblage artists are often asked, “Where do you get the materials to make your art?” Answers vary. These artists use all kinds of different things – junk mail, old books, objects found on desert walks, estate sale finds, letters and cards, their family’s history collections, magazines, and the list goes on. Some artists create paper using paint, printmaking, or stencils. These artists are constantly on a treasure hunt, looking for materials that they want the viewer to see in a new way or that will tell a story that draws the viewer in. Sometimes, when asked about materials, an artist will answer, “Everything under the stars.”

If you want to explore the history of collage and assemblage, explore the work of artists Pablo Picasso, Marcel Duchamp, Henri Matisse, Hannah Hoch, Joseph Cornell, Kurt Schwitters, Romare Bearden, Robert Rauschenberg, and Louise Nevelson. These artists were some of the early revolutionaries in the art of collage and assemblage.

In this annual exhibit, this year titled “Everything Under the Stars,” each artist has produced up to two

works that they have coordinated through color, material, texture, theme, or composition. This exhibit contains a variety of artistic styles that range from realistic to abstract, and everything between.

Come for a first look on May 8 (during normal business hours: 9am-4pm). Then join us for our First Friday reception on June 5 to hear the judge, Ami Purser, speak and to talk with the artists.

The Rocky Mountain Collage Society (RMCS) started in 2007 and is a group of over fifty artists from around Colorado who provide education and encourage the understanding of collage as a fine art form. The RMCS holds quarterly meetings that include demos on collage techniques and sharing about what is happening in the collage community. Along with their annual exhibit, they periodically have workshops and free “Collage Days” for their membership. The annual membership is \$35. To become a member, please email Diane Anglim at [dedeanglim@gmail.com](mailto:dedeanglim@gmail.com).

# **Kephart: Material & Form**

Sponsored by Kate McGinniss-Feinzig and Herb Feinzig

May 8 – June 26

Opening Reception Friday, June 5, 6:30-9pm

Jac Kephart's non-objective works have a familiarity to the landscape. While the works are not modeled off the image of our surroundings, the strong vertical compositions are reminiscent of the cracks and crevasses of Independence Monument. The horizontal paths conjure up the image of a skyline in which a few colored squares play the role of cottages in the distance. Experimental mediums provide texture while found objects rust,

transforming the composition year to year.

While these paintings may not have a directly observable meaning, they share compositional elements and coloration with plein-air and landscape painting traditions. While the artist may never have intended to relate the landscape in his creation of the works, they read as such compositionally.



Jac Kephart, *Panache II*

# Barbara Churchley

Sponsored by Patricia Powell

May 8 – June 26

Opening Reception Friday, June 5, 6:30-9pm



Barbara Churchley's work resists categorization. Her free and experimental personality drives her to explore a variety of mediums and styles. While celebrated for her botanical watercolor illustration, she is better known for her oil and pastel landscapes.

Her palette knife oils have energy with a vibrancy that never becomes overworked. Her use of light and shadow gives her compositions a sense of life. The handling of the paint is masterful, both delicate and smooth.

Churchley states, "Creating a work of art is, for me, an act of adventure, immersion into the unknown, a celebration at times, and a challenge always. It is fulfilling as only an act of creation can be. I throw off the

bowlines and set sail with canvas, color, brush, and palette knife to see where my journey will take me.

"When painting, I face the challenge of capturing it so that both you and I recognize it when we look at the artwork. Celebration occurs when that same thread that exists in you and me and the world around us is caught somewhere in that canvas covered with brushstrokes of color."

Churchley is a Master Signature Member of the Pastel Society of Colorado and a Signature Member of Plein Air Artists of Colorado, Plein Air Painters of New Mexico, and International Plein Air Painters. She is also a Signature Member in the prestigious American Impressionist Society.

# Contemporary Clay: 11<sup>th</sup> International Biennial Juried Exhibit 2026

Sponsored by Mary Beth and Bernie Buescher

May 28 – June 26

Juror: Eric Serritella

Opening Reception Friday, June 5, 6:30-9pm

This year's exhibit showcases the work of 25 artists chosen from submissions received from around the country.

This year's juror is Eric Serritella, an internationally recognized ceramic artist celebrated for his trompe l'oeil sculptures that transform clay into hyperrealistic birch, charred, and weathered logs. His meticulously hand-carved works explore the beauty of nature and the passage of time, earning acclaim for their lifelike textures and organic design. Serritella's art has been exhibited on five continents and is included in over two dozen museum collections, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the

Carnegie Museum of Art, and the Mint Museum. Honored as the 2016 Distinguished Artist in Ceramics by the James Renwick Alliance, his work has also been praised by The New York Times, Architectural Digest, and art historian Daniella Ohad. Learn more at [ericserritella.com](http://ericserritella.com). See page 27 for information about his upcoming workshop at TAC.

The Art Center hosts this international juried exhibition every other year, enriching ceramic art in the Grand Valley. Since 2006, Contemporary Clay has sought to showcase the latest developments in ceramic art nationwide, spanning the categories of functional vessels, sculptural ceramics, and installation art.



Eric Serritella, *Birch Bark*

## Seasons: Summer

Featuring work from TAC Permanent Collection

Sponsored by Pat Feinberg

May 8 – July 31

Opening Reception Friday, June 5, 6:30-9pm



With so many natural land features in western Colorado comes an equally plentiful pool of talented landscape painters. The Art Center has a large number of paintings in its permanent collection that cover the full range of seasons, by a variety of artists. Works will

be selected from the Art Center's permanent collection to reflect the changing landscape that we call home. We invite you to join us for the opening on May 8 for the first installment in this series of exhibitions, "Summer."

# Student/Instructor

An Exhibition of The Art Center's Students' and Instructors' Artwork

Sponsored by Elizabeth Owens and Gail & Barry Tuohig

July 3- 31

Opening Reception July 3, 6:30-9pm

Artwork drop-off: Tuesday, June 30, 10am-1pm

Artwork pick-up: Saturday, August 1, 10am-1pm

Calling all artists who have taken a class within the 2025-2026 course years. Now is the time to put your talents on display! This exhibition is open to all mediums and will include ceramics, drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, and more. Whatever the medium, you are encouraged to participate.

Visit The Art Center's website to register, and don't forget to list your instructor's name in the title of the work. We look forward to seeing your work on display.



Terry Shepherd, Raku Vessel

# Highlight: Permanent Collection Treasures - Kimonos

Kimonos come in many styles and colors. Inspired by hanfu, the traditional dress of the Han Chinese, this T-shaped garment is often stitched together from four flat sections that can be unstitched for washing, a practice called *arai-hari*.

The word kimono comes from two words, *ki* and *mono*, which together mean “to wear a thing.” The kimono is often secured at the waist with a belt called an *obi*.

In its permanent collection, The Art Center has one *tomesode* and several *yukata* kimonos. While similar in sleeve length, these two types of kimonos serve different purposes.

The *tomesode* is the Eastern equivalent of an evening gown, worn during formal events and ceremonies. The *kuro tomesode* in The Art Center’s collection is black and is worn only by married women. The patterns on this kimono are concentrated on the lower portion of the garment, and they are rarely seen above the hip.

The other type of kimono in TAC’s permanent collection is the *yukata*. Worn during the summer months, this stylish, colorful, lightweight garment is one of the most commonly-worn types of kimono. Its eye-catching floral pattern can be seen from collar to hem. This garment requires fewer layers and is generally made of unlined cotton.



# SAVE THE DATES



MUSIC

IN THE

GRAPEVINES

## 2026 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Tuesday - June 16 - Queen Bees

Tuesday - July 21 - Exit 42

Tuesday - August 18 - Feeding Giants

Wednesday - September 9 - Still House String Band



### TWO RIVERS WINERY (Redlands)

**Advance tickets - \$20**

**Tickets at the gate (if available) - \$25**

*For Information - [www.artcenterguild.org](http://www.artcenterguild.org)  
(970) 985-1015 or [sjroberts1@earthlink.net](mailto:sjroberts1@earthlink.net)*

**Concerts sponsored by**



**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ART CENTER**

# The Art Center of Western Colorado 2026

## Excursions



**July 21 – 23**

*Fun and Elegance in the  
San Juan Mountains*

This trip visits the Creede Repertory Theatre for a production of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, the Windsor Hotel, the Bar D Chuckwagon dinner theater, and the Durango & Silverton Railroad.

**Member Cost: \$1350;**

**Single Supplement: \$200**



**September 12**

*“We Built This City:”  
Historic Tour of Ouray*

The Art Center crew will follow in the footsteps of Ouray’s miners, cowboys, outlaws, and ladies of the evening who patronized the historic watering holes such as the Western Hotel, Elks Lodge, Beaumont, Outlaw, and the Wright Opera House.

**Member Cost: \$200**



**August 15-16**

*Weekend of Denver’s Creative Culture*

Join the Art Center crew for a fun-packed Denver weekend as we take in Meow Wolf, the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, the Adams Mystery Playhouse, and the Tony Award-winning musical comedy Spamalot while staying at the Art Hotel.

**Member Cost: \$800;**

**Single Supplement: \$100**



**September 26**

*Hot, Silly Times at  
Glenwood Vaudeville*

Ready yourself for everything from laugh-out-loud comedy to energetic dance routines, catchy tunes, and original acts. Dive into an evening of laughs, awe, and wonder as The Art Center Crew enjoys The Vaudeville Revue.

**Member Cost: \$90**



## **April 19–23, 2027**

### ***The Art Center Takes Manhattan***

Experience the magic of Broadway next year with The Art Center of Western Colorado! Join Executive Director Lee Borden and former Director of Visit Grand Junction Barbara Bowman for a five-day, four-night excursion to New York. Don't miss your chance to enjoy four world-class Broadway performances, visits to the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Museum of Broadway, a boat tour of Manhattan Island's architecture, and more. The tour includes meals at Redeye Grill, Sardi's, Tavern on the Green, and Joe Allen Restaurant.

The group will enjoy staying at the Westhouse near Central Park.

#### **What's Included:**

- Four Broadway performances (Choice of shows depends on availability)
- Lodging at Westhouse-201 West 55th Street, New York City
- Eight meals
- Visits to the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Museum of Broadway
- Architectural boat tour of Manhattan Island
- Airfare is not included.

***Member Cost: \$3,650;***

***Single Supplement: \$600***



### **Reserve your spot now!**

**Deposit Policy:** For a multi-day trip, you can choose either to pay the full amount at sign-up or a deposit of \$500 to reserve your space. If you choose to pay the deposit, the full amount will be due two months before the start of the trip. For a single-day trip, you must pay the full amount to reserve a space.

**Refund Policy:** For a single-day trip, any amount paid is fully refundable until one month prior to the date of the trip. For a multi-day trip, any amount paid is fully refundable until two months prior to the start date of the trip. Some trips may have exceptions to this policy.

For information, contact Peter Booth, 970-243-7337, ext. 4, or [peterbooth@gjartcenter.org](mailto:peterbooth@gjartcenter.org)

# Youth Education

## Summer Art Camp

A unique experience every week!

Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm

Tuition: \$137 member / \$161 non-member per week, per child

Ages: 5-7 and 8-12 (classes will be tailored to challenge and inspire)

Need-based scholarships available

Encourage your child's creativity with a summer of artistic exploration! Each week offers a new theme, hands-on projects, and expert instruction from professional artists and certified teachers. Campers will experiment with a variety of media, from painting and sculpture to printmaking and mixed media.

Dress for mess! (Including appropriate shoes!)

Bring lunch, a snack, and a water bottle.

At the end of each week, we celebrate with a special reception where families and friends can admire the campers' work. This experience fosters creativity and connection.

## Week-by-Week Themes:

### May 25-29: Let's Create

It's your chance to explore a variety of artistic techniques and materials, including clay, drawing, printmaking, glue batik, pastels, collage, painting, and more. Students will do some memorial projects.

(We will hold camp on Memorial Day to help our working parents.)

### June 1-5: Around the World in Five Days

This is your ticket to a whirlwind art adventure. Each day comprises the discovery of a new continent or country. Here are some of the countries and continents: Africa, Mexico, Japan, Germany, India, and Haiti. Students will learn how to use different media and techniques. Some of the projects include piñatas, origami, Sum-e, Mud cloths, drapery cloth, and more.

### June 8-12: World of Animation

Learn the techniques and materials for creating an animated figure. We will explore how to draw characters from K-Pop Demon Hunters, Zootopia, and the new movie Minions & Monsters. Students will be challenged to create their own monster. We will also look at the art of puppets.

### June 15-19: Messy Time

It's always a favorite and it's back again! Projects include glue suncatcher, bubble wrap body print, art with bubbles, art inspired by Jackson Pollock, tie-dye bandanas, charcoal drawing, resist painting, crumble paper art, human spiograph, and more.

### **June 22-26: Art Is Everywhere**

Cubism meets pixel art meets Minecraft. The class will explore how art movements relate to everyday life. We will create clay bowls, recycled steampunk bugs, abstract nature art, plein-air paintings, wearable art, space-inspired pastel drawings, and more.

### **June 29 – July 3: STEAM**

How does “A” work in STEAM? We will do STEAM projects during the week including hot rock art, egg drop, flip books, small house construction, catapult bowling, large bubbles, NASA-based projects, and decorative cardboard solar ovens. Students will also refine their drawing and painting skills.

### **July 6-10: Seeing and Caring About Our World**

Create art journals, grass-growing sculptures, suncatchers, rock art, large-animal collages, plein air, learn to draw animals, bird feeders, Andy Goldsworthy project, recycle plant containers, and art projects about The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, and Oceana. The art media to be explored include colored pencils, watercolor, and oil pastels.

### **July 13-17: Imagination**

In this fun and creative week, young artists will design and build their own worlds through drawing and painting. From faraway planets to underwater cities to their own superhero, students will explore both real and imaginary places while learning about color, composition, and storytelling through art. Students will experience using watercolor, acrylic paint, pastels, markers, and more.

### **July 20-24: The Travel and Adventure in Art**

Explore places and ideas with the skill of a travel art journalist. We will look at Hawaii, the San Diego Zoo, Disneyland, Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, and New York. Students will refine their technique while using the following media: watercolor, pastel, pencil, ink, colored pencil, and collage.

### **July 27-31: Adventures in Art & Crafts**

Work on fiber arts, painting, cartoon creation, graffiti art, and a unique drive-in theater project in which campers build cardboard cars and enjoy a movie!

### **Aug 3-7: A Little of Everything**

A grand finale week featuring drawing, clay painting, sculpture, Zentangles, oil pastels, clay projects, and creative writing exercises, with a final piece of writing to present to parents on Friday.



# Adult Education

## Old Master Painting

Instructor: Matthew Jones

Sunday, May 17, 10am-4pm

\$250 member / \$295 non-member

This one-day workshop, facilitated by The Art Center curator, Matthew Jones, brings to life techniques from Dutch Masters such as Rembrandt and Vermeer. Students will be led through a systematic approach to painting that will reinforce foundational skills associated with observational art. Through exploring still life, students will learn the essentials of composition, perspective, lighting, color theory, and modeling techniques that give classical Dutch works their unique look.

## Brush Making

Instructor: Matthew Jones

Sunday, June 14, 10am-4pm

\$275 member / \$315 non-member

All Materials Provided

Generational knowledge is passed down by master brush makers and is used to produce functional, high-quality tools for the artist. The finest brushes today are still completely made by hand. In this workshop you will learn the heavily guarded secrets used by professional brush manufacturers to produce high-quality artisan tools.

All materials for this workshop are provided, and students will walk away with a brush made during the course.



# Ceramic Birch Basket Workshop

Instructor: Eric Serritella

Saturday, June 6, and Sunday, June 7, 2026, 9am – 5pm

\$275

Eric Serritella will conduct a two-day hands-on workshop that will combine instructor demonstration and student participation in the creation of a birch bark basket from clay. He specializes in hand carved sculptures, transforming clay into birch, charred, and weathered logs. Serritella's one-of-a-kind pieces are known for their hyperrealism, and for their exquisite organic design and incredibly lifelike textures. He is a fun, engaging, and mindful presenter who is sure to help bring new techniques, ideas, and life to your creations.

For more information contact Terry Shepherd at [tshepherd@gjartcenter.org](mailto:tshepherd@gjartcenter.org), 970-243-7337 x1, or to register visit at [gjartcenter.org](http://gjartcenter.org).

## Art Uncorked: Southwestern Native American Art

Peter Booth, Ph.D.

Mondays 5:30-6:30, June 1 to July 27, skipping June 29

\$100 member / \$145 non-member

The inhabitants of what is now the American Southwest were creating art long before the coming of Europeans. In this eight-class program, we will explore the history and evolution of Southwest Native American Art in its many forms from its pre-Columbian past to today.

Instructor email: [peterbooth@gjartcenter.org](mailto:peterbooth@gjartcenter.org)





**If it's your first time taking a ceramics class at The Art Center, one 25-lb. bag of clay will be provided. For all students, 1500 cu. in. of glaze firing is included (firing fee after 1500 cu. in. is 2 cents/cu. in.). Ceramics students will need a pottery tool kit (Kemper preferred), not covered by tuition and available from The Art Center Gift Gallery for \$31.25 plus tax. Applies for all onsite ceramics classes, excluding offsite and FARM courses.**

## **Fundamentals In Wheel Throwing**

Beginner/Intermediate

\$242 member / \$287 non-member

Ashton Means

Mondays, 6:30-9:30pm, June 1 – July 27

Supplies required: basic pottery toolkit and a towel

This course is designed for both beginning and intermediate students. The projects and demonstrations will be geared toward the skill level and interest of each student. Throughout this course students will learn techniques for wheel-throwing and glaze application, while forming a strong understanding of materials and firing practices associated with the medium. We will discuss in detail, during demonstrations and projects, the design principles for functional pottery, the fundamentals of form and form alteration, as well as aesthetic surface design techniques. Beginners will be encouraged to focus on bowls, cups, and mugs as a method for gaining comfortability with the materials. Intermediate students can continue to explore these basic forms or stretch their abilities with more complex forms and techniques.

Open Studio time is encouraged to practice skills learned in class. Sign up via the Sign-Up Genius email you receive prior to the first class.

Instructor email: [potterybyashton@gmail.com](mailto:potterybyashton@gmail.com)

Sarai Cruzan

Tuesdays 1:00-4:00pm, June 2 – July 28

Supplies required: basic pottery toolkit and a towel

This course is for both beginner and intermediate students. Beginners focus on simple forms (mugs with handles, and bowls), glazes, and glazing techniques. Intermediate students receive instruction on techniques they want to hone, such as lidded vessels, plates, or stacked forms. Throughout the session, students are introduced to different surface designs to enhance one's work. Instruction will be tailored towards the students' interests.

Open Studio time is encouraged to practice skills learned in class. Sign up via the Sign-Up Genius email you receive prior to the first class.

Instructor email: saraicruzan@gmail.com

Gary Andrews

Tuesdays 6:30-9:30pm, June 2 – July 28

Supplies required: basic pottery toolkit, and a towel

Escape into the world of clay. Students learn the basics of hand-building, then dive into the skills needed to throw fundamental forms that have been used through the ages. At times Gary will provide pre-thrown pots for students to practice glazing. Come relax and tap into your right brain.

Open Studio time is encouraged to practice skills learned in class. Sign up via the Sign-Up Genius email you receive prior to the first class.

Instructor email: garyartc@gmail.com

Terry Shepherd

Thursdays 1:00-4:00pm, June 4 – July 30

Supplies required: basic pottery toolkit, towel, notebook

This course is for both entry level beginners and intermediate students with previous experience in throwing and hand-building. Students will focus on the fundamentals of technique in throwing forms and explore hand-building skills. They will also learn surface design including decorative slip techniques and a wide variety of other approaches. Students will also receive instruction in glaze application and material properties of glaze elements and firing process. Basic vessel forms for mugs, bowls, pitchers, oil bottles, and other forms will be studied in detail. Instruction is tuned to the individual to help students develop confidence in exploring the boundless and curious potential of clay and the ceramic process in their pursuit of creative expression! Students will engage in constructive critique and challenge themselves in order to improve their skill level.

Open Studio time is encouraged to practice skills learned in class. Sign up via the Sign-Up Genius email you receive prior to the first class.

Instructor email: tshepherd@gjartcenter.org

Sarah D'Allesandro

Thursdays, 6:30-9:30pm, June 4 – July 30

Supplies required: basic pottery toolkit and a towel

This course is for both beginner and intermediate students. Beginners focus on simple forms (mugs with handles, and bowls), glazes, and glazing techniques. Intermediate students receive instruction on techniques they want to hone, such as lidded vessels, plates, or stacked forms. Throughout the session, students are introduced to different surface designs to enhance one's work. Instruction will be tailored towards the students' interests.

Open Studio time is encouraged to practice skills learned in class. Sign up via the Sign-Up Genius email you receive prior to the first class.

Instructor email: [sjcoffin@gmail.com](mailto:sjcoffin@gmail.com)

## Intermediate Wheel Throwing

Terry Shepherd

Wednesdays 9:30am-12:30pm, June 3 – July 29

\$242 member / \$287 non-member

Supplies required: basic pottery toolkit, towel, notebook

Take this course if you are confident when it comes to wedging and centering, can throw a 6-8" cylinder using 2-3lbs. of clay, and have experience with basic hand tools and slab rollers. Techniques such as altered throwing are introduced. Come with an open mind, ready to engage in constructive critique and explore and develop a more in-depth approach to ceramics.

Open Studio time is encouraged to practice skills learned in class. Sign up via the Sign-Up Genius email you receive prior to the first class.

Instructor email: [tshepherd@gjartcenter.org](mailto:tshepherd@gjartcenter.org)



# Advanced Wheel Throwing

Mary Kain

Wednesdays 6:30-9:30pm, June 3 – July 29

\$242 member / \$287 non-member

Supplies required: basic pottery toolkit, towel and a notebook

Prospective students should have strong competency in throwing skills with a variety of stoneware clays and forms. They should have a fundamental understanding of processes and mechanics behind cone 10 firing. Students should be self-directed to establish improvement goals. They will engage in constructive critique and challenge themselves to improve their skills.

To register for this class, you must be pre-approved. If you are not already on the list and wish to be considered, please contact Terry Shepherd, Director of Ceramics. You must register for this class in person or by phone; only people on the pre-approved list will be allowed to register. Simply being on the list does not guarantee a spot in class. Registration is first come, first served. Early registration is still encouraged to ensure a spot in the class.

Open Studio time is encouraged to practice skills learned in class. Sign up via the Sign-Up Genius email you receive prior to the first class.

Instructor email: [mckain7957@yahoo.com](mailto:mckain7957@yahoo.com)

**Registration for this class will start on Tuesday, May 5, one week before all other classes.**

# Advanced Hand Building Self Study

Wednesdays 1:00-4:00pm, June 3 – July 29

\$200 member / \$245 non-member

This self-study session is for advanced hand-building students who can work independently on projects. Students should understand the properties of clay and how to address problems that occur and be able to demonstrate appropriate use of glazes, stains, and slips. There will be no instructor for this class; students will work collaboratively as they make their favorite artwork or try new things. There will be raku the last week if students wish to raku some pieces.

To register for this class, you must be pre-approved. If you are not already on the list and wish to be considered, please contact Terry Shepherd, Director of Ceramics. You must register for this class in person or by phone; only people on the pre-approved list will be allowed to register. Simply being on the list does not guarantee a spot in class. Registration is first come, first served. Early registration is still encouraged to ensure a spot in the class.

Open Studio time is encouraged to practice skills learned in class. Sign up via the Sign-Up Genius email you receive prior to the first class.

**Registration for this class will start on Tuesday, May 5, one week before all other classes.**

# FARM Classes

*Off-site at Means Pottery, Fruita Arts Recreation Marketplace*

*158 S Park Square*

*Fruita, CO*

**8-week courses**

\*Supplies required for each of the below listed courses include: 1 bag of cone 10 clay, a basic tool kit, and a towel/apron. We will have clay available for purchase as well as studio clay that is mixed in-house. We will have some studio tools available, but it is best to purchase your own tool kit. Some of the ones we recommend are listed below (both are available on Amazon.) Note: Clay is not included for offsite classes offered through The Art Center.

U.S. Art Supply 26-piece Pottery & Clay Sculpting Tool Sets with Canvas Cases

Kemper 9 Pc Pottery Tool Set w/Fettling Knife for Ceramic, Polymer Clay #ATPTK9

## The Way of Clay

Sarah Decker

Wednesdays, 10:00am-12:30pm, May 27- July 15

\$215

This is a beginner / intermediate class where we will learn the basics of wheel throwing. Beginner potters can expect to explore fundamental shapes and techniques with the goal of learning and practicing a solid foundation for their ceramic ambitions. Intermediate students can expect a more personalized approach, where we can work on more specific ideas and needs as well as refine and improve existing techniques.

Please be advised there is no firing fee for this class; due to this, students have an allowance of 2 Cubic Feet of shelving provided for storage and Kiln Firing.

Instructor email: [meanspottery@gmail.com](mailto:meanspottery@gmail.com)

# The Nitty Gritty

Registration opens **Tuesday, May 12**

*Last day to register is May 28*

**Registration:** Registration can be completed online at [gjartcenter.org](http://gjartcenter.org), over the phone, or in person at The Art Center. For phone registration, call 970-243-7337, x. 2. To register in person, stop by during gallery hours, Tuesday-Saturday 9am-4pm.

**Payment:** Payment can be made by American Express, Visa, Mastercard, Discover, check, or cash. Class space will not be reserved without full payment. Please be aware that classes require a minimum number of students and are subject to cancellation. The best way to ensure that the class you are interested in does not get canceled is to register early, and don't forget to urge a friend to sign up!

**Cancellation Policy:** To cancel a class or workshop registration, notify The Art Center at least 14 days before the start of the class or workshop. If given the required 14-day notice, The Art Center will issue class credit in full or will refund your payment minus the registration fee (\$15 for adults and \$5 for children). No refunds or class credit will be issued for cancellations made within 14 days of the start of the class or workshop. If you register

for a class or workshop within the 14-day period, you will receive no refund or class credit for cancellation. Sorry, no refunds or class credits for no-shows. This registration policy helps instructors plan and prepare for upcoming classes, ensuring you receive ample notice if a class has insufficient registration.

**Art Supplies:** Supply lists for each class are available on our website. Unless otherwise specified, the student is responsible for purchasing art supplies. Some supplies are available at The Art Center Gift Gallery.

For first-time students only, tuition for ceramics classes includes one, 25-lb. bag of clay. For all students, 1500 cu. in. of glaze firing is included in tuition (firing fee after 1500 cu. in. is 2 cents/cu. in.) Ceramics students will need a pottery tool kit (Kemper preferred), not covered by tuition and available from The Art Center Gift Gallery for \$35.99 plus tax.

Need-based scholarships are available. Visit our website's scholarships page for more information!

**We love early registration!**

# TAC Highlights Gallery



# *Be Part of the Arts*

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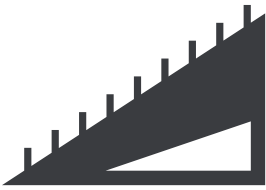
Becki Tonozzi

## **In-Kind Donations**

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*If you want to be “Part of the Arts” by sponsoring, donating, or setting up a planned gift, contact Peter Booth, Assistant Director (970-243-7337, ext.4; peterbooth@gjartcenter.org).*

***Thank you for being “Part of the Arts”***



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CENTER

1803 N 7th Street  
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