

ART MATTERS



Magazine of The Art Center
of Western Colorado

Volume 11, Issue 1
Winter 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

Operational funding provided in part by:

Tuesdays are free to everyone thanks to a generous sponsorship by Home Loan



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On The Cover: Terry Shepherd, *Salt-vapored Vessel*

Most nonprofits depend heavily on the hard work of volunteers to help the organization meet the demands of its mission. The Art Center is no exception. I would like to highlight a few groups we seldom mention.

One group that we don't talk about much, and we should, is our Permanent Collection Committee, which fulfills many functions that are critical to the success of one of The Art Center's most important duties: the acquisition, care, and display of our growing permanent collection. Few understand the number of hours required to adequately care for all the pieces, safely store them, catalog and protect them, create new and exciting exhibitions of work from the Permanent Collection, and help install and deinstall those exhibitions. And, really, that list just scratches the surface. This group of volunteers is simply amazing, and I don't know what we'd do without them.

Another group of volunteers is in our ceramics department. These volunteers mix clay, load and unload kilns, make glazes, clean and organize the studio, and much more.

Volunteers help Rachel Egelston with children's and special needs classes. Others help with landscaping jobs and taking care of the grounds, cleaning, washing windows, setting up events, and on and on.

Our Board of Trustees and The Art Center Endowment Foundation Board, all volunteers, help keep The Art Center moving in the right direction (the Trustees) and financially stable for the future (the Foundation).

Our largest volunteer group is The Art Center Guild, a group of 70 ladies (and one man), which is a force to be reckoned with! These wonderful folks are entirely responsible for running the summer Music in the Grapevines concert series every year. They provide bartenders and greeters at the front door for First Fridays and other events, and create wonderful food for our First Friday receptions. For the Annual Holiday Fine Art and Craft Fair, the Guild organizes and runs the Not So Starving Artists room, sells hand-sewn treasures and home-made baked goods, and sells meals from our kitchen. The Guild is also instrumental in making our annual Benefit Gala and Fine Art Auction a success by providing amazing food, helping with decorations, and providing volunteers to run the silent auction.

The Guild stepped up to raise money, fund, and oversee the remodel of our catering kitchen. Now they have taken on the challenge of renovating our restrooms, which are in dire need of attention. Recently, the Guild gave The Art Center \$20,000 to replace failing computers and file server.

I know I'm missing tasks that all these groups tackle. And I know I'm forgetting to list other groups of volunteers who are critical for the success of The Art Center.

But please know that the staff and I appreciate each and every one of you, more than we can say.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

Lee Borden

Executive Director

The Art Center of Western Colorado

Strengthen the Power of Art: Give to The Art Center's End-of-Year Donation Drive

"Any form of art is a form of power; it has impact, it can affect change – it can not only move us, it makes us move."- Pablo Picasso

While art can be a powerful force for the individual, Pablo Picasso's quote reminds us that art can and is larger than us. Art can and does influence the world around us. You can help shape how art impacts the world.

Art and Community

On several occasions in our local history, we have seen how art has impacted our community. Sculptures installed downtown by Dave Davis and others helped Grand Junction lift itself out of the slump created by the 1982 oil shale bust. Art installed by the Legends committee helped elevate some of Mesa County's unsung heroes. Creations cultivated and promoted by The Art Center profoundly impacts our community every day. Keep this tradition going.

Remember The Art Center in This Season of Giving

As we enter this season of giving, we invite you to envision how the arts can help improve our world. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a significant impact. Please consider supporting The Art Center during this season of annual gifts and holiday cheer.

End-of-Year Donation Drive Grant Matching Challenge

Thanks to donations put forward by some Art Center leaders, we have been blessed with a \$15,000 Challenge Grant. For every dollar raised via the End-of-Year Donation Drive, that dollar will be matched up to \$15,000. Help us unlock this challenge grant by donating to TAC in this year's End-of-Year Donation Drive.

Ways to Give an End-of-Year Donation to The Art Center

- Mail your donation to The Art Center, 1803 North 7th Street, Grand Junction, 81501
- Give online at: <https://canvas.gjartcenter.org/donate>
- Participate in Colorado Gives:
<https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/TheArtCenter>
- Call: 970-243-7337, ext. 2
- Visit us at The Art Center – 1803 N. 7th Street, Grand Junction, CO
- Consider mentioning The Art Center in your will (and let us know)

Thank you for your continued support and for helping us enrich our community through the arts.

Kind regards,

Peter Booth, Ph.D.

Assistant Director

The Art Center Foundation Endowment Fund



The Art Center Foundation Board is busy building for our future while honoring our past through thoughtful stewardship of legacy gifts. We are adding new members, working to be more visible, and staying mission-focused.

The Foundation is exclusively committed to the long-term success of The Art Center by financially supporting its operations to ensure the long-term viability of TAC, its permanent collection, and its educational programs. Through the acquisition, management, and

distribution of legacy gifts and financial contributions, we are proud to support The Art Center, where art, learning, and community come together.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can invest in the long-term growth and funding of The Art Center, please reach out to: LeAnn Zetmeir (Art Center Foundation President) at leannzetmeir@gmail.com or Peter Booth at 970-243-7337, ext. 4 or by email at peterbooth@gjartcenter.org.

Be Part of the Arts

Thank You to all our supporters who sponsored or donated in September and October 2025

Project Sponsors for 2025

The Art Center Guild—
Studio Colorado Sound
System

The Art Center Guild—
TAC Computer System

Exhibition Sponsors:

Pamela Blythe—An
Exhibition of Works by
Bud Markos

Blythe Group and Peter
Icenogle—An Exhibition
of Works by Bud Markos

Terri Chinn—Lance
Williams: Emerging
Artist

Terri Chinn—An
Exhibition of Works by
Bud Markos

Mary Crumbaker—Lance
Williams: Emerging
Artist

Mary Crumbaker—An
Exhibition of Works by
Bud Markos

Joanna & Gerald Daub—
Western Colorado
Watercolor Society
Members' Show

Patricia Feinberg—
Permanent Collection:
Bishop Collection and
Other New Acquisitions

Melissa & Phil Jones—
Brush & Palette Club
78th Annual Fine Art
Show

Dr. Ty Talcott—Western
Colorado Watercolor
Society Members Show

Deborah Tittle—A Clay
Odyssey

Patricia Tucker—Lance
Williams: Emerging
Artist

Cheryl & Dan Wenzinger—
Pat Stelter: A
Retrospective

Supporters who donated \$10,000 or more

The Art Center Guild

Tanya Davis

Supporters who donated \$5,000 or more

Gail & Barry Tuohig

Delphine & Joe Wharton

Supporters who donated \$2,000 or more

Laura May Bacon

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Terri Chinn

Kay Farris

Sandra June

Janice Koppang

Judy & Joe O'Donnell

Sally & Tony Prinster

Allison & Tim Sarmo

Debra Clark & D. Randall
Spydell

Supporters who donated \$100 or more

Mary and Dean Harris

Karen Lee & Dennis L.
Kiefer

Janice Koppang

Roger Milway

Cindy & Michael Murray

Elizabeth Inskeep & Chris
Mueller

Brann Johnson & Leslie
Randolph

Lhakpa Sherpa

Sharon Sollenbarger

Lynn Swanson & Joe
Arnett

Christine Tuthill

LeAnn Zetmeir

Supporters who have donated in memory of a loved one

Jan Dotson, in memory of
Katie Haas

Richard Haas, in memory
of Katie Haas

Roger Milway, in memory
of Dr. Timothy Brady

LeAnn Zetmeir, in
memory of Dr. Timothy
Brady

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

Thank you for being "Part of the Arts"

New Trustee Board Members

Allison Sarmo:

Allison Sarmo was the Cultural Arts Coordinator for the City's Commission on Arts and Culture for 19 years, working with local arts organizations and artists, administering grants and the City's public art program, and managing Art on the Corner. She has served on several boards including the Avalon Theatre Foundation Board, the Grand Valley Creative Alliance, and the Colorado Creative Industries Council. She enjoyed taking ceramics classes at The Art Center and, years ago, acting in The Art Center Theater community theater plays. She is now retired.



Carrie Phillipe:

Carrie Phillipe was a paralegal for 15 years in Minnesota and Nevada before earning a BS in Accounting at Mesa State College. She stayed in Grand Junction and worked as a public account for three years before transitioning to Internal Auditor at Rocky Mountain Health Plans for four years and St. Mary's Medical Center for 10 years. Internal auditing was always a learning opportunity as she had to research and understand every area in the organization. Carrie has a passion for transparency and integrity and providing fact-based results. In retirement she enjoys hiking, rafting/kayaking and skiing with her husband. Carrie also enjoys gardening, reading, and home remodeling as well as daily walks with her two golden doodles. She looks forward to "safeguarding The Art Center's mission with a fresh perspective."



Pat Tucker:

Pat Tucker moved to Grand Junction with her husband in 1989. They had visited three years earlier and liked it so much that they decided to return with their family. They purchased a bulk bag manufacturing company and expanded it from a seven-person staff to over 200 employees. After selling that company, she and her husband went into real estate. With her son, they also started building homes and commercial buildings. Pat has served on the boards for Hilltop, Business Incubator, and Grand Junction Economic Partnership, among others. She also previously served on The Art Center board, so we are now pleased to see her return. Pat absolutely loves Grand Junction, and "I will continue doing whatever I can to support the remarkable place I am proud to call home."



TAC Highlights





The Art Center's Colorado Gives Goal for 2025 is \$20,000

Last year, we raised over \$14,300 through Colorado Gives. With your help, we can achieve \$20,000 for this year!

Use Colorado Gives to Help The Art Center Grow

One of the best ways you can support The Art Center of Western Colorado is by participating in Colorado Gives. By donating, you join a statewide effort to boost our community. This online platform makes donating easy and increases its effect through an Incentive Fund that boosts the impact of your gift. This year, Colorado Gives Day is Tuesday, December 9—mark it as the top day to give!

Incentive Fund

From November 1 to December 9, every donation you make will be boosted by a \$1M+ Incentive Fund, provided by the Colorado Gives Foundation and FirstBank. Each nonprofit will get a share of the fund based on its percentage of the total amount raised.

Matching Colorado Gives Donations from TAC Challenge Fund

A group of Art Center supporters has created a TAC Challenge Fund specifically for Colorado Gives Day. For every dollar raised through Colorado Gives, that dollar will be matched by the Challenge Fund (until the fund is exhausted). Help us unlock these challenge funds by donating to The Art Center on this year's Colorado Gives Day.

Monthly Giving

When you set up a new monthly donation, the Colorado Gives Foundation will match your first monthly contribution up to \$100, with a total matching pool of \$250,000 across all organizations! This is a great opportunity to double your impact and support TAC.

How to Get Started

1. Visit our donation page at:
<https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/TheArtCenter/welcome>
2. Choose to give once or set up a monthly donation.
3. If you select monthly giving, your first donation will be matched automatically.

With your help, we can reach our \$20,000 goal!

Thank you for your support and for making this Colorado Gives Day the most successful yet for The Art Center.

Jubidabi's Birthday



A story of joy, color,
and imagination.

100% of proceeds benefit
The Art Center of Western Colorado

Grab your copy today!
Available in the Gift Gallery or Online!



Join us for a

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Party

DECEMBER | 31 | 7:00PM
TOAST 10:00PM

Hosted by
The Art Center &
The Theatre Project

1803 N 7th St,
Grand Junction, CO 81501

Sponsored by





Sinners & Saints

Saturday, Jan 31

7:30PM

Jeneve Rose

Saturday, Feb 28

7:30PM

Marc Allen Band

Saturday, April 11

7:30PM

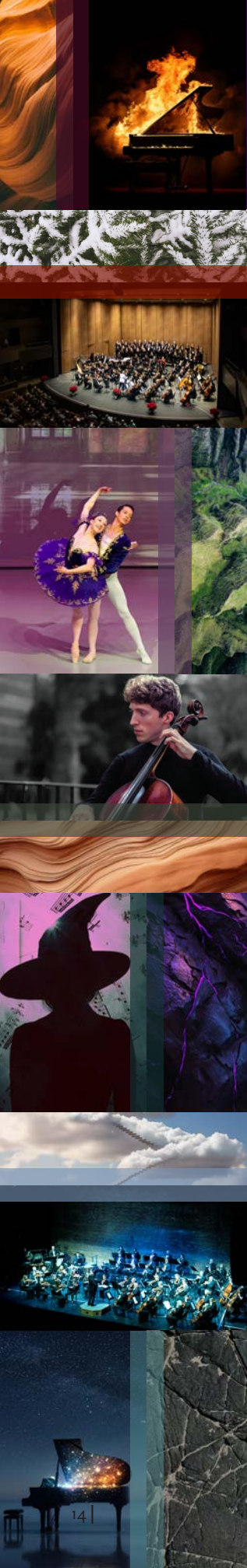


For tickets and more information:

(970) 243-7337, ext 2

gjartcenter.org

Tickets \$25 in advance (\$30 at the door)



PRESENTING SEASON 47

GJ **GRAND** **SO** **JUNCTION** **SYMPHONY** **ORCHESTRA**

POPS 1 - INSIDE THE SNOWGLOBE

A world where snowmen are alive and every note feels like a flurry of holiday magic. The Chorale joins symphony for this holiday tradition.

Saturday | December 13, 2025 | 7:30 pm

Sunday | December 14, 2025 | 3:00 pm

The Asteria Theatre

POPS 2 - CRESCENDO - BEWITCHING BROADWAY

A Broadway style evening of film and screen favorites with guest vocalists

Saturday | January 17th, 2026 | 7:30 pm

Sunday | January 18th, 2026 | 3:00 pm

The Asteria Theatre

CLASSICS 3 - ONCE UPON A SYMPHONY

GJSO and CWPAC Ballet bring classic Mother Goose Fairy Tales to life with the music of Maurice Ravel.

Saturday | February 7th, 2026 | 7:30 pm

Sunday | February 8th, 2026 | **1:00 pm**

The Asteria Theatre

CLASSICS 4 - SOUNDTRACK OF THE LAND

All American musical expedition past stunning musical landscapes featuring Victor Herbert's cello concerto by Jason Pegis.

Saturday | March 7th, 2026 | 7:30 pm

Sunday | March 8th, 2026 | 3:00 pm

The Avalon Theatre

CLASSICS 5 - SPELLBOUND

Prokofiev's rebellious virtuosity meets raw intensity as Concertmaster Krinke casts a spellbinding piano performance. Schumann's lush 4th Symphony dazzles, part precision, part magic.

Saturday | March 28th, 2026 | 7:30 pm

Sunday | March 29th, 2026 | 3:00 pm

The Asteria Theatre

CLASSICS 6 - HEAVEN MEETS EARTH

Grand Junction Symphony and our full Chorus perform Duruflé's transcendent Requiem.

Saturday | April 25, 2026 | 7:30 pm

Sunday | April 26, 2026 | 3:00 pm

The Asteria Theatre

**GET YOUR
TICKETS NOW!**



www.gjso.org



970.243.6787



Come Play With Us!



Mary Poppins

When:
December 19-21

Where:
@ The Avalon



Time Stops at Midnight Event

When:
December 31

Where:
@ The Art Center



Rabbit Hole

When:
January 9-11

Where:
@ The Art Center



Sing a Song of Valentine's Event

When:
February 14

Where:
@ The Art Center

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

Learn More @
TheatreProjectGJ.com



Shepherd +1: Clay Vessels 2025

Terry Shepherd — Ceramics and Philip Carlton — Paintings

Sponsored by Chuck and Patti Shear / Shear Inc.

December 5, 2025 — January 24, 2026

Opening Reception Friday, December 5, 6:30-9:00pm

Terry Shepherd, The Art Center's Director of Ceramics, has led the Ceramics studio since 1984. With a career spanning 54 years, Shepherd is a highly respected ceramic artist and educator, having studied and collaborated with Paul Soldner and other notable ceramic artists. Prior to returning to Grand Junction in 1983, Shepherd co-founded his first studio in El Jebel, Colorado, where he worked from 1972 to 1983. Each year in December, Shepherd exhibits new work along with an invited artist. This year he has invited Philip Carlton, a Fruita-area oil painter, to exhibit work alongside his. Known for his plein air paintings of contemporary landscapes, Carlton is a signature member of the Laguna Plein Air Painters Association.

Shepherd's part of the exhibit features a wide variety of ceramic forms and firing processes, a majority of which are highly crafted functional stoneware vessels. This year's exhibit emphasizes altered sculptural forms fired in alternative low-fire salt-vapored processes, evincing an attitude of embracing the natural fumed results of the action of the flames and kiln atmosphere. Shepherd fires much of his work in alternative firing processes such as low-fire salt-vapor, Raku, and saggar firing. His high curiosity and pursuit of serendipitous results leads him to take risks and allow the firing process to be a major player in the final color and shading of his

clay forms, often with surprising embellishment! He embraces the notion of "with confident means, unexpected results"!

Exemplifying this experimental attitude are his low-fire salt-vapored and saggar-fired work. This work requires deliberate placement of pieces in the direct flame path of the kiln, where vapors from sodium, copper, and other metal oxides caress the surface of the clay. This process results in sublime and dramatic embellishment, recording the drama of the flame path and creating lush shading as reduced copper and other elements—such as salt-brined grasses and steel wool—interact with the clay and slip.

In contrast, his functional work in glazed stoneware and porcelain is a testament to his expertise. It illustrates his demands for high craftsmanship and celebration of gestural abstract brushwork in design and color.

Shepherd explains, "I like the work to communicate a personal and visual language of the maker and firing process while celebrating the strength and essence of form and lively spirit of clay and its ability to dress up, titillate our senses and embellish life as enhanced by the hand. I aim to make work that excites and brings joy and mystery to the viewer."

About this year's guest, Shepherd says, "I'm pleased and honored to have Philip Carlton exhibit his work

with me. He has shown work before at The Art Center, and I like his approach to painting landscapes. He has a very personal and expressive interaction in his rendering of landscape painting.”

Of Carlton’s work it has been said, “He sees working from life as more than just a novelty or exercise. His plein air paintings capture the passage of time over many hours in the field, while his studio work combines experience from multiple locations and days. Every part of a scene is painted when the light and color feel most elegant, making for images which often transcend the limits of reality and break the rules of light and color.”

Every painting that Carlton makes is an essay on how a photograph alone cannot truly record the human experience of being lost in the vastness of the West. Painters can do what photographers cannot. In paint, Carlton explores the flow of time and lets colors evolve into the surreal. An impression of a

sunrise is the totality of a morning, not a brief memory of a singular moment.

Carlton’s work has been shown in a wide array of exhibits and in many publications, including in *Plein Air Magazine*: “Philip Alexander Carlton – Paintings with a Why” (Oct/Nov 2017).

Shepherd’s work is in many private and public collections nationwide including The Soldner Center for Art and Innovation (Aspen, Colorado) and HopeWest Hospice resident facility (Grand Junction, Colorado). He has conducted many workshops in various parts of the U.S. and was an invited artist in *Standing Room Only*, the 2004 annual exhibition at Scripps College in Claremont, California. This exhibition honored the legacy of Paul Soldner—artist, educator, innovator and inventor—whose pioneering work profoundly influenced the development of twentieth-century ceramic art and the emergence of Western Raku.



Terry Shepherd, *Raku Vessel*

Kephart: Works in Pastel

An Exhibition of work from the Jac Kephart Collection

Sponsored by Kate McGinniss-Feinzig & Herb Feinzig

December 5, 2025 – January 30, 2026

Opening reception Friday, December 5, 6:30-9pm



The works in this exhibition highlight the amazing talent that was Jac Kephart. While Kephart was a master of multiple artistic disciplines, his work in pastel showcases his love of the landscape and knowledge of the medium. While best known for his abstract compositions, his work in realism gives the viewer a glimpse into his thinking process as it pertains to design, color, shape, and angles that form a pleasing

composition. Many of the same elements that make his objective work successful are clearly visible in his well-known abstraction.

The Art Center is honored to have the opportunity to share the works of this remarkable artist with the community. The addition of the Jac Kephart Gallery has aided in our ongoing mission to support arts and culture in the Grand Valley.

Locals: Works on Paper

Sponsored by Lynn Brownson and Kevin Tinsley, Foresight Apartments

December 5, 2025- January 26, 2026

Opening reception Friday, December 5, 6:30-9pm

It is time to get creative with paper! In the hands of artists, this versatile material serves as a basis for a variety of artistic interpretations. Whether the medium is watercolor, ink, pencil, print or collage, paper is the most widely used material in the art world. The Art Center invites you to submit work for display in this celebration of paper and its many uses.

This exhibition is open to all two-dimensional artists working with paper as a primary medium. Work submitted may include: watercolor, collage, ink, print, and/or any other work constructed in paper. The cost is \$5 for up to 3 entries. Works should not be so fragile that they cannot be displayed, and all works must be framed with a wire for hanging.



Monica Esposito, *Greg's Boat*



Happy Trails

A Collaborative Exhibition between The Art Center of Western Colorado and Museums of Western Colorado

Sponsored by Pat Feinberg, Del & Joe Warton

December 5, 2025 – April 17, 2026

Opening reception December 5, 6:30 pm-9 pm

Many recognize the early to mid-20th century as the peak of Western art, with Colorado exemplifying this pinnacle through the work of Harold Bryant and Jack Roberts.

Harold Bryant (1894-1950), who grew up and worked in the Grand Valley, has been called a “maverick with a paint brush.” Bryant’s art captures the “realistic” cowboy working with cattle and horses on the open range.

Meanwhile, Jack Roberts (1920-2000), who settled in Redstone, Colorado, specialized in telling the “story” of the West. His vibrant, colorful paintings ranged from

cowboys and Indians to miners and historic expeditions. Shared in this exhibition are two series of works that convey unique stories. One depicts the life of Ute native people throughout the twelve months of the year. The second series recounts the saga of President Theodore Roosevelt’s 1905 hunting trip to the Glenwood Springs area.

Experience the beauty and excitement of early Colorado through the works of Harold Bryant and Jack Roberts in this unique exhibition featuring artistic treasures from both The Art Center of Western Colorado and Museums of Western Colorado.

Spider Woman & Trading Posts

A Collaborative Exhibition of works from the permanent collections of The Art Center of Western Colorado and Museums of Western Colorado

January 17 – March 21, 2026

Exhibition showing at Museum of the West

This collaborative exhibition explores how Diné (Navajo) weaving styles developed. Before the United States acquired what is now the American Southwest, Diné textiles were highly sought-after as trade items. According to Diné beliefs, "Spider Woman" instructed the People on how to weave on the first loom from sky, earth, sunrays, and lightning. When traders began establishing trading posts across the Navajo Reservation, they encouraged weavers to create unique patterns associated with their specific trading posts. This

practice spread, and by the mid-20th century, dozens of regional patterns had emerged as part of the Regional Weaving Styles. Today, with improved transportation on the Reservation, Diné weavers have moved beyond strict adherence to regional patterns, more freely mixing styles and experimenting with wholly new designs.

Explore the diverse beauty and stunning artwork of Diné weavers in this unique exhibition, showcasing treasures from both The Art Center of Western Colorado and Museums of Western Colorado.



Ron Beckman Art Center Members' Show

Sponsored by Chuck & Kendra McDaniel and The Art Center Foundation

February 6 – 27, 2026

Artwork drop-off: February 3, 10am-1pm

Artwork pick-up: February 28, 10am-1pm

Artwork dropped off outside of these hours will not be exhibited



Calling all artists! Registration is now open for The Ron Beckman Art Center Members' Show 2026. Artists must be current members of The Art Center. Each artist can submit up to two works. All mediums and styles are welcome. Because of the size of this exhibit, all spaces will be utilized, including galleries and runway spaces within the Center's facility. We encourage all members of The Art Center to submit your work to this year's annual Ron Beckman Art Center Members' Show. We are thrilled each year to have the

opportunity to provide gallery space to honor our members, whether you are a beginner or professional artist. This exhibition is an opportunity to share your work with the community at large.

Works must not be so fragile that they would be damaged during display. All paintings must be secured with a wire hanger. Fiber works need to be delivered ready for installation. If works are over 4 feet in length or height, please contact The Art Center in advance for approval.

Contemporary Clay 11th International Biennial 2026 Call for Artists

May 20 — June 26

Submission for Entries: November 17, 2025

Submission Deadline: January 23, 2026

Calling all artists! Registration opens November 17 for Contemporary Clay 2026.

This year's juror is Eric Serritella. He is an internationally recognized ceramic artist celebrated for his trompe l'oeil sculptures that transform clay into hyper-realistic 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. Serritella also works in glass, with recent solo exhibitions at the Gregg Museum of Art and Design. Learn more at ericserritella.com.

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. Visit The Art Center website for more information or to register for this exhibition.



The Art Center of Western Colorado 2026

Excursions



January 29-30

Pissarro to Fielder: Denver Art Escape

Discover Denver's art scene with Pissarro's *The Honest Eye* at the Denver Art Museum and John Fielder's Colorado photography at History Colorado. Stay at the Art Hotel and enjoy a mystery dinner at Adams Mystery Playhouse.

Member Cost: \$675;

Single Supplement \$100



March 27- 28

Hot Times in Glenwood Springs

Since its inception, Glenwood Springs has been a hub for good times on the Western Slope. The Art Center's journey will include a tour of downtown, an evening at the Venue Revue, and a night at Hotel Colorado.

Member Cost: \$675;

Single Supplement \$100



February 7-11

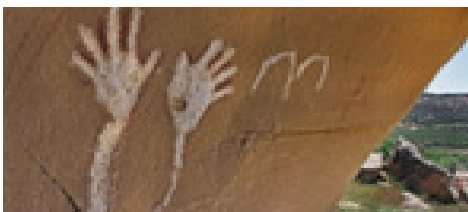
Let the Good Times Roll: New Orleans

Experience the lively culture of New Orleans by staying at the historic Maison Dupuy Hotel and taking guided tours to the French Quarter, museums, and other popular landmarks. Enjoy a swamp tour, visit Oak Alley Plantation, dine aboard the Steamboat Natchez, and conclude with a spirited jazz brunch at the Court of Two Sisters.

Member Cost: \$2,300;

Single Supplement \$400

Price does not include airline tickets



April 23

Rock Art Canyon Pintado

Join rock art expert Zebulon Miracle as he leads this tour into Canyon Pintado. Learn about the rock art, archaeology, and history of the prehistoric peoples who occupied Canyon Pintado for thousands of years.

Member Cost: \$125



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.

May 20-21

Historic Trading Posts

Trading Posts on the Navajo and Hopi reservations have historically served as a cultural connection between the Native People and the outside world. One of the best ways to discover the Native culture and art is by visiting these historic trading posts.

Member Cost: \$1450;

Single Supplement \$350



Youth Education

Teen Workshop

Aubrey Bender

\$55 member / \$70 non-member

All materials provided

Surrealism: Using Acrylic Paints

Ages 15-18

Saturday, Jan 10 or Jan 24 , 1:00-2:30pm

Teens will use classic media and acrylic paint to explore creating their own abstract and surreal scenes. We will practice technique while also pushing our imaginations in this course, focusing on letting go of rigidity and allowing creativity to take its place.

Portfolio Development

Ages 16 -18

Saturday, Feb 7 or Feb 21, 1:00-2:30pm

This workshop supports students as they develop strong habits for making creative decisions. In this one-day workshop of intensive collaboration with the instructor, students will learn how to strengthen their creative decision-making techniques. Each student will have at least one strong piece of artwork and an accompanying artist's statement by the end of the day. Students are encouraged to bring in 2-D artwork that they are currently working on. Ideal for students building a portfolio or considering creative careers!

Home School Art Program

Ages 5-12 and 13-16

Rachel Egelston and guest artists

Thursdays 1:00-2:30pm (age 5-12) or 2:45-4:15pm (age 13-16)

Jan 22 — Mar 12

\$110 member / \$160 non-member

All materials provided; need-based scholarships available

Ages 5-12

This is a fun-filled exploration of different artforms. Students will be introduced to various correlations between the visual arts and math, science, history, and literature. In class, we will create a variety of 2D and 3D forms. Media used will include clay, oil pastel, watercolor, ink, acrylic, and wood. Students will apply the art standards of process, elements, and principles.

Ages 13-16

From words to ink, students will explore various forms of visual art storytelling (comics, manga, illustration, etc.), visual painting development, and art journaling. Media used includes ink, watercolor, colored pencils, various new tools and equipment for working with clay, Chinese-style paper collage, and oil painting.

School's Out Day Camp

Ages 5-13

8:30 am-4:30 pm

Tuition per day per child: \$50 member / \$55 non-member

All materials provided

Monday, Jan 19: Make superheroes to save towering cities, how to build a painting, and Chinese-style paper collage.

Monday, Feb 16: Investigate the world of Dr. Seuss' art, fiber art molas, how to achieve perspective in your art, and floral wax resists.

Thursday, March 12: Learn drawing techniques and work in different media, weave a bowl, and coffee painting.

Friday, March 13: Play with color using paint and colored pencils, mixed media, and pocket kites.

Monday, March 16: Explore the art of creating music, sculptural exploration with paper and found objects, and the use of watercolor pencils.

Tuesday, March 17: Art journals, Huichol-inspired yarn painting, van Gogh-inspired art, and the proper way to use markers.

Wednesday, March 18: Different STEAM projects, explore dry and oil pastels.

Thursday, March 19: Discover different cultures, Origami, Gytaku, Mexican street art, and Bahamian-inspired layer art.

Friday, March 20: Use improv to create a skit, soft sculptures, and puppet making

Field Experiences

Bring your class or group to The Art Center to experience a guided tour through the galleries and the clay studio. You will also get to do a hands-on activity of your choice. There is a \$5.00 per-student charge, with a minimum charge of \$50.

Save The Date

Save the date for Spring Art Week, March 31- April 3, 10:00-12:00. Spring Art Week brings area students to The Art Center to observe professional working artists as they create, explain their process, and inspire students.

For further information, please email Rachel Egelston at regelston@gjartcenter.org.

Rest assured, all our youth classes strictly adhere to the Colorado Model Content Standards for visual arts, ensuring a comprehensive and well-rounded education. The write-ups for these content standards, used in classes, can be provided upon request. Our courses are meticulously designed to foster independent work, enabling students to fully develop their abilities and skills. This class is an ideal way to spark your child's creative interest. Art allows children to express their ideas and concepts visually, helping to balance their development.

Adult Education

Open Studio for Mixed Media

Tuesdays 1:00-4:00pm, January 6 — March 3

\$100 member / \$145 non-member

Intermediate/Advanced

Join fellow mixed media artists in the Red Door Studio for three hours of noodling and puttering in mixed media projects. This class is designed for experienced students and artists who would like to spend some time in an environment of camaraderie and inspiration. Please bring your own projects and supplies for mixed media and collage. Ideas and creativity will be shared with generosity and abandon by all. Participants should be prepared to work, laugh, and provide feedback to their fellow artists.

There is no facilitator for the course; thus, artists should bring their own projects and supplies for mixed media and collage.

Oil Painting

Instructor: Dan Logé

Mondays 9:00-12:00pm, January 5 — March 9, skipping February 16

Mondays 1:00-4:00pm, January 5 — March 9, skipping February 16

\$162 member / \$207 non-member

This class is open to everyone interested in learning how to create a beautiful oil painting from beginning to completion. This will be a fun, casual class full of information, and Dan will be there to answer any questions that you might have about making art. Dan teaches a method that is simple and easy to understand which will bring you positive results. All skill levels are welcome!

Sketching Animals With Oil Paint

Instructor: Dan Logé

Wednesdays 9:00am-12:00pm, January 7 — March 4

\$162 member / \$207 non-member

Sharpen your drawing and observation skills in this fast-paced oil sketching class focused on capturing the essence of animals and birds. Using photo references provided by the instructor, students will complete a series of timed sketch-style paintings designed to train the eye and hand. Emphasis will be placed on gesture and form rather than detail, helping students loosen up and work with greater confidence.

Students will work exclusively with oil paint on 11x14 canvas boards and are encouraged to embrace the sketching nature of the process—whether saving each study or wiping the canvas clean to start anew.

Students need to bring four to six 11x14 canvases on board; #2 and #4 flat bristle oil brushes (natural hog hair), which can be purchased from Blick online; oil paint in burnt sienna, cobalt blue, and titanium white (Students can bring other colors if they like.); odorless mineral spirits or paint thinner and a small container; palette paper; and a roll of paper towels.

Watercolor Materials and Techniques

Instructor: Loren Eakins

Wednesdays 6:00-8:30pm, January 7 — March 4

\$200 member / \$245 non-member

Watercolor painting has a long history and is thought of as both very approachable and notoriously difficult. In this class you will learn how to paint landscape with watercolor, as it is an effective way to learn techniques that are ultimately applicable to all subject matter. We will talk about different paper, brushes, and paint and when to use them.

Drawing and Sketchbook Techniques for Advancing Your Artistic Abilities

Instructor: Loren Eakins

Thursdays 6:00-8:30pm, January 8 — March 5

\$200 member / \$245 non-member

Drawing is the foundation of the visual arts. All of the great masters were taught in drawing as students and continued to use it as a way to develop their masterpieces. This class will provide students a way to improve their composition, perspective, dexterity, and visual understanding through Drawing and sketching.





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. Applies for all onsite ceramics classes, excluding offsite and FARM courses.

Fundamentals In Wheel Throwing

Beginner/Intermediate

\$242 member / \$287 non-member

Ashtonn Means

Mondays 6:30-9:30pm, January 5 — March 9, skipping February 16

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: potterybyashtonn@gmail.com

Robbie Breaux

Tuesdays 1:00-4:00pm, January 6 — March 3

Thursdays 6:30-9:30pm, January 8 — March 5

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. 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: chuckrobbiebreaux@gmail.com

Gary Andrews

Tuesdays 6:30-9:30pm, January 6 — March 3

Supplies required: basic pottery toolkit, towel, notebook

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, January 8 — March 5

Supplies required: basic pottery toolkit and a towel

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

Intermediate Wheel Throwing

Terry Shepherd

Wednesdays 9:30am-12:30pm, January 7 — March 4

\$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

Advanced Wheel Throwing

Mary Kain

Wednesdays 6:30-9:30pm, January 7 — March 4

\$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

Registration for this class will start on Tuesday, December 9, one week before all other classes.



Advanced Hand-Building

Robbie Breaux

Wednesdays 1:00-4:00pm, January 7 — March 4

\$242 member / \$287 non-member

This course is designed for students with hand-building experience. We will identify projects that interest students and expand their horizons! Students may also work on personal projects.

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: robbie.breaux.arts@gmail.com

Registration for this class will start on Tuesday, December 9, one week before all other classes.

All Levels Hand-Building

Nina Williams

Mondays 1:00-4:00pm, January 5 — March 9, skipping February 16

\$242 member / \$287 non-member

Not all beautiful ceramic work is thrown on a wheel! We will join slabs of clay into beautiful works of art using a variety of techniques and surface patterns. We will focus primarily on decorative and ornamental work this session. In addition to slab-built work, there will also be coiling and extrusion projects throughout 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.



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.)

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, January 7 — February 25

\$215

Explore your creativity while learning the fundamentals of wheel throwing in this 8-week course. The focus of this class is on functional ceramics and will include cups, mugs, bowls and more.

Instructor email: meanspottery@gmail.com.



The Nitty Gritty

Registration opens **Tuesday, Dec. 16**

Last day to register is Tuesday, December 30

Registration: Registration can be completed online at 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

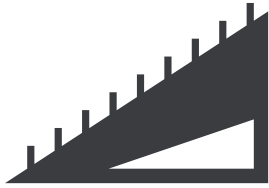
for a class or workshop within the 14-day period, you will receive no refund or class credit for cancellation. Sorry, no refunds or class credits for no-shows. This registration policy helps instructors plan and prepare for upcoming classes, ensuring you receive ample notice if a class has insufficient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

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

We love early registration!



the ART
CENTER

1803 N 7th Street
Grand Junction, CO 81501

Volume II, Issue I
Winter 2026

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