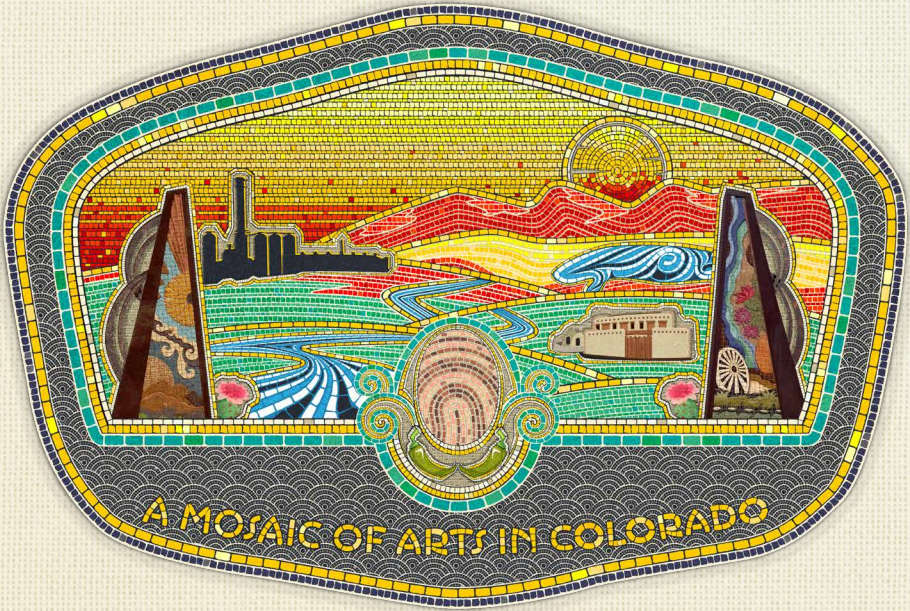


# PUEBLO

COLORADO CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

# 2024 SUMMIT



Colorado  
Creative  
Industries





# PUEBLO

A MOSAIC  
OF  
PEOPLE,  
ART,  
HISTORY,  
&  
THE  
GREAT  
OUTDOORS



Colorado  
Creative  
Industries

## 2024 SUMMIT



# LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR



**COLORADO**  
Governor Jared Polis

Greetings:

On behalf of the State of Colorado, it is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Colorado Creative Industries Summit in Pueblo!

Colorado's creative sector plays a vital role in supporting the well-being, inclusiveness, strength, and vibrancy of our state. From brightening our urban infrastructure to supporting youth development in rural schools, supporting healthcare workers' mental health and providing solutions to America's loneliness epidemic; arts and culture create value across every region of our state and every facet of our society.

Each year, the Colorado Creative Industries Summit supports the creative sector by bringing together creative leaders from across the state to learn, share and imagine together. At this Summit, you will expand your network with like minded creatives and focus on learning together to bolster our statewide creative community. I encourage you to take this time to learn and listen, to grow in your own profession and find opportunities for collaboration.

I'm confident that after your time here in Pueblo, each of you will continue to innovate and create, strengthening our communities and celebrating culture and creativity. Again, welcome to the Colorado Creative Industries Summit. You have my best wishes for an enjoyable and meaningful experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis | Governor

**PUEBLO**

.....  
COLORADO CREATIVE INDUSTRIES 2024 SUMMIT







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# WELCOME TO PUEBLO



Nestled in the banana belt of Colorado, lives the City of Pueblo. Known for its booming steel industry, Pueblo remains the melting pot of the Centennial State for its unique collection of diverse ethnic groups and culturally rich neighborhoods throughout our historic districts.

With over 300 days of sunshine, we have quickly become a favorite stop on many Colorado bucket lists. From our unique trail and levee system to our lively creative corridor, we have everything you need to challenge your imagination and engage your senses.

There is plenty to explore in Pueblo's Creative Corridor. Art. Music. Dance. Over an easily navigated area, The Corridor is packed with galleries, museums, street sculptures and fountains, cafés, cozy shops and live music. The Pueblo Creative Corridor is a Colorado Certified Creative District. It is focused around the three historic city centers of Pueblo: Downtown Main Street, Union Avenue Historic District and the Mesa Junction. Each retains its uniqueness, while providing an enjoyable stroll from one end to the other. The Creative Corridor hosts numerous programs, festivals and creative events throughout the year.

We encourage you to explore and submerge yourself in the historic traditions and plentiful culture that is Pueblo. But most importantly, do not forget to try some of our iconic Pueblo Chile during your stay...you'll be glad you did!

**Welcome to Pueblo!**

**We are so happy to have you!**



**PUEBLO**

.....  
COLORADO CREATIVE INDUSTRIES 2024 SUMMIT





# HELPFUL SUMMIT INFO

Here are a few things to help you during this year's Summit...

- **CCI Staff will be based at the check-in table** if you have any questions during the Summit.

- **Get connected!**



◀ *All underlined text is a clickable link in the digital version of the program. Scan qr code with your digital device now!*

- We want to see the Summit through your eyes! Make sure to **tag CCI and other Summit guests!**



- Small Business Development Center Consultants will be based at an exhibitor booth in the main hallway and are **available for one-on-one consultations**.
- Breaks in between sessions are short. **Plan ahead** to know the location of your next session. Agendas and session details can be found in this program.
- If you have multiple people from your group, think about **splitting up and attending different sessions** to get the most out of the event.
- Feel free to **take notes!** Everyone received a Summit notebook at registration.
- Table centerpieces are available for purchase. Instructions for purchasing centerpieces can be found in the **Whova app**, or feel free to ask a summit volunteer or CCI staff person.
- **Lost & Found:** main check-in table for the summit
- Email feedback to [oodit\\_creativeindustries@state.co.us](mailto:oodit_creativeindustries@state.co.us) or complete the email survey following the event.
- **Enjoy the 2024 CCI Summit!**





# GETTING AROUND PUEBLO

- Visit Pueblo will provide a shuttle system for all Thursday night activities. The pick-up location will be at the Courtyard Marriott/ Pueblo Convention Center.
- For ride share options please utilize Uber, Lyft or Pueblo City Cab (719) 543-2525.
- All Downtown Pueblo streets are bike friendly with a designated bike lane.
- Pueblo has a local PediCab driver that we encourage you to use!  
<HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ARCHSPEDITAXI2019/>



## DRIVING & PARKING YOUR VEHICLE

- All locations within the downtown corridor are 100% walkable and/or bikeable.
- All parking in the Downtown area is FREE. This includes streets (2 hour parking) and parking garages.
- There will be no available parking inside Neon Alley. This will be closed for the Welcome event. Nearby street parking is available.
- Pueblo has three parking garages- two on Main Street and one on Union Ave.
- Courtyard Marriott has additional guest parking directly across City Center Drive.
- TESLA charging stations are in the Main Street parking garage adjacent to the Pueblo Convention Center. Additional electric charging stations can be found here.
- The largest surface parking lot is located on Main Street directly across from Brues Alehouse Brewing Company (SRDA Lot).
- Handicapped parking is designated on all streets and in lots and garages.

[\\*MAP OF PARKING ON NEXT PAGE](#)



**PUEBLO CONVENTION CENTER**



**AVAILABLE PARKING**



**PARKING GARAGE**



**CHARGING STATION**

All parking in the Downtown area is FREE. This includes streets (2 hour parking) and parking garages.

Analogue, Solar Roast, and Shamrock Brewing are all just another block north on W. 3rd st. following N. Main St.



**SOLAR ROAST**



**ANALOGUE BOOKS, RECORDS, & BAR**



**SHAMROCK BREWING**



**THE SENATE THE SENATE BAR & GRILL**



**BRUES ALEHOUSE**



**WALTER'S BREWERY**



**STUDIO SHARE YOGA STUDIO**



**NEON ALLEY**

**UNION AVE.**

**MAIN ST.**

**W. CITY CENTER DRIVE**

**2ND ST.**

**N. MAIN ST.**

**SANTA FE AVE.**

**TOWNPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT**  
**SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT**



**I-25**





# EXPLORE PUEBLO & EXTEND YOUR STAY IN SOUTHERN COLORADO

## GRAB A BITE AND DECOMPRESS...

- Take part in your own Beer Tour and stop by our 3 downtown breweries: [Brues Alehouse Brewing Company](#), [Shamrock Brewing](#) & [Walters Brewery and Taphouse](#).
- Eat like a local and try one of our top [10 Slopper Stops](#).

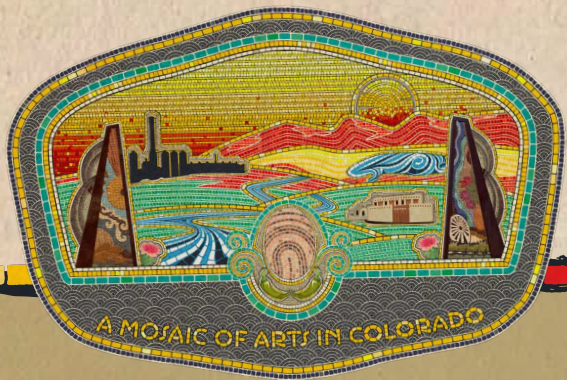


## LEISURE, HISTORY AND CULTURE...

- Enjoy an evening walk or boat ride on the fully lit Riverwalk, an extension of the Historic Arkansas River & Take a walk on the The Pueblo Levee Mural Project Trail.
- Plan a day with nature at [Lake Pueblo State Park](#), [the Pueblo Zoo](#) or [the Nature and Wildlife Discovery Center](#).
- Learn about the early history of Southern Colorado, the 1921 flood and more at one of [Pueblo's many local museums](#).
- Head on over to the [Senate Bar & Grill for Thursday night Karaoke!](#)
- Drink handcrafted cocktails at [Analogue Cocktail Lounge](#) while you wander through an eclectic record & gift store.
- Drink 100% solar powered coffee at [Solar Roast Cafe](#).
- Take home some famous Pueblo Chile products by visiting the seasonal farm stands in the county (<https://pueblochile.org/>)
- Sweat like a champ at a [Hot Yasa class at Studio Share Pueblo!](#) Open to the public!
- Play a round of Golf at one of our four golf courses located within Pueblo County limits!
- Enjoy a local art exhibit in the Welcome Center hosted by Visit Pueblo.

[\\*MAP OF PUEBLO ON NEXT PAGE](#)


# ENJOY YOUR STAY!



-  **PUEBLO CONVENTION CENTER**
-  **GATEWAY TO THE SOUTHWEST**
-  **EL PUEBLO HISTORY MUSEUM**
-  **PUEBLO STEEL MILL**
-  **LAKE PUEBLO STATE PARK**

 **PUEBLO BUS SCHEDULE** 

 **PUEBLO'S SLOPPER TOUR** 

 **NATURE & WILDLIFE DISCOVERY CENTER**  
▼ (RIVER CAMPUS)

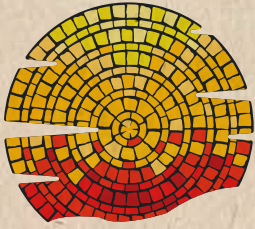
**CITY PARK & Pueblo ZOO**  
Empower. Engage. Conserve.

THATCHER

ELMWOOD GOLF COURSE








# EXPLORE PUEBLO




 **DUTCH CLARK**  
5, 7 & 9 P.M.  
EST. 1918 • PUEBLO, CO  
DUTCH CLARK STADIUM ENVIRONMENTAL ART TOUR

 PUEBLO'S LEVEE MURALS TOUR

 PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY Library District  
PUBLIC ART TOUR (RAWLINGS LIBRARY)

MINERAL PALACE PARK

 KEN WILLIAMS' STUDIO TOUR

 SDC CLAY STUDIO & EXHIBITS TOUR

 CONVENTION CENTER TOUR & *Van Gogh van*

## *Van Gogh van* ART GALLERY LIST

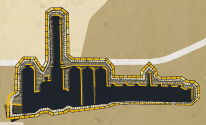


- SANGRE DE CRISTO ARTS & CONFERENCE CENTER
- PUEBLO ARTS ALLIANCE/ LIMINAL SPACE GALLERY

- CRYSTAL MOON WITCHERY
- RAWLINGS LIBRARY
- LATKA LAND
- BLO BACK GALLERY
- THE JOHN DEAUX ART GALLERY/ RADEAUX STUDIO
- STEEL CITY ART WORKS
- PUEBLO HERITAGE MUSEUM



EL PUEBLO HISTORY MUSEUM



# SPECIAL THANKS



- Pueblo Arts Alliance & Pueblo Creative Corridor
- Visit Pueblo and The Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce
- Creative Consortium of Pueblo
- The Koncilja Family
- The Pueblo Convention Center
- The City of Pueblo
- Blo Back Gallery
- The Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center
- Southern Colorado SBDC
- The 2024 Colorado Creative Industries Summit planning committee, including:

Dianne Archuleta	Sandy Dolak	Katie Magby	Brandon Stam
Elissa Ball	Marggie Ferrendelli	Christina McCann	Steven Sumida
Christine Boyd	Guillermo Garibay	Kennedy Pugh	Sarah Wood
Abel Chavez	Jeff Madeen	Andy Sanchez	& Kevin Yoshida





# SPONSORS

## PLATINUM LEVEL



## GOLD LEVEL



## SILVER LEVEL



## CONTRIBUTING SPONSORS



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS LEVEL

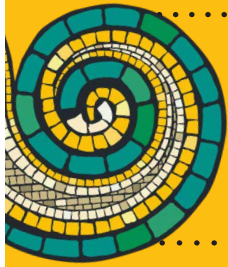


## EXHIBITOR



COLORADO CREATIVE INDUSTRIES 2024 SUMMIT





# INTERACTIVE BOOTHS

..... WITH SUPPORT FROM MEOW WOLF DENVER .....

## MOBILE ECO\_STUDIO

WITH SUPPORT FROM DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS .....

**Presented by: Desert Art Lab**

The Mobile ECO-STUDIO acts as a portable native ecology site distributing restorative desert cacti and seed mix to desert communities within ecologically stressed urban zones. The Mobile ECO-STUDIO spreads a message of self-resilience, food justice, and actualization training residents to plant cacti and spread the desert seed mix in vacant urban space in need. The Mobile ECO-STUDIO conducts workshops on traditional Sonoran desert food practice reacquainting residents with the growth, preparation and tasting of cactus based foods while also collecting digital stories of community relationships with a disappearing native desert ecology.

.....

## THINK 360 ARTS FOR LEARNING:

SHARING UPDATES ON THE EQUITY IN ARTS LEARNING FOR COLORADO YOUTH GRANT PROGRAM, AND MORE!

.....

**Presented by: Think 360 Arts for Learning**

Join us at the Think 360 Arts for Learning table during the CCI Summit to explore the new Equity in Arts Learning for Colorado Youth Grant, and discover the extensive arts learning programs we offer across the state. This is an excellent opportunity for educators, artists, and community enthusiasts to engage with our team and learn about our initiatives that are transforming arts education and community engagement statewide. Make a button, chat with our team and learn how to stay connected throughout the year.

Our table will provide a comprehensive insight into the vital world of arts education, with a special focus on fostering equitable access to these experiences. Gain an understanding of how we're integrating arts into various Colorado communities and schools, ensuring that arts education is accessible to all across the entire life span. Whether you're passionate about arts education, community development, or cultural engagement, we invite you to join us for an informative and engaging experience.



..... INTERACTIVE BOOTHS .....

## LEVERAGING HISTORIC INCENTIVES FOR YOUR HISTORIC PROPERTY

**Presented by: State Historic Preservation Fund**

Do you have a historic building and don't know what to do next? The State Historical Fund and Historic Tax Credits are two programs available in Colorado for those doing work on the property. Stop by our table to learn more about the programs and if your property is a good fit. If you aren't looking for incentives but have questions about preservation and appropriate treatments, our staff is very knowledgeable and can help provide guidance on next steps and best practices.

## SOUND HEALING & CREATIVE WELLNESS

**Presented by: CSU Pueblo**

We all need creativity and wellness; experience what the Art and Creative Wellness departments at CSUP can offer.

## SPLASH INK TO FIND FRACTALS AND SPECKLES

**Presented by: Charles Rober McGee**

Splashed ink has a long history in Asian art (Chinese: pomo, Japanese: hatsuboku). Ink is added to water in a bowl and splashed on rice paper for an abstract underpainting. Tarashikomo and other brush work develops the composition and does not require training. The rice paper is affixed to a firm surface called a shikishi board. We will collaborate on home-made boards that facilitate fractals and speckles. Warning, volunteers will get ink on your hands... and maybe elsewhere!

## APPLYING SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) USING WEAVING

**Presented by: Pueblo Arts Consortium**

Pueblo is the embodiment of all things southwest combining multiple cultures, hence its name Gateway to the Southwest. Arts, crafts, music, and culinary endeavors

integrate with the traditions from all cultures. World events have impacted emotional well-being, research shows that creative activities can help soothe emotional traumas. Drawing from the tactile arts many creative ideas for coping have developed, such as the worry doll. We propose a hands-on activity making worry dolls using weaving in a session for the CCI Summit. This is an excellent example of social emotional learning instruction for educators to adapt in their classroom.

.....  
**CREATIVES AND COFFEE LOUNGE**  
**WITH SOCO STUDENT MEDIA**  
.....

**Presented by: CSU Pueblo’s Media & Entertainment Program**

Come by the Live Stage for SOCO Student Media from CSU Pueblo’s Media & Entertainment program, and promote the work you are doing live on-air as a creative, community member, business, artist, and more! Learn about the technologies students are using to engage the community in this live streaming and radio broadcast stage. Faculty who advise the various student media groups will be on-hand assisting with production and content creation. **Check the event app, Whova, for scheduled programming at the booth throughout the two days.**

.....  
**FROM THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE COLLECTIVE:**  
**CULTIVATING IDENTITY THROUGH COLLABORATIVE ART**  
.....

**Presented by: Chelsea Gilmore**

Artist and educator, Chelsea Gilmore, will facilitate a multimedia exploration in creative play and community development through various art forms (writing, drawing, painting, mixed media).

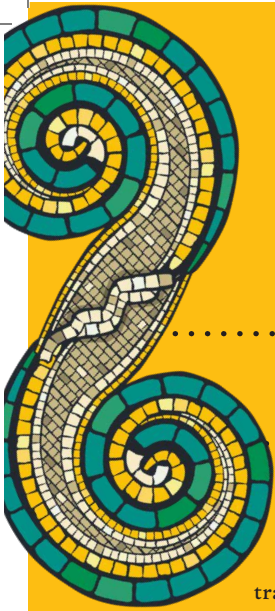
**ON DAY 1**, participants will practice playful mixed media art making for contribution to the community project.

**DAY 2** will use the art created on Day 1 in a collaborative effort of zine making. Chelsea’s work focuses on the process of community based public art making and developing a sense of individual and collective identity and pride for place.

Come prepared to engage with your inner self, try new things, and engage with people and artworks that represent a vibrant and diverse whole.







# SBDC CONSULTANTS

The Colorado Small Business Development Center Network (SBDC) consists of fifteen community-based full-time centers and more than 70 part-time centers that provide free one-on-one consulting services, training and programs. SBDC consultants from West Central SBDC will be on site at the CCI Summit offering free one-on-one consulting services and resources.

# THURSDAY

10:00 - 11:30AM | 2:30 - 4:00PM

# FRIDAY

8:30AM - 12:00PM

*\* To schedule a consultation, please visit the SBDC booth in the main hallway.*

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_



# ABOUT THE SOUTHERN COLORADO SBDC



The Southern Colorado Small Business Development Center (SoCo SBDC), led by Executive Director Brian Estrada, is dedicated to fostering the growth and prosperity of businesses in Pueblo, Fremont, Custer, and Huerfano Counties. By offering free confidential business consulting/coaching, affordable education/training programs, and acting as a resource connector, the SBDC assists entrepreneurs in creating and retaining jobs, securing loans, increasing sales, winning government contracts, obtaining certifications, and more. Through a collaborative approach and a vision to be the premier and trusted choice for Colorado businesses, the SoCo SBDC strives to be a vital catalyst for success in the region's business community. To connect to the Southern Colorado Small Business Development Center visit [www.southerncoloradosbdc.org](http://www.southerncoloradosbdc.org)

## SMALL BUSINESS CONSULTANTS:

# BRIAN ESTRADA



Brian Estrada, a Colorado native and the Executive Director of the Southern Colorado Small Business Development Center, boasts a wealth of experience and education spanning several college degrees and thirty years in Business Management and Administration. His professional journey has taken him from coast to coast, acquiring diverse life experiences.

In the midst of the Covid pandemic, Brian embarked on a new career path, dedicating himself to supporting a team of employees and collaborating with community partners. His goal was to introduce Southern Colorado's small businesses to the invaluable SBDC program, aiding them in navigating the challenges posed by the pandemic. Brian remains committed to working with community partners, striving to offer innovative education and programs that empower small businesses.

With a background encompassing three decades of teaching in Higher Education and Corporate Education in both public and private sectors, Brian served as the Business Manager and Adjunct Faculty for Pueblo Community College before joining the



..... **BRIAN ESTRADA CONTINUED** .....

Southern Colorado Small Business Center. In 2020, he assumed the role of director, demonstrating his dedication through active participation in diverse committees.

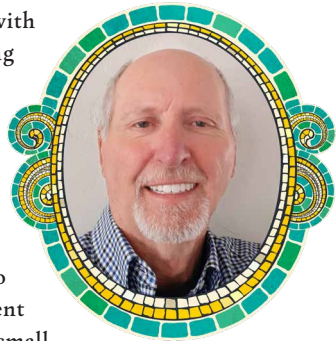
Brian’s outstanding contributions were recognized in October 2022 when he received the Colorado Small Business Development Network’s State Star Award, the highest accolade for individual achievement. This award acknowledges his exemplary performance and positive impact on advancing small business efforts. In 2023, Brian received the Colorado and Region 8 SBDC Innovation and Excellence Award, further underscoring his commitment to innovation in small business development.

Driven by an unwavering belief in customer-centric focus and ideals, Brian recognizes the paramount importance of the client as the most valuable asset for any organization. His understanding of the significance of small businesses extends to the Colorado counties he serves, acknowledging their role in employment, economic vitality, and community strength.

..... **SMALL BUSINESS CONSULTANTS:** .....

# ALLAN TORMOHLEN

Allan Tormohlen, a Certified Business Consultant with the Small Business Development Center, has a long and varied history both in business and working with businesses in his role of a community Banker. After serving as a US Navy Seabee heavy equipment operator and then completing his college education, he got his start in banking in a small rural town in northeastern Colorado. From there, he went on to work in a number of community banks in Colorado and in Wyoming. Allan served in bank management and worked with agricultural producers and small



businesses in the communities where he lived. It has always been his passion to work directly with small business owners and help them achieve success in their business by overcoming obstacles. Allan has served in a number of leadership roles in the area Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Corporations where he lived. His strong support for community banking led him to serve on statewide Independent Community Bank Boards in both Colorado and Wyoming, as well as serving as President of the Colorado Independent Bankers Association. Today, he continues to assist small businesses as a consultant, helping them to achieve success.





# SCHEDULE



DAY ONE | MAY 9, 2024

## THURSDAY

REGISTRATION WITH COFFEE  
AND LIGHT BREAKFAST

**9:00 - 10:30AM**

Location: Pueblo Convention Center

COFFEE CHAT WITH  
CCI DIRECTOR,  
JOSH BLANCHARD

**9:30 - 10:30AM**

Location: Bernstein Brothers Room

CONCURRENT  
SESSIONS

**10:30AM - 12:00PM**

Location: Check the program for details

WELCOME LUNCHEON  
AND PLENARY SESSION

**12:30 - 2:00PM**

Location: Fortino Grand Hall

..... 2:00 - 2:30PM BREAK

CONCURRENT SESSIONS  
AND TOUR

**2:30 - 4:00PM**

Location: Check the program for details

VAN GOGH  
SHUTTLE CREATIVE  
CORRIDOR TOUR

**4:30 - 7:00PM**

Various stops throughout downtown  
Pueblo; shuttle picks up front of the  
Pueblo Convention Center

NEON ALLEY  
WELCOME RECEPTION

**7:00 - 9:00PM**

Location: Neon Alley, downtown Pueblo

# OVERVIEW

DAY TWO | MAY 10, 2024

## FRIDAY



**7:30 - 8:30AM**

Location: Pueblo Convention Center

**GRAB AND GO BREAKFAST**

**8:00 - 8:30AM**

Location: Meeting Room 1

**EVERYONE CAN HUM-HUMMING  
TO HEAL INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY**

**8:30 - 10:00AM**

Location: Check the program for details

**CONCURRENT  
SESSIONS**

10:00 - 10:30AM BREAK

**10:30AM - 12:00PM**

Location: Check the program for details

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS  
AND TOUR**

12:00 - 12:30PM BREAK

**12:30 - 2:30PM**

Location: Fortino Grand Hall

**GOVERNOR'S  
CREATIVE LEADERSHIP  
AWARDS LUNCHEON**

2:30 - 3:00PM BREAK

**3:00 - 4:30PM**

Location: Check the program for details

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS  
AND TOUR**

**4:30 - 4:45PM**

Location: Visit Pueblo Welcome Center,  
next door to the Pueblo Convention Center

**GOODBYE AND  
FINAL REMARKS**





.....

# THURSDAY

MAY 9TH | 9:30 - 10:30AM

## COFFEE CHAT

WITH CCI DIRECTOR | JOSH BLANCHARD

.....



**Location: Bernstein Brothers Room**

Join Colorado Creative Industries Director, Josh Blanchard, for a coffee conversation about the state of Colorado's creative sector and an update on CCI's strategic priorities for the next year.

.....

Coffee Time





# THURSDAY

MAY 9TH | 10:30AM - 12:00PM

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS



.....

### COLORADO'S EVOLVING ARTS & CULTURE PHILANTHROPY:

A CONTINUING CONVERSATION TO SHARE PROGRESS, ONGOING COMMUNITY NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

.....

**Presenters:** Gina Ferrari | Tariana Navas-Nieves | Charles Reese | Claire Swinford  
**Location:** Grand Hall C East

First offered at the 2021 CCI Summit, this ongoing conversation between arts and culture creators, administrators and funders provides an open forum to reflect on the impact of changing times on the creative sector, the role of arts in meeting evolving needs, and how arts philanthropy must change to support the sector. The Philanthropy Colorado Arts & Culture Funders Group continues to collect feedback and track shifts in funder practices. This session will report on how arts philanthropy has progressed with actions taken and changes yet to come, with time for ongoing candid conversation on the continued evolution of philanthropy in service to the community.

.....

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



..... THURSDAY 10:30AM - 12:00PM .....

# CONCURRENT SESSIONS

## HEALING COMMUNITY THROUGH CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION

**Presenters:** Annie Drysdal | Sam Gallegos | Rebecca Robles | Karen Yescavage

**Location:** Grand Hall C West

Storytellers of the Ancestral Red Road (SOAR) is a Southern Colorado collective of traditional Indigenous teachers and allies, sharing cultural wisdom in multi-generational educational settings and practicing well-being and community-focused healing through creative expression. This immersive session will feature Indigenous Wisdom, a presentation of the cross-cultural collaborations the organization has facilitated over the past two years, and an experiential community-building component. While the session centers around Indigenous knowledge, SOAR encourages our non-native community members to join us in learning what acting as an ally of service can look like.

## DEMISTIFYING THE PUBLIC ART PROCESS: FROM APPLICATION TO INSTALLATION

**Presenters:** Brendan Picker-Mahoney | Nikki Pike | Bimmer Torres | Ruth Wilson

**Location:** Meeting Room 2/3

This session will feature a conversation between two longtime public art administrators alongside two practicing public artists, who will shed light on the public art process. Topics covered will include applying, preparing proposals, contracting, working with fabricators and subcontractors, navigating challenges and more. Session will allow ample time for questions with the goal to make artists feel more comfortable with the entire process of public art commissions.

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



..... THURSDAY 10:30AM - 12:00PM .....

## **BELONGING AND CREATIVE CULTIVATION (ONE MUSICIAN’S JOURNEY)**

**Presenters:** Antoine ‘BigSamir’ Zamundu

**Location:** Meeting Room 4/5

This is an artist facilitated session, where participants will learn through music, stories and small group discussion. Facilitator Big Samir of celebrated hip-hop duo The Reminders will share his first-hand account of navigating a Colorado-based music career as a bilingual, bi-cultural, first generation immigrant. This session addresses a critical need in the creative industries: Frequently arts administrators are separated from the impact of their work. This interactive session provides a chance to reconnect with the meaning of cultural advocacy, especially when it comes to creating spaces of belonging and holding doors open for creatives of many backgrounds to grow their careers in Colorado.

## **FROM GROUNDWATER FLOWS TO AIR POLLUTION:**

**A MULTIMODAL DIALOGUE AMONG ARTISTS,  
SCIENTISTS AND COMMUNITIES**

**Presenters:** Jocelyn Catterson | Dennis Doyle | Amy Hoagland | Beth Johnston |  
Lisa Schwartz | Darya Warner

**Location:** Hero’s Pavilion

The Colorado Art Science Environment (CASE) exhibition, a program of the Office for Outreach and Engagement in collaboration with the Institute for Arctic and Alpine Research and Boulder County Arts Alliance aims to move public audiences beyond debates about climate change by amplifying the connection all Coloradans have to the state’s natural landscape and, through this connection to place, to one another. CASE Fellow Artists will engage participants in learning about this multimodal, university-community partnership among scientists, artists and communities across urban and rural Colorado. They will share case studies of how they developed their artwork for the CASE exhibition, with a focus on how they collaborated to make invisible processes, such as groundwater flows, air pollution and beetle infestation knowable, visible and visceral.



..... THURSDAY 10:30AM - 12:00PM .....

# THE ARTS FOR ALL: CREATING ACCESS AND COMMUNITY THROUGH CLAY

..... CLAY STUDIO AND EXHIBITS TOUR .....

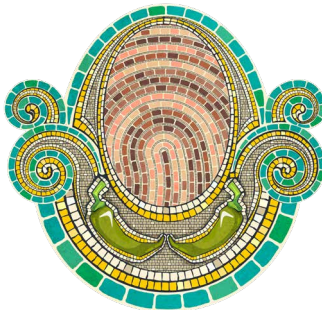
**Presenters:** Cayla Salas | Cristine Boyd

**Location:** Lobby of the Helen Thatcher White Building

Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center | 210 N. Santa Fe Ave.

During this session, participants are welcome to explore the Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center’s Clay Studio and current exhibits at their leisure. Throughout their visit to the Clay Studio, participants are welcome to speak with Education & Programs Manager, Cayla Salas, and Art Center Instructor, Cristine Boyd, about the studio, its history, the mission of the arts center, equipment, class offerings, and the trends and patterns they have seen in guest participation. Cayla Salas is able to discuss the Art Center’s approach to running a multifaceted community studio which offers classes and programs for a diverse range of guests and target audiences, as well as efforts the studio is making toward increasing accessibility. In addition to their visit to the Clay Studio, participants are welcome to enjoy and explore the Art Center’s multiple fine art galleries, which are located in the same building.

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# THURSDAY

MAY 9TH | 12:30 - 2:00PM

## PLENARY AND LUNCH:

“PRESERVING CULTURAL  
HERITAGE TO STRENGTHEN  
COMMUNITY TIES”

.....



## BREAKING CULTURAL PRESERVATION BARRIERS

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**Presented by:** Lucha Martínez de Luna

**Location:** Fortino Grand Hall

Historically, spaces and places acknowledging the heritage and identity of ethnically and culturally diverse groups were rarely considered worthy of preservation in Colorado. For many of these communities, cultural preservation was often synonymous with cultural exclusion and erasure. Critical to the future of inclusive cultural preservation efforts is implementing initiatives that will provide resources, equal opportunities, and access for historically marginalized communities to effectively devise site-based strategies to preserve spaces and places for future generations.

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..... THURSDAY 12:30 - 2:00PM .....

# PLENARY AND LUNCH

## SONG OF PUEBLO: GIVING POWER TO COLLABORATION

**Presenters:** Deborah Espinosa | Producer of Song of Pueblo and  
Juan Espinosa | Artistic Director of Song of Pueblo

Deborah and Juan Espinosa sit down to discuss the community need that led to the creation of the musical production Song of Pueblo, a performance that celebrates Pueblo’s diversity and its equally long and complex history.

## SONG OF PUEBLO PERFORMANCE

**DIRECTED BY MIREYA RINNA**

**Performed by:** Dr. J. Michael Beck | Carlos Crull | Juan Espinosa |  
Felicia Gallegos | Mireya Rinna | Aavalajn Wiggins |  
Wayne Wilkinson

Song of Pueblo is a musical interpretation of Pueblo’s diverse, complex and compelling history through music- an oratorio. It captures eras of human drama through original compositions and narration that beautifully weave together eras of history in a memorable and emotional experience. Performed by a masterful ensemble, authentic stories and video images portray the essence of expansive changes in time and frontier sagas that played out over three centuries.

..... FEATURING .....

## COLORADO NATIVE ORGANIZATION

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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# THURSDAY

MAY 9TH | 2:30 - 4:00PM

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS



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### ADVANCING THE ARTS THROUGH ADVOCACY & LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

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**Presenters:** Josh Blanchard | Christin Crampton Day

**Location:** Grand Hall C West

The arts often serve as a catalyst and conduit for addressing community concerns and play a critical role in sparking innovation and solutions. A diverse panel of civic leaders will discuss the role the arts play in public policy and how they intersect with and influence current legislative priorities, such as affordable housing, climate, education, health care and much more. The creative sector's impact on local economies, tourism, mental and behavioral health, equity and social justice are all critical in shaping thriving communities. At last year's CCI Summit, Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA) kicked off a broad community input process to develop Colorado's first-ever shared arts advocacy platform and policy framework. Hundreds of people have contributed their ideas and feedback along the way through surveys and community conversations. During this session, CBCA will also provide an update on the platform progress and other state arts advocacy initiatives and how people can get involved and advocate for the arts.

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..... THURSDAY 2:30 - 4:00PM .....

# CONCURRENT SESSIONS

## DROP DEAD ARTISTS

**Presenters:** Mettje Swift | Carlos Sandoval | Huberto Maestas | Dana Maestas |  
Jill M. Starkey

**Location:** Meeting Room 2/3

Address the concerns and strengths of mature artists who will continue to work until they drop dead. Focus on recognizing the benefits of their lifelong economic activity in their community. What role can older professional artists take to encourage the pursuits of younger artists? How do older artists deal with continuing to work and to be relevant?

## BUILDING WELCOMING COMMUNITY SPACES:

### PERSPECTIVES FROM A TRIO OF TOWN LEADERS

**Presenters:** John Clark | Staci Dickerson | Dave Goe |  
Wendy Holmes | Tera Couchman Wick

**Location:** Meeting Room 4/5

“Building Welcoming Community Spaces: Perspectives from a Trio of Town Leaders” will examine three unique models for creating vital community infrastructure: The long-standing Launchpad in Carbondale; the newly constructed Decker Community Room in Ridgway; and a current initiative of activating vacant, temporary space in Grand Junction. Panelists will share about the need for such spaces; how their particular spaces came about; current operating models and engagement strategies; and the impact –both now and in the future. This discussion will uncover trends and variables in the field while providing ideas on how attendees can create their own welcoming, active community spaces.





..... THURSDAY 2:30 - 4:00PM .....

# LIGHTS, CAMERA, COMMUNITY: RESOURCE MAPPING AND NETWORKING FOR CREATIVES

**Presenters:** Vanessa McCrann | Meghan Rauker  
**Location:** Hero's Pavilion

Join Startup Colorado and DreamSpring for an interactive session bringing together creatives, organizations, and arts advocates diving into community building, networking, and resource sharing. Discover the essentials for fostering vibrant, collaborative ecosystems, what key resources to have in your entrepreneurial toolbox, and the art of hosting. Put the lessons learned into practice with a facilitated 20 minute networking activity to connect with fellow participants.

In this session, you'll:

- Learn how to cultivate a thriving community of support
- Identify essential resources through a mapping exercise
- Forge meaningful connections

# PALETTE FOR PROGRESS: ACCESSIBILITY IN OUR BUILT ENVIRONMENTS

..... CONVENTION CENTER TOUR .....

**Presenters:** Damon McLeese | Chris Murphy | Emily Shuman

**Location:** Grand Hall C East | Will do a walk through of the convention center

Join us for an accessibility walkthrough of the convention center, both interior and exterior. Together, we'll identify and discuss both the positive and negative aspects of the physical environment in relation to accessibility and basic requirements of the ADA. Participants can take this knowledge and process back to their built environments in order to start taking steps in improving the accessibility of their buildings, signage, and accommodations for visitors of their space(s).

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..... THURSDAY 2:30 - 4:00PM .....

# KEN WILLIAMS' STUDIO TOUR

..... WILLIAMS' STUDIO TOUR .....

**Presenters:** Ken Williams

**Location:** Williams' Studio is located to the East of Summit Brick Co.

**Summit's address is 601 E. 13th, Pueblo, CO 81001. The studio is located on the corner of E. 13th and Fountain St.**

Ken Williams will give pottery demos and show how we make clay, mix glazes, fire the kilns etc. Ken and his wife Judith began a collaborative career in the arts in 1969 and turned their passion into a thriving family business. Their focus on ceramic started in college and became their lifetime pursuit when they established their studio. They soon had an opportunity to create a brick sculpture and build a clientele for their pottery business.

The Williams continue to be very excited about the possibilities and are drawn to the versatility and expressive potential of clay. Over four decades of work within this medium and working closely with Summit Brick Company, has given them and their four daughters (Alison Musso, Audrey Williams – Durham, Gwyn Williams and Brooke Williams) rich insight into the many aspects of ceramics; from massive sound barrier walls to coffee mugs. They like the challenge of integrating our work with the man-made and natural world. They see their art as a connection between these two. The Williams are intrigued by how their personal expression is shaped by the requirements and methods involved in creating public artwork and still find enjoyment in creating personal works of art that became part of families lives and homes.

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# THURSDAY

## MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> EVENING EVENTS



### *Van Gogh* VAN SHUTTLE

4:30 - 7:00PM

SPONSORED BY



..... CREATIVE CORRIDOR TOUR .....

Jump on this hop on/hop off bus tour and visit all of the creative hotspots in town. Buses will run continuously between 4:30pm to 7:00pm, with pop up performances and activities happening at various points along the route. See times below for activities of note.

**STOPS:** Location in bold is the drop off and pick up point for that stop.

From 7:00 - 9:00 PM\*, the Van Gogh Shuttle will run continuously between Neon Alley and the Pueblo Convention Center.



**STOP 1: PUEBLO CONVENTION CENTER**

Address: **320 Central Main st. Pueblo, CO 81003**



**STOP 2: SANGRE DE CRISTO ARTS & CONFERENCE CENTER**

Address: **210 N Santa Fe Ave, Pueblo, CO 81003**



**STOP 3: PUEBLO ARTS ALLIANCE / LIMINAL SPACE GALLERY**

Address: **107 S. Grand Ave, Pueblo, CO 81003**

*EL PUEBLO HISTORY MUSEUM*  
301 N. Union Ave., Pueblo, CO 81003

*CRYSTAL MOON WITCHERY*  
410 West City Center Drive Pueblo, CO 81003

*Continued >*



..... CREATIVE CORRIDOR TOUR .....

**STOP 4: RAWLINGS LIBRARY**

**Address: 100 E. Abriendo Ave., Pueblo, CO 81004**

*LATKA LAND*  
*229 Midway Ave, Pueblo, CO 81004*

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**STOP 5: BLO BACK GALLERY**

**Address: 131 Spring St, Pueblo, CO 81003**

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**STOP 6: NEON ALLEY**

**Neon Alley runs between West B St. and West C St. behind South Union Ave.**

\*From 7:00 PM-9:00 PM, the Van Gogh shuttle will run continuously between Neon Alley and the Pueblo Convention Center

*THE JOHN DEAUX ART GALLERY / RADEAUX STUDIO*  
*221 S Union Avenue, Pueblo, CO 81003*

*STEEL CITY ART WORKS*  
*216 S. Union Avenue, Pueblo, CO 81003*

*PUEBLO HERITAGE MUSEUM*  
*201 W B St, Pueblo, CO 81003*

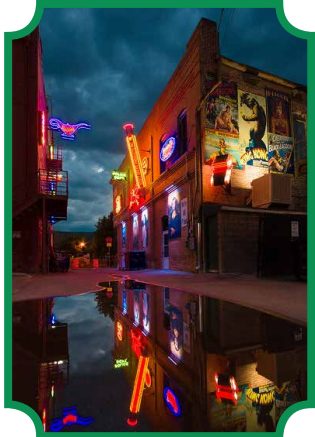
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**NEON ALLEY HAPPY HOUR**

**7:00 - 9:00PM**  **CECFA**

**WITH SUPPORT FROM CECFA** .....

Visit Pueblo will host the welcome party and cocktail hour in our one-of-a-kind Neon Alley, located just outside the Historic Union Depot. The fully lit alley pays tribute to lawyer and developer, Joe Koncilja's, eclectic and progressive taste in architecture and sensory design. Plan to spend a night under the stars and the Neon lights, while enjoying whimsical entertainment, drinks and food, amongst 300 of Colorado's most creative industry goers.



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# FRIDAY

MAY 10TH | 8:30 - 10:00AM

# CONCURRENT SESSIONS



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## ART, TRANSPORTATION & THE EXPERIENCE ECONOMY

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**Presenters:** Todd Ausbun | Brian Corrigan | Jill Locantore | Alexis Moore |  
Michael Stout

**Location:** Grand Hall C West

Join us for an interactive talk-show-style discussion and workshop as we explore how artist-driven experiences intersect with transportation. This session will highlight Colorado projects that utilize art and culture to mitigate road work disruptions, slow traffic, increase pedestrian safety, and create increased community identity. The session features individuals and organizations leading innovative projects at the intersection of art and transportation in various Colorado communities.

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..... FRIDAY 8:30 - 10:00AM .....

# ADDRESSING A VITAL COMMUNITY NEED THROUGH YOUR ART FORM

**Presenters:** Christopher Alleman | Sara Rodriguez  
**Location:** Meeting Room 2/3

When Summit County, Colorado was facing a community crisis that was driving its workforce away, Theatre SilCo launched the Vivo program in order to support local families. This is a unique, no cost program that currently supports over 100 families through dual language theatre education. The answer to getting it off the ground? A stellar collaborative team and forming viable and sustainable partnerships. During this session, Chris and Sara will walk you through how this initiative came about, how the team found the necessary funding to start and sustain it, and the significant impact on its community.

We hope our peers will gain some tools to make a community impact through what we know how to do: theatre!

# REST AS RESISTANCE: A COMMUNITY NAP FOR DEEP HEALING

**Presenters:** Ashley Cornelius | Sam Paulin  
**Location:** Grand Hall C East

Our ancestors' wildest dreams were for us to rest and experience joy. Rest as Resistance is a sonic community nap, inspired by the Nap Ministry, a movement founded in 2016 by Tricia Hersey. This workshop provides dedicated space inviting participants to rest and relax. Participants will be guided and invited to sink into a sound bath provided by sound healer and holistic therapist Sam Paulin and an affirmation poetry mediation led by Pikes Peak Region Poet Laureate, Ashley Cornelius. Join this special collaboration for an opportunity to slow down, rest, heal, and be cared for by the arts.

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_



..... FRIDAY 8:30 - 10:00AM .....

## EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES - ACCESSIBILITY CASE STUDIES

**Presenters:** Robin Gallite | Damon McLeese | Heather Pressman | Danielle Schulz | Marcus Turner

**Location:** Meeting Room 4/5

Art of Access Denver works to advance and connect accessible and inclusive practices across Colorado’s cultural organizations. Join Art of Access Denver members and partners as they share what they’ve found successful when implementing accessibility measures within their own programming and organizations. This work spans organizations and programs of various sizes and the group will discuss reaching the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities, implementing sensory-friendly events, dealing with historic properties, providing opportunities for employers, recruiters and people with disabilities to engage through forums and job training opportunities, working with blind or low-vision participants, among other things. There will be an opportunity for dialogue and to ask questions. Whether you’re building a program from the ground up or just beginning to offer accommodations, this session will be useful for wherever you are within your accessibility work and journey. Join the conversation and become a part of an accessibility-focused network across the state!

## WEAVING LIVED EXPERIENCE, DANCE AND DIALOGUE TO CRAFT SPACES OF BELONGING

**Presenters:** Karla Trujillo | Helanius J. Wilkins | Mi Chantli Movement and Arts Sanctuary

**Location:** Hero’s Pavillion

Presenters will share how they co-create spaces of belonging centered in their own and their participants’ lived experiences, identities and aspirations. Artist and educator Helanius Wilkins will share from “The Conversation Series: Stitching The Geopolitical Quilt To Re-Body Belonging”, an ongoing project that celebrates and confronts heritage, resilience, justice and hope with communities across Colorado.

..... Continued >



..... FRIDAY 8:30 - 10:00AM .....

**WEAVING LIVED EXPRIENCE, DANCE AND DIALOGUE TO CRAFT SPACES OF BELONGING**

..... CONTINUED .....

Co-founders of Mi Chantli, “my home” movement and arts sanctuary, will discuss how their Mexican/Chicano owned studio provides a space for culturally and socially sustaining practice for BIPOC communities and more in Boulder, Colorado. Dancer, activist and community artists Karla Trujillo will discuss how she approaches dance as a critical component of belonging, collective creativity and a resource for healing.

**REVITALIZING COMMUNITIES THROUGH PUBLIC ART: A JOURNEY OF 30 YEARS**

..... PUBLIC ART TOUR .....

**Presenters:** Jean Latka | Tom Latka

**Location:** The meeting location for this tour is in front of Rawlings library on the corner of S. Union Ave. and E. Abriendo Ave. (100 E Abriendo Ave, Pueblo, CO 81004). Everyone will meet there at 8:30 AM before departing on the walking tour.

Through our public art installations, workshops, and collaborative projects, we have witnessed the positive impact on the community. Crime rates have decreased, businesses have thrived, and a renewed sense of pride has emerged among the residents. Our art has become a catalyst for social change, igniting a sense of ownership and responsibility among community members. The transformation of once-neglected spaces into vibrant art installations has spurred conversations, encouraged unity, and sparked a sense of belonging. In this tour, each participant will get a copy of our book “Ceramic Extruding”.

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**BREAK 10:00 - 10:30AM**

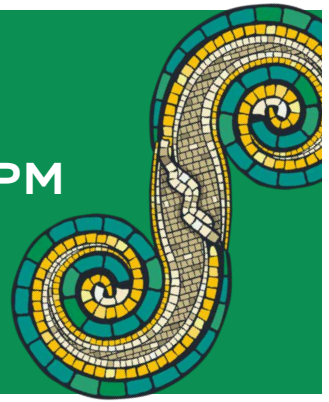




# FRIDAY

MAY 10TH | 10:30AM - 12:00PM

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS



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### A PUEBLO SALSA. INGREDIENTS:

ENGAGING COMMUNITY IN CULTURAL ARTS WHILE CONNECTING THE TRADITIONAL WITH THE CONTEMPORARY

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**Presenters:** Sara Roybal and the Grupo Folklórico del Pueblo Dancers

**Location:** Grand Hall C West

With 'Creating A Pueblo Salsa', we will be understanding the foundational cultural ingredient through Folklórico. After examining the flavor of this essential ingredient we will add the Frontera experience (Arkansas River, former Mexico/US Border). This is where the ingredients will connect with a flavor that cannot escape its Mexican and indigenous heritage as it becomes accented with its American present. We will interactively add spices of contemporary subjects, such as technology, cultural loss, and gender roles to complete our Pueblo Salsa. As we incorporate ingredients we will reveal how traditions and culture can complement the flavor of the contemporary.

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..... FRIDAY 10:30AM - 12:00PM .....

# CONCURRENT SESSIONS

## WHO OWNS PUBLIC ART?

**Presenters:** Meredith Badler | Dave Ratner

**Location:** Meeting Room 2/3

How does public art get made? Who really owns that mural or sculpture? How does it work for the artist, the building owner, and the arts administrator? Join Colorado Attorneys for the Arts (CAFTA) for this engaging dialogue about copyright ownership and visual artists' rights in the realm of murals and public art. Bring your burning questions! This presentation is relevant to artists, arts administrators, property owners, civic leaders, and all of us who enjoy the beautiful public art in our communities. This workshop is led by Dave Ratner of Creative Law Network, presented by CAFTA, a program of Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA).

## COMMUNICATING YOUR VISION: GRANT WRITING IN THE CREATIVE SECTOR

**Presenters:** Lares Feliciano | Louise Martorano

**Location:** Meeting Room 4/5

Grant writing is tough and it's common for artists to feel overwhelmed by the process. You know what you want to create but how do you ensure that you are communicating that vision in a one-page grant proposal? In this workshop we will use the Arts in Society letter of intent as a template for honing your grant writing skills. This will be a hands-on session where you will have the opportunity to workshop a grant proposal while learning about grant writing best practices.

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..... FRIDAY 10:30AM - 12:00PM .....

# EXPLORING PUEBLO'S SOUNDSCAPE THROUGH COMMUNITY - ENGAGED RESEARCH

**Presenters:** Xóchitl Chávez | Austin Okigbo | Susan Thomas

**Location:** Hero's Pavillion

Since 2021, the American Music Research Center has been engaged in an ongoing research project in Pueblo. An oral history project that aims to capture Pueblo's unique musical and cultural history, the AMRC is grateful to have had our research supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the CU Boulder Office of Research and Innovation, and the CU Boulder Office of Outreach and Engagement. That grant funding is allowing us to continue working with Pueblo communities through 2025. The resulting archive of oral histories will be publicly accessible through the Digital Libraries of both the University of Colorado and CSU Pueblo. This panel will share some of our findings as well as discuss the mutual benefits of community-engaged research. We will offer some lessons learned about how to fund, engage in collaboration, and best support community-held artistic knowledge through partnerships between institutions, artists, and memory keepers.

# ARTISTRY ALONG THE ARKANSAS: GUIDED TOUR OF PUEBLO'S LEVEE MURALS



..... PUEBLO'S LEVEE MURALS TOUR .....

**Presenters:** Karen Foglesong | Cynthia Ramu | Shannon Palmer

**Parking and Meeting Location:** Arkansas River Park Access Pillars Park

Join us for an immersive tour along the picturesque Arkansas River levee in Pueblo, Colorado. Led by mural artist and guide, Karen Foglesong, this session offers a unique opportunity to witness the stunning transformation of the levee wall into a vibrant canvas of over 60 newly created murals. Gain insights into the artistic process, stories behind the murals, and the rich history of this cultural landmark. Discover the intersection of art, heritage, and community spirit in this inspiring excursion.



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# FRIDAY

MAY 10TH | 12:30 - 2:30PM

## GOVERNOR'S CREATIVE LEADERSHIP AWARD LUNCHEON



WITH SUPPORT FROM BONFILS-STANTON FOUNDATION

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**Location: Fortino Grand Hall**

Colorado Creative Industries is proud to play a role in celebrating excellence in creative industries across the state. Each year, during the Creative Industries Summit, Creative Leadership Awards are presented to community members that have demonstrated a significant commitment to Colorado's creative landscape through civic leadership and volunteerism including advocacy, vision, collaboration, or innovation. In addition to this annual tradition, CCI is honored this year to host Americans for the Arts as they present Governor Jared Polis with the Public Leadership in the Arts Award!

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### **PUBLIC LEADERSHIP IN THE ARTS AWARD**

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**Presented by: Jay H. Dick | Senior Director of Equitable Advocacy  
and Partnerships for Americans for the Arts**

Since 1997, Americans for the Arts and the United States Conference of Mayors has recognized individuals and groups at various levels of government (federal, state and local) with the Public Leadership in the Arts Awards. These awards honor elected officials who advance the arts and arts education within their communities and whose vision and leadership provide heightened visibility to the value of the arts. In 2024, Colorado Governor Jared Polis, was selected to receive the National Award for State Arts Leadership.

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..... FRIDAY 12:30 - 2:00PM .....

## 2024 GOVERNOR'S CREATIVE LEADERSHIP AWARDS ARTIST

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### 2024 AWARD DESIGN BY JOE KRONWITTER

Joe Kronwitter is a self-taught fine craft woodworker and artist. Born and raised in Pueblo, Colorado he has created functional and sculptural pieces for over 50 years. Pursuing the balance between creativity and the natural beauty of the wood, Joe's goal is to ensure his work will stand the test of time. For Joe the process is just as gratifying as the finished piece.



### 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS

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### CYNTHIA RAMU

#### ARTS AND CREATIVE PLACEMAKING AWARD

*Honors individuals who use the arts to envision new futures through activities such as activating a public space, animating a community or sparking redevelopment.*

Cynthia Ramu, a passionate artist and community leader, currently leads the Pueblo Levee Mural Project as coordinator. With a diverse educational background and extensive experience in art education and mural creation, Cynthia has significantly impacted Pueblo, Colorado's cultural scene and beyond. Her achievements include securing Guinness World Records and organizing community events, reflecting her belief in the arts' power to unite and inspire. Cynthia's dedication shines through her mentorship of youth and commitment to community engagement, making her a cornerstone of Pueblo's artistic landscape.

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..... 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS .....



## TOM SHEPARD

### ARTS AND COMMUNITY ACTION AWARD

*Presented to individuals that have demonstrated selfless service, inspired others to take action or catalyze change in their community using the arts.*

Tom has been directing and producing documentary films for nearly 25 years. His film SCOUT’S HONOR won two top awards at the Sundance Film Festival and broadcast nationally on the PBS program P.OV. He also directed and produced KNOCKING, a film about Jehovah’s Witnesses and the holocaust, WHIZ KIDS about aspiring teen scientists, and THE GROVE about the National AIDS Memorial Grove. His most recent film, UNSETTLED. about LGBTQ+ refugees and asylum seekers premiered at the San Francisco International Film Festival and broadcast nationally in 2020. Tom’s work has received acclaim in dozens of publications including four reviews in the New York Times, and numerous others in the Washington Post, Boston Globe, Miami Herald, the San Francisco Chronicle, and Denver Post among others.

In 2014, Tom returned to his hometown of Colorado Springs and founded the Youth Documentary Academy (YDA), a film arts organization that teaches youth from under-represented communities how to make films and tell their stories. YDA has leveled the playing field among elite video arts academies that exist mostly on the coasts. In 2020, Tom created a new television series exclusively featuring the films made in YDA. Currently, Season 1 and 2 of ‘OUR TIME’ are broadcasting nationally via American Public Television. His proudest work in YDA is Youth Media Matters, a curricular program that brings YDA films into high schools around the country, opening the door to courageous conversations

Previously, Tom worked as an editor at National Public Radio for Linda Wertheimer. He graduated from Stanford University where he majored in human biology.

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## GRACE GILLETTE

### ARTS AND ADVOCACY

*Honors individuals who work to advance economically vibrant, healthy, and equitable communities by ensuring that arts, culture and the creative industries and its workforce are valued and supported through policy, research, civic engagement, professional services and access.*

Ms. Gillette has been a Denver resident for 52 years. She has been actively involved in the Denver Indian Community by serving on boards of directors and as speaker, panelist,

*Continued >*

..... 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS .....

*Grace Gillette Continued >*

**GRACE GILLETTE**  
**ARTS AND ADVOCACY**



emcee, and head dancer. She maintains close ties to her familial home in North Dakota by participating in traditional ceremonies and other events. She participates in the Atonement Lutheran Church, the Fort Berthold Native American Church Chapter, and Dead Grass Society.

Grace has been the Executive Director for the Denver March Powwow (DMPW) for 33 years. Under her leadership, the DMPW has received many accolades and awards. She is most proud of the DMPW permanent exhibits in the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian. She has been blessed by being named in “Who’s Who in Denver Business” and was selected as one of “Denver’s 150.”

Grace was honored to bestow a traditional blessing upon Mayor Hancock at his first inauguration. The American Indian College Fund named her “Elder of the Year.” She was inducted into the Denver & Colorado Tourism Hall of Fame. Ms. Gillette gave the keynote address for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Luncheon which provided an opportunity to share her culture. The National Indian Council on Aging prepared a 11-minute video of her life, “SwaHuux, Following Grandma’s Path.” Dance/USA presented her with their Trustee Award in March 2021 for her work in the field of dance.

..... FEATURING .....

**CSU PUEBLO BALLET FOLKÓRICO**

**COLORADO STATE POET LAUREATE**  
**ANDREA GIBSON**

**PIKES PEAK REGION POET LAUREATE**  
**ASHLEY CORNELIUS**

# FRIDAY

MAY 10TH | 3:00 - 4:30PM

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS



## CREATIVE ROUTES: CULTURAL TRAILS AND COLORADO'S CULTURAL TOURISM

**Presenters:** Brian Bartlett | Katherine Correll | Andrew Grossman |  
David Holland | Michael Stout

**Location:** Grand Hall C West

Trails are an iconic feature of Colorado's identity and sense of place, and cultural trails of various kinds are an increasingly visible strategy for Colorado communities to connect outdoor recreation, and travel to Colorado's cultural sites and histories. This session explores case studies of new and longstanding cultural trails and their effect on tourism and destination marketing.

## DOING BUSINESS AS AN ARTIST

**Presenters:** Nicki Hart | Gregory Howell

**Location:** Meeting Room 2/3

Are you interested in launching a new business in the creative economy? The DBA Program is designed to showcase actual case studies from creatives in Colorado and beyond. The class is interactive and embraces engagement along with Q & A. The class is also designed to be an opportunity to network with others. This session is divided into three sections: **Be Yourself as Everyone Else is Already Taken**, **Your Brand is What People Say About You When You are Not in the Room**, and **Swimming in the Hard Stuff**. We will do an overview of these sections with commentary on Vision, Audience, Exposure, Brand, Promotion, Social, Video, Legal and Accounting.







..... FRIDAY 3:00 - 4:30PM .....

# SALIDA CIRCUS WITH A PURPOSE PRESENTS “HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN BIG TOP!”

**Presenters:** Jennifer Dempsey | Laura Hart

**Location:** Meeting Room 4/5

It’s said everyone has a secret desire to run away and join the circus...so why not make it a reality for your community?! Salida Circus founder Jennifer Dempsey will explain how in 2007 she started with nothing more than a pair of stilts, a group of local kids and lots of circus spirit...and how that backyard tumbling workshop grew into a full time, year round operation with 12 tutors, 32 professional performers and an annual operating budget of \$200,000.

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## BUILDING COMMUNITY + CAPACITY: CULTIVATING FUTURE ARTS & CULTURE LEADERS THROUGH VALUES-BASED INTERNSHIPS

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**Presenters:** Jeannene Bragg | Chrissy Deal | Keandra hunt | Holly K. Hurd

**Location:** Hero’s Pavillion

Staff, past interns and partners from the Diversity in the Arts Internship program share inspiration and reflect on lessons learned over 5 years of the program which serves folks who identify with historically underrepresented communities. Hear how supporting interns in the Denver Metro area is helping shape the arts and culture ecosystem and gain insight into the impact of values-based, equity-focused internships can have on organizations and the broader community. Attendees will learn about the DITA approach and be invited to consider the possibilities of prioritizing and creating pathways for deeper community engagement and collaboration.

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..... FRIDAY 3:00 - 4:30PM .....

# DESERTARTLAB: CHICANX ENVIRONMENTAL ART

..... ENVIRONMENTAL ART TOUR .....

**Presenters:** April Bojorquez | Matthew Garcia

**Location:** Earl “Dutch” Clark Stadium | 1001 W. Abriendo Ave. Pueblo, CO 81004

The field site is located on SE of the Dutch Clark Stadium football field

- look for the turquoise fence.

**COORDINATES: 38.26931° N, 104.63020° W**

DesertArtLAB is an internationally recognized Chicanax environmental art collaborative based in Pueblo, CO. Their work promotes Indigenous / Chicanax perspectives on ecological practice, food sovereignty, self-determination, and climate change. In this session, DesertArtLAB will share the development of their project from its roots in Phoenix to its realization in Pueblo.

They will discuss how development in desert cities such as Pueblo create new homes/ opportunities in the Southwest but also strip away parts of the natural environment and its rich history. The session will explore how DesertArtLAB’s land art practice is sustainably revitalizing degraded land to create ecological and cultural value of indigenous desert ecological systems as a response to our current climate realities. An on-site reception will follow this participatory discussion.

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Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
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# FRIDAY

MAY 10TH | 4:30 - 4:45PM

# CLOSING AND FINAL REMARKS



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**Location: Visit Pueblo Welcome Center, next door to the Pueblo Convention Center**

“Adieu, so long, farewell!” Join Josh Blanchard and the Colorado Creative Industries team for final remarks and a heartfelt goodbye as we each go our own way... until next year!

**If you are not ready to say goodbye, extend your stay!**

Don't miss Pueblo's special after-summit evening! Plan to relax, enjoy, and be entertained on the beautiful Riverwalk immediately following the summit closing. **Join Pueblo artists, crafts-persons, and performers for our special After Summit Event—the Faux-First Friday Art, Food & Drink Crawl.** Starting at 4:45 pm, enjoy a local art exhibit in the Welcome Center (Hosted by Visit Pueblo) with our local Mariachi Lobos band performing right outside. Stroll the Riverwalk, visiting the booths of more Pueblo artists and makers, while enjoying the live performances of 5 different musicians spread out over the Riverwalk. All Summit attendees will be given a passport to attend this event. Your passport will grant you discounts at local businesses on the Riverwalk. The more businesses you visit, the more drawings you will earn to receive special Pueblo mementos. First prize grants the winner a free dinner at the Courtyard and a weekend-stay at the Marriott. Buy that Mother's Day gift you almost forgot about. Let Pueblo provide a night to remember.

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# PRESENTERS



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## CHRISTOPHER ALLEMAN

**Producing Artistic Director | He/Him**

Chris has served as the Producing Artistic Director for the Theatre SilCo since 2002. Under his leadership, the organization has grown from a modest budget of \$135,000 to an impressive \$2.4 million. He has received numerous directing accolades for his productions from the Denver Post Ovation Awards, Colorado Theatre Guild, CultureWest, and has been honored with the distinguished “Outstanding Nonprofit Professional Philanthropy Award.” He is a proud member of the Stage Directors and Choreographer’s Society, a member of America for the Arts, and currently serves on the musical selection committee for the 2023 National Alliance for Musical Theatre New Musical Festival. Chris spearheaded the Vivo Dual Language Theatre Program which stands as the largest after-school provider in Summit County and welcomes participants from all backgrounds at no cost to them. Chris currently serves on the Summit School District Board of Education. Chris holds an M.A. from Texas A&M, Commerce, and was a Graduate Fellow at Texas Tech University.

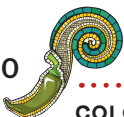


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## TODD AUSBUN

**Utility Manager | Colorado Department of Transportation**

Todd currently manages the Colorado Department of Transportation Southeast Region Utility Engineer and Utility Accounts department. Over the last 20 years, Todd has served southeast Colorado with his impressive attention to safety prevention by managing the input and review process for local communities to consider how to safely integrate transportation construction projects while not impeding on travel. This includes guiding communities on the requirements and safety standards for integrating artwork on public roads and sidewalks. Todd was born and raised in Colorado and maintains a passion for keeping Coloradans safe while enjoying our beautiful home.





..... PRESENTERS .....



## MEREDITH BADLER

Deputy Director | CBCA | She/Her

Meredith Badler is the Deputy Director at Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA). Meredith oversees all of CBCA's programs, major events, research and trainings. Meredith also stewards CBCA's grassroots and direct advocacy for Colorado's arts and creative industries. Prior to CBCA, Meredith worked as a strategy consultant for the nonprofit sector at Corona Insights and in patron services for Curious Theatre Company. Meredith serves on the Board for Art Students League of Denver. She has a background in theatre and performs improv comedy.



## BRIAN BARTLETT

Tourism Director & CEO | Mesa Verde Country



After a 33 year career in hotel and resort management, in markets as diverse as New York City and the Florida Keys, to Boulder Colorado and almost everywhere in between, for industry leaders like Omni, Sonesta, Sage Hospitality and Rock Resorts, to name a few, has joined the team at Mesa Verde Country. Brian started in the capacity of Communications and Marketing manager, and recently aspired to the Tourism Director & CEO role.



## DR. J. MICHAEL BECK

Song of Pueblo performer



Dr. J. Michael Beck, is keyboardist on the "Song of Pueblo." He was in the original band with "Song of Pueblo" when it premiered in 2008. Beck is a Pueblo native and has instructed at various incarnations of Colorado State University at Pueblo. He retired from the university in 2007 as chairman and professor of the

*Continued >*



..... PRESENTERS .....

# DR. J. MICHAEL BECK

Song of Pueblo performer

*Continued >*

Music Department. He was awarded a Doctor of Arts in Music, Piano Pedagogy and Performance from the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley in 1986. He is a frequent performer at community events, area churches and has performed with groups ranging from the Pueblo Symphony Orchestra, to “The Art of Sound” with Alex Craciun and Camarada320. He is owner of Elledge Music.

# JOSH BLANCHARD

CCI Director | He/Him

Josh Blanchard serves as the Director of the Colorado Creative Industries. Prior to joining the CCI team, Josh served as a Summit County Commissioner from 2021-2023. Additionally, Josh has held positions in arts administration, non-profit management, higher education, resort management, tourism and event production. Josh believes expression through the arts and humanities empowers and gives meaning to individual and civic spaces. Josh holds degrees from University of Texas Dallas and University of Colorado at Denver.



# APRIL BOJORQUEZ

Director of Programs / Food Practice | DesertArtLAB | She/Her

April Bojorquez is an internationally recognized artist, curator and educator. She is the director of Programs/ Food Practice for DesertArtLAB. Formerly she was the curator at the National Hispanic Cultural Center’s Art Museum and a fellow of the Smithsonian Institution’s Latino Museum Studies Program. She was a 2021 Mellon



*Continued >*



..... PRESENTERS .....

## APRIL BOJORQUEZ

Director of Programs / Food Practice | DesertArtLAB | She/Her

*Continued >*

Artist in Residence at the Colorado College Fine Arts Center Museum and a recipient of the Creative Capital Award. Currently, Bojorquez manages a culturally-specific performing arts program at the Chavez Huerta Preparatory Academy, serving over 100 students in Pueblo, CO.

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## CRISTINE BOYD

Ceramic Artist | Instructor | She/Her



Cristine Boyd has been a professional ceramic artist since 1988. She obtained her BFA from Metropolitan University with an emphasis in ceramics. She has maintained several studios in Denver and Pueblo over the past 34 years. She now considers the ceramic studio at the Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center her home for producing ceramic art and teaching. She also maintains a clay distribution business for Rocky Mountain Clay.

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## JEANNENE BRAGG

Managing Director | Curious Theater Company | She/Her



Jeannene has worked in arts and community-building for more than 25 years. She served the Town of Parker in roles ranging from Cultural Director to City Manager, where she led the creation of the Parker Arts, Cultural, and Events Center. Jeannene also worked at Creative Strategies for Change, Colorado Symphony, Lone Tree Arts Center, and Colorado Creative Industries. She is also a theatre artist, writer, and creative producer.



..... PRESENTERS .....

# JOCELYN CATTERSON

Colorado Art Science Environment Fellow | She/Her

AND  
**( HOLLY BARNARD )**  
CU Scientist | Associate Dean | She/Her

*not pictured*



Jocelyn Catterson is an artist and educator from Colorado with a passion for the landscape. Although art has always been a huge part of her life, she didn't start drawing seriously until she used nature journaling with students. Copying the patterns in the wings of moths on her porch solidified her artistic style. With her background in environmental education, her art is grounded in her home of the San Luis Valley. <https://www.jocelyncattersonart.com/>

# XÓCHITL CHÁVEZ

Asst. Professor of Ethnomusicology | University of California, Riverside | She/Her

Xóchitl Chávez is a Pueblo native and the first tenure track Chicana assistant professor in the Department of Music at the University of California, Riverside. She earned her Ph. D. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of California Santa Cruz in 2012 with a designated emphasis on Latin American and Latino Studies. Dr. Chávez's book, *La Guelaguetza: Oaxacan Migrant Festivals and the Making of Transborder Indigeneity* (Oxford University Press, 2024) is the first transborder, multi-sited ethnography and behind-the-scenes study taking readers on stage, inside rehearsals, organizing meetings, kitchens, dressing rooms, and virtual spaces to understand the historical development and making of the ultimate festival of the Oaxacan people. She is Co-PI on the "Soundscapes of the People: A Musical Ethnography of Pueblo, Colorado" project.



# JOHN CLARK

Mayor of Ridgway | He/Him

John Clark is a native Coloradan and has lived in Ridgway since 1982. After making his living as a glass artist for a quarter century, John made the rather unconventional switch to Apple-specific computer consultant. "I strive to help people get along with technology,

*Continued >*



..... PRESENTERS .....

*John Clark Continued >*

instead of feeling like they're always fighting it," he says. John was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Ridgway Town Council in 2000 and was elected mayor in April 2012. He is now in his thirteenth term on Council and in his seventh term as mayor. Additionally, he has been on the Ridgway Planning Commission since the mid '80s.



## ASHLEY CORNELIUS

Pikes Peak Region Poet Laureate | She/Her

Ashley Cornelius is the Pikes Peak Region Poet Laureate. She is a nationally recognized and multi-award-winning spoken-word poet, facilitator, cultural worker and keynote. Ashley is a Licensed Professional Counselor and uses poetry therapy interventions as a modality for healing. Ashley is the co-director of Poetry719, a Black-led poetry

group lifting the voices of BIPOC and marginalized communities through art. She is an experienced community organizer and uses art as a tool for activism and advocacy.



## KATHERINE CORRELL

Executive Director | Downtown Colorado, Inc

Kat is an innovative and creative strategist, who serves as a resource choreographer for local governments, non-profits, and private businesses hoping to achieve more with less. Born and raised in Denver, Colorado, Katherine has worked with development initiatives in Denver, New York, Chicago, Camden, and the Former

Soviet Union. Her focus on strategic planning and management focuses on building viable and sustainable private, public, and non-for-profit institutions and programs. Katherine received her master's degree in Public Administration for International Economic Development from Rutgers University and her bachelor's degree in Politics with a Minor in Urban Studies from New York University.

## BRIAN CORRIGAN

Chief Experience Officer | Farm - to - Spaceship | He/Him

*Continued >*

BRIAN CORRIGAN is a creative placemaking artist-designer-entrepreneur working at the intersection of experience design, technology, and community





..... PRESENTERS .....

# BRIAN CORRIGAN *Continued >*

Chief Experience Officer | Farm - to - Spaceship | He/Him

development. From building the first HAYcade (a video arcade made entirely from hay) to designing public engagement strategies that people (actually) enjoy, his practice spans and connects rural/urban/suburban communities. Corrigan is a founder of Farm-to-Spaceship, an Experience Economy workforce development accelerator working to ensure Colorado is the most fun state. Join us!

<https://farmtospaceship.com/>



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# TERA COUCHMAN WICK

Community Initiatives Facilitator | She/Her

Tera Couchman Wick serves as the Community Initiatives Facilitator for the Town of Ridgway, Colorado. She manages Ridgway FUSE, a combined Creative District and Main Street program that is activating The Decker Room, a community creative space located in Ridgway's Space to Create building. She brings over 25 years of experience facilitating visionary, resident-driven change in diverse rural and urban communities in Colorado and Oregon. An entrepreneur at heart, she has served in leadership roles in non-profit, government and philanthropic sectors. She is also a small business owner, parent and engaged citizen in Ridgway, Colorado.



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# CHRISTIN CRAMPTON DAY

Executive Director | Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA) | She/Her

Christin joined CBCA as Executive Director in February 2017. She has over 35 years of professional experience, including non-profit leadership and in the private sector as a small business owner. Prior to CBCA, she led a performing arts nonprofit and co-owned a public relations agency in Denver for over a decade. Christin is the Board President of The Dance Archive at University of Denver, and also serves as an Emeritus Board Member of Colorado Ballet.



..... PRESENTERS .....



## CARLOS CRULL

**Song of Pueblo Performer**

Carlos Crull plays tenor sax, sings, and has been a professional musician for over 45 years. His background includes contracts with Disney World, Universal Studios, and several luxury Cruise Lines. Musicians from every genre have featured his voice or sax on their CD's or DVD's as well as two of his own, and a DVD "A Passport

To Jazz" on which he performed and directed. He has opened for Smokey Robinson, Johnny Winter, Asleep At The Wheel, Sheila E., and recently performed with the Drifters. He currently plays locally with seven different groups and is "gigging" most every night.



## CHRISSEY DEAL

**Director | Leadership & Art + Social Change Grants | Bonfils-Stanton Foundation | She/Her**

In her current role at Bonfils-Stanton Foundation, Chrissy leads initiatives that support Denver-area community-focused, nonprofit leaders. She also guides grantmaking strategies for investing in and celebrating the artistic and cultural contributions of Black,

Indigenous, people of color, LGBTQ+, disability and other historically marginalized communities. With over 25 years of nonprofit and philanthropic experience, Chrissy is proud of her deep Colorado roots and resides in Denver's Northside with her husband and two sons.

## JENNIFER DEMPSEY

**Salida Circus Founder | She/Her**

Jennifer Dempsey is founder and former director of Salida Circus in Chaffee County, Colorado. A native of Fairfax, Virginia, Jennifer started circus training when she was 8 years old in an after school club. An acrobat, stiltwalker, juggler, aerialist and unicyclist

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..... PRESENTERS .....

## JENNIFER DEMPSEY

Salida Circus Founder | She/Her

*Continued >*

for 35 years, Jennifer has performed throughout the US, the UK, Ireland, Jordan and Guatemala as a member of the Belfast Circus, Circus 1 to 3, Circo Rum Ba Ba, Scarlet Sisters and Salida Circus.



## STACI DICKERSON

Art Sales & Launchpad Liaison | Carbondale Arts | She/Her

As a longtime Carbondale resident she has been involved in the arts for over 40 years. Among all the amazing things Staci does for Carbondale Arts, she manages The Launchpad, our community space for the arts. In that role she manages community bookings, facilities operations and the Artique gift shop.



## DENNIS DOYLE

MFA | Colorado Art Science Environment Fellow |  
University of Colorado Boulder | They/Them

( <sup>AND</sup>  
**BRI DOBSON** )  
PhD Candidate Chemistry  
*not pictured*

Dennis Doyle is an interdisciplinary researcher exploring queer ecologies of waste, atmospheric chemistry, and multi-sensory installation. They have exhibited nationwide, and are artist-in-residence at Brakhage Center for Media Arts. They are nationally recognized for their scholarship, including the Beinecke Scholarship and scientific publications Nanophotonics and ACS Optics. From Pittsburgh, Doyle has a BA in Studio Arts/BS in Chemistry at University of Pittsburgh and a CU Boulder MFA in Sculpture and Post-Studio Practice.



..... PRESENTERS .....



## ANNIE DRYSDALE

SOAR Co-Founder | Grant Manager | She/Her

Annie Drysdale (BA, MA Candidate 2025) is a SOAR co-founder and ally member serving as Grant Manager for the organization. Before entering graduate school, she spent two successful decades building her leadership skills in the creative for-profit sector. Pursuing a Master's Degree in Museum Studies from the University of Denver, she acts as the Exhibitions Manager for the

Davis Art Gallery. Her thesis work focuses on responsible integration of Indigenous Research Methods into museum practices.



## HELEN EBERHARDIE DUNN

Director SkySoul Environmental Art Collective (SSEAC) | Two Spirit

Currently Faculty in Residence, School of Creative Practice, Colorado State University-Pueblo Teaching Artist - Think 360 Arts, Denver, CO

<https://www.helleneberhardie.com/>

## DEBORAH ESPINOSA

Producer | Song of Pueblo | She/Her



Deborah Espinosa is producer of the oratorio, Song of Pueblo, a concert featuring 15 original compositions about the Pueblo region. In that capacity she contracted Daniel Valdez to compose the music and direct the first performance in 2008. Since her retirement after 25 years with History Colorado, Song of Pueblo, has been recognized for its superior music; its academic and historical value, and as a premier storytelling-performance.

..... PRESENTERS .....

## JUAN L. ESPINOSA

Artistic Director | Song of Pueblo | He/Him

Juan Espinosa retired from The Pueblo Chieftain after 22 as a reporter, columnist and night city editor. As artistic director for Song of Pueblo and years as a photo journalist, he produced the visual backdrop for performances. His photographs are archived at University of Colorado's Norlin Library, History Colorado, and Colorado State University Pueblo and appear in noted documentaries.

He holds an honorary doctorate in humane letters from the CU Board of Regents.



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## LARES FELICIANO

Arts Grants Manager | Redline Contemporary Art Center  
She/Her

Lares Feliciano is an artist and cultural worker based in Alamosa, CO. Feliciano uses animation, installation, and collage to create worlds where marginalized experiences are front and center and all of time exists at once. In 2020 she joined the RedLine staff as Art Grants Manager where she supports artists and organizations across Colorado. Lares believes that everyone is an artist and is on a mission to support creativity in all.



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## GINA FERRARI

Grants Program Director | Bonfils-Stanton Foundation  
She/Her

Gina Ferrari has been with Bonfils-Stanton Foundation for ten years as Director of the Grants Program. Prior to her current role, Gina worked as a nonprofit consultant and as the Director of Colorado Association of Funders (Philanthropy Colorado). Gina's early career includes ten+ years in arts marketing, fundraising and management for art museums. Gina is passionate about the arts personally and professionally, and the cross-sector impact the arts have in society.





..... PRESENTERS .....



## KAREN FOGLESONG

Artist / Muralist | She/Her

A lifelong creative, Karen Foglesong, has worked in dance, puppetry, theatre, improv, and performance art. An award-winning writer, director and producer, she is currently co-creating a podcast with long time co-creator, Erin Branham, Mythic U. She has worked in several areas to help Pueblo be it's better self, such as helping coordinate the annual Fine Arts Gallery Competition at the Colorado State Fair and facilitating youth programming at the Lamb Library. She currently serves on the Levee Advisory Committee and the Grupo Folklorico del Pueblo Board of Directors. She has seen it in action, repeatedly, and believes in the power of creativity in practice to transform lives and communities.



## FELICIA GALLEGOS

Song of Pueblo Performer

Felicia Gallegos, born and raised in Pueblo and currently residing in Denver, is honored and privileged to be part of the “Song of Pueblo” production. Having worked with Daniel Valdez for more than a decade, nothing could be more satisfying to her than singing the music Daniel wrote in honor of her hometown. Felicia has been performing professionally for over 30 years. She started as a vocalist and added acting to her resume in 2007. She recorded a 10-song EP with Acequia (Ah-seh-key-ah) in 2013, and has appeared in more than 20 productions in the Denver area, two movies, various streaming public service videos, and was an assistant theater educator to K-12 students in Denver and surrounding areas. She had the honor of portraying Lupe Briseño in Su Teatro’s production of “War of the Flowers” and was La Profesora in Su Teatro’s “Interview with a Mexican,” based on the writings of Gustavo Arellano (LA Times), which toured in 2018 and 2022. Felicia is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a BA in Anthropology, and she has worked towards a Master’s degree in Counseling Psychology from the University of Colorado at Denver. Felicia would like to thank her husband Chris Pettis for his tireless support of her performance career and their three children.



..... PRESENTERS .....

## SAM GALLEGOS

SOAR Co-Founder | Indigenous Teacher | He/Him

Co-founder Sam Gallegos (BS, ME) is Mescalero Apache (Dad's side) and Southern Cheyenne (Mom's side) and a direct descendent of Picken Bones Woman, Southern Cheyenne. Since 1990 he has been teaching/educating in a variety of settings, and is currently an adjunct professor at CSU Pueblo, creating a new Native American/Indigenous studies program. As a Native American cultural teacher, he has recently worked with other educators across the state to develop K-12 curriculum.



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## ROBIN GALLITE

Deputy Director | Redline Contemporary Art Center

She/Her

Robin is an educator, artist, advocate and explorer of different cultures. She is also a quasi-Buddhist and has a passion for fashion. Prior to joining the RedLine team in 2011, she taught middle school math and visual arts at Aurora Public Schools for five years and in Monterrey, Mexico for one. Robin believes that artists can be powerful agents for social change, by promoting education and community engagement. At RedLine, Robin gets to challenge conventional ways of teaching, thinking, making art, and being in the world.

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## MATTHEW GARCIA

Assistant Professor | Colorado State University-Pueblo

He/Him

Matthew Garcia is an internationally recognized artist and the founder of the interdisciplinary Chicana environmental artist collaborative, DesertArtLAB. Garcia is currently an Assistant Professor at Colorado State University Pueblo. His work has been presented nationally and internationally at venues such as: Holt/Smithson Foundation, Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts (Paris France), Galeria de La Raza (San Francisco), Museum of Contemporary Native Art (Santa Fe, NM), Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara, Dom Museum (Vienna, Austria). Garcia is also a recipient of the Creative Capital in Emerging Fields.



..... PRESENTERS .....

## ANDREA GIBSON

Colorado State Poet Laureate | They/Them



Andrea Gibson is the Poet Laureate of Colorado and one of the most celebrated and influential spoken word artists of our time. Best known for their live performances, Gibson has changed the landscape of what it means to attend a “poetry show”. Gibson’s poems center around LGBTQ issues, spirituality, feminism, mental health and social justice. Andrea is the author of seven books, most recently “You Better Be Lightning”.

## DAVE GOE

Community Engagement Manager | Downtown Grand Junction | He/Him



Dave is the Community Engagement Manager for Downtown Grand Junction – DDA, BID, and creative district. Dave’s work downtown is focused on developing projects, events, and community space that benefit and grow community interaction. Arts and culture have always played a key role in downtown’s success. Uplifting our local creative economy by creating opportunities throughout downtown is a particular focus of Dave’s work. Dave is a Colorado Creative Industries Certified Change Leader and a Boettcher Foundation Doer and Difference Maker Fellow.

## ANDREW GROSSMAN

Director of Destination Development | Colorado Tourism Office

As Director of Destination Development for the Colorado Tourism Office Andrew works with communities across the state to realize their potential as tourism destinations. Guided by the belief that we are all stronger together, he helps identify common challenges and opportunities within a diverse set of tourism stakeholders to develop a common vision for the change they want to see in their community.

*Continued >*

..... PRESENTERS .....

## ANDREW GROSSMAN

Director of Destination Development |  
Colorado Tourism Office *Continued >*

Prior to joining the Colorado Tourism Office, Andrew was the Destination Development Manager for Travel Oregon and the Director of Partnerships for Sustainable Travel International. In his free time he can be found backpacking to alpine lakes or soaking in Colorado's eclectic hot springs.



## LAURA HART

Salida Circus Director | She/Her

Laura Hart joined Salida Circus in 2016 when her two young children joined a free workshop at the Buena Vista Library. A former gymnast and pre school teacher, Laura was a stiltwalker, acrobat and face painter before taking on the role of Salida Circus director.



## NICKI HART

Founder and CEO Digital Hart Designs | She/Her

Since 2007, Digital Hart Media has delivered fresh, dynamic and standout creative content for everything from brand assets, video commercials, live streams, social media, and interactive websites. From hard-working small businesses to nonprofits with amazing causes. We join your team as creative partners, educational cheerleaders and advocates for your success.



## AMY HOAGLAND

Colorado Art Science Environment Fellow | Assistant Professor of Photography  
Adams State University | She/Her

AND  
(TANIA SCHOENNAGEL)  
CU Scientist | INSTAAR

*Continued >*

*not pictured*



..... PRESENTERS .....

## AMY HOAGLAND (AND TANIA SCHOENNAGEL)

*Continued >*



Amy Hoagland creates sculptural installations about the human relationship within nature. She received her BFA from the University of Kentucky and her MFA in Sculpture from University of Colorado Boulder. Amy received the 2022 Windgate Fellowship for sustainable art presented by Honoring the Future. She has completed residencies with the Arctic Circle Program, Mountain Research Station in Nederland, CO, Marpha Foundation in Marpha, Nepal, and others. This year, Amy had a solo

exhibition with RULE gallery in Marfa, TX.

<https://www.amyhoagland.com>

[Instagram - @amyhoaglandstudio](#)



## DAVID HOLLAND

Deputy Director | WESTAF | He/Him

David Holland is the Deputy Director at WESTAF where he guides its advocacy and public policy programs; leads external relations; and spearheads leadership and professional development programming, funding, and technical assistance and services for 16 states and jurisdictions in the West and Pacific. Holland serves as

the Co-Chair of the Creative States Coalition, a national coalition of citizen advocacy groups and their partners.



## WENDY HOLMES

Senior Vice President | Artspace Consulting | She/Her

Wendy Holmes is curious about cities, and what makes them work well and equitably. She's lived in Minnesota since attending Macalester College, but her roots are on an Illinois farm. Wendy has worked for the Walker Art Center, the Science Museum of Minnesota, Minnesota Public Radio, and her alma mater. Wendy has been active

on local and national boards and advisory committees including James Sewell Ballet, the Urban Land Institute, Cantus, and the Minneapolis Park Foundation. Wendy is a national resource for information about what makes cities special and how artists and creatives are essential to healthy communities.



..... PRESENTERS .....

# GREGORY HOWELL

Faculty CSU Pueblo School of Creativity and Practice | Owner of Kadoya Gallery |  
Co-founder of Pueblo Star Journal | He/Him

Storyteller, curator and creative economy consultant, Gregory made his way to Pueblo via Tokyo to join a team of innovative physicians in the launch of a network of medical clinics in Colorado and Texas. Since his arrival, Gregory has been listening to and learning from the extraordinary stories of how the Pueblo community fosters a powerful environment where the arts, history, and culture empower discovery.



# KEANDRA HUNT

Community and Youth Program Coordinator | Creative Strategies for Change | They/She

keandra hunt - mover, actor, vocalist, trivia host, keandra is a creative human at heart! New to Denver and recent graduate from Texas Tech University obtaining a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting, keandra is eager to grow and learn what Colorado has to offer. keandra interned with Creative Strategies for Change through the DITA internship program and has found themselves as the Community and Youth Program Coordinator. A lover of food, nature and travel, keandra enjoys learning and being in community.



# HOLLY K. HURD

Manager of Community Engagement & Exhibitions |  
Arts Students League of Denver | DITA Internship  
Program | She/Her

Holly-Kai (Kay)Hurd is a Visual Artist & Arts Educator. Using textiles as her primary medium, her work focuses on art as a means of time travel, preservation and healing. A Colorado native and graduate of Emerson College, Boston, she's worked with all ages and a host of organizations such as The WaShonaji African American Quilt Guild, Meow Wolf, The Denver Public Library, Denver Public Schools, The Gathering Place, Lighthouse Writers Workshop, Gee Spot Cine Films (NY) and more.



..... PRESENTERS .....

## BETH JOHNSTON

Colorado Art Science Environment Fellow | Assistant Professor of Photography  
Adams State University | She/Her



AND  
**( KENDI DAVIES )**  
CU Scientist | E-Bio  
*not pictured*

Beth Johnston is an interdisciplinary artist whose work spans photography, video, installation, and social practice. Her current research explores visual media's role in the formation of cultural imaginaries and how art can be a site for public education and transformation. Beth received an MFA in Photography from Rhode Island

School of Design in 2022. She is currently based in the high mountain desert of Salida, Colorado and is an Assistant Professor of Photography at Adams State University.

<https://beth-johnston.com/>



## JEAN LATKA

Professional Studio Artist | She/Her

Jean Latka has been a professional studio artist for 30 years. I have contributed to numerous articles on pottery and sculpture to trade publications and have won many prizes for his art work, which can be found in private and corporate collections, public spaces and galleries throughout the U.S.



## TOM LATKA

Professional Studio Artist | He/Him

Tom Latka has been a professional studio artist for 30 years. I have contributed to numerous articles on pottery, glass and sculpture to trade publications and have won many prizes for his art work, which can be found in private and corporate collections, public spaces and galleries throughout the U.S. He and his wife of 50 years wrote a book called "Ceramic Extruding"

..... PRESENTERS .....

## JILL LOCANTORE

Executive Director | Denver Streets Partnership

Jill Locantore is Executive Director for the Denver Streets Partnership, which advocates for the cultural and systemic changes necessary to reduce Denver's unsustainable dependence on cars and to design communities that put people first. Previously, Jill was the Executive Director of the pedestrian advocacy organization WalkDenver, and also worked for the Denver Regional Council of Governments and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, where she supported regional efforts to coordinate land use and transportation planning.



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## DANA MAESTAS

Author | Gallery Owner | She/Her

Dana D. Valdez Maestas was born in Alamosa, and raised in San Luis, CO. She has been married to Huberto Maestas for 45 years and is an eighth-generation resident of the Culebra villages near San Luis. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Communications and Marketing from the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colo. She is an author, gallery owner, grant writer and community advocate.



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## HUBERTO MAESTAS

Sculptor | Foundry Owner | He/Him

Huberto Maestas is from San Luis, Colorado. Born of an old Hispanic family, Huberto's life-size Stations of the Cross Shrine on the Hill is his best known work. He studied sculpture at Adams State University, established a foundry and has work in cities and churches throughout the United States. "They give me the image, and I try to bring the humanity into it." He says symbolism is crucial.



..... PRESENTERS .....

## LUCHA MARTINEZ DE LUNA

Director of the Chicano/a/x Murals of Colorado Project | She/Her



Lucha Martinez de Luna is an archaeologist specializing in Mesoamerican and Contemporary Archaeology. She has worked on numerous archaeological projects in the Southwest, American West, and central and southern Mexico. She serves as associate curator of Latino Heritage at History Colorado and is a Ph.D. student at the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology at the University of California Los Angeles. Lucha is the director of the La Providencia Archaeological Project and field school and is a visiting professor at the University of Science and Arts in Chiapas,

Mexico. She grew up surrounded by Chicano/a/x art and muralism in Colorado. Upon witnessing the destruction of historic and legacy Chicano murals throughout the state, she began archiving their stories and the stories of the muralists. Lucha is the Director of the Chicano/a/x Murals of Colorado Project, a grassroots organization that advocates for protecting historical and legacy community murals in Colorado. The project collaborates with communities, artists, and cultural institutions to develop education and preservation projects to celebrate the visual heritage of Colorado.

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## LOUISE MARTORANO

Executive Director | RedLine Contemporary Art Center | She/Her



Louise Martorano is the Executive Director of RedLine, a non-profit contemporary art center and residency located in Denver, Colorado. RedLine's mission is to foster education and engagement between artists and communities to create positive social change. Under her leadership, RedLine has received the Denver Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts (2014 & 2015), was acknowledged by Denver Public Schools for excellence in community engagement, and has presented over 100 exhibitions over the past 10 years.

..... PRESENTERS .....

## VANESSA McCRANN

Community Manager for Startup Colorado | She/Her

Vanessa McCrann supports rural entrepreneurship in Colorado through the Startup Colorado Community as their Community Manager. You can find her hosting Lean Coffee virtual networking events every month, where rural entrepreneurs and business support agents gather to share resources and business advice. Vanessa lives in Durango, with her husband who is an abstract artist. She has an undergraduate degree in Art History, a graduate degree in Arts Administration, and a passion for helping communities better support local artists.



## DAMON McLEESE

Direct | Access Gallery | He/Him

Damon McLeese is a visionary leader who has dedicated his career to promoting accessibility, inclusion, and innovation in the arts. As the Executive Director of Access Gallery for more than 25 years, Damon has been a driving force behind the organization's success in unlocking the creative power of people regardless of their background, ability, or experience. Damon's work has been recognized with numerous awards, including the 2019 Bonfils Stanton Arts and Society Award, the 2017 Governors Award for Leadership in the Arts, and the 2014 Mayor's Award for Innovation in the Arts. He has also been a speaker at the 2016 Tedx Mile High event and the 2022 Tedx CU event.



## MI CHANTLI MOVEMENT AND ARTS SANCTUARY

Mi Chantli is a movement and arts sanctuary in Boulder, Colorado that offers dance classes, open studio time, community events, rentals, and a home for all creatives. Mi Chantli's main goal is to cultivate community and give dancers, poets and artists a place to be. Chantli is an Aztec word that means home, and the message shared is that Mi Chantli es tu Chantli. Mi Chantli is proudly Mexican/Chicano owned and was co-founded by Changa and Mario Jose Olivera.





..... PRESENTERS .....



## ALEXIS MOORE

Principal Planner | City of Lakewood | She/Her

Alexis Moore, AICP, is a Denver-based urban planner who is passionate about the intersection of arts and planning. Alexis works as a Principal Planner with the City of Lakewood and leads planning and implementation for the 40 West ArtLine, a 4-mile long free outdoor arts experience in the heart of the state-certified 40 West Arts

Creative District. She serves on the Board of Directors for 40 West Arts, is serving her second term on the Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs, and is a graduate of the Colorado Business Committee for the Arts' Leadership Arts program.



## CHRIS MURPHY

Knowledge Translation Specialist | Rocky Mountain ADA Center | He/Him

Chris Murphy is a Knowledge Translation Specialist who focuses on architectural elements of the ADA, and title II/III of the law. He focuses on covered entity's obligations for providing accessibility interplay with existing structures and new design elements for The Rocky Mountain ADA

Center. He joined the team in 2016. Chris lives with an invisible disability, Brachial Plexus Palsy, which is permanent nerve damage in his left arm/hand/shoulder caused by a traumatic birth injury. He is a former Team USA Para-Cycling National Team member. Chris studied music performance in college at California State University, Fullerton with a focus on BM Trombone performance.



## TARIANA NAVAS-NIEVES

Director of Cultural Affairs | Denver Arts & Venues | She/Her/Ella

Tariana Navas-Nieves has 30 years of experience in arts and cultural policy, venue management, equity work and philanthropy. Navas-Nieves serves on the boards of Philanthropy Colorado (Chair), Grantmakers in the Arts (Chair) and Colorado Business Committee for the Arts. She

is co-author of the nationally recognized grantmaking toolkit [Re-Tool: Racial Equity in the Panel Process](#), and created the popular series ["How to be an Anti-Racist Organization: A Conversation with Dwinita & Tariana"](#).



..... PRESENTERS .....

## AUSTIN OKIGBO

Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology | University of Colorado Boulder | He/Him



Austin C. Okigbo is an associate professor in the College of Music and affiliate faculty in Ethnic Studies and Global Health at CU Boulder. He received his PhD in Ethnomusicology and African Studies from Indiana University, Bloomington, and a master's in Sacred Music and Music Education from Westminster Choir College. His research focuses on religious music, musical diasporas, global health, inter-religious and inter-cultural dialogues. Okigbo has featured in a number of local and international radio and television programs including BBC, Channels TV Lagos, Nigeria and Black Radio Consortium as contributor and analyst on the entertainment industry, and cultural education and policy. He is the author of Music, Culture, and the Politics of Health: Ethnography of a South African AIDS Choir (Rowman and Littlefield, 2016). He is Co-PI on the "Soundscapes of the People: A Musical Ethnography of Pueblo, Colorado" project.



## SHANNON PALMER

Artist | Muralist | She/Her (DEADHAND)

Shannon Palmer is a local artist living and working in Pueblo, CO and goes by the name "DEADHAND." She has been one of the Pueblo Levee muralists since 2020. She is the owner of deadhandArt, a creative company that provides mural services and works with galleries all over the state of Colorado to sell her Fine Art. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Colorado State University- Pueblo in 2021 with her Bachelors in Fine Art and has been working as a full-time creative ever since.



..... PRESENTERS .....



## SAM PAULIN

LCSW | Holistic Therapist | Yoga Guide & Sound Healer | She/Her

Samantha (Sam) Paulin is a licensed clinical social worker and holistic wellness practitioner committed to fostering safe spaces for collective healing in BIPOC communities. As a certified yoga instructor, meditation guide, and sound healer, she provides a holistic approach to well-being that integrates the mind, body, and spirit. Sam's warm and

inviting demeanor creates a nurturing environment where individuals can cultivate self-awareness, reconnect with their bodies, and discover newfound clarity, focus, and calm.

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## BRENDAN PICKER-MAHONEY

Public Art Program Manager | City of Boulder | He/Him



Brendan Picker-Mahoney has been managing public art projects for almost 15 years, first with the City of Albuquerque, then the City and County of Denver and now with the City of Boulder. Before that, Picker worked extensively in galleries and museums. With a Bachelor's in Fine Art from the Rhode Island School of Design and a Master's in Community Planning from the University of New Mexico, he loves the intersection of art, community, and public policy.



## NIKKI PIKE

Artist | She/Her

A Colorado native raised in a humble home, Nikki Pike grew a wild imagination early on her banana seat bike, climbing trees, hunting for snipes and the end of the rainbow. Her expansive practice straddles Public Art and Service Art featured at the DAM, Green Box Arts, and Art Basel Miami. Most recently, Nikki's work has been

collected by The Museum of Art of Wyoming; DMNS, and CSU SPUR. Nikki's home and studio are in Denver and she holds a principal instructorship at the University of Colorado.

..... PRESENTERS .....

## HEATHER PRESSMAN

Director of Learning & Engagement | Historic Denver Inc.'s Molly Brown House Museum | She/Her

Heather Pressman is an educator with a passion for accessibility and inclusion. She believes that everyone has the right to access and enjoy cultural experiences regardless of their abilities or disabilities. As an educator, author, and museum practitioner, her work focuses on museum education and accessibility, particularly at historic sites. She currently serves as the Director of Learning & Engagement working to expand access, despite the physical challenges of a 135-year-old historic house. She holds a M.A. in Museum Studies and is editor of *An Accessible Past: Making Historic Sites Accessible* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2023) and co-author of *The Art of Access: A Practical Guide for Museum Accessibility* (Rowan & Littlefield, 2021).



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## CYNTHIA RAMU

Pueblo Levee Mural Project Coordinator | Muralist | She/Her

Retired 20-year Art Educator at Pueblo School for Arts and Science. 2005 Colorado Art Educator of the Year. Cynthia has lived in Pueblo for over 30 years and originally moved here to paint murals on the Levee with the vision of getting the Pueblo Levee Murals into the Guinness World Book of Records. We held the World Record for over 23 years, 1995-2018. Currently, we are working to get our record back over the past 3 years.



..... PRESENTERS .....



## DAVE RATNER

Principal | Creative Law Network | He/Him

It isn't often that you run into a band manager turned lawyer. But that's Dave Ratner. During his career in the music and entertainment industry, Dave learned first-hand the important legal considerations and challenges creative professionals face. Dave channeled his passion into Creative Law Network, a law firm built specifically for creative professionals. Dave advises both creative and general business clients on all aspects of intellectual property and business law. Dave is the Colorado Attorneys for the Arts (CAFTA) Advisory Committee Chair and on the Board of Swallow Hill and Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA).



## MEGHAN RAUKER

Community Engagement Officer | She/They

Raised in Idaho and now rooted in Colorado, Meghan is an active collaborator within local entrepreneurial ecosystems. With nearly a decade of experience in program management, fundraising, and business advising, she firmly believes in the power of the collective and works to advance financial inclusion. They are particularly passionate about reducing barriers to capital, creating opportunities for financial sustainability for creatives.



## CHARLES REESE

Program Officer | the Colorado Health Foundation | He/Him

Working from the federal to the local level, Charles Reese has focused his career on the power that operations and processes can play in improving equity for those who live on the margins. Throughout his career, he's prioritized work with communities of color, and is honored for the opportunity to ensure that the Foundation listens, learns and lends a hand to lift up necessary services and supports that can positively impact the lives of Coloradans.



..... PRESENTERS .....

## MIREYA RINNA

**Music Director for Song of Pueblo**

Mireya Rinna is Music Director for “Song of Pueblo.” She began her love affair with music and harmony at the age of five. She is a beloved band-leader, music director, vocal director, and vocal coach. She has led bands in the Denver area for the last 22 years and has worked with some Denver’s finest musicians, (including Felicia Gallegos Pettis!) both as a band leader and vocal coach. Mireya has had the honor of having worked side by side with Daniel Valdez and Anthony J Garcia as vocal director. She and Felicia are working on an album. She currently has a vocal studio and offers voice lessons via Skype. She lives in Arvada, CO with her husband Dennis and their dog Joey.



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## REBECCA ROBLES

**SOAR Indigenous Teacher | She/Her**

Patli Mayahuel Cihua (MBA/MPP) is a Chicana with Indigenous roots in the Aztec & Purepecha peoples of Michoacan, Mexico. She is a student-teacher of Mexican Traditional Medicine, or Curanderismo, and an Aztec dancer with Grupo Xochitl. She began studying Curanderismo in August of 2020 with Maestra CC, Maestra Paula, and Maestro D’Santi of the Kalpulli Teocalli Ollin (Community of Sacred House of Energy). Before that, she had been studying Ayurveda and Chinese Medicine since 2016.



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## SARA RODRIGUEZ

**Arts Integration Management Cons. | She/Her**

Born in Venezuela, longtime Montrealer, polyglot, and travel lover, Sara has been happily based in Summit County, Colorado since 2020. First as a teaching artist and now she has the honor of running the Vivo program at Theatre SilCo – the only no cost after school programming in the county. Sara is passionate about new play development both as a director and dramaturg.



..... PRESENTERS .....



## SARA ROYBAL

CEO and Artistic Director of Grupo Folklórico del Pueblo | She/Her

Sara Roybal has received her MFA in Dance with a graduate certificate in Ethnic Studies from CU Boulder. She is the Artistic Director of Grupo Folklórico del Pueblo focused on choreographing in the Chicana aesthetic. Her research and techniques focus on Mexican folklore, modern, Latin social, hip hop, and post-modern genres. Sara's research consciously collides the cultural, social, economic, traditional, and contemporary borders. She focuses on the historical impetus of Mexican folklore in the USA and its growth and development of the cultural representation of it today through a Chicana lens.



## CAYLA SALAS

Education & Programs Manager | Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center | She/Her

Having obtained her BFA from CSU Pueblo with an emphasis in ceramics, Cayla has worked for the Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center for over 7 years in a multitude of capacities. Currently serving as Education & Programs Manager, she has been instrumental in the revival of the Art Center's ceramics studio and programs. In addition to operation and growth of the clay studio, Cayla contributes to the development of educational and artistic programs.

## CARLOS SANDOVAL

Artist | He/Him

Born in the Oldest Town in Colorado, San Luis, artist Carlos Sandoval artist career has come full circle. Carlos began his career as an artist. After graduating from East High School in 1962, Sandoval joined the Navy for four years. He went on to study art at the Pittsburg Art Institute in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. After attending Metro State University and the University of Colorado in Denver, he went on to Sevilla, Spain in pursuit of art Studies. Sandoval's most significant recognition as an artist and muralist was a 1980 mural

*Continued >*

..... PRESENTERS .....

## CARLOS SANDOVAL

Artist | He/Him *Continued >*

“Synthesis” commissioned by the Mexican Government in the town of Ixtapa, Zihuantanejo. He is the only American muralist to receive such an honor. Carlos has painted murals in Denver and in his hometown of San Luis, Colorado. In 2023, his mural “Sierras y Colores” was designated into the National Register of Historic Places. The mural is the first in the country to receive this distinction. His work has shown in galleries in Spain, Mexico, University of Colorado, Metro State University, CHAC, Harvard University, and Yale University. Sandoval has been recognized by many organizations, most recently, as a recipient of the Civil Rights Award during NEWSED 50th Anniversary Celebration.



## DANIELLE SCHULZ

Associate Director of Lifelong Learning and Accessibility at the Denver Art Museum | She/Her

Danielle Schulz is the Associate Director of Lifelong Learning and Accessibility at the Denver Art Museum. During her 15 years in the art education field, she has worked closely alongside community members to bring attention to and elevate the role of creativity in healthy aging for adults of all ages and abilities. She received a master’s degree in art education from The University of Texas at Austin and co-authored the book, *The Art of Access: A Practical Guide for Museum Accessibility* (Rowan & Littlefield, 2021).



## LISA SCHWARTZ

PhD | Colorado Art Science Environment Program Lead | CU Boulder Office for Outreach and Engagement | She/Her

Lisa Schwartz supports public and community-engaged scholarship through the development of university-community partnerships. Lisa leads the [Colorado Art Science Environment CASE Fellows](#), the [Engaged Arts](#)



*Continued >*

..... PRESENTERS .....

## LISA SCHWARTZ *Continued >*

PhD | Colorado Art Science Environment Program Lead | CU Boulder Office for Outreach and Engagement | She/Her

and Humanities (EAH) Graduate Student Scholars, and facilitates the Antiracism in the Arts Study Group. She has a doctorate in education from the University of Arizona. Prior to joining the office she was a postdoctoral scholar and research director for a CU Boulder MacArthur Connected Learning Research Network project.



## EMILY SHUMAN

Director | Rocky Mountain ADA Center | She/Her

Emily Shuman is the Director of the Rocky Mountain ADA Center (RMADAC). She leads the Center's staff and operations and is responsible for ensuring the objectives of the organization are met. She works with the ADA National Network and other Regional Directors to improve operational practices and expand ADA Network services. She serves as the Center's spokesperson and works with the media to promote awareness and implementation of the ADA. As a person with multiple hidden disabilities, Emily is passionate about empowering businesses and individuals to understand their rights and responsibilities under the ADA.



## JILL M. STARKEY

Artist | Teacher | She/Her

Jill was born in 1950 in Newark, New Jersey. She moved in 1972 to Denver Colorado to attend Rocky Mt School of Art. (after 3 years at Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts, Newark NJ) Jill moved to San Luis Valley in 1974 and started teaching art privately in 1982. She ran a sign painting business in Saguache County San Luis Valley 1982-1992. She is a founding member of Steel City Art Works Gallery Pueblo 2006 to present. Jill currently teaches 2 classes a week at her home studio.



..... PRESENTERS .....

## MICHAEL STOUT

Community Engagement Director | Carbondale Arts |  
He/Him

As Community Engagement Director, Michael oversees education and creative district programming to support Carbondale Arts' mission of building community through art. Through his experience in graphic design, community planning and public art, Michael creates and manages opportunities for artists to be a sustaining part of our civic life. He currently serves as the chair of the Carbondale Public Arts Commission and sits on the Tourism Council of Carbondale.



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## METTJE SWIFT

Banner Sculptor-Artist | Production Studio Owner |  
She/Her

Mettje is an Artist/Owner. Born 1951 in Golden, CO. Studied Art and Theater Arts in University. In 1978 she focused on fabric art; border-applique nylon fabric tapestry. Banner Art Studio (BAS), established 1986 to produce her commissioned projects. BAS moved to Del Norte, CO in 1995 and has 2 contract banner makers. Mettle holds a M.A. from Adams State University and a B.A. in Art Marketing from Fort Lewis College.



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## CLAIRE SWINFORD

Executive Director | Bee Vradenburg Foundation |  
She/Her

Claire Swinford centers equity and inclusion across the work of Bee Vradenburg Foundation to advance the relevance, resilience, and greatness of the arts in the Pikes Peak Region. She serves on the advisory board of the UCCS Galleries of Contemporary Art, and has been recognized as a Mayor's Young Leader in Creative Industries and a Pikes Peak Arts Council Rising Star for her cultural advocacy as well as her work as a narrative figure painter.





..... PRESENTERS .....



## SUSAN THOMAS

Director | Butler School of Music | University of Texas at Austin | She/Her

Susan Thomas is director of the Sarah and Ernest Butler School of Music and Florence Thelma Hall Centennial Chair in Music at the University of Texas at Austin. Until July, 2023 she directed the American Music Research Center at the University of Colorado

Boulder. She is the principal investigator of CU Boulder's "Soundscapes of the People: A Musical Ethnography of Pueblo, Colorado" research initiative, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the University of Colorado Boulder Office of Research & Innovation, the University of Colorado Boulder Office of Outreach and Engagement, and the University of Texas at Austin College of Fine Arts.



## BIMMER TORRES

Artist | He/Him

Bimmer Torres is a Mexican muralist and sculptor who grew up in Denver, CO. Throughout the 90's, his exposure to the Chicano-themed murals and graffiti had a great impact on him. In the span of Bimmer's 18+ year career, he successfully produced numerous artworks. His work is a synthesis of bright colors from Zarape patterns to hyper-realistic portraits, plants, animals and cultural artifacts.

## KARLA TRUJILLO

PhD Student Learning Sciences and Human Development | University of Colorado Boulder | She/Them

Karla Trujillo is a dancer, activist and a community artist who specializes in action media. Her work concentrates on capturing energy, in movement, utilizing video,

*Continued >*



..... PRESENTERS .....

# KARLA TRUJILLO *Continued >*

PhD Student Learning Sciences and Human Development | University of Colorado Boulder | She/Them

sound recordings and photography. Trujillo is part of the **University-Community-Links** network which uses innovative strategies to engage youth, and families in co-developing art programs that include photographic exhibitions, dance presentations, cultural festivals, community events, and art installations that allows for co-learners and co-creators, of all ages, to experience collective creativity.



# MARCUS TURNER

Associate Executive Director of External Relations | Lone Tree Arts Center | He/Him

Marcus Turner is joining the Lone Tree Arts Center having spent his entire career in the arts. Originally from the Midwest, Marcus came to Colorado to pursue graduate studies in music at CU Boulder. After obtaining a master's degree in musicology, Marcus has since worked in marketing, fundraising, higher education, and grantmaking for organizations like the University of Denver, Northwestern University, SCFD, and the Arvada Center.



# DARYA WARNER

Colorado Art Science Environment Fellow | Assistant Professor of Fine Arts | Air Force Academy | They/Them or She/Her

( **SUZANNE ANDERSON** )  
AND  
CU Scientist | Geosciences  
*not pictured*

*Continued >*

..... PRESENTERS .....

## DARYA WARNER (AND SUZANNE ANDERSON)

*Continued >*



Darya Warner works at the intersection of art and science and bridges creative processes and connections with human and non-human actors through the prism of Climate Change. They address site-specific histories and ecologies to mine a new form of hybrid space for “intermatter” interaction, emphasizing the interconnectivity of intelligence across species. They received a BFA from the School of Visual Arts and an MFA from University of Buffalo. Born in Ukraine, they have exhibited internationally. [www.daryawarner.com/](http://www.daryawarner.com/)



## AAVALAJN WIGGINS

**Song of Pueblo Performer**

Aavalajn Wiggins has been a professional percussionist since the age of 13. Touring with local, and national acts on drum set, Latin percussion, symphonic percussion as well as marching percussion. Aavalajn has been a studio musician for many different styles of music including, Rock, funk, pop, country, jazz and classical genres. Currently he continues to play local shows, festivals, studio recordings as well as the local symphony and runs a private percussion school called the Colorado Percussive Arts Performance Conservatory; for performing percussionist only and highly committed Artist.



## HELANIUS K. WILKINS

**Associate Professor of Dance |  
University of Colorado Boulder | He/Him**

Helanius J. Wilkins, a native of Lafayette, Louisiana, is an award-winning choreographer, performance artist, innovator, and educator who engages artmaking to forge paths towards social change and equitable landscapes. Wilkins’s creative research and projects are rooted in the interconnections of American contemporary performance, cultural history, and identities of Black men. In his intermedia collaborations he works with artists from a wide range of disciplines, including film, video, and design.

..... PRESENTERS .....

## WAYNE WILKINSON

Song of Pueblo Performer

Wayne Wilkinson is a headliner jazz guitarist who performs and tours across the country and internationally. Throughout his over four-decade career, Wayne has shared the stage with iconic jazz musicians, world class performers and a President of the United States. An artist with Benedetto guitars, GHS Strings, and Jim Dunlop picks, Wilkinson is known for his high-octane melodic playing which world-renowned jazz trombonist Bill Watrous described as “the greatest guitar playing I’ve ever heard.” In addition to concerts; festivals; jazz clubs; recital series; jazz and swing societies and private venue events, recent performances have included the London, Tel Aviv, and Vail Jazz Festivals; a United Kingdom Tour, and Hawaii Tour. Wilkinson has played at the White House, Carnegie Hall and at major jazz and music festivals with the premier Air Force Jazz Ensembles “The Airmen of Note” in Washington, D.C. and the “Falconaires” in Colorado Springs, Colorado.



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## KEN WILLIAMS

Artist | Owner | He/Him

Ken and his wife Judith began a collaborative career in the arts in 1969 and turned their passion into a thriving family business. Their focus on ceramic started in college and became their lifetime pursuit when they established their studio. They soon had an opportunity to create a brick sculpture and build a clientele for their pottery business. The Williams continue to be very excited about the possibilities and are drawn to the versatility and expressive potential of clay. Over four decades of work within this medium and working closely with Summit Brick Company, has given them and their four daughters (Alison Musso, Audrey Williams – Durham, Gwyn Williams and Brooke Williams) rich insight into the many aspects of ceramics; from massive sound barrier walls to coffee mugs. They like the challenge of integrating our work with the man-made and natural world. They see their art as a connection between these two. The Williams are intrigued by how their personal expression is shaped by the requirements and methods involved in creating public artwork and still find enjoyment in creating personal works of art that became part of families lives and homes.



..... PRESENTERS .....



## RUTH WILSON

Director of Administration and Partnerships |  
Colorado Creative Industries | She/Her

Ruth Wilson joined Colorado Creative Industries in 2014 and manages Colorado's Art in Public Places Program. She has an extensive background in the arts, including working at the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the Biennial of the Americas, the Denver Art Museum and the SCFD.

Ruth earned a MA in Arts Administration from New York University and a BA from Colorado College. She currently serves on the Jefferson County Cultural Council.

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## DR. MARYLIN MICHAEL WINCHESTER

Professor of Music Theory | She/Her



Dr. Marilyn Michael Winchester is an accomplished vocalist and educator with a fascination for the Pythagorean Theory of Music for Healing and the vocal work of Hildegard Von Bingen. With her master's degree in Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Kansas, Dr Winchester has won numerous awards throughout her career. Invited to be Instructor/Performer at the Interrharmony Music Festival, Acqua di Terme/Milan ITALY in 2018 and 2019, she currently teaches music theory at Pueblo Community College as well as directing the choir for King of Kings Lutheran Church in Pueblo.



## DR. KAREN YESCAVAGE

Director of Creative Wellness | CSU Pueblo | She/Her

Karen Yescavage, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Colorado State University-Pueblo, created/coordinates the Creative Wellness program, a new interdisciplinary minor promoting well-being through various forms of creative expression. Two of her Creative Wellness classes

*Continued >*



..... PRESENTERS .....

## DR. KAREN YESCAVAGE

Director of Creative Wellness | CSU Pueblo | She/Her

*Continued >*

have painted 24' x 36' murals on the Pueblo levee. She built her own strawbale home and is turning an old grain silo into an art studio. She has trained in Theatre of the Oppressed, Playback Theater, and Therapeutic Clowning.

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## ANTOINE 'BIGSAMIR' ZAMUNDU

Antoine 'BigSamir' Zamundu is a bilingual emcee who has steadily been making his mark on the hip hop and world music scene. By bringing together the genres of hip hop, soul, reggae, and African rhythms, his eclectic style in combination with his smooth flow (with which he seamlessly transitions from English to French), and his inspirational, socially conscious music, the Congolese lyricist has found a way to bridge cultural gaps while sending positive message. Though he was born in Brussels, Belgium, "Big Samir" spent most of his childhood in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo. He draws much musical inspiration from his memories of his African upbringing. Themes of family, faith, perseverance, gratitude, and love form the perfect backdrop for his message of overcoming obstacles and aspiring to achieve the very best in life. Samir is also an accomplished speaker, facilitating workshops and residencies in universities across the country. As 1/2 of the successful soulful hip duo The Reminders, along with his wife Aja Black, and the group is often revered among contemporary hip hop circles. Learn more about Big Samir:



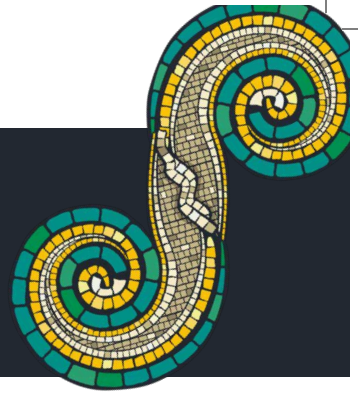
**[Instagram - @BigSamir](#) and [The Reminders at www.thereindersmusic.com](http://www.thereindersmusic.com).**

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Colorado Creative Industries



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**CCI'S MISSION:**  
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**Our mission is to promote, support and expand the creative industries to drive Colorado's economy, grow jobs and enhance our quality of life. The creative economy subgroups are design, film and media, literary and publishing, performing arts, visual arts and design, and heritage.**

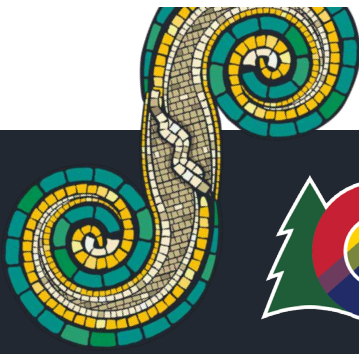
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**ABOUT US**  
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Colorado Creative Industries believes in the power of creativity to inspire human connections, create social change and support economic vibrancy throughout Colorado. We believe in the practice of creation, the artists and entrepreneurs who contribute to our rich culture and the benefits of our creative economy.

We support and encourage the innovators, creators, change-makers and dreamers who improve our quality of life and make Colorado creative. We focus on strengthening the vitality of visual, performing and literary arts through promotion, resources and funding opportunities. We believe in bold innovation and the invaluable contributions the arts bring to this beautiful state.

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Colorado  
Creative  
Industries

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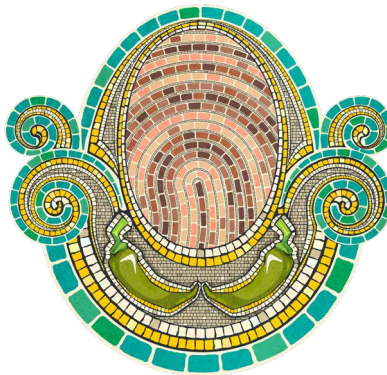
## ACCESSIBILITY & BELONGING

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Colorado Creative Industries (CCI) is committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of our programs and operations. We acknowledge and address systemic barriers that prevent access and opportunities for marginalized communities, including, but not limited to, people with disabilities, communities of color, Indigenous Peoples, and LGBTQIA+ communities. We are committed to ensuring accessibility in all of our programs and operations.

As a statewide funding agency, we believe that accessibility and belonging are essential for the success and sustainability of the creative industry in our state. We encourage our grantees and partners to create an environment of belonging and agency, where all individuals, regardless of their abilities or identities, can participate and thrive in the creative economy.

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# CCI STAFF



Colorado  
Creative  
Industries



**JOSH  
BLANCHARD**  
*Director*



**CHRISTY  
COSTELLO**  
*Deputy Director*



**RUTH  
WILSON**  
*Administration and  
Partnerships Director*





**LIBBY  
BARBEE**

**Program Manager**



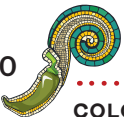
**EMMA  
ACHESON**

**Grants and  
Accessibility Manager**



**LESLEY  
DEL RIO**

**Program Manager**





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