

COLORADO CREATIVE INDUSTRIES SUMMIT 2019 SOLIDA



FROM THE GOVERNOR



COLORADO

Governor Jared Polis

May 16, 2019



Greetings:

On behalf of the State of Colorado, it is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the Colorado Creative Industries Summit.

The Colorado Creative Industries Summit was created to serve creative professionals, arts organizations, educators, community groups and municipal agencies and to foster and support Colorado's creative sector. The work of creative individuals and organizations drives economic growth and improves our quality of life.

At this Summit, you will expand your network with likeminded Coloradans and focus on learning together and bolstering our statewide creative community. I encourage you to take this time to learn and listen, to grow in your own profession and find connections with others equally passionate about creative pursuits.

I'm confident that after your time here in Salida, each of you will continue to innovate and create, beautifying our communities and celebrating the arts.

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



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WELCOME TO SALIDA

Salida has long been a gateway to outdoor adventures and also a getaway for artists inspired by the scenic mountains, the flowing river and the friendly, laid-back atmosphere. Opportunities for recreation, relaxation and inspiration continually draw visitors from around the state and the world, but it was the 2012 designation of Salida's Creative District that really put this historic mountain town on the map.

Today, dozens of artist-owned studios and galleries fill Salida's downtown, along with incredible restaurants, specialty shops, breweries, distilleries, healing arts, non-profits, as well as a popular farmers market, walking tours and many other successful enterprises. You'll find it's easy and fun getting around this bike-friendly town to enjoy all the offerings in Salida's Creative District and the Highway 50 corridor. For decades, Salida has encouraged travelers to "Follow the Hearts to Salida," and we believe you, too, will fall in love with this charming mountain town and follow your heart to Salida.



HELPFUL SUMMIT INFO

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

- » CCI Staff will be based in the SteamPlant Lobby if you have questions during the Summit.
- » Get connected!

Wifi Network: Summit2019

Password: Riverside

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

#CCISUMMIT

 **@co_creatives**



Colorado Creative Industries



@CO_Creatives

- » SBDC Consultants will be based in the SteamPlant Ballroom Mezzanine for one-on-one consulting. Please sign up for a consultation appointment at the SBDC table in the SteamPlant Ballroom.
- » Make sure to stop by the Exhibitor tables in the SteamPlant Ballroom throughout the event.
- » Breaks in between sessions are short. Plan ahead to know the location of your next session. Agendas, session descriptions and maps can be found in this program.
- » If you have multiple people in 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, which also includes a simplified agenda.
- » Table centerpieces are available for purchase. Payment for centerpieces can be made at the SteamPlant Box Office.
- » Lost & Found: SteamPlant Box Office
- » Email feedback to **oedit_creativeindustries@state.co.us** or complete the email survey following the event.

ENJOY THE 2019 SUMMIT!

SALIDA

Creative District

COLORADO CERTIFIED



DOWNTOWN SALIDA

MAP KEY

- A** SteamPlant Tent
- B** SteamPlant Event Center
- C** Scout Hut
- D** SHUTTLE DROP-OFF
- E** Council Chambers
(Touber Building Room 109)
- F** Box of Bubbles
- Yellow** Salida Creative District
- Teal** Public Parking



B SteamPlant



E Council Chambers
(Touber Building
Room 109)



C Scout Hut



F Box of Bubbles

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE D

THURSDAY, MAY 16TH 8:15am - 8:45am

Summit Shuttle will pick up attendees at the Woodland Motel, The Salida Hotel, Loyal Duke Lodge, Gateway Inn & Suites and Brown's Canyon Inn from 8:15am-8:30am, and again from 8:30am-8:45am.

THURSDAY, MAY 16TH 6pm - 10pm

Summit Shuttle will leave from the NW corner of Sackett and F Streets every half hour (on the half hour) from 6pm-10pm and drop attendees at the Woodland Motel, The Salida Hotel, Loyal Duke Lodge, Gateway Inn & Suites and Brown's Canyon Inn.

FRIDAY, MAY 17TH 7:15am - 7:45am

Summit Shuttle will pick up attendees at the Woodland Motel, The Salida Hotel, Loyal Duke Lodge, Gateway Inn & Suites and Brown's Canyon Inn from 7:15am-7:30am, and again from 7:30am-7:45am.

FRIDAY, MAY 17TH 2:30pm - 3:15pm

Summit Shuttle will leave from the NW corner of Sackett and F Streets and drop attendees at the Woodland Motel, The Salida Hotel, Loyal Duke Lodge, Gateway Inn & Suites and Brown's Canyon Inn from 2:30pm-2:45pm, and again from 3pm-3:15pm.

STEAMPLANT SITE MAP



THANK YOU SPONSORS!

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



Office for Outreach and Engagement
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

BRONZE



EXHIBITORS

Colorado Business Committee for the Arts
cbca.org

Flowh
flowh.com

Colorado Creative Corridor
colorado.com/creative-corridor-channel

Inner Fire, Outer Light
innerfireouterlight.com

Colorado Creative Industries
coloradocreativeindustries.org

Salida Art Walk
salidartwalk.org

Colorado Educational & Cultural Facilities Authority (CECFA)
cecfa.org

Salida Chamber of Commerce
salidachamber.org

Colorado Lending Source
coloradolendingsource.org

Salida Creative District
salidacreates.com

Colorado Small Business Development Center
coloradosbdc.org

Think 360 Arts for Learning
think360arts.org

CSU LEAP Institute for the Arts
leap.colostate.edu

University of Denver University College - Arts & Culture
universitycollege.du.edu/mals

CU Boulder Office for Outreach and Engagement
colorado.edu/outreach/ooe

WESTAF Creative Vitality Suite™
cvsuite.org

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

THURSDAY, MAY 16TH

9am - 10:30am	Registration and Visit Exhibitors SteamPlant Lobby and Ballroom
10:30am - 4:45pm	One-on-One Consulting with Colorado SBDC SteamPlant Ballroom Mezzanine
10:30am - 11:45am	Concurrent Breakout Sessions Check your program for details
12pm - 1:15pm	Welcome Luncheon Carl Atiya Swanson, Springboard for the Arts SteamPlant Tent
1:30pm - 3pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions Check your program for details
3:15pm - 4:45pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions Check your program for details
4:45pm - 6pm	CCI Summit Welcome Reception Hosted by the Salida Creative District SteamPlant Tent
6pm - 10pm	Explore Salida Dinner on your own and Open Houses in the Salida Creative District
6:15pm-8pm	Film Industry Cocktail Reception Scout Hut

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SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

FRIDAY, MAY 17TH

6:30am - 7:30am

Tai Chi

SteamPlant Plaza

8am - 9am

Breakfast Program

Brian Corrigan and Castle Searcy
Well-Rounded: A playful Discussion
on Arts + Environment
SteamPlant Tent

9:15am - 3:30pm

One-on-One Consulting with Colorado SBDC

SteamPlant Ballroom Mezzanine

9:15am - 10:45am

Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Check your program for details

11am - 12:15pm

Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Check your program for details

12:30pm - 2pm

Governor's Creative Leadership Awards Luncheon

SteamPlant Tent

2:15pm - 3:30pm

Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Check your program for details



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

THURSDAY 10:30am - 11:45am

Anatomy of a Contract

Presented by CBCA and Colorado Attorneys for the Arts

Presenters: Meredith Badler, Dave Ratner

Location: SteamPlant Annex

Contracts are notorious for being written in an obscure language, otherwise known as “legalese.” However, regardless of your creative discipline, there are some common components that every creative should be looking for and know how to decipher. We will dissect the basic elements of a licensing agreement, services agreement and independent contractor agreement. This session is applicable to individual creative professionals, as well as arts organizations and businesses. Everyone is welcome!

Art Abandonment Workshop

Presenters: Leah Brenner Clack, Jessica Kooiman Parker,

Betsy Tobin

Location: Scout Hut Lower Level

During this participatory workshop, led by members of the Boulder County Arts Leadership Forum, we'll make art to leave in odd places for passersby to notice and keep. We will begin by showing examples of art abandonment, an initiative to increase the accessibility of art outside traditional art venues. We'll also share other unusual arts initiatives that have caught our attention. As we create matchbox dioramas, collage magnets and clothespins, paintings, and more, we'll invite participants to talk of unique arts activities in their communities. Following the workshop, we'll “abandon” our creations at the Summit and beyond.

Going Mobile: Definitely Not an App Conversation

Presenters: Sarah Kate Baie, Sky Madden, Kendall Smith,

Cortney Lane Stell, Tim Vacca, Chris Zacher

Location: SteamPlant Theater

Join representatives from the Museum of Outdoor Arts, Museum of Contemporary Art, Levitt Pavilion and Black Cube Nomadic Museum as we discuss how these Denver institutions activate outside their own walls to engage their community and grow their audience. Topics will include the philosophy behind their programs, methods of engagement, and lessons learned as they embarked on these initiatives. Additionally, MOA will be exhibiting their *Creatura Psychedelica* pneumatic sculptures and Cricket Cinema pop-up theater at the Welcome Party hosted by the Salida Creative District.

Increasing Access and Inclusion to Underserved Populations Through Collaborative Artmaking Experiences

Presenter: Damon McLeese

Location: Scout Hut Upper Level

This session is perfect to reframe how we look at access and inclusion for people who have disabilities, frailties or other conditions that may keep them from fully participating in the arts. In this session, we will rethink how creativity is expressed and how art can level the playing field.

The Nature of Creative Narrative

Presenters: Erin Barry, Nicole Dial-Kay, Robb Woulfe

Location: Council Chambers (Touber Building Room 109)

As a place-based arts and cultural nonprofit, Breckenridge Creative Arts builds vibrancy using three strategies: creative placemaking, community ownership and social impact. Its exhibitions, festivals and temporary installations, many of which are hosted outdoors and thematic to the environment, are used as a means to generate narratives of place and use of public spaces. In this session, explore the linkage between place and culture as both a community-building tool and tourism experience.

WELCOME LUNCHEON

THURSDAY 12pm - 1:15pm

Keynote: Carl Atiya Swanson, Springboard for the Arts
Location: SteamPlant Tent

Creative People Power

How do we understand the value of an ecosystem? What is the infrastructure that enables system change? How do creativity and community support each other? This keynote will explore Creative People Power, a new report and framework for combining creativity-centered and people-centered development to build healthy and resilient communities from Springboard for the Arts and Helicon Collaborative.



Carl Atiya Swanson is Springboard for the Arts' Associate Director. He manages projects across Springboard's program areas, leads development and partnerships, and launched Creative Exchange, a national hub for stories and toolkits for artists and organizations to solve local challenges and create new opportunities. He has presented on arts leadership, creative placemaking, and community engagement for Americans for the Arts, the Delta Regional Authority, IdeaLab, the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits and others. Swanson previously worked at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and founded Crown & Sparrow, a boutique communications consulting firm specializing in work with artists.

EXPLORE SALIDA

With the Salida Creative District nestled in the heart of the vibrant and historic downtown, there is much to do:

- » Browse the numerous art galleries and studios along F Street, Salida's main thoroughfare, and 1st Street
- » Catch a film at the SteamPlant Theater, the multi-use venue along the bank of the Arkansas River
- » Take a historic or ghost tour of downtown Salida with a local resident & historian from Salida Walking Tours (Reservations required)
- » Capture the spirit of days gone by with the demonstration and purchase of your tintype portrait from Tim Brown Photography
- » Enjoy a brew in hand on the outdoor patio and the sounds of local bands at Soulcraft Brewery
- » Craftsmanship is on display at Woods High Mountain Distillery, where you can taste small batch whiskey and gin and tour the stills where it is made on-site
- » Nosh on small plates and desserts at one of the many chef-driven restaurants and eateries that make up the central business district

SPECIAL THANKS ➔

Absolute Bikes . Amicas . Aspen Insurance . Brady's West
Brown's Canyon Inn . City of Salida . Gateway Inn & Suites
Heart of the Rockies Chamber of Commerce . Kalamatapit
Loyal Duke Lodge . Mountain Mail . Patti Arthur Esq.
Pinon Vacation Rentals . Pint & A Half . Public Works
RustingRam . Salida Art Gallery Association . Salida ArtWalk
Salida City Council . Salida Council for the Arts . Salida Creatives
Small Business Alliance Members . Soulcraft Brewing
SteamPlant Staff & Volunteers . Steve Chapman Walking Tours
The Apple Doctor . The Mixing Bowl . The Salida Hotel
Wood's High Mountain Distillery . Woodland Motel

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

THURSDAY 1:30pm - 3pm

Art Markets: Colorado, National, and International

Presenters: Molly Casey, Jeffrey Taylor

Location: SteamPlant Annex

This session explores trends in the market for art objects, including a conversation about how Nine Dot Art purchases and places artwork across the country, trends in the national and international art markets and preliminary results of the study of the Colorado and US art markets. The session will focus on helping working artists and dealers to navigate and succeed in the art market.

Expanding Public Art through Temporary Commissions

Presenters: Nicole Dial-Kay, Lisa Gedgaudas,

Ana Maria Hernando, Louise Martorano,

Brendan Picker, Mandy Vink

Location: SteamPlant Theater

This presentation and panel conversation will cover how communities are expanding public art projects beyond traditional percent-for-art commissions, including temporary projects, community-initiated projects and artist-in-residency opportunities and their impact in communities.

Fundraising for the Small Shop

Presenters: Beryl Durazo, Eve Orenstein

Location: Scout Hut Upper Level

We are all stretched for resources. This session considers how we can be more efficient in our fundraising. During this session, we will cover the basics of fundraising for the small shop, from creative fundraising partnerships to small scale events that can generate more income for an organization's bottom line.

Space, Place and Diversity in the Arts

Presenters: Santiago Jaramillo, Amy Kimberly, Helanius J. Wilkins
Moderator: Danielle Rivera
Organizers: Charlotte LaSasso, Lisa Hope Schwartz
Location: Council Chamber (Touber Building Room 109)

This interactive, moderated panel discussion will explore how public art and performance have the power to amplify the visibility and histories of marginalized communities and create spaces for connecting across difference. Panelists will discuss examples, including a nascent project commemorating Los Seis de Boulder, a Louisiana-style social dance procession honoring resistance and resilience, and creative placemaking project that includes Latino communities in arts districts around Colorado.

Writing the Heart of the Rockies

Presenters: Michael Henry, Dan Manzanares, Suzi Q Smith
Location: SteamPlant Tent

This will be a writing workshop (ideally outdoors, weather permitting) in which participants will observe the natural environment, the unique landscapes Salida offers, the ways that place shapes our perspectives, and the ways we map our experiences into personal narratives.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

THURSDAY 3:15pm - 4:45pm

Art, Ecology and Culture

Presenters: Erin Elder, Aaron Treher

Location: SteamPlant Annex

Art, Ecology and Culture will provide a platform for speakers to discuss how art projects, as well as research and cultural practices, can engage with both humans and the non-human environment. The panelists discuss sculpture, drawing, field work, embodied pedagogy, community engagement, ecological survey, and durational documentation as strategies for exploring the interconnections of people, the built environment, and the natural world.

Don't Do it Alone: Creating Impactful Mental Health Partnerships in Your Community

Presenters: Eriq Hochuli, Maura McInerney

Location: Council Chambers (Touber Building Room 109)

This session will focus on a documentary that showcases the year-long partnership between the Foothills Art Center, local artist Jolt and Golden High School's mental health advocacy group, Sources of Strength. This documentary highlights the increasing threat of this issue in our community and our nation, contains interviews with the participating parties, and establishes a blueprint for these types of partnerships. The main topic of the session will be how arts organizations can partner up to raise awareness about important topics in their communities.

How to Create a Film Festival 101

Presenters: Kathy Beeck, Joanie Leonard, Janice Kurbjun Miller,

Patrick O'Brien

Moderators: Jen Brody, Ursla Null

Location: SteamPlant Theater

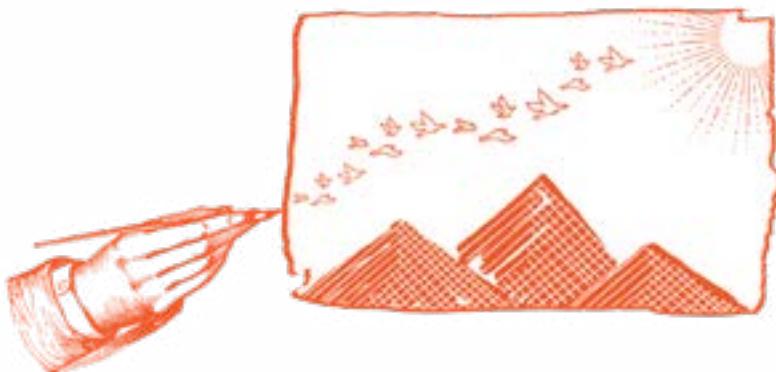
Is your community interested in curating a film festival? Hear from Colorado's top festival directors on how you can create a sustainable festival in your town!

Playing with Fire: Placemaking with Flame Effects

Presenters: Rachel Cain, Mark Moffett

Location: Scout Hut Upper Level

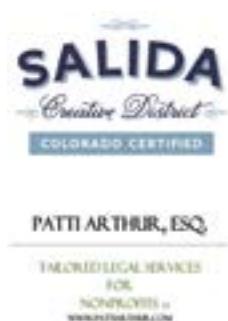
Flame effects and their builder/presenters have become a more recognized and desired art form throughout the world. Colorado has its own large, established community of talented professional and amateur flame effects artists. For this panel, join Mark Moffett and Rachel Cain, two representatives of Colorado's flame effects community, who are leading the charge for increased visibility, safety and understanding of this very exciting art form. Topics will include history, the challenges and considerations unique to Colorado, and the development of the Colorado Flame Effects Guild, one of the nation's first state-wide flame effects advocacy groups.



THURSDAY NIGHT EVENTS

4:45pm - 6pm

Location:



Opening Reception

Hosted by Salida Creative District
SteamPlant Tent

Kick off the first evening of the Summit with us during the cocktail hour under the tent and in the SteamPlant Sculpture Garden! Reacquaint yourselves with past attendees and meet new ones as you nosh on light appetizers and enjoy specialty tastings from local breweries, wineries and distilleries! There is much to do in town following the cocktail hour, so check out some of our suggestions on page 15.

6:15pm - 8pm

Location:

Get to Know the Film Industry Cocktail Reception

Hosted by the Colorado Office of Film, Television and Media and Rocky Mountain PBS's 'Arts District' Scout Hut

A division of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, the Colorado Office of Film, Television and Media takes great pride in promoting the great State of Colorado to the film and television industry locally, nationally and internationally, while bringing a spotlight to the uniqueness of its small communities and rural areas. We work to enhance the success of Colorado film projects through promotion, funding and education.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

FRIDAY

8am - 9am

Keynote: Brian Corrigan and Castle Searcy
Location: SteamPlant Tent

Well-Rounded: A Playful Discussion on Arts + Environment

The Well-Rounded format gamifies discussion topics to uncover diverse thinking and fresh perspective while making it fun to chat about big and important things! Each session presents a topic for conversation while the game spinners determine which lens will frame the talk. Groups then discuss the topic through the lens for 10 minutes. Expect to uncover new insights, make new friends and have a lot of fun! Conversation Topic: Arts + Environment // Conversation lenses: Utopia, Dystopia, Ethics, Sustainability, Impact & Policy.



Brian Corrigan is a creative strategist working at the intersection of creative economy, technology and community development. Growing up in a company town that lost its industry and purpose has inspired his work to cultivate creativity as a renewable resource; an economic driver; and a tool for connection, equity and inclusion. Corrigan was the recipient of the Mayor's Award for Excellence in Design.



Castle Searcy is the co-founder and owner of Denver's award-winning Tootsies the Nail Shoppe. Castle also serves as the Design Track Chair for Denver Startup Week and recently produced Between Us: The Downtown Denver Alleyways Project. Other affiliations include CultureHaus, Rebelle by Tootsies Salon, Wingbandits, Denver Film Festival and Santa Fe Independent Film Festival.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

FRIDAY 9:15am - 10:45am

Black Cube: A performance that Looks Like Water

Presenters: Hannah James, Cortney Lane Stell

Location: Scout Hut Upper Level

This session will feature a presentation and conversation about producing the experimental performance artwork titled Avalanche. This 2017 performance asked the question "what if water could be enhanced (physically, nutritiously, energetically) by human usage rather than simply contaminated by it?"

Getting Creative: Connecting Denver's Social Impact Ecosystem

Presenters: Sara Boyd, Alexis Newton, Harris Rollinger,

Armando Silva, Emily Winslow

Location: SteamPlant Theater

This interactive panel will focus on outlining the current impact narrative of Denver, including opportunities in the creative economy, and discuss how we might be able to work across sectors and silos to create a common vision in our communities, maximize our impact, and build a more connected social impact ecosystem.

Pollution Prevention by Means of a Storm Drain Art Project

Presenter: Jerry Cordova

Location: SteamPlant Annex

The Colorado Springs Storm Drain Art Project is a public/private art initiative meant to raise awareness of street drain inlets. Our goal is to educate the public that pollutants going into storm drains flow untreated into our creeks. The initial 9 exhibits were intentionally done in black & white (grey scale) to make them stand out from others that are painted throughout the city.

The Arts as an Ally in the Face of Global Change

Presenters: Alexis Frasz, Marda Kirn

Location: Council Chambers (Touber Building Room 109)

Why is it that so many people know we are facing multiple sustainability crises, but so few people are actually doing anything about them? What roles can the arts play in the face of global change? How can the arts ally with science, social justice, urban planning, transportation, agriculture, energy, water, and other fields to speed the shift to sustainability? How can such alliances maintain artistic excellence, increase community engagement, diversify financial support, focus on solutions rather than blame, inspire attitude and behavior change, deepen joy and agency, and catalyze new appreciation for the importance and power of the arts? This session will include Skype and in-person presentations, interactive exercises, and a handout of resources.

The Mission-Driven Creative: Living in the Intersection of Art, Social Good/Change & Sustainable Income

Presenter: Patricia Morrison

Location: Scout Hut Lower Level

Artists and arts organizations often share the belief that art is a powerful tool for social transformation as well as a value in and of itself. Still, it can be challenging to bring to life complex large-scale projects and programs that support meaningful social change, while funding the lives of the artists and others working on them. This workshop explores how to move from idea to collaboration to fully funded change-making creative work.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

FRIDAY 11am - 12:15pm

Art as Social Commentary

Presenters: Denise Burson Freestone, Hamidah Glasgow,

Armando Silva, Suzi Q Smith, Michelle Venus

Location: SteamPlant Theater

Art has always had a voice in society. From the drawings on the walls of Lascaux Cave to Goya's commentary on Spain's 18th century social and cultural hypocrisy and Ai Weiwei's infamous digit jutting angrily in front of capitalist icons, art speaks to current events and examines them. Often, the results are less than flattering and, often, the artist has suffered. This session will examine how four Colorado artists use their genres to create social commentary, be it slam poetry, visual art, dance, photography or theatre. These artists will present examples of their work, discuss how and why they create, what moves them to make art that addresses societal issues and respond to audience questions. Come prepared for a vigorous and insightful discussion.

Creative Forces/Military Arts Connection

Presenter: Andy Vick

Location: SteamPlant Annex

This session will provide an overview of Colorado Springs' ongoing Creative Forces initiative, including the launch later this summer of MilitaryArtsConnection.org, a new website that will enable military service organizations to connect active duty service members, veterans, and their families with a variety of arts engagement experiences. The Military Arts Connection program will pay local Artist Facilitators for their services, and aspires to strengthen community and family connections, build interest in new artistic skills, and provide our military and veteran populations with alternative methods of expression and healing outside of the clinical environment.

Inspired: Art at Work - Socially Engaged Art in a Rural Community

Presenters: Tanya Blacklight, Karen Good, Christine Palafox,

Carolina Porras

Location: Scout Hut Upper Level

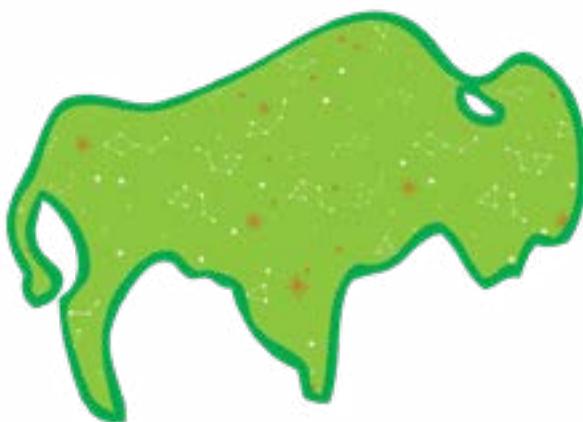
This session will feature a presentation about Elsewhere Studios' Arts in Society project, in which artists created socially-engaged works that explored and addressed selected environmental and socio-economic issues vital to preserving the natural world and the quality of life and sense of place in the North Fork Valley. The conversation will include a discussion of what was achieved with the project, the lessons learned and future plans.

The Anatomy of a Balloon Animal - An Interactive Workshop on Being Happy in Business

Presenter: Allison Dunning

Location: Scout Hut Lower Level

This workshop will teach attendees how to make several different balloon creations. During the teaching & interactive portion of making these creations, attendees will learn 9 steps to foster being happy in business.



GOVERNOR'S CREATIVE LEADERSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON

FRIDAY 12:30pm - 2pm

Location: SteamPlant Tent

Colorado Creative Industries is proud to play a role in celebrating excellence in creative industries across the state. Each spring, 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.

2019 Award Recipients



Tony Garcia (Denver)

Tony Garcia has been the Executive Artistic Director of El Centro Su Teatro since 1989 and has been a member of Su Teatro since 1972. He received his BA in Theatre from the University of Colorado at Denver. He has published 2 volumes of original plays and numerous articles. His body of written and produced plays is more than 40 of which more than 20 are music driven, most written in collaboration with Daniel Valdez.



Amy Kimberly (Carbondale)

Passionate about community, creativity and smart growth, Amy Kimberly's strengths lie in creating experiences for people, engaging community, strategic and event planning, talent acquisition, nonprofit administration, development and collaboration. She is Executive Director of Carbondale Arts, which oversees the Carbondale Creative District.



Evan Weissman (Denver)

Evan Weissman is the founding executive director of Warm Cookies of the Revolution, a Civic Health Club that blends innovative arts and culture with crucial civic issues. Warm Cookies of the Revolution has created over 150 unique arts-based civic programs, including the nationally recognized two-year Participatory Budgeting art project called "THIS MACHINE HAS A SOUL."

2019 Award Design by Brice Turnbull (Salida)



Brice Turnbull is an artist who takes joy in the transitions of life expressed through the change of the appearance of glass when lit from inside, juxtaposed with the shift when lit with reflected light. Throughout his career, he has developed this type of work as both illuminated sculptural work and sculptural lighting.

Featuring Colorado Poet Laureate Joe Hutchison



Joseph Hutchison, Poet Laureate of Colorado (2014-2019), is the award-winning author of 17 poetry collections, including *Ojos del Crow/Eyes of the Cuervo* (a limited bilingual edition with translations by Patricia Herminia and illustrations by Sabina Espinet), *The World As Is: New & Selected Poems, 1972-2015*; *The Satire Lounge*; *Marked Men*; *Thread of the Real*; and *Bed of Coals*. He has edited the poetry anthology *Legions of the Sun: Poems of The Great War* and co-edited *Malala: Poems for Malala Yousafzai and A Song for Occupations: Poems about the American Way of Work*. Born and raised in Denver, CO, he lives in the mountains southwest of the city with his wife, Iyengar yoga instructor Melody Madonna.

Featuring a live performance by Pint and a Half



Rooted in Salida, CO and Truth or Consequences, NM, and led by songwriter Duke Sheppard (guitar, vocals, harmonica) and Tami Sheppard (vocals, percussion), Pint & a Half's music rings out with memorable melodies, expansive vocal harmonies and lingering rhythms that celebrate the colorful tradition of folk, blues and country music and expand the group's larger-than-life sound. Pint & A Half's sizzling chemistry and talent for personal storytelling simmers during their energetic performances. Committed to making meaningful music, Pint & a Half returned to the studio in February 2019 to work with legendary Colorado producer Don Richmond on their second Howlin' Dog Records release, with a target date of May.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

FRIDAY 2:15pm - 3:30pm

Activating Places and Spaces with Youth Empowerment

Presenter: Brandie Brown

Location: Scout Hut Lower Level

Pueblo High School youth, active in the “Impact Youth Initiative,” will describe the challenges and successes of this innovative program of the Pueblo Arts Alliance with funding by the Colorado Health Foundation. With support from staff, the City Planning Department, businesses, and partners students will experiment with solutions through activation projects. The Pueblo Arts Alliance staff will guide youth with introductions to civic and cultural partners for idea generation, community resources, project approval, project management, and sustainable practices.

Colorado Funders Panel

Presenters: Matt Carpenter, Chris Castilian, Julie Lerudis, Laia Mitchell, Gary Steuer

Organizer: Sheila Sears

Location: SteamPlant Theater

This session is a facilitated discussion among major Colorado funders, including Bonfils-Stanton Foundation, El Pomar Foundation, Gates Family Foundation, Boettcher Foundation and Great Outdoors Colorado, regarding current trends in grantmaking and how funders make decisions about their strategic priorities. Topics will include new approaches to cross-sector collaborations, how funding can support increased impact on social issues, participatory grantmaking, and funding approaches that look at grants as investments focusing on solving specific community issues.

Evaluation Tactics to Understand Local Creative Economies

Presenter: Jenn Shelby

Location: Scout Hut Upper Level

This session will be a presentation of 1 1/2 years of work on the evaluation of creative districts, providing insights about how a creative economy functions at the local level. The goal of this work has been to understand current methods vs. the actual happenings in the districts to develop more refined tools for evaluation that allow district leaders to gain deeper insights about local creative industries, community buy in, effectiveness of creative placemaking, etc. This research will be translated into a best practice/strategy to add to the toolkit for creative district administrators.

Forever Yours, the Land: Conservation Through the Eyes of Artists

Presenters: Sam Minneti, Nissa Steinnhour, Claire Swinford,

Amy Triandiflou, Mimi Wheeler

Location: Council Chambers (Touber Building Room 109)

This session will present a successful arts-based public awareness campaign, "Forever Yours, the Land," a project of Palmer Land Trust with arts partners throughout the Pikes Peak Region that reached over two million in August and September 2018. This campaign encouraged Pikes Peak Region residents to look at conservation through the eyes of local artists.

Galvanizing the Colorado Creative Community

Presenter: Ethan Bach

Location: SteamPlant Annex

This town hall-style discussion is designed to build an interconnected creative community that spans across the state of Colorado, inspiring a new creative economy. We will ask the community to discuss how to navigate the change in the growing Colorado economy and explore opportunities and collaborations.

PRESENTERS



Ethan Bach is an entrepreneur, artist, coach, and consultant. He uses creative technology to foster deeper connections through his roles as CEO of Alt Ethos, as E.D. of Denver Arts + Technology Advancement (DATA), and as an individual artist. Bach's recent endeavor is to share his skills to foster success and empowerment of others through Bodhi Life Coaching. Bach graduated from The Evergreen State College with a BA in Media Production and has an MFA in Electronic Arts from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Bach not only creates original artwork, but he pushes the boundaries of technology and media in the process.



Meredith Badler is the program director at Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA). She facilitates connections between arts and business statewide through CBCA's various programs, initiatives and events, such as Colorado Attorneys for the Arts, Leadership Arts and the Business for the Arts Awards and the biennial Economic Activity Study of Metro Denver Culture.



Sarah Kate Baie is the Director of Programming and Chief of Fictions at the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver. Her work includes celebrating and supporting artists and musicians from around the world to create programs, performances and festivals that recognize the art and culture of our time. Baie previously worked with the Denver Art Museum and the Laboratory of Art and Ideas at Belmar.



Erin Barry graduated from Skidmore College with a Bachelor's of Science in fine art and a minor in art history. She worked as an Exhibition Assistant at the Tang Teaching Museum in 2016 before moving to Breckenridge, Colorado. At Breckenridge Creative Arts, Barry is responsible for managing the studios on the Arts District campus, ordering and organizing materials for workshops, managing the studio assistants, and collecting and reporting on qualitative and quantitative data regarding campus activities.



Kathy Beeck is the Co-Founder and Director of the Boulder International Film Festival, which has honored Alec Baldwin, James Franco, Shirley McClain, and William H. Macy, among others, and draws over 20,000 people each year. Beeck has lived and worked in Washington, D.C., Anchorage, AK, the Russian Far East, and Moscow. Upon returning to Boulder in the mid 90's, she produced her sister's funny short documentaries, winning awards in over a dozen major film festivals and traveled on world tours from Athens to Antigua.



Tanya Blacklight With a background in studio arts, theatre, and communication arts and sciences, dance has always been a line that runs through Tanya Blacklight's work. Blacklight has gathered experience from mothering, activism, community work, and professional costume design for theatre, opera and ballet, to design for fashion shows and children's plays and produced performance art and dance, including burlesque and belly dance.



Sara Boyd is a Wealth Advisor and Portfolio Manager at Highwater Wealth Management with over 35 years of experience working with individuals, endowments and foundations to craft a customized financial plan and manage their investments. Boyd spearheads the firm's Sustainable Responsible Investing (SRI) strategy. She is passionate about SRI, gender lens and impact investing. Boyd is a member of Beyond Our Borders (BOB), a group advised fund of the Women's Foundation of CO (WFCO) which grants to US organizations that benefit women and girls in underserved regions of the world.



Leah Brenner Clack is an art curator, consultant and arts advocate specializing in public art and creative events. Clack was integral in launching multiple Colorado contemporary art galleries and establishing exhibition and mural programs for Knew Conscious Gallery, madelife and The Chambers Project. Currently, Clack is focused on public art projects as well as initiating and nurturing art communities around the Front Range, and she founded And Art Space in 2015 and Arts Martin Acres in 2016, both based in Boulder.



Jennifer Brody is the Co-Founder and Festival Director for the Crested Butte Film Festival, where she channels artistic vision and a strong belief in the transformational power of film to create a life-changing festival experience for attendees. As an artist herself, Brody translates the visual experience of watching a film together into a transformational, thought-provoking endeavor where the audience can engage with the stories and each other.



Brandie Brown currently serves as the Pueblo Arts Alliance Program Coordinator and Pueblo Creative Corridor Manager. Brown has over a decade of experience as Operations Director for a regional theater company and youth arts academy. In addition to her management experience, her skills include ten years of marketing experience, eight years of web and graphic design, four years of financial bookkeeping, and two years as a grant writer. Brown is dedicated to creating inclusive community engagement projects with a special focus on youth arts development.



Rachel Cain As a native Coloradoan and a social scientist, Rachel Cain is dedicated to her community and to the cultural wellness of the state, supporting creatives and innovators who have a positive impact on environmentalism and global respect. She works with art consultants who place art in healthcare facilities, with public art master planners and with public artists who have roots in engineering and the counter culture. Cain participates deeply in the Burning Man community, as a Regional Contact from Denver to the Burning Man Project, as a Black Rock Ranger Trainer and Sandman, and as a panelist for the Global Arts Grants Committee and the Creative Arts Team Support (CATS) at Apogaea (Colorado's Regional Burn). Last year, Cain co-founded the Colorado Flame Effects Guild, which promotes the safe construction and use of flame effects and advocates on behalf of flame effect artists.



Matt Carpenter is Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, and corporate secretary for El Pomar Foundation. He joined El Pomar in 1999 as a participant in the Fellowship program and now oversees grants office and program operations. He currently serves as chair of the board of Philanthropy Southwest. Carpenter is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy with a Bachelor of Science in political science and earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of Colorado Springs, with an emphasis on nonprofit management.



Molly Casey A Colorado native, Molly Casey co-founded NINE dot ARTS and works as Studio Chief, overseeing the creative side of the business. Casey studied sculpture at the University of Colorado Denver, where she earned a BA and graduated Magna Cum Laude, in addition to completing an independent art history study in Paris, France. Prior to NINE dot ARTS, Casey worked as an art consultant for McGrath & Braun and served as a gallery assistant at Plus Gallery. Casey has led the curatorial vision for many of NINE dot ARTS' key projects, including The Colorado Convention Center, Saint Joseph Hospital, Jackson National Life Insurance and The Crawford Hotel at Denver Union Station.



Chris Castilian A native of Colorado, Castilian has a lengthy history of both private and public service, including serving as deputy chief of staff for Gov. Bill Owens, as well as Director of the Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners. Most recently, Castilian was Director of Strategy and Engagement for Anadarko Petroleum Corp., where he led government affairs, social investment, employee engagement and stakeholder outreach for the Rockies region.



Jerry Cordova is the Education & Outreach Coordinator for the City of Colorado Springs' Water Resources Engineering Division (stormwater), educating thousands of youth each year through STEM school programs, engaging with community members on the Adopt-A-Waterway Program, storm drain marking efforts, and through the Storm Drain Art Project. He is a founding member of the Creek Week litter cleanup program and initiated Trash Mobs (costume litter cleanup) in Colorado Springs. Cordova currently is creating a culture for Complete Creeks that promotes educational and recreational opportunities throughout the community, serves on the Colorado Stormwater Council as Chair of the Education & Outreach Committee and leads the Pikes Peak Children's Water Festival each year.



Nicole Dial-Kay manages a wide range of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary programs and activities, including exhibitions, festivals, special events, public art initiatives and placemaking projects for Breckenridge Creative Arts (BCA). As part of the curatorial team, Kay guides the conceptualization, planning and execution of a series of events, installations and interventions, employing visual art, performance, film, digital media and social practice, while also being responsible for the reporting and maintenance of BCA's Creative District designation.



Allison Dunning has lived in Greeley with her husband Brian and their three daughters for over 18 years, building the Merry Makers LLC and Balloon Art by Merry Makers businesses. Merry Makers is an entertainment business, providing balloon artists, face painting, glitter tattoos, caricatures, magicians to corporate and company event planners to create fun, fabulous and friendly events out of balloons. Dunning is a member of the Greeley Creative District board and serves as the President of the Greeley Business Women's Network and the President of The Greeley Events Group. She also serves on the boards for Greeley Monster Day, Do Tell, the Women's Development Council and the Chairperson of the National Greeley Arts Exhibition and Sale. Dunning's favorite creative project of 2018, a balloon graffiti wall, was the focal point of the Colorado Creative Industries Summit last May in Greeley.



Beryl Durazo is the Executive Director of the Firehouse Art Center in Longmont. Previously, Durazo was the Development Director for the Inn Between of Longmont, Inc. and served on the Board of the Bolder Young Professionals and the Longmont NeXt Young Professionals Committee. With over eight years of experience in the nonprofit sector, she hopes to bring best practices in procedures, grantwriting and fundraising to the Firehouse. Durazo works with curator Jessica Kooiman-Parker building robust exhibition and arts education opportunities for Boulder County.



Erin Elder is an independent contemporary art curator guided by her interest in land use, experimental collaboration, and non-traditional modes of expression. Elder's research-driven projects take highly participatory forms, working with a broad definition of art to bring audiences into a direct experience with particular places. Underscoring her work is a commitment to the creative process and direct support for artists. Previously, Elder cooperatively founded and directed PLAND, an off-the-grid residency program near Tres Piedras, NM and served as the Visual Arts Director at the Center for Contemporary Arts in Santa Fe, where she curated 50+ exhibitions and many public programs.



Alexis Frazz works at the intersection of arts and culture and social change as a researcher, writer, strategy consultant, and educator. Frazz's thinking and work is informed by diverse fields of knowledge, including cultural anthropology, acupuncture, psychology, design thinking, permaculture, and solidarity economics. She is Co-Director of Helicon, where she leads their work at the intersection of culture, the environment and social justice—including research into how culture can help us address our environmental challenges and transition to a more just and regenerative society. Frazz is actively engaged in Helicon's work to confront the entrenched lack of equity in the cultural sector and currently is exploring how to bring artists and cultural leaders into greater solidarity with broader movements for social and economic justice.



Denise Burson Freestone co-founded OpenStage Theatre in 1973 with her husband Bruce and serves as Producing Artistic Director. During her extensive career, Freestone has worked as an actress, director, producer, designer and dancer and has directed and performed in numerous productions. Denise has received numerous OpenStage OPUS Awards for directing, acting and designing. Under the Freestones' leadership, OpenStage Theatre received the 1997 Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts and the 2017 Colorado Theatre Guild Henry Award for Outstanding Season, and was named an inaugural Zonta: Her Legacy recipient, a BizWest Woman of Distinction and a Colorado Woman of Influence.



Lisa Gedgaudas In her role with the City of Denver for over eight years, Lisa Gedgaudas has been recognized for her outstanding leadership in advancing arts and culture serving as Program Manager for Create Denver, a City initiated program within Denver Arts & Venues. Create Denver showcases Denver's talented and dynamic creative community, recognizes its role in building a vibrant and economically vital city and catalyzes the sector to become more cohesive and sustainable. She has the privilege of celebrating and supporting the city's culturally diverse creative sector through socially engaged programming, capacity building, art and cultural district development, grant making, research, policy and advocacy.



Hamidah Glasgow has been the Executive Director and Curator of The Center for Fine Art Photography in Fort Collins since 2009. Her contribution to photography has included curatorial projects, national portfolio reviews, contributions to publications, and online magazines. In 2018, Glasgow received the Hal Gould Vision in Photography Award. She is the co-founder of the Strange Fire Collective, dedicated to photo-based work that engages with current social and political forces, highlighting the work of women, people of color, and queer and trans artists, writers, and curators. Glasgow holds a master's degree in humanities with a specialization in visual and gender studies and a bachelor's degree in philosophy.



Karen Good was Executive Director of Elsewhere Studios in Paonia, CO, from 2010 to 2018. She helped Elsewhere to establish and develop the Artist Residency Program, which has hosted over 200 visual artists, writers, composers, and performance artists from 14 countries and 30 states. Most recently, she designed and led the first Art in Society-funded project, INSPIRED: Art at Work, which took Elsewhere into the field of socially engaged work. She was a founding member of the North Fork Valley Creative Coalition, the organization that worked to have the North Fork Valley designated as a certified Creative District by the State of Colorado, and that now manages the Paonia Creative District. She taught for 24 years, including seven years as Art Department Chair at the Orme School of Arizona, teaching ceramics, sculpture, drawing and printmaking.



Michael Henry co-founded Lighthouse Writers Workshop with Andrea Dupree, naming the creative writing workshop while looking at an Edward Hopper painting, Lighthouse at Two Lights. Henry has served as the Executive Director since it officially became a nonprofit organization in 2004. Over the years, Michael has worked as a water meter reader, board of elections paper-clip counter, college dining hall dishwasher, pizza delivery guy, UPS truck loader, accounts payable clerk, painter's helper, high school girls' cross country coach, and ski instructor. Henry's nonfiction and poetry have appeared in numerous literary journals and magazines such as Elevation Outdoors, Copper Nickel, Rio Grande Review, Georgetown Review, Mountain Gazette, The Writer, and 5280 Magazine.



Ana María Hernando, from Argentina and based in Colorado for the last twenty-three years, is a multidisciplinary artist. Hernando is interested in empathy, in making the invisible visible, and in the transformative, compassionate conversation of the universe and considers the balance between the material and the transcendent, devotedly exploring the sacred feminine through women's rich histories, their daily lives and relationship to hand-worked textiles and wares. Solo shows include MCA Denver, the Tweed Museum of Art, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, BMOCA in Boulder, International Center of Bethlehem, Oklahoma and Marfa Contemporary, Denver Botanic Gardens, and CU Art Museum. Hernando is also a poet and translator, and has performed with Kenneth Robinson their poetry in English and Spanish.



Eriq Hochuli was born and raised in New York and relocated to Colorado in 2010 after receiving his MAT in Visual Arts. Hochuli began working at Foothills Art Center (FAC) as a summer camp instructor in June of 2013, and shortly thereafter took over as Education Coordinator. Starting in August 2013, he took on the Exhibition Preparator role, which provided him with a new and exciting relationship within the organization and the arts in general and recently has pivoted towards a dedicated position in exhibitions, focusing on the design and curation of FAC's shows. Hochuli enjoys helping FAC provide members and participants with opportunities for growth, learning and artistic passion.



Hannah James is the Program and Community Engagement Manager at Black Cube, a nomadic contemporary art museum based out of Denver, dedicated to advancing artists' sustainability and increasing access to contemporary art. Prior to joining Black Cube in 2018, James was the Operations Manager at the Colorado Photographic Arts Center, a nonprofit organization in Denver dedicated exclusively to contemporary photography. Previously, James served as the Gallery Director of Barbara Davis Gallery, a contemporary art gallery in Houston, Texas, organizing over thirty exhibitions, which featured regional, national, and international artists. Under her leadership, the gallery received notable exhibition reviews in ARTnews, New American Paintings, and The Huffington Post.



Santiago Jaramillo is a third generation Westwood resident in Denver, artist, cofounder of D3 Arts, President of BuCu West, cofounder of The Empress Artist Collective and Pop Up Art Gallery, Aztec Dancer, community activist, and fatherhood rights advocate.



Amy Kimberly is passionate about community, creativity and smart growth, and her strengths lie in creating experiences for people, engaging community, strategic and event planning, talent acquisition, nonprofit administration, development and collaboration. Kimberly is Executive Director of Carbondale Arts, which oversees the Carbondale Creative District. She co-owned and operated Fly Me to the Moon in Telluride from 1984-2001 and created Telluride Nightgrass, the late night shows of Telluride Bluegrass Festival. She continues to work for the Telluride Film Festival and Palisade Bluegrass and Roots Festival and has left her mark on Lyons Folks Fest, The One World Festival, Taos Solar Music Fest and more.



Marda Kirn is the founding director of EcoArts Connections (EAC), which brings the arts together with science, social justice, Indigenous, and other ways of knowing to inspire people to live sustainably, producing performances, exhibits, talks, discussions, convenings, and youth programs. Previously, Kirn was the founding director of the Colorado Dance Festival, considered one of the top three dance festivals in the US and known nationally for innovation and quality programming. She was also a founder of the International Tap Association and served as its director for five years before founding EAC.



Jessica Kooiman Parker believes in the power of art to change lives and strives to bring thought provoking and process-based work to new audiences, while promoting art collecting and paying artists fair compensation. She fostered her love of art and design by acquiring a BFA from the University of WI-Stout, and has held the role of small business owner, freelance graphic designer, creative director, executive director and curator. Kooiman Parker was the Executive Director/Curator at the Firehouse Art Center in Longmont for 4 years. Under her guidance, the Firehouse emerged as the leading space for contemporary art in the area.



Joanie Leonard is a founding member of the Durango Film Institute and Durango Independent Film Festival, and became the Executive Director in 2008. Leonard became hooked on film festivals and independent filmmaking after attending the Sundance Film Festival in the mid-90's. Leonard is currently working on a narrative short screenplay and has served as a juror for the Santa Fe Film Festival and the Knoxville 24-hour Film Fest.



Julie Lerudis has worked at the Boettcher Foundation since 2007 and currently serves as the director of finance and grants. She is a CPA with more than 25 years of experience in accounting and project management in the nonprofit, healthcare and real estate sectors. She serves as a commissioner and vice-chair of the Denver Urban Renewal Authority, treasurer of Philanthropy Southwest and treasurer of the Governor's Residence Preservation Fund. Her passion is to strengthen communities and magnify impact through leveraging talent and connecting resources. Outside of work, Lerudis loves to spend time outdoors with her family and friends.



Schuyler Madden became a part of the Museum of Outdoor Arts (MOA) team in 2010, after working with MOA for more than ten years as a consultant and principal of Madden Construction, LLC. Schuyler manages MOA's collection and assets, including Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, off-site exhibitions, large-scale construction projects, and major artwork installations. Since becoming the Project Director for MOA, Madden's projects have included construction of the MOA Sound Gallery, White Box Gallery, and Podcast Studio. Madden has also managed the multi-million dollar renovations of Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre including the Panoramic Living Mural (MOA's monumental "Living Wall"), which is redesigned and replanted annually.



Dan Manzanares has held his position as community programs coordinator at Lighthouse Writers Workshop since 2011. He teaches generative writing workshops, edits anthologies, emcees events, and leads Lighthouse's volunteers. For these efforts, Manzanares won a Mayor's Award for Excellence in Arts and Culture in 2016, and has served on several committees, including Denver Talks, a social justice project in partnership with the City and County of Denver, Doors Open Denver Arts & Culture Platform, and the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read Reading Committee. He is a published poet, and has been supported by a residency at Brush Creek Foundation for the Arts, which he used to work on his novel.



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), the Greenway Foundation's "Partner in Change" award and has presented and organized over 100 exhibitions over the past 10 years. She holds a B.A. from the University of Colorado, Boulder and M.H. from the University of Colorado, Denver with a focus in Contemporary Art History & Music.



Maura McInerney is an artist, an advocate for youth and her community, and is thrilled for the opportunity to serve as the Curator of Education at Foothills Art Center in Golden. McInerney leads and creates educational experiences at Foothills Art Center, and spends her days with emerging artists in summer camps, hosting tours and adult classes, and is responsible for in-gallery experiences and outreach. She is a Colorado native and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Western State University of Colorado and a Master of Arts from F.I.T., a State University of New York.



Damon McLeese works at the intersection of art, ability and creativity and is a speaker, trainer, activist, consultant, coach, mentor and community artist specializing in unlocking the creative power of people regardless of their background. He has developed projects as diverse as photography for people who are blind to teaching people with Alzheimer's and dementia to do street art and hired students with disabilities to create corporate art. McLeese is a master at opening avenues of community and showing how to truly create a creative space where all viewpoints are valued, and has been the Executive Director of Access Gallery for more than 20 years. He was the recipient of the 2014 Mayor's Award for Innovation in the Arts and was a speaker at the 2016 TEDxMileHigh, Make and Believe event. In 2017, Damon received the Governor's Award for Leadership in the Arts.



Janice Miller has been the Breckenridge Film Festival's Executive Director for six years. Miller graduated from University of Virginia with a BA in Media Studies and worked in newspapers as a reporter and editor. Her passion lies in the power of storytelling through a variety of media and she believes in film as the most influential medium in today's society, bringing together a variety of art forms – drawing, music, verbal storytelling, narration, and theater to name a few – in a captivating way. Miller loves meeting the people involved in the making of film – each one, and each of their stories, provides a unique perspective into the world we live in.



Sam Minneti is Copywriter and Partner at Design Rangers, a strategic marketing and design agency based in Colorado Springs. Minneti completed her Bachelor's degree in Strategic & Organizational Communication at the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs and has been involved in the marketing community since 2012. Her passion for creating meaningful brand connections through messaging led her to win the Colorado Springs American Advertising Federation's Copywriter of the Year award in 2016. Stemming from a desire to elevate creative marketing in Colorado Springs, Minneti currently sits on the American Institute for Graphic Arts (AIGA) Colorado Springs board.



Laia Mitchell joined the Gates Family Foundation in April 2015 and works to advance the Foundation's Community Development priorities statewide. Mitchell's previous work experience has been in the nonprofit sector in human services, economic opportunity and affordable housing, including roles as a vocational rehabilitation specialist and as a shelter and housing program manager. She holds a B.A. in Anthropology and Political Science from the University of Florida and spent five years post-graduation living in northern Spain, where she worked with organic farmers with support from a Fulbright grant. Mitchell received her Masters in Urban and Regional Planning with a focus on building healthy communities from the University of Colorado Denver in 2015.



Mark Moffett is a multi-media artist who works in a wide range of mediums, from metal casting and fabrication to digital media, artcars and special effects. Moffett is the co-creator and director of The(Work)Collective, a transmedia artist combine, founded in Toledo, Ohio and based in Colorado. (Work)'s credits include exhibitions at Understudy Gallery in Denver, Dlectricity: Nuit Blanche in Detroit, Ingenuity in Cleveland, artcar builds for Artocade in Trinidad, and curated exhibitions. In 2018, Mark co-founded the Colorado Flame Effects Guild, which promotes the safe construction and use of flame effects through education and awareness of Colorado's talented flame effects artists.



Patricia Morrison is the founder of Inner Fire, Outer Light, which helps overwhelmed and undervalued creatives make a living, make a life and make a difference with their gifts. Morrison is trained in visual art, writing, music, peace & global studies, education and creative business coaching. She has worked as an activist, toured nationally as a contemporary folk singer/songwriter, and helped children and adults to discover how to thrive at the intersection of creativity and social change/good.



Alexis Newton is the Director of Education at Museo de las Americas, where she focuses on creating arts integrated programming and culturally relevant curriculum infused with social justice activism. Newton is also the Latin American Representative for the Canadian based social enterprise, Lucky Iron Fish, which works to combat iron deficiency anemia around the world. She has previously worked with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in New York City and in Mexico City on human trafficking prevention and advocacy.



Ursla Null is an experienced leader and administrator who believes in the power of the creative sector to drive social change, build community, and create authentic connections. As the Co-Founder of Behind the Scenes and Festival Manager and Strategic Development Director for the Crested Butte Film Festival, Null works across sectors to leverage the film festival platform to encourage transformational experiences. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Sociology from Western State Colorado University, a Master of Science in Counseling Psychology from Central Washington University, a Master of Public Administration from the University of Montana, and a Master of Humanities in Visual Studies from the University of Colorado at Denver.



Patrick O'Brien helps lead programming and events at the Salida SteamPlant Event Center, in the heart of the Salida Creative District. He has introduced a monthly screening series of specialty films and recently was tapped to lead efforts for a multi-day film festival in Salida, after the town received a Blueprint 2.O grant from the Colorado Office of Film Television and Media. Previously, O'Brien was part of the executive team at the Denver Film Society, where he led development efforts to support and expand programs for the Denver Film Festival and several other annual mini-festivals.



Eve Orenstein is a nonprofit management professional with extensive experience in development and marketing focusing on individual giving, event planning, and institutional giving. Orenstein is currently Director of Development at the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra and has previously held positions at Curious Theatre Company, Project ALS, The Foundation Fighting Blindness, Cal-Wood Education Center, Turtle Bay Music School, and Sponsors for Educational Opportunity.



Christine Palafox has always loved to dance and be in nature and was drawn to indigenous cultures. As she got older, Palafox became interested in how the landscape informs the ceremonial base of arts, stories, dances, etc. of indigenous groups and how these nature-informed arts helped sustain the group's cultural integrity. For 25+ years, she has used these passions to address social and environmental injustices and to strengthen community connectedness, particularly through the creation of nature-based community dance ritual and story.



Brendan Picker has been managing public art projects for over eight years, first with the City of Albuquerque and now for the City and County of Denver. Before that, Picker worked extensively in galleries and museums. With a Bachelor in Fine Art and a Master in Community Planning, he loves the intersection of art and public policy and has a passion for both the public process and the creative process and increasing art access for all. Beyond managing public art projects, his role within Denver Arts & Venues includes co-managing the P.S. You Are Here program, marketing and social media, and leading free public art tours throughout Denver.



Carolina Porras is a citizen artist whose work is committed to arts-based placemaking and revealing the magical world of artist residencies to all. After graduating from the University of Florida with a BFA in Drawing, Porras attended her first artist residency in at Elsewhere Studios, a grass roots artist residency in the small rural community of Paonia, Colorado, which inspired a desire to work as a creative community builder. After a stint as a Program Manager at Elsewhere, she is now current Executive Director. Porras is also co-founder of Piney Wood Atlas, a collaborative project cataloging small, emerging, and unconventional artist residencies across the United States with the intent of creating a resource tool that connects the dots between artists and residencies.



Dave Ratner began his career in the music and entertainment management businesses as a tour manager, publicist, band manager, and founder of his own management agency, and is now the principal of Creative Law Network, a boutique Denver law firm specializing in entertainment, intellectual property, and business law. Ratner is a graduate of Cornell University and the University of Denver College of Law and currently is an adjunct professor at the University of Denver College of Law, co-chair of the Entertainment & Sports Section of the Colorado Bar Association, Advisory Committee Chair of Colorado Attorneys for the Arts, on the Board of the Center for Visual Art at Metro State, and a graduate of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Denver program.



Danielle Zoé Rivera is Assistant Professor of Environmental Design at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her research interests include urban planning, public interest design, environmental justice, and community organizing. Rivera's current research comparatively examines community organizing practices for social and environmental justice in Puerto Rico and the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Rivera also teaches design theory, planning studios, and seminars on environmental justice and community organizing.



Harris Rollinger is currently the Executive Director of Entrepreneurship for All (EforAll) Colorado, an organization focused on revitalizing mid-sized cities by accelerating economic & social impact through entrepreneurship. Prior to joining the EforAll team, Rollinger served as a community health consultant for Centura Health. Before moving to Denver in September of 2017, he lived in Boston and worked for Combined Jewish Philanthropies, one of Boston's largest non-profits, overseeing their innovation & entrepreneurship strategy.



Jenn Shelby is originally from Boise, Idaho and received a Bachelor of Arts in economics with a minor in visual art in 2012 from Boise State University. As an undergraduate, she was introduced to community issues at both local and global scales, through the humanities and economics studies. In 2013, her research on the cultural and economic value of farmers' markets appeared as a chapter in Local, Simple, Fresh: Sustainable Food in the Boise Valley. In 2014, Shelby wrote for Becoming Basque: Ethnic Heritage on Boise's Grove Street, this time telling the story of public private partnerships that shaped the development of the Basque block.



Armando Silva was born in Sombrerete, Zacatecas, Mexico and his family moved to the Northern Colorado area in search of the American Dream when he was just five. He submerged himself in the visual and performing arts behind closed doors, growing more comfortable with his talent, receiving his BA in Fine Arts from The University of Northern Colorado. Since then, Silva has used his artistic platform to pursue his passion and purpose and to lead, educate and give back within his community. Silva paints portraits to help tell stories, sometimes in his studio or on stages in front of thousands. Silva lives by the motto, "every brush stroke has a rhythm and every color has its voice."



Kendall Smith is Manager of Partnerships & Events for Colorado Public Radio. As the former Event Director of the Denver Post Underground Music Showcase, Smith led a seven-year expansion of the region's largest independent music festival. During this time, he was a Denver curator for Red Bull Sound Select, a program conceived to expand audience for local artists and was instrumental in helping the City of Englewood create the Englewood Block Party, a signature community event. Additionally, Smith was a 2016 participant in the Colorado Change Leader Institute and a 2014 graduate of Colorado Business Committee for the Arts' Leadership Arts program.



Suzi Q Smith is an artist, activist, and educator who hails from Denver, Colorado. She holds a degree in English Writing from the University of Colorado at Denver and she has been performing poetry throughout the United States for over a decade. Her poems have appeared in Union Station Magazine, Suspect Press, La Palabra, Muzzle Magazine, Malpais Review, The Pedestal, The Los Angeles Journal, among others, and in the anthologies Diverse-City, His Rib: Anthology of Women, and In Our Own Words. Smith is currently the co-Chair of the Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs. In addition to working as a teaching artist in Denver, she was the founding Slammaster of Slam Nuba and spent 12 years in the poetry slam arena as a competing poet, coach, organizer, board member, serving as the Executive Director of Poetry Slam, Inc. from 2014-2018.



Nissa Steinhour serves as Vice President of the Board of Trustees for the Palmer Land Trust and on the Board of Education for the Cheyenne Mountain School District. In her professional life, Steinhour spent her career primarily as a community and political organizer, working for the Trust for Public Land (TPL) helping with conservation transactions, landscape planning efforts and served as the Southwest Conservation Finance Director, where she worked across the inter-mountain West to help communities raise dedicated funds for park, trail and land conservation priorities. After TPL, she worked for the Western Conservation Foundation on a project with The Nature Conservancy to encourage state investment for wildlife habitat conservation



Corney Lane Stell is the Executive Director and Chief Curator of Black Cube, a nomadic contemporary art museum based in Denver. Stell has held independent curatorial practice since 2006, which has included curating numerous exhibitions nationally and internationally for museums, university galleries, biennials and art events. Stemming from a philosophical interest in art as communication, she has organized exhibitions that focus on artworks experimental in both conceptual and material nature, including exhibitions with artists Liam Gillick, Cyprien Gaillard, Daniel Arsham and Shirley Tse.



Gary Steuer joined Bonfils-Stanton Foundation (BSF) as President and CEO in 2013. Since that time, Steuer has focused on leveraging the voice and legacy of the foundation to sustain and strengthen the arts and nonprofit leadership in the community. In addition to overseeing \$3 million in annual grantmaking, he empowers the foundation's signature programs and initiatives to ensure they are advancing innovation, equity, community, and quality of life. Prior to joining BSF, Steuer served as the Chief Cultural Officer and Director of the Office of Arts, Culture & the Creative Economy for the City of Philadelphia.



Claire Swinford is the Urban Engagement Manager at the Downtown Partnership, the lead nonprofit organization ensuring that Downtown Colorado Springs serves as the economic, cultural, and civic heart of the city. She is the 2016 recipient of the Mayor's Young Leader Award in Creative Industries and was named a Rising Star by the Pikes Peak Arts Council for her cultural advocacy, as well as her work as a painter. She has used her communication, project management and arts sector expertise in the service of several of the region's premier cultural institutions, including the Colorado Springs Philharmonic and the Colorado Springs Independent.



Dr. Jeffrey Taylor is the Grosland Director at Western Colorado University's Master of Gallery Management. He is also a partner in New York Art Forensics, which studies artworks to determine attribution and detect forgeries. Taylor served as the Leon Levy Fellow at the Center for the History of Collecting at the Frick Collection and is the author of a history of the Hungarian art market, as well as Visual Arts Management. Currently, Taylor is leading a research project working on methodology to measure art markets using the CVSuite data tool, and to adapt the work so far on the Colorado art market, and apply it to measuring the full US art market and also serves as a commissioner on the Crested Butte Creative District.



Betsy Tobin, Artistic Director of the Now Or Never Theatre, has directed and performed original theatre across the United States, in Canada, Guinea, and throughout Europe. Her innovative work integrates puppetry with acting, masks, shadow theatre, and video projection. During the last 15 years, the company has experimented with different ways of telling stories using layered imagery in multi-media productions. Shows are presented in unusual settings with projection on a variety of surfaces. Tobin teaches puppetry, masks, and shadow theatre and tours for adults, adolescents, children and family audiences.



Aaron Treher is an interdisciplinary artist and educator based out of Boulder, Colorado. He received his Master of Fine Arts from the University of Colorado Boulder's Department of Art and Art History in 2018. Treher's artwork examines architecture, infrastructure and building methods that serve both people and animal populations simultaneously, focusing on man-made structures that serve as niche habitats for animals such as bats, barn swallows and cliff swallows. Some speculate that barn swallows have built their mud nests alongside people for much of human history, making them an ideal focus and unique audience for his practice.



Amy Triandiflou, owner and principal at ATPR, has been a public relations strategist for more than 20 years. Previously the Director of Brand Communications at Colorado's largest locally owned advertising and public relations agency, Vladimir Jones, Triandiflou has extensive experience in all facets of communications including media relations, internal relations, government relations, event planning, community relations, social media and crisis communication among a cross-section of industries including health care, real estate, finance, non-profits, hospitality, utilities and consumer goods and services.



Tim Vacca is an established arts administration professional who has been working in the Denver area arts industry since 2003. Vacca is the Director of Programs at the Museum of Outdoor Arts (MOA) and has previously served at the Denver International Airport's Art and Culture Program, as a curator and coordinator of temporary exhibitions. He is also on the board of directors of the Denver Theatre District and has served on several art juries and selection committees throughout the region as well.



Michelle Venus is a damned good writer and arts lover and lives and works in a tiny bungalow in Old Town Fort Collins, complete with barky dog and cranky cat. She collects works by local artists, developed and produced Support Local Culture, a segment featuring regional artists on KRFC 88.9 FM, and dances in the kitchen.



Andy Vick is an experienced leader and arts administrator who believes in the power of the creative sector to drive economic development, build community, grow tourism, and enhance quality of life for everyone. As the Executive Director of the Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region, Vick oversees the daily operation and management of a non-profit, local arts agency serving a two-county region with a population of over 700,000 residents. In conjunction with his work at the Cultural Office, he serves as a Council Member for Colorado Creative Industries, the Vice-President of the Colorado Springs Convention & Visitor's Bureau Board of Directors and on the Executive Committee for the United States Urban Arts Federation.



Mandy Vink oversees the Public Art Program for the city of Boulder, Colorado and is working to support the Community Cultural Plan's charge to "reinvent Boulder's public art program" through the creation of new policy, processes, and most importantly expectations of public art project experiences. Vink currently holds an elected position on the Americans for the Arts Public Art Network Council and regularly contributes to field discourse. She is chair of the Contemporary Alliance Board of Directors, a board which supports the modern and contemporary collection of the Denver Art Museum.



Mimi Wheeler has over 30 years of experience in the research, strategy and marketing realm and brings a wealth of perspective and knowledge to engagements. She has worked for global brands H.J. Heinz, Reebok and Ocean Spray as well as led the research and strategy practice for 10 years at Vladimir Jones, a full-service agency located in Denver and Colorado Springs. Wheeler is the principal of Coldsmoke Consulting, an LLC specializing in research, marketing and brand strategy and has a passion in representing the customer's view and bringing an outside-in perspective to the table.



Helanius J. Wilkins, a native of Lafayette, Louisiana, is an award winning choreographer, performance artist, and scholar. He is an Assistant Professor of Dance in the Department of Theatre & Dance at University of Colorado Boulder and his creative research and projects are rooted in the interconnections of American contemporary performance, cultural history, and identities of Black men. In his intermedia collaborations, Wilkins works with artists from a wide range of disciplines, including film, video, and design. Previously, he lived in Washington, D.C. and founded EDGEWORKS Dance Theater, an all-male dance company of predominantly Black men.



Emily Winslow is the Senior Manager of Investments and Impact Opportunities for Social Venture Circle, formerly Investors' Circle. In this role, she catalyzes and supports national and local deal flow, cultivates relationships with aligned community partners, identifies impact opportunities, and promotes best practices across the SVC network. Emily is also the Co-Founder and CEO of All Wins Ventures and has spent the last 7 years immersed in the Colorado social enterprise and impact investing ecosystem. All Wins Ventures supports early-stage social ventures, experienced and novice impact investors, high net-worth individuals, family offices, and associations of impact investors.



Robb Woulfe serves as President and CEO of Breckenridge Creative Arts (BCA) and is responsible for providing vision, leadership, curatorial oversight and management expertise in the areas of program development, financial planning, operations, marketing and public relations. As an advocate for arts, culture and creative industries in Breckenridge, he serves as chief spokesperson on behalf of BCA and an entrepreneur identifying strategic opportunities and alliances. Together with BCA's board and staff, Woulfe works with local artists, creative businesses and cultural organizations to develop opportunities for mutually beneficial partnerships within the themes of collaboration, capacity-building and creative tourism.



Chris Zacher is Founder, CEO, & Executive Director of Levitt Pavilion Denver, a 7,500 cap amphitheater located just SW of Downtown Denver and is a social entrepreneur and champion for live music that is accessible for all. Zacher has a wealth of experience in non-profit operations, budgeting, community outreach, crisis management, fundraising and festival production, and as a regular attendee of performance arts-based booking conferences including APAP, Aspen Live, Folk Alliance, Pollstar, and SXSW, he works to identify emerging artists to present in the Denver market.

SBDC CONSULTANTS

The Colorado Small Business Development Center Network (SBDC) consists of fourteen community-based full-time centers and more than 70 part-time centers that provide free one-on-one consulting services, training and programs. coloradosbdc.org



Susan Dunn has been a consultant with the SBDC for over 10 years, enjoying helping small businesses launch and grow. From developing branding and promotional campaigns to writing business plans and obtaining funding, she has helped several small businesses get started. Her education is Accounting and Business Administration from the University of Kansas, CPA with Arthur Andersen & Co, and Art & Graphic Design at San Jose State University. As a fine artist, Dunn has sold her work professionally, from galleries and shows to commissioned pieces. Her expertise includes branding, storefront design, collateral materials, printing, signage, marketing and promotion; business formation and business plans; and accounting and financial reporting.



Shawn Allison is passionate about helping entrepreneurs succeed. His expertise is in start-ups and helping existing businesses reach their potential through marketing, sales, new product initiatives, business processes and strategic planning. Allison has started, grown and sold several businesses over the last 20 years. Currently, he is a marketing consultant and recently launched OnSite Credentials – providing credentialing and access identification services for large events. His small business experience helps owners direct their talents toward building their business and attaining their goals while maintaining a work / life balance.

ΔBOUR US

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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1600 Broadway, Suite 2500 • Denver, CO 80202
303-892-3802 • coloradocreativeindustries.org





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