



**DECEMBER 2025**

## FROM THE BOARD

**Well we did it!** What was only a dream of the original founders 20 years ago is now a reality. It's actually a miracle that we were able to pull this off. A miracle that an Angel investor stepped up with the offer on a space in a building, a miracle that many businesses and individuals stepped up with helping to finance the renovations and perhaps even a bigger miracle that many people volunteered their time and talents to make this come about. On the volunteer side of things this enormous project would not have happened without the hundreds of hours several people put in. Chief construction volunteer Brad Rafish spent uncountable hours along with Don Sheets, Jake Jacobs and many others. This renovation of the space would not have happened without their dedication and use of their time and talents. We are forever in their debt and grateful for what they've done for the Dry Canyon Community Art Center.

Now on with the show and what a show it is. The Art Center contains room for the main gallery, the featured artist gallery, the gift gallery and two classrooms, with one including a kitchenette. The first exhibition could be named "One From Everyone." The exhibition committee received over 70 submissions for the main gallery and in general accepted at least one from everyone that applied that followed the guidelines. What talent we have in our community, it's just amazing. And now it is all on display for the public to appreciate. The gift gallery received many submissions and accepted as many as followed the guidelines. That initial Featured Artist (formally known as artist of the month) is Cheryl Graham, a wonderful painter of landscapes.

The main gallery artwork will be changed every two months with different focuses. The gift gallery network will change every three months. The featured artist is scheduled to change every month. Applications to be the featured artist are available here: <https://www.drycanyonarts.org/aotm> on the website. The featured artist is selected by the exhibition committee for #1 their artistic ability #2 their community involvement #3 their involvement in Dry Canyon Arts Association.

This is only the beginning. You did this with your enthusiasm and support. You have given central Oregon a wonderful gift that will benefit all of us.

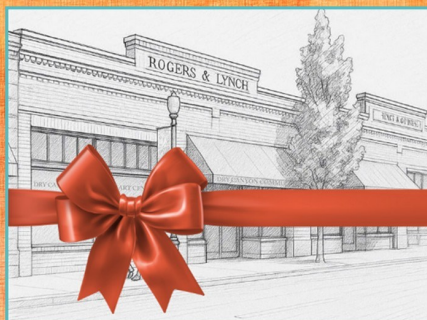
On a personal note; I have been privileged to lead this wonderful team over the past 4 years. It is time for me to step aside and support Dry Canyon Arts Association from another angle. Jay Lowndes will be the new chair starting January 1<sup>st</sup>. I am so glad that he stepped forward with his enthusiasm and willingness to serve. He is going to be a great chair of the board.

## HELP US OPEN THIS GIFT TO OUR COMMUNITY!

### The Dry Canyon Community Art Center

is opening to the public on December 5th!

The Dry Canyon Community Art Center will give artists and art lovers a welcoming place to gather, create and appreciate the arts together.



Celebrate our

### Grand Opening

Downtown Redmond  
First Friday Art Walk  
December 5th  
4:00pm to 7:00pm  
Ribbon Cutting at  
4:00pm

Dry Canyon  
Community  
Art Center  
415 SW 6th Street  
Redmond, OR  
97756



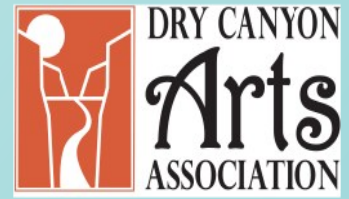
[drycanyonarts.org](http://drycanyonarts.org)

# DRY CANYON COMMUNITY ART CENTER

## Exciting Volunteer Opportunities at the Art Center

Are you ready to help create something extraordinary in our community? We're looking for enthusiastic, creative, and passionate individuals to join our leadership team and make our art association and community art center a vibrant hub for everyone. Below you'll find a range of volunteer opportunities—no matter your skills or interests, there's a place for you to shine!

Have questions or want to jump in? Join us and help shape the creative future of our community by emailing Janet Hardwick at [volunteer@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:volunteer@drycanyonarts.org).



**Dry Canyon Community Art Center**  
Enhancing Community through Art and Education



## Marketing Chair (Starts January 1)

Step into a leadership role and guide our well-documented marketing plan. You'll work alongside a dynamic committee, including a skilled writer, to help shape the center's public image and outreach.

## Social Media Assistant

Are you a natural influencer? Join us to amplify the art center's story through Facebook and Instagram. Help us build excitement and share everything our creative community has to offer!

## Lend Me Your Walls Assistant

You'll be mentored by Brad Rafish to take the lead at one of our venues—from calls for art to hanging masterpieces and connecting with participating artists, you'll play a key role in our exhibitions.

## Art Center Needs:

### Art Center Event Planning – A call to organize will be going out soon

Do you love throwing parties or organizing unforgettable gatherings? Collaborate with our operations team to create memorable events, such as our grand opening, founding sponsors reception, and other signature celebrations that make the art center the place to be.

## Public Relations Team

Do you enjoy sparking conversations and sharing exciting news? Become an ambassador for our new community art center as part of the Development, Fundraising and PR team!

### Art Classes – A call to organize will be going out in January.

Do you have a talent for organizing? Join us in coordinating art classes for both children and adults! Help recruit art instructors and collaborate with our webmaster to manage class schedules. Or join the fun and be a teacher yourself.

If you have already joined a volunteer team for the above, we will be in touch. Otherwise, please email Janet Hardwick with your interests at [volunteer@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:volunteer@drycanyonarts.org).



# ARTIST OF THE MONTH

## December's Featured Artist Cheryl Graham

By Dina Rhoden

Cheryl and her husband Jerry have lived in Oregon for thirty years. Growing up in California, her love for art led her to study at the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, and soon after she became an elementary school teacher who used her talent, making puppets, posters, and other artwork to further engage with her students.

Now retired, Cheryl often works in landscapes. "While painting my favorite 'get away spots,' I reimagine and honor my encounters with creation." She hopes her art recalls to viewers the awe and delight they first felt as they viewed certain locations. Last year she made 100 paintings for the 20-Dollar Art Show at the High Desert Art Museum. This year she created an on-site, here-and-now art experience for visitors where she painted South Sister, Mount Bachelor, or Broken Top in the colors people requested. As someone who loves to volunteer and build community, part of the joy of painting for Cheryl is seeing people's faces as they react to her work.

This fall, Cheryl rose to the challenge when invited to participate in a show in Portland that featured birds of the Pacific Northwest. "I love looking at birds in my yard or in nature, but I always allow myself creative license to give these paintings more character and surprising color combinations."

Other recent shows include the monthly First Friday Art Walks. Cheryl shares her love of teaching and painting with various "Sip and Paint" classes. She also volunteers by hosting art classes for homeless women. "I am really surprised at how much untapped talent there is out there. I love sharing with people who, for a variety of reasons, haven't had a chance to try their hand at painting or collage. It's such a deep way of communicating without words."

You can find more of her art here: <https://www.cherylgrahamfineart.com>



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### DCAA Up and Coming Events: December

#### December 2025

- **Dry Canyon Community Art Center's GRAND OPENING! 12/5**
- Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting ceremony **4:00**
- Open House **4:00 to 7:00**
- First Friday Art Walk: 12/5 **(4:00-7:00)** \*\*Downtown Redmond\*\*
- Marketing Meeting: 12/11 **(1:00-3:00)** \*\*Senior Center\*\*
- DCAA Board Meeting: TBD

## ATTENTION ARTISTS!

We would like you to share your unused art materials with others during the members meeting and pick up some materials you could use. Part of our mission is to encourage and share with other artists so come on and be part of the materials exchange next meeting. Any questions **503-319-2074**, Joan Sheets, Education Chair



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

We have a **new Facebook page** for updates, events, photos, DCAA happenings events and more.

Please go to <https://www.facebook.com/drycanyonarts> and

<https://www.instagram.com/dry.canyon.arts> and follow our pages.

We also have a new linkedin account. <https://www.linkedin.com/company/dry-canyon-community-art-center>

Help us create a vibrant arts and culture community in Central Oregon.



## LIST OF BOARD MEMBER CONTACTS

### Board of Directors 2025

#### Officers

Mel Archer [chair@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:chair@drycanyonarts.org)  
Kelley Salber [vicechair@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:vicechair@drycanyonarts.org)  
Beth Hanson [secretary@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:secretary@drycanyonarts.org)  
Bill Lind [treasurer@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:treasurer@drycanyonarts.org)

#### Directors

Terri Dill-Simpson [terri@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:terri@drycanyonarts.org)  
Laurel Werhane [firstfriday@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:firstfriday@drycanyonarts.org)  
Jay Lowndes [events2@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:events2@drycanyonarts.org)  
Joan Sheets [education@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:education@drycanyonarts.org)  
Josie Powell [grants1@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:grants1@drycanyonarts.org)  
Brad Rafish [lendmeyourwalls@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:lendmeyourwalls@drycanyonarts.org)



## 2025 DCAA Fall Show & Sale: A Record-Breaking Weekend!

The 2025 Fall Show & Sale was a *streaming success*, setting new records across the board! With **43 booths and 52 artists**, this year's event drew **over 2,000 visitors**—our highest attendance yet.

Our raffle also reached new heights, with **65 donated pieces from 57 artists**, raising an incredible **\$4,616** to support DCAA programs. The **High School Student Zone** saw its strongest participation to date, featuring work from more than **30 student artists**.

Visitors shared their enthusiasm for the developing **Dry Canyon Community Art Center**, and many stopped by the DCAA info booth to pledge additional support for both the **JumpStart Art** program and the new center.

A heartfelt thank-you goes to Janet Hardwick, our volunteer coordinator, and the **30+ volunteers** who made the event run smoothly—from artist load-in and booth support to greeting guests and event wrap-up. DCAA is deeply grateful to everyone who contributed their time, energy, and talents.

**Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Fall Show such a vibrant celebration of art and community!** \*\*Spring Show and Sale information will be forthcoming in the near future!\*\*





2025 FALL SHOW





## LEND ME YOUR WALLS!

The Lend Me Your Walls program was created to fill a need for the lack of formal art galleries in Redmond. Local businesses "loan" wall space so our members have a place to exhibit and sell their artwork. The duration of each exhibition is from three to six months depending on location.

Our current locations include **Bend Dermatology (Redmond); Birdies Brow & Spa; Feast Food Co.; High Desert Vision Source; and St. Charles Hospital.**

### Upcoming Calls for Art:

- **Birdies Brow & Spa** - Submission deadline December 12th

We are also looking for anyone interested in becoming a *Venue Lead*. This position is the primary contact with the venue and is responsible for submitting calls for art, printing labels, and hanging the pieces as well as maintaining communication with artists and the venue.

If interested, please contact Brad Rafish at [lendmeyourwalls@drycanyon.org](mailto:lendmeyourwalls@drycanyon.org)

## NEW TIME 4 -7 PM



## FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK



## FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK



*Join us for an evening  
event downtown Redmond*

- ♦ DO YOU KNOW the benefits of participating in the First Friday Art walks?
- ♦ NO COST to introduce your art to the community.
- ♦ MEDIA exposure in Cascade A&E, Spokesman & more.
- ♦ LEARN what's selling & how to price your art.
- ♦ DISCOVER how to market yourself and your art in a casual, relaxed conversation.

Need more information or have questions?  
Contact our FFAW Chair, Laurel Werhane  
at [firstfriday@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:firstfriday@drycanyonarts.org) or  
541-633-6693.

### Participating Businesses



## Join Us By Becoming a New Member Now for all of 2026

**Benefits:** For a modest annual membership fee (students 18 and under are free), you receive:

- Membership in Dry Canyon Arts Association and the new Dry Canyon Community Art Center
- Bimonthly Membership Meetings: Connect with fellow members and stay updated with the latest news.
- Monthly E-Newsletter: Highlighting events and opportunities to showcase and sell your work
- Free Website Listing: Members are encouraged to list their information on the Members' Roster on the Dry Canyon Arts website, linked to their personal website.

Complete the form at <https://www.drycanyonarts.org/membership-roster-update>.

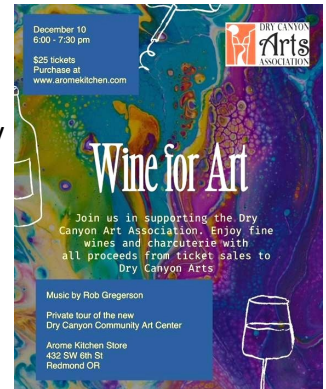
- Exhibit Opportunities: Show your work for sale through the Lend Me Your Walls program.
- First Friday Art Walk: Participate in Redmond's downtown event and sell your work at no cost to you.
- Art Show Calls for Artists: Receive advance notice of spring and fall art shows to register before outreach to other artists.
- Community Marketing: Events are marketed to encourage community engagement and participation.
- Volunteer: There will be many opportunities to volunteer with the center's operations and events and we encourage all our members to volunteer as a way of sustaining all the wonderful programs we offer.

Please contact [volunteer@drycanyonarts.org](mailto:volunteer@drycanyonarts.org) to get started.

Sound too good to miss? Just go to <https://www.drycanyonarts.org/join-us> for your new \$50 membership good through 2026. **Please note 2026 membership renewal notices will come out in January.**

### December 10 Fundraising Event at Arome Kitchen Store

Arome Kitchen is hosting a fundraiser December 10, 6-7:30 pm with all tickets sales going to Dry Canyon Arts Association. Come join the fun with wine and appetizers, live music by Rob Gregerson and a private tour of the brand new Dry Canyon Community Art Center. Tickets are \$25 per person and limited to 50 guests. Purchase online at <https://www.aromekitchen.com/products/wine-for-art-fundraiser-for-dcaa>. Thank you Janice at Arome for hosting this wonderful event.



### Congratulations to the Winner of the Fall Show \$100 drawing

Congratulations to **Linda Davis**, winner of the \$100 drawing at the Fall Art Show. Linda will be the first to receive a \$100 gift card redeemable for art at the new Dry Canyon Community Art Center. Though not a Central Oregon resident, Linda visits often to see her daughters and loves coming to the art shows.



### Good News for Jumpstart Art

Day Canyon Arts Association recently received some good news from the Autzen Foundation. They granted us \$5,600 to help fund the Jumpstart Art program for the upcoming year. DCAA initiated Jumpstart Art last year in the eight Redmond School District Elementary Schools. All students in grades K-5 participated in hands-on visual art education session in their classrooms taught by an Artist-in-Residence. A culminating activity was held for parents and the community to view the students' artwork.



The Reser Family Foundation also granted \$5,000 for Jumpstart Art. At the recent DCAA Fall Art Show and Sale 61 artists donated their artwork to be raffles and the proceeds, over \$4,000, all goes to fund Jumpstart Art. DCAA appreciates the generosity of our grantors and our community for making it possible for our students to experience art in their classroom.





## **End-of-Year Giving Benefits You and Your Favorite NonProfit**

As the year draws to a close, we invite you to make a lasting difference by contributing to our nonprofit art center. Your end-of-year donation not only supports upcoming arts programming and creative education in our community, but may also provide you with valuable tax benefits. Give today and let your generosity benefit both you and the community you cherish.

**There are Many Ways to Give – always check with your tax advisor!**

**Direct Cash Donations - <https://www.drycanyonarts.org/donate-main>**

- One-Time Gifts: Make a single contribution to support immediate needs and ongoing projects.
- Recurring Gifts: Set up automatic monthly or yearly donations for sustained impact.

**Disbursements from Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) IRA Accounts**

- Individuals aged 70½ or older can direct RMDs from traditional IRAs to nonprofit organizations, potentially reducing taxable income.

**DAF Accounts are Becoming More Popular for Tax Advantaged Giving**

- Donor-advised funds (DAFs) offer several benefits, including an immediate tax deduction when you contribute, the potential for tax-free growth on contributions, and flexibility in deciding when to grant funds to charities. Check with your financial advisor on how to set up.

**Oregon Cultural Trust Tax Credits – This is a Biggie in Oregon - <https://www.culturaltrust.org/get-involved/donate/>**

- Oregon residents can receive a tax credit off state taxes by donating to Oregon Cultural Trust listed cultural organizations and donating an equal amount to OCT by December 31. Tax credits up to \$500 for individuals, \$1,000 for couples filing jointly, and \$2,500 for class C-corporations.
- Maximizes the value of your contribution while supporting arts and culture statewide.

**Other Effective Donation Methods**

- Workplace Giving: Many employers match employee donations to eligible nonprofits, doubling or even tripling the impact.
- Stock Gifts: Donate appreciated securities for potential tax benefits and significant support.
- Legacy/Bequest Giving: Include the art center in your will or estate plan to leave a lasting legacy.
- In-Kind Donations: Contribute goods, services, or equipment that support operations and programming.
- Volunteering: Offer your time and skills to assist with events, administration, or outreach.
- Sponsorships: Sponsor exhibitions, events, or educational programs for public recognition and community engagement.

**Choose the Best Method for Your Situation**

- Explore the options above and select the approach that aligns with your giving goals and individual circumstances.
- Your support makes a meaningful difference in the community and helps keep the arts accessible to all.

Thank you for considering Dry Canyon Arts Association in your end-of-year giving plan.

*Beth Hanson*





# DRY CANYON Arts ASSOCIATION

For your year end tax planning  
please consider giving to the  
Oregon Cultural Trust and to  
Dry Canyon Arts Association  
[www.drycanyonarts.org/donate-main](http://www.drycanyonarts.org/donate-main)

(Oregon state tax credit limited to \$500 single payer, \$1000 married filing jointly, \$2500 C Corporations)



## Support Oregon Culture AND Earn a Tax Credit for it!

Follow these three steps to become eligible for the Cultural Tax Credit:

### ADD THEM UP

Total your  
cultural donations  
this year.

*See the full list of  
qualifying nonprofits on  
our website.*

### MAXIMIZE YOUR IMPACT

Match this amount  
to the Oregon  
Cultural Trust.\*\*

### SCORE THE TAX CREDIT

Claim your tax  
credit on your  
Oregon tax form.

\*\*Tax credit limitations apply.

### QUESTIONS?

Contact the Cultural Trust at  
(503) 986-0088 or via email at  
[cultural.trust@biz.oregon.gov](mailto:cultural.trust@biz.oregon.gov)  
or consult your CPA.

### LEARN MORE

at [culturaltrust.org](http://culturaltrust.org)  
or by scanning here:



### DONATE

by mail using this form  
online at [culturaltrust.org](http://culturaltrust.org)  
by phone at 503-986-0088

### I'm supporting Oregon's arts, heritage and humanities with my contribution of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$1,500 ☐ \$2,500 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD NUMBER or ENCLOSED CHECK

EXP. DATE

SECURITY CODE

DONOR NAME(S)

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL (NEW OR UPDATED)

Mail this form with your credit card info or check payable to the Oregon Cultural Trust to:  
Oregon Cultural Trust, 775 Summer Street NE, Suite 200 | Salem, OR 97301

Dry Canyon Arts Association is a 501c3 charitable organization listed with the Oregon Cultural Trust.  
Federal EIN # 20-1326201 Oregon State Registry #22990790 [www.drycanyonarts.org](http://www.drycanyonarts.org)



## CALL FOR DCAA BOARD MEMBERS

It is looking like it's going to be a beautiful fall here in Central Oregon. Our thoughts have turned to football, family and board nominations for Dry Canyon Arts Association. Like any other nonprofit we are governed by a board of directors; these are people who have stepped up and decided to contribute their time and energy to making Dry Canyon Arts a vibrant active community. Like other nonprofit associations, we are dependent on these people. It is vital to any organization to have fresh, vigorous energy that leads that organization in pursuit of its mission.

December is the month that we accept nominations for board membership and then in December the current board considers those people. Board members are not required to be artists, they can be nominated before they've become a member of Dry Canyon Arts. If you or someone you know is interested contributing to the art and culture of Central Oregon they can go to the DCAA website and fill out the nomination form anytime during the month of December.

<https://www.drycanyonarts.org/board-of-directors-how-to-apply>

## ART THERAPY

### Excellence

*Imagine a situation in which an individual lives alone on a tropical mountaintop for an indefinite period. The person constructs a durable residence with no expectation of visitors yet invests considerable time and effort in designing the living space. Each element, including woodwork, tableware, and furnishings, is meticulously chosen to align with personal preferences.*

*This process reflects the essence of outstanding artistry: creating for its own sake, guided by personal vision and dedication within a specific context. Making art demands commitment and serves as a unique expression of one's pursuit of excellence, shaped by individual benchmarks rather than outside pressures.*

*Art is mostly made for the artist's fulfillment. Judging what qualifies as excellence remains subjective—just like art itself—with no universal standards. In this sense, the creator often becomes his/her own chief critic.*

*The line between a 'formula' work approach and authentic artistic expression is blurred. When creations strictly follow popular trends, they can lack originality and struggle to make a real impact. Ultimately, the creator's own satisfaction is the best predictor of how well the audience might receive the work.*

*Hurdles like fear of criticism, commercial goals, comparisons with past successes, and constraints on resources can draw focus away from the main aim of delivering exceptional results. Achieving true greatness means staying resolutely focused on quality without compromise.*

*In deeply creative projects, it's vital to keep our internal dialogue aligned with pure artistic purpose. Setting the bar at excellence not only improves the project but can also enhance life overall and inspires others to reach higher.*

*Excellence is not a matter of public recognition or widespread acclaim, but rather the quiet satisfaction that comes from knowing one has given his/her utmost effort. The journey toward mastery involves embracing both the challenges and joys inherent in the creative process, often requiring resilience and self-motivation when external validation is absent.*

*Keep this thought: "I am just here to create."*

*Offering by Molly Freitag*



# THANK YOU!

## GRANTORS



## SPONSORS



## SUPPORTERS

