



DRY CANYON
Arts
ASSOCIATION

2025 Annual Report

Enhancing Community through Art and Education

Summary

In 2025, our non-profit arts association evolved from a member association of 220 members to a physical space in downtown Redmond inviting the entire Central Oregon community to participate in a vibrant hub for creativity, learning, and connection. Through a diverse range of programs, exhibitions, and outreach initiatives, we deepened our impact within the community, fostered artistic growth, and ensured accessibility for all residents. This report details our achievements, challenges, and future goals.

Mission and Vision

The Dry Canyon Arts Association, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, dedicates its mission to encouraging art and education in Redmond, Oregon, and the surrounding areas. We strive to provide opportunities and access for people of all ages to experience art. Our Vision to create a physical space was realized with the opening of the Dry Canyon Community Art Center on December 5, 2025. The center offers art classes, cultural events and an art gallery for everyone.

Programs and Services

The DCAA found its footing in Central Oregon in 2019 following a reorganization. Membership has grown to over 220 due to activities such as art shows, collaborative meetings, and opportunities for artists to share their work.

Jumpstart Art Early Education Initiative

Classroom art education in elementary schools is a top priority for DCAA. In 2022, we launched a grant program to support art in Redmond's K-5 schools, funding one school at a time. Thanks to raffle proceeds and foundation grants, we expanded the program in 2023 to reach additional schools.

Early in 2024, after art education was cut from the district's budget, DCAA partnered with the district to establish Jumpstart Art. We raised over \$70,000 to fund art classes for 3,004 K-5 students across all eight district schools, including the online flex program. Jumpstart Art offers hands-on lessons led by professional Artists-in-Residence, with teachers present in the classroom.

2025

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mel Archer, Chair, Facilities and Exhibitions
- Kelley Salber, Vice Chair and Membership
- Bill Lind, Treasurer
- Beth Hanson, Secretary and Sponsorship
- Brad Rafish, Lend Me Your Walls and Facilities
- Jan Tracy, Marketing
- Jay Lowndes, Chair Elect and Art Shows
- Joan Sheets, Education
- Josie Powell, Grants
- Kris Horn, Artist of the Month
- Laurel Werhane, First Friday
- Terri Dill-Simpson, Gallery and Exhibitions

ADVISORS TO THE BOARD

- Bill Hunt, Sponsorship
- Elizabeth Margeson, Policies
- Janet Hardwick, Volunteer Coordinator
- Jessica Carleton, Systems
- Steve Gasior, Webmaster
- Wendy Wheeler-Jacobs

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

In 2025, 100+ volunteers staffed our committees, programs and the new art center providing over 6400 hours of their time worth \$160,000. We couldn't do this without you!

DCAA continues to raise funds through grants, donations, and proceeds from our Fall and Spring Art Show raffles. The Jumpstart Art initiative is a huge success, with more than 3,000 students participating at a cost of \$17.00 per student. In 2026, the program continues to ensure that every K-5 student can experience art education in their classroom.

Lend Me Your Walls

In 2021, a volunteer committee launched the Lend Me Your Walls program allowing members to exhibit and sell their artwork in local businesses. Venues include The Redmond Senior Center, St. Charles Hospital Redmond, Bend Dermatology (Redmond), High Desert Vision Source, Feast Food Co., Birdies Brows and Pangaea Guild Hall.

Downtown Redmond First Friday Art Walks

At the same time, DCAA volunteers began hosting Downtown Redmond First Friday Art Walks each month. These lively gatherings offer local art lovers the opportunity to meet artists who display their work in seven downtown businesses, while also boosting the local economy by encouraging shops to stay open late. Each month, one artist was chosen as the Artist of the Month and was celebrated at Sotheby's with a reception and early publicity highlighting their artwork. Venues include Arome Kitchen, Desert Prairie Boutique, Harcourts The Garner Group, SCP Hotel, Sothebys International Realty, Cares and Whoas and High Desert Floral.

Fall and Spring Art Shows Reinforce DCAA's Mission

DCAA is known for its Spring and Fall Art Shows. Initially held at the High Desert Music Hall, these shows moved to Redmond High School in fall 2023, allowing over 60 artists and area high school students to participate. The larger venue also accommodated an expanding raffle of prizes donated by DCAA artists with proceeds going directly to the Jumpstart Art Program.

The New Dry Canyon Community Art Center

After 4 months of renovations largely accomplished by volunteers in conjunction with local businesses, Dry Canyon Community Art Center opened its doors with a ribbon cutting on December 5, 2025. Achieving this goal of creating a community space for art, artists and art lovers to come together was the culmination of the original founders' vision in 2004. Thank you everyone who made this possible through time, treasure and a lot of dedicated work.



Awards and Accomplishments

- In 2024, Dry Canyon Arts Association was awarded the Redmond Economic Development Inc. (REDI) Thrive Award which recognizes “significant initiatives, programs, projects, or partnerships when successfully implemented noticeably change the landscape which further supports economic development in the Redmond Community.”
- Awarded the 2025 Ben Westlund Memorial Award by Deschutes Cultural Coalition for community service.
- Awarded the 2025 New Business of the Year by the Redmond Chamber of Commerce.
- Received grants of \$34,000 from the Oregon Cultural Trust and \$5,000 from The Ford Family Foundation toward the renovation of the Dry Canyon Community Art Center.
- Received grants of \$19,600 for Jumpstart Art from Deschutes Cultural Coalition, Redmond Kiwanis, The Reser Family Foundation and Autzen Foundation.

Impact and Outcomes

- In 2024, **Jumpstart Art** provided \$71,975 through grants, donations and raffles to eight elementary schools and the online Flex school in the Redmond School District giving 3,004 students classroom art education which is not included in the schools’ budgets.
- **First Friday Art Walk** provided artists with the opportunity to show and sell their art in seven downtown venues. The fun and festive event draws locals and tourists to downtown bringing increased traffic and sales to local businesses and restaurants. Merchants have provided endorsement letters acknowledging the positive impact on their businesses. First Friday continues in 2026 with Dry Canyon Community Art Center becoming a new venue.
- **Lend Me Your Walls** created collaboration with seven local businesses which show members’ artworks and brings art to the general public.
- **The Spring and Fall Art Shows at Redmond High School** provided the opportunity for 42+ local artists and 17 high school students to show and sell their work at each show. The students received mentoring in the art of showing and selling their work along with engaging with the public about their art. The raffle of donated art raised money toward the Jumpstart Art program raising on average \$4,000 per show. The events are free to the public and are attended by approximately 1,500-2,000 people each show.
- Together, it is estimated that the programs brought \$330,000 of economic benefit in 2025 to Redmond based on an Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts and Culture in Central Oregon study done by Americans for the Arts.



New Business of the Year

Financial Overview

Current Assets as of December 31, 2025

Checking Account	\$39,852
High Yield Savings	\$45,920
<u>Net Payables</u>	<u>(\$183)</u>
Total Equity	\$85,589

2025 INCOME

Membership Dues	\$8,337
Art Shows Income	\$10,585
Art Shows Raffle – Jumpstart Art	\$8,436
Donations – General	\$3,183
Donations – Art Center	\$126,185
Donations – Jumpstart Art	\$11,090
Grants – Art Center	\$39,000
Grants – Jumpstart Art	19,600
Gallery Revenue – December	\$11,772
Interest	\$740
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$161</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$239,089

*In addition, approximately \$34,000 in materials was donated by 13 businesses for the art center renovations. Please see sponsor list.

2025 EXPENSES

Cost of Goods Sold	\$8,865
Awards and Grants – Jumpstart Art	\$3,250
Advertising and Marketing	\$15,983
Facility Expense*	\$36,142
Legal and Accounting	\$311
Insurance	\$3173
Bank Fees and Online Sales Discounts	\$1,825
Office Expenses and Equipment	\$6,493
Facility Leasehold Improvements	\$114,181
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>\$253</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$190,476
NET REVENUE	\$48,613

*Lease payment is offset by equal recurring monthly donation

Fundraising and Development

Our Founding Sponsor campaign raised all the funds necessary to renovate and equip the new Dry Canyon Community Art Center within a period of four months, with the grand opening celebration on December 5, 2025. Now a key presence in downtown Redmond, we look forward to collaborating with other businesses to bring more people and prosperity to downtown Redmond and beyond.

Community Partnerships

Strong partnerships with schools, donors, city government and local businesses enabled us to deliver impactful programming and amplify our presence.

Governance

Our Board of Directors and Advisors provided strategic leadership and oversight, ensuring transparency and effective stewardship of resources. Volunteers continue to demonstrate dedication and professionalism, with their numbers growing consistently as our membership grows and the community becomes more aware of the new community art center.

Challenges and Opportunities

- As a volunteer-run nonprofit organization, one of our greatest challenges is ensuring strong leadership and effective management. While our volunteers are deeply committed to our mission, the absence of a **dedicated Executive Director** can make it difficult to coordinate efforts, maintain accountability, and strategically guide the growth and development of the art center. Hiring an Executive Director is

essential to providing the support and direction needed for our team to evolve into a sustainable and successful community resource.

- Another significant challenge is establishing continual sources of income to guarantee the **financial stability of the art center**. Relying solely on donations or sporadic fundraising events can leave us vulnerable to fluctuations in funding, making it harder to plan for long-term projects and improvements. Developing ongoing revenue streams, such as membership programs, art classes, gallery rentals, or partnerships with local businesses, is vital to helping us build a resilient foundation for the future.
- **Our volunteers are our strength** and have made our programs and projects successful beyond our expectations. Growing and nurturing our volunteer community to add value to their lives as they have added their time and talent to DCAA is a top priority in creating a vibrant arts community.

Looking Forward: Goals for 2026

- Raise \$65,000 for an Executive Director: Launch targeted fundraising campaigns to secure the resources needed for hiring our first Executive Director, ensuring strong leadership and strategic growth for the art center.
- Expand Art Education and Scholarships: Develop and offer a broader range of art classes, workshops, and scholarship opportunities for veterans, youth and adults, making art accessible to all members of our community.
- Engage the Community with Exhibitions: Host regular exhibitions and interactive events that showcase local talent, foster creativity, and invite diverse audiences to experience the power of art.
- Grow Membership: Create new membership opportunities and benefits to attract and retain members, building a supportive network of art ambassadors and enthusiasts.
- Raise Arts Awareness: Increase outreach efforts through partnerships, promotions, and storytelling to highlight the importance of arts and culture in Redmond.
- Establish a Development Team: Establish a dedicated Development team to lead fundraising, donor relations, and strategic planning, strengthening our financial foundation and organizational capacity.
- Plan for future expansion of an additional 1,500 sq. ft. of classroom and workshop space becoming available in early 2027.
- Collaborate with Businesses and Government: Build meaningful partnerships with local businesses and government agencies to support arts education, public art initiatives, and community appreciation for the arts.

Together, we can ensure a bright future for the Dry Canyon Community Art Center and continue to inspire creativity in Redmond for years to come.



Why Does a Community Art Center Matter?

It preserves local culture and identity

Community art centers celebrate local voices and stories. They showcase regional artists, reflect shared history, and help a community define who it is and what it values, especially important in growing or changing towns.

It strengthens the local economy

Art Centers attract visitors, support creative professionals, and increase foot traffic for nearby businesses. They help revitalize downtowns and contribute to long-term economic vitality.

It nurtures creativity in everyday life

Art isn't just for artists. Community art centers encourage creativity as a life skill, helping people think differently, solve problems, and engage with the world more thoughtfully.

A community art center is an investment in people.

It nurtures creativity, connection, and culture, making a community healthier, more vibrant and more resilient.

Acknowledgments

We are deeply grateful to our grantors, sponsors, donors, volunteers, partners, and board members whose unwavering generosity and dedication make our vision a reality. Your steadfast support not only powers our mission but also ignites a spark of creativity that resonates throughout our entire community, empowering us to dream bigger and reach further together.

Contact Information

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Email: secretary@drycanyonarts.org
Website: www.drycanyonarts.org

Thank you to our Grantors, Founding Sponsors and Supporters in 2025

Grantors

Oregon Cultural Trust
The Ford Family Foundation
Deschutes Cultural Coalition
PacifiCorp Foundation

Redmond Kiwanis
The Reser Family Foundation
Autzen Foundation

Corporate Founding Sponsors

Black Goat Winery
Brandon McCarthy, BMC Construction
Bright Wood
Burke's Barbershop
Cares and Whoas
Cascade Hasson Sotheby's International Realty
Central Oregon Center for the Arts
Desert Peaks Health Care
Desert Prairie Boutique
Eastbank Appliances
Elements Public House
Elite Electric
Fitch & Neary, P.C.
Floor Coverings International Bend
General Duffy's
GTS Interior Supply
Harcourts North America
Harcourts The Garner Group
High Desert Florals
Kronsberg Electric
L.E.W.'s Plumbing
Landmark Landscaping
Mesher Supply
Ochoco Capital Management
Pacific Design Cabinetry
Precision Countertops
SCP Hotel
Sherwin-Williams
Smile-A-Mile Painting
WCP Solutions

Individual Founding Sponsors

\$10,000 +

Anonymous
The Ross Family

\$1,000 - \$9999

Mel and Colleen Archer Family
Art for You Central Oregon
Diana Barker
Tarrell Carrier
Charan and Linda Cline
Creativity Takes Courage
For my Grandkids with Love, Grammi
Honoring Linda Davis
How Great Thou Art
Terri Dill-Simpson
John and Peggy Goodman
Jack and Beth Hanson
Janet Hardwick
John 3:16
Karin Harris
Henriette and Elwin Heiny
Barrie Hunt
Bill and Gilda Hunt
Gin Laughery and Bill Lind
Brad and Kathy Rafish
Don and Joan Sheets
Sharon Watkinds – Founder 2004
Ben Westlund Family
Wendy Wheeler and Jake Jacobs

\$100 - \$999

Kerri Abney
Sharon Abrums
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Jay and Dana Black
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\$100 - \$999

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Erin Skeer
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Jeff Strauser
Tracy Thille
Rick Thompson
Janice Tracy
Dana Tracy-Gibbens

Kathleen Veenstra
Jennifer Ware-Kempcke
Laurel Werhane
Sonja Wernke
Joann and Jerry Wheeler
Loren Wilson
Mary Wonser

Thank You Volunteers!

In 2025, 100+ volunteers staffed our committees, programs and the new art center providing over 6400 hours of their time worth \$160,000. We couldn't do this without you!

Jumpstart Art Schools

- Hugh Hartman Elementary: 1199 SW 11th St.
- John Tuck Elementary: 2000 NW 2nd St.
- M.A. Lynch Elementary: 1330 N Canal Blvd.
- Sage Elementary: 2790 SW Canal Blvd.
- Terrebonne Community School (K-8): 11995 NE 1st Ave, Terrebonne
- Tom McCall Elementary: 2450 SW Highland Ave.
- Tumalo Community School (K-8): 19745 Tumalo School Rd, Bend
- Vern Patrick Elementary: 401 SW 18th St.
- RSDFlex

Lend Me Your Walls Venues

- Bend Dermatology (Redmond office)
- Birdies Brows
- Feast Food Co
- High Desert Vision Source
- Redmond Senior Center (paused)
- Pangaea Guild Hall
- St Charles Hospital

First Friday Art Walk Venues

- Arome Kitchen
- Cares and Whoas
- Cascade Hasson Sotheby's International Realty
- Desert Prairie Boutique
- Dry Canyon Community Art Center (December 2025)
- Harcourts The Garner Group
- High Desert Florals
- SCP Hotel

Spring and Fall Art Show Venue – Redmond High School

Our heartfelt thank you to the Redmond High School for making your common space available to us for our spring and fall art shows. You have been a pleasure to work with and provided early access for set up on Friday night, a concession stand for snacks and lunch and a staff member to be on site for security and safety. We look forward to being in your renovated space in the fall of 2026.

THANK YOU!

GRANTORS



SPONSORS



SUPPORTERS

