

DRY CANYON
Arts
ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 2025 Newsletter

FROM THE BOARD

In January 2024, I was approached by our Board President Mel Archer to inquire whether I had any interest in becoming a Board member with the Dry Canyon Arts Association (DCAA). Given that I do not identify myself as an artist, I wasn't quite sure as to why he was asking me this question. As I learned, the Board was looking to diversify its membership by having a non-artist member. Mel thought my background providing business consulting services for over 40 years to non-profits, governments, and small businesses as both a team member, partner, and managing partner in Portland-area CPA and Consulting firms would be a good addition. The Board also thought the same and here I am.



As a "hobbyist" woodworker, I appreciate and admire the creativeness and talent of our local artists. I believe the arts and art education is important to our community. As a non-artist member, I bring a differing perspective to the governance responsibilities of the Board as well as using my previous business and non-profit experience to assist in various areas. Since Redmond has been long overdue for a permanent gallery and education center, I am excited to be a part of the creation and operation of the soon to be opened Dry Canyon Community Art Center!

As a Board member, I have had the opportunity to be involved in a variety of DCAA functions. Currently I am the Lend Me Your Walls coordinator, serve on the Board Finance Committee, provide assistance in grant writing, and now – thrilled to be part of the operations and remodeling committees for the Art Center.

As a fairly recent permanent resident of Redmond; I feel that I've found my community in many, many ways. In addition to DCAA, I am a Board President of Brightside Animal Center, and volunteer with the Bend-Redmond Habitat for Humanity, NeighborImpact, and a volunteer reader with Start Making a Reader Today (SMART).

I'm very excited about what the future holds for DCAA and am thrilled to be part of the team.

Brad Rafish

Note from Mel, Board chair. Brad has been a fantastic addition to your team of directors. You too can bring your passion for the arts and help in guiding our organization. It doesn't take experience, just the willingness to be of service. We are always looking for new board members. We are all in this together, come on in and join us, you will be glad you did and so will we.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Of Oil and Water: The Art and Journey of Dominique Ovalle-Kongsli

Dominique grew up in the Bay Area where her earliest memories are of a house filled with music—two pianos being played on separate sides of the house. “My entire family is musical, and I remember painting to music as soon as I could hold a paintbrush.” Later, her older sister, discovering that 13-year-old Dominique had pierced her belly button, wasted no time telling their parents. Her punishment: being grounded for three months. “I couldn’t call my friends or go out on the weekends. It was a very isolating time, so I found some oil paints around the house and just painted. In high school I saw an image in National Geographic and wondered if I could translate it with paint onto the canvas. I loved the challenge of translating something I saw into something I made.”



That challenge inspired Dominique to pursue degrees in art, graduating from Pepperdine University and Claremont Graduate University. She credits titans like Mary Cassatt, Richard Schmid, and Claude Monet for their impact on her approach to composition and light. Oil painting holds an undeniable allure for her. “Oil paintings are sexy,” Dominique says. “The paint glistens sensuously atop the canvas, luxurious and velvety. It’s my favorite medium. However, the stakes are high—there’s the cost of materials, but also my energy must be extremely focused so I can capture the radiant wing of a butterfly or the spray of silver in the waves. I think to myself, ‘I better make this good.’ I would say my creative superpower is having ideas, so many inspirations, and so many things I want to paint.”

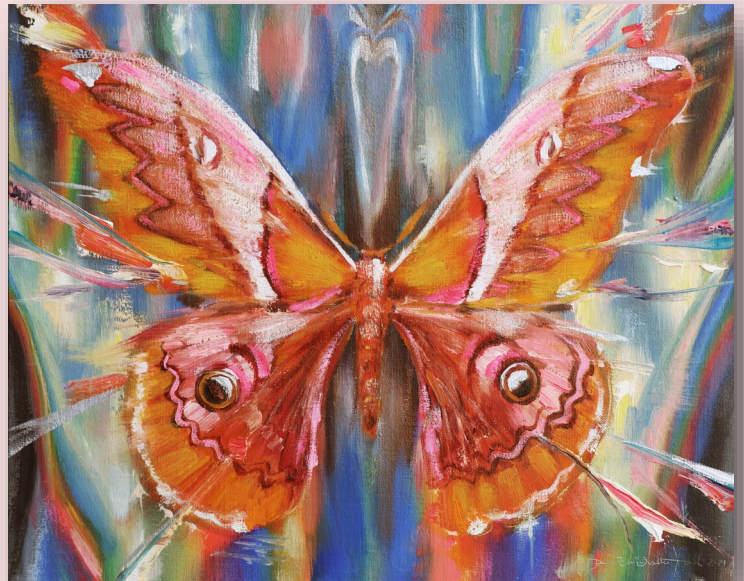
Now in her thirties, with two young children, ages three and five, Dominique has entered what she calls “a unique and sacred season.” Extended hours in front of a canvas are now hard to come by. “Motherhood has taught me to adapt, to savor small moments, and to find meaning in the margins. It’s changed my art, but it’s also made it more meaningful.” For the moment she’s put oils aside for watercolors. “Oils demand steadfast commitment, but watercolors have excellent ‘interruptability.’ I can put them aside to make lunch or play with my children without worrying about losing the flow of the work.”

Dominique describes her watercolor paintings as “quirky, fun, and lighthearted.”

Among the recurring motifs in her watercolors are anthropomorphized trees where the natural markings become eyes. Her travels in Thailand inspired these playful, yet profound forms. Given the demands of being a wife, mother, teacher, writer, and mentor, Dominique’s personal mantra is, “My direction is more important than my speed. It consists of letting myself be cared for by my Creator. My direction is belief—that a painting will work out—and that my life will work out, too. It’s not about speed or quantity. It’s about intention. I want each piece of art I make, whether it is large or small, to be loaded with joy, emotion, and beauty.”

Dominique has collaborated with Bend photographers to capture realistic landscapes, amping up colors and using the tiniest four-hair brush to create trees. From giant murals of butterflies to small canvases capturing flowers or faces, Dominique celebrates life around her.

For her, there’s a distinct difference in the process of realistic versus abstract painting. “In the landscapes or portraits, there’s a finite ending. These pieces can be completed in steps and stages that I’m in control of. With abstract pieces, there’s always the risk that I’ll never feel finished with it because I think it needs more tweaking. My drive to create abstract art is because I don’t know what it will look like in the end.”



Cont...

“Joy King”

For emerging artists, Dominique has this advice, “Stay open to inspiration. Respond with whatever energy you have, be it little or much. Every brushstroke carries intention, and every medium tells its own tale.” See Dominique share her art and process on You Tube—painting with her baby son strapped to her back.

To explore more of Dominique Ovalle-Kongsli’s work, visit: dominiquekongsli.com

By Dina Rhoden



“Kingship Deer”



“Grey Area Illumination”



“Cypress”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DCAA Up and Coming Events: August and September

August 2025

- ♦ **DCAA will be taking possession of the Rogers & Lynch building to begin remodeling for the Dry Canyon Community Art Center! PLEASE keep an eye out for volunteering opportunities!**
- ♦ Deschutes County Fair & Rodeo: 7/30 - 8/3 **local artists on display**
- ♦ First Friday Art Walk: 8/1 (5:00-8:00) **Downtown Redmond**
- ♦ Marketing Meeting: 8/14 (1:00-3:00) **Senior Center**
- ♦ Art in the High Desert 8/22-24 **Bend**
- ♦ DCAA Board Meeting: 8/28 (2:00-5:00) **Redmond Library meeting room**

September 2025

- ♦ First Friday Art Walk: 9/5 (5:00-8:00) **Downtown Redmond**
 - ♦ Marketing Meeting: 9/11 (1:00-3:00) **Senior Center**
 - ♦ Member Meeting: 9/23 (5:00-6:30) General Duffy's Annex
- **PLEASE NOTE THE "NEW" START AND END TIMES!****

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Our celebration of volunteers continues....this month it is **Dina Rhodes**, our creative Writer for so many of DCAA projects.

Dina comes to us via New York where she was raised and had her first intro to art. Her wonderful mother was an oil artist and took Dina to art museums throughout the area. Dina went on to Oberlin college in Ohio, but did she stop seeking knowledge there? Oh no, this humble and intelligent woman went on to get three masters' degrees and a doctorate in the following 20-30 yrs. Dina wrote books, published articles, essays and poetry during those years. This incredibly talented woman also taught too many courses to note, in poetry, essay writing, creative writing, technical writing (a switch between right and left brain), and dozens of other literature courses. Oh, did I mention her social work? She managed to work into her busy life, co-directing and facilitation for 13 years in Georgia at Compassion House. Her early volunteer work included both ends of the spectrum of life, pregnancy support and grief/ hospice work AND she married and raised a family. And I repeat, she is a very quiet and humble woman with awards and certifications bar none!



All this said, what does this have to do with art and DCAA? Dina and her husband/family moved to Bend for a new chapter in life, they started flipping houses, during which she and hubby used furnishings from second hand and discount stores. Dina had an idea, why not use her art work and local art she found in the area for the walls of the restored homes? So she did! Now Dina mentions that she never had an art class in her life, in fact in school where art classes didn't exist, if she tried to draw or paint, she was discouraged by her teachers- but remember her mother was an artist and encouragement and inspiration came from that direction. Dina said the "art came to me as a gift"-her mom and the art museums visitations being the source of that gift.

Dina also makes and sells jewelry, paints on old jeans and placemats she finds at second hand shops - a true recycler giving new life to used items and produces collages as her current painting style. The circles found in her creations represents

"completion and wholeness of life" a rather profound statement!

Dina lives in Bend and was introduced to DCAA by Kelly Salber, Dina found a welcoming, mentoring and progressive group of artists with whom she is excited to participate and volunteer for everyone's future! She says when she first joined there was only 60 members, now close to 200 that she says are always warm and joyful!

THANK YOU DINA FOR BEING YOU!

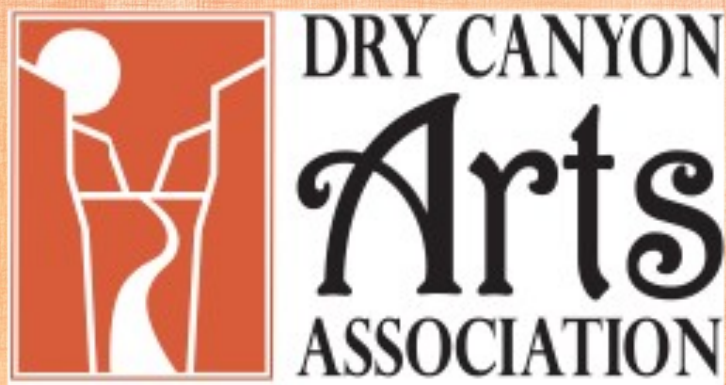
Terri Dill-Simpson



"Bouquet"



"Collage"



Dry Canyon Community Art Center

Enhancing Community through Art and Education



LIST OF BOARD MEMBER CONTACTS

Board of Directors 2025

Officers

Mel Archer chair@drycanyonarts.org
Kelley Salber vicechair@drycanyonarts.org
Beth Hanson secretary@drycanyonarts.org
Bill Lind treasurer@drycanyonarts.org

Directors

Terri Dill-Simpson tdillsimpson@gmail.com
Laurel Werhane firstfriday@drycanyonarts.org
Jay Lowndes events2@drycanyonarts.org
Joan Sheets education@drycanyonarts.org
Josie Powell grants1@drycanyonarts.org
Brad Rafish lendmeyourwalls@drycanyonarts.org
Kris Horn artistofthemonth@drycanyonarts.org

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; Redmond Sr. Center; and St. Charles Hospital.

Upcoming Calls for Art:

- Bend Dermatology - Submission deadline August 8
- Redmond Senior Center - Submission deadline August 12

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



FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK



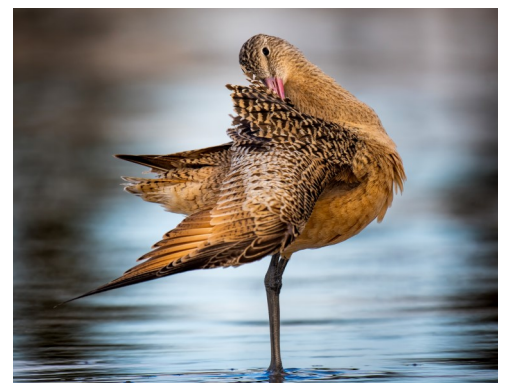
Join us for an evening
event downtown Redmond

- ♦ 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 or 541-633-6693.

Participating Businesses



EDUCATION

Jumpstart Art is a Success

The first round of Jumpstart Art was a great success. DCAA collaborated with the Redmond School District to fund visual art education in the classrooms in all eight District K-5 schools plus the online Flex program. DCAA raised enough money, \$70, 975, for Jumpstart Art to launch in January 2025: \$40,500 in foundation grants, \$5216 proceeds from Art Show raffles, and the remaining \$20,259 came from individual donations and from Civic organizations. We should all be very proud of the DCAA's accomplishment, we provided hands-on visual art education to 2,851 students during the spring semester. Due to time constraints, two schools will have to complete the program in the fall. Based on the number of students served and funding used by the end of June, the cost per student was \$17.34. That is a very low price for the quality of programing we provided using Artists-in-Residence. By collaborating with the district and using their classrooms for art education we were able to reach all children, removing barriers for low-income, special needs and non-English speaking students. The DCCA board voted to collaborate with the district to continue Jumpstart Art for the 2025-2026 school year. We are seeking grants and donations to fund the program. **You can donate** by clicking on the Jumpstart Art logo on our website or the logo below, all donations are appreciated.

Josie Powell



TIP SHEET INFO

10 Essentials of Developing Artistic Skills

People may say “You’re so talented!” But is that really true? Becoming a skilled artist takes practice, self-awareness of who you are, persistence and so much more. Learn these 10 Essentials of Developing Artistic Skills new to the Tips for Members page at <https://www.drycanyonarts.org/tips-for-members>. How about printing and pinning this to your bulletin board as a reminder to nurture your journey as an artist and be the best that you can be? If you have any artist tips to share, please send them to media@drycanyonarts.org.

We’re all in this together to support each other – thank you!

Beth Hanson

DON'T MISS OUT

DAVID KREITZER contemporary realist art.

NEW SHOW — "HEALING WATERS" at St. Charles Medical Center (Bend) Gallery through August 2025

MARKET PLACE

I have a 10x10 complete exhibit booth for sale for \$500.00. (No paintings, of course.) I have used it four times, all at DCAA shows. Lavonne Smith 541-977-1416.



HELP WANTED

OK members, it is time to have a little heart to heart with each one of you so please bear with me. As I hope you know, all of the people who produce the events that a lot of you participate in are volunteers. The board members are all volunteers and put in many hours of work on your behalf. The new art center is a massive undertaking by volunteers to promote art opportunities for you in our area.

We need your help to continue these programs. Without you stepping up these programs will fade away. Please look into your heart and have a little self conversation, "can I spare some time to help out our growing community of artists and art supporters". It is up to each one of us to do our part, without you it won't get done.

Mel Archer, volunteer board chair

Here are today's opportunities!

Social Media Manager. We need someone who really knows their way around Meta products (and maybe Bluesky and dare we say TikTok?) and can make a difference for us. This position can be as hands-on or work-from-home as you would like.

First Friday Art Walk Chair. Our wonderful First Friday Art Walk Chair Laurel is retiring but telling us in advance so that she can share her boundless knowledge and enthusiasm of the Downtown Redmond Art Walk with her successor. There are just a couple of months left where Laurel will be able to mentor you. This is a really great opportunity for someone who is, or wants to be, familiar with Downtown Redmond.

Lend Me Your Walls, venue leads. Looking for someone to take over the Senior Center venue. Easy to do, will train, put out a little effort every 3-4 months

Marketing Chair. The marketing chair has a great team, including a graphic designer, at least one writer, a social media manager, and many more. Their job is to take the products of their talented team and distribute them throughout the media landscape of Central Oregon to keep DCAA in the news. The format and contacts are already done by Jan our talented marketing committee chair, however she is retiring from that position.

Newsletter Editor. We need someone who can gather information, event schedules, and news from various sources, then work with our graphic designer to mold it into a short and sweet newsletter. The shorter the better!

Event committee Volunteers. Jay is doing an incredible job, but he needs helpers that he can call upon for specific events.

To find out more, email Beth at secretary@drycanyonarts.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

ART THERAPY

Our Openness

Minds tend to seek out rules and limits. To navigate our large and uncertain world, we develop beliefs that give us a coherent framework, reduced options, and a false sense of assurance.

With the overwhelming amount of information available today, we're more reliant than ever on categorization, labeling, and shortcuts. Very few have the time or expertise to evaluate each new choice with a completely open, unbiased mind. There's also that sense of security in shrinking our world for manageability.

The artist does not value safety and smallness. Reducing our palette to fit the perimeter of limited beliefs suppresses our work. New creative possibilities and sources of inspiration are blocked from view. If an artist keeps playing the same few notes, eventually the audience loses interest.

At some point in a creator's journey, the mind can become more resistant to new methods or new styles of expression. A once useful routine can, with time, become a narrow, fixed way of working. To break out of this mindset, one approach can be to soften, to become more permeable ... to allow more light in.

To keep our artistic output evolving, we can continually replenish our vessel from within as well as actively stretch our point of view. We can invite beliefs different from those previously held to see beyond our own filters. We can experiment past the boundaries of taste. We can examine approaches we might usually dismiss as too highbrow or lowbrow. What can we learn from these extremes? What are the unexpected surprises? What closed door might open in our work?

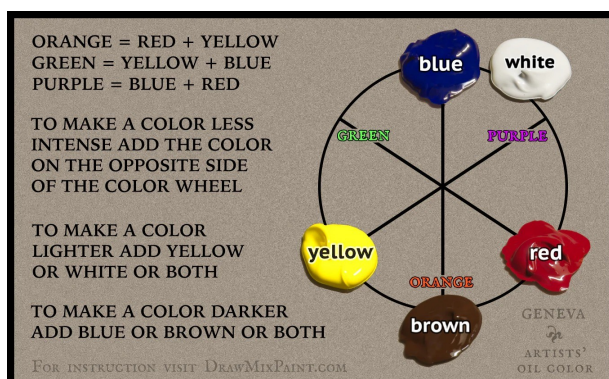
The heart of open-mindedness is curiosity, which doesn't take sides or insist on any single way of operating but explores all perspectives open to the new, seeking to arrive at original insights.

When we encounter an artistic challenge, right off it's a problem. There's a conflict with our accepted beliefs -- what's possible or expected to happen. When things don't fit the plan, we have a choice to either resist or to incorporate.

There's an absolute surrender in the flow of challenges: From a neutral place, begin to allow the process to naturally unfold. Welcome the 'winds of change' to your heart, let them guide the way.

~ Offering by Molly Freitag

ART TIPS & TECHNIQUES



Color Mixing Rules to Remember

GENEVA
ARTISTS'
OIL COLOR

Color is too gray = color is too blue

Color is too brown = color is too orange

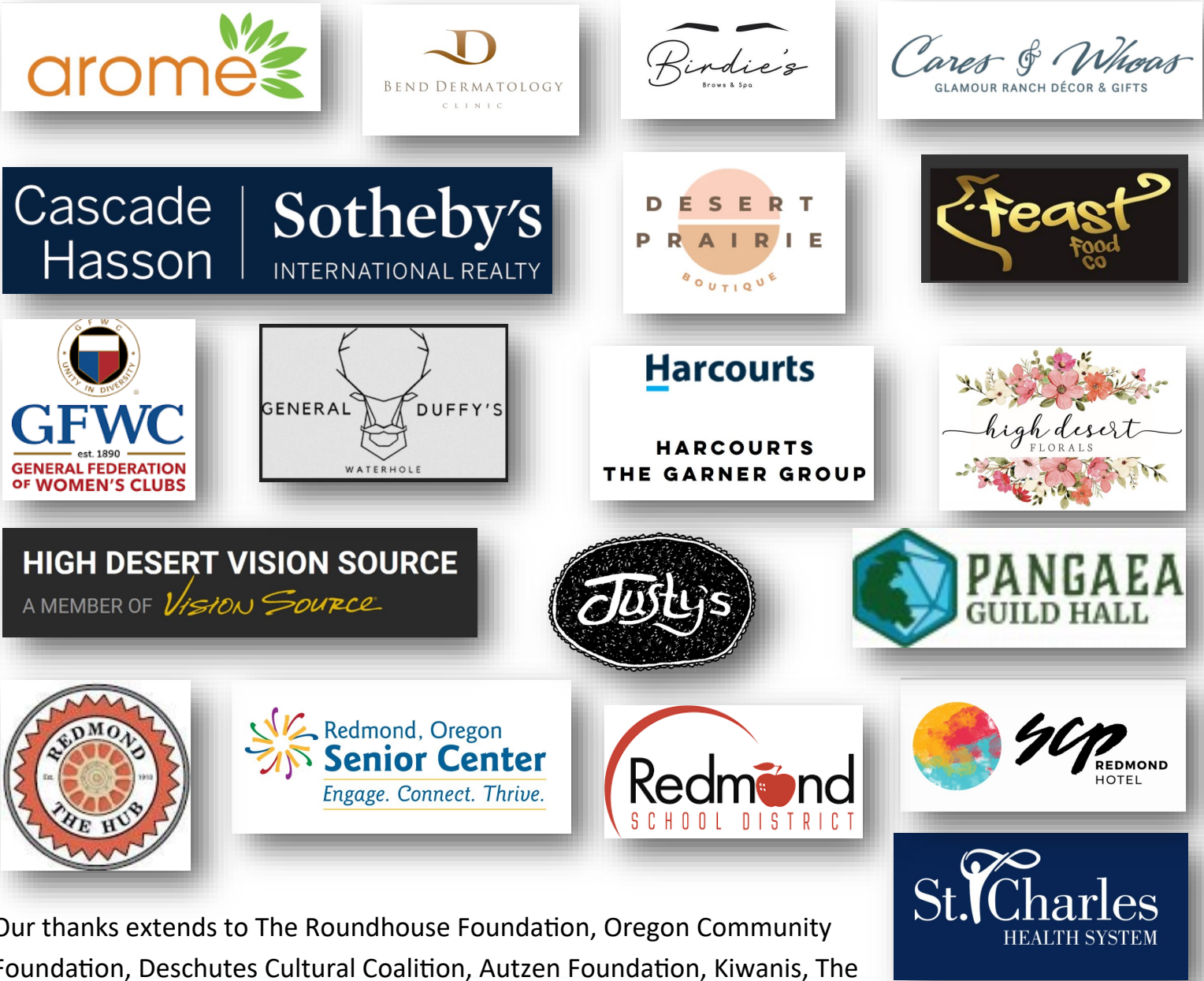
When mixing DARK orange, red-orange, brassy, or yellowish colors start with burnt umber. Black has too much blue in it and blue is the opposite of orange.

When mixing strong colors, start by attempting to mix a color that is too strong and then dirty it down to match. As opposed to mixing a dirtish color and then trying to make it stronger to match.

Beware of using white when mixing yellowish or orangish colors. While white may be necessary, it often is not needed in mixtures of yellowish and orangish colors. And once added it can not be removed.

FOR INSTRUCTION VISIT DrawMixPaint.com

THANK YOU SPONSORS!



Our thanks extends to The Roundhouse Foundation, Oregon Community Foundation, Deschutes Cultural Coalition, Autzen Foundation, Kiwanis, The Reser Family Foundation and The Ford Family Foundation for their generous financial contributions.

