

2025 Spring Art Show | Studio Tour Progress | Members' News | Artists' Resources

UPCOMING

EACA at Earth Day. See page 3 for information about making Artful Insects with EACA on the community Earth Day celebration.

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Studio Tour Planning Update. See page 3 for details on the 2025 Studio Tour, September 20 and 21.

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Member News
See news about EACA members exhibiting, publishing and teaching on pages 5 and 6.

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Artists' Resources
Calls for entry to exhibits in the general region are listed on page 7.

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Newsletter Submissions:
The next EACA Newsletter will be published in June. Please have any submissions to editor Sam Elkind by May 15 (email: sselkind@comcast.net).

President's Letter

Chuck Boxwell

EACA's year is off to a strong start. We had a well-attended and informative Membership Meeting on February 12, and now we're gearing up for two exciting events: **Spring Show – May 3 and 4; and Studio Tour – September 20 and 21.**

More details about both events appear in this newsletter. (See below for information on the Spring Show. On page 3, Debbie Parke provides a report on the Studio Tour.)

Expanding Our Reach

The Board is working to better showcase EACA's accomplishments and those of its members by enhancing our website (www.eldoradoarts.org) and expanding our social media presence. Expect to see website updates throughout the year, including newsletter articles available online for those

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2025 Spring Show

We are very excited to have 27 talented local artists for our EACA Spring Art Show, being held **on May 3 and 4 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Eldorado Community Center.** Please stop by to see not only your favorite artists but also talented new artists.

Fusion Tacos will have a food truck in the ECIA parking lot from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM on both days. Thank you for shopping local!

Spring Art Show



Saturday and Sunday
May 3 - 4, 2025
10 am - 4 pm Both Days
Eldorado at Santa Fe
Community Center
1 La Hacienda Loop,
Santa Fe, NM 87508

ELDORADO Arts & Crafts
Association
eldoradoarts.org

Come see multiple artists and a wide variety of artwork
and crafts in a single venue!

President's Letter (continued)

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beyond our mailing list. With the addition of a Social Media Coordinator, we're also looking forward to increasing exposure to our artists and activities—benefiting our entire community.

New Ways to Connect: Artist Interest Groups

Many of you have expressed a desire for more informal ways to connect and exchange ideas with fellow artists. In response, we're launching Artist Interest Groups.

This initiative, introduced at the February Membership Meeting, offers a new way for artists with shared interests to come together, collaborate, and inspire one another. You'll find more details in a separate article in this newsletter. (See the article immediately below.) Please respond with your interest to participate and suggestions to make this program a success!

Your Voice Matters

Your feedback is invaluable in shaping the Artist Interest Groups and improving EACA. Feel free to reach out to me at PresidentEACA@gmail.com with any ideas or suggestions.

Together, let's make 2025 a fantastic year for art and artists in Eldorado!

In Development: EACA Art Interest Groups

The February General Meeting of EACA included an introductory discussion of a new way to bring EACA members together, while strengthening their creation of art. Following up on a suggestion at the fourth 2024 General Meeting (November 13), EACA's Board is exploring how to bring artists together in Interest Groups focused on artistic medium or other topics related to making, showing and selling art. In the November meeting, some members pointed out that EACA has a lot of expertise about making art of different mediums and that the sharing of that expertise could be helpful for the membership.

This suggestion has led to the proposal to form Interest Groups for such sharing and cross-fertilization of ideas. Participants would meet informally to exchange ideas and show their work. The exchange of ideas could include critiquing work in progress, demonstrating techniques, solving problems, etc. There is also the idea that these Interest Groups could enable artists experienced in one specific discipline to meet with other Interest Groups working in areas new but appealing to these artists. They could use these exchanges to learn about new or less familiar artistic mediums and to expand their skills and knowledge for their own work.

Once formed, each Interest Group would decide how often and where to meet, and how formally they want to organize their gatherings. Each group should have a facilitator(s) to organize their gatherings and [to add the meetings to the EACA Calendar](#). Interest Groups could invite guest speakers, organize workshops and exhibitions, work on collaborative projects, etc.

At this early stage of development, the following Interest Group categories seem reasonable to establish to try out this new part of EACA:

Wall Art including: Traditional Painting, Encaustic, Drawing, Printmaking, and Papermaking

Fiber and Wearable Art
Jewelry

3D Art such as Ceramics, Wood, Metal, Glass Sculpture, Recycling, and 3D Wall Art

Photography

Business of Art, including marketing, pricing, and exhibition

For more information about participating in an Interest Group, please email EACA Member-at-Large [Elisabete Freijs](#) or call her at 702-576-8489.

Help EACA Make Artful Insects at the Eldorado Earth Day Celebration

Julie Hill, EACA Vice President

Eldorado will have an annual Earth Day celebration at the Community Center on April 12. Join EACA at the Eldorado Earth Day Celebration for a fun and eco-friendly art project where kids can create **fantastic found-art insects!** We'll be guiding kids to recycle and repurpose everyday items into amazing, sculptural creepy-crawlies.

How You Can Help:

Dig through your junk drawers and recycling bins to find materials kids can transform into insect bodies, heads, legs, antennae, and wings. Here are some ideas:

- Old paintbrushes
- Kitchen sponges
- Paper clips and clamps
- Beads
- Buttons
- Old silverware
- Game pieces
- Fabric and paper scraps

Get creative — anything goes!

Where to Drop Off Supplies:

By **Wednesday April 9**, please leave your donated items by in the purple bin outside Julie Hill's studio door at **29 Bosque Loop, Eldorado.**

Earth Day Event Details:

Eldorado Earth Day Celebration

April 12

Noon – 2 p.m.

Eldorado Community Center

Let's inspire creativity and celebrate the Earth together!

Studio Tour 2025 - Time to Get Started

Debbie Parke, Chairperson

Is it already time to register for the Studio Tour? Yes, it certainly is! Your 2025 Studio Tour Planning Team met in mid-February to kick off preparations for another exciting year. The effort involves funding, budgeting, mapping, advertising and other publicity, as well as displaying the art.

As you know, advertising is crucial for attracting customers to our studios, and it comes with costs. That's why each participating artist is required to secure sponsors or pay an opt-out fee. On our [website](#), documents associated with securing a sponsor are now available, together with all other documents related to the Studio Tour.

There's a lot involved in organizing the tour, and while the Planning Team dedicates substantial time, they need your help. As a volunteer organization, we require every tour artist to join a committee to complete the work needed for this massive event. Committee descriptions are linked in the application. Please review them to ensure you can fulfill your chosen role.

As for filling out the application itself, please read the application questions carefully as you complete the form online. Accurate answers will streamline the collection of information necessary to presenting the artists to our community.

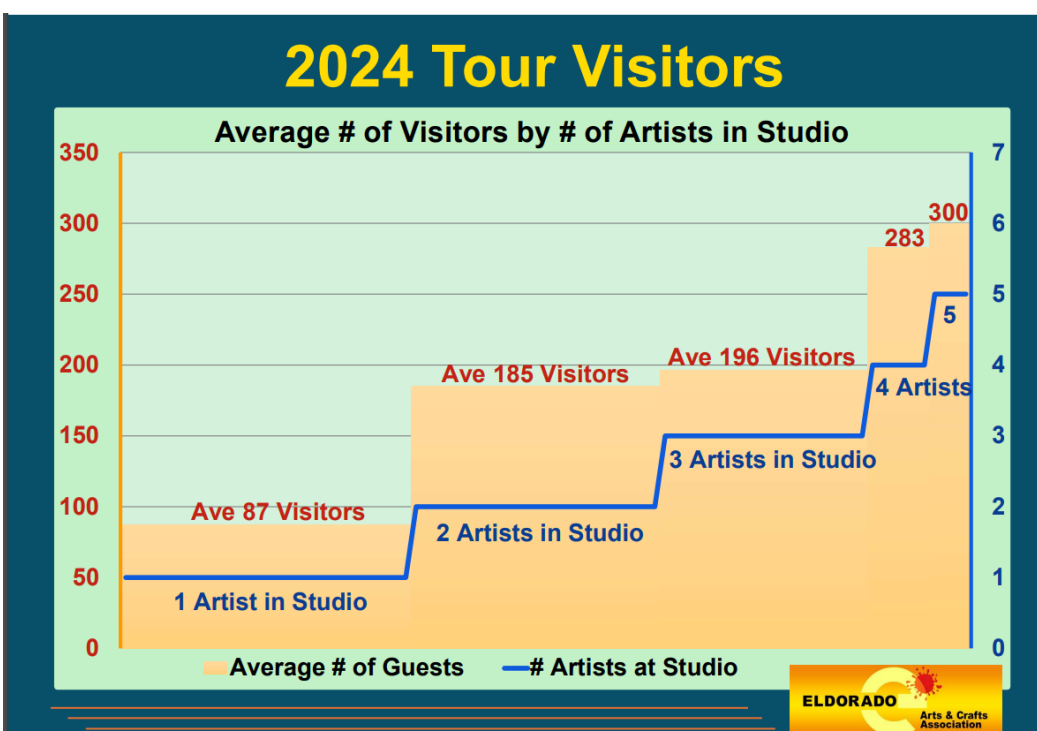
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There will also be a recommended orientation meeting and two other required meetings. The orientation meeting is typically aimed at first-year artists on the tour, but anyone is welcome to attend. Mentors, who are experienced tour veterans, are available and highly recommended for new artists to help them navigate the intricacies of the tour. The two mandatory planning meetings will be held twice, to make attendance easier for all artists. These meetings will firm up information that all participants will need. Be sure to read and note all the dates and deadlines listed in the document links. Remember, due dates are firm deadlines, not suggestions. We need to meet these deadlines to coordinate with our advertisers, as well as our catalog and banner printers, who also have their own deadlines.

The Planning Team is again urging the sharing of studios, this year. With over 100 artists participating in recent tours, it's very unlikely that visitors can see every artist. But by having multiple artists share space, visitors can maximize their art shopping, which could lead to increased sales for you. The chart below illustrates the benefits from last year's tour.

The chart reinforces artists' personal experiences. For example, Julie Hill, our EACA Vice President and our tour catalog production person was new last year and shared this comment: "As a new artist in Eldorado, my first studio tour was an incredible success. This was largely due to the opportunity to collaborate with other artists. I was fortunate to



connect with a well-established artist who had participated in the tour for many years and had a loyal following. She graciously invited me and two other artists to share her location, creating a vibrant four-artist stop that showcased a diverse range of artwork. Not only did we welcome over 400 visitors, but we also enjoyed a fun and rewarding weekend!"

My own experience was similar. Last year was my fourth tour and the first where I joined with other artists. In each of the first three years I had about 150 visitors. After moving to a space with four other artists, I enjoyed seeing over 300 visitors – and had record sales and post tour

commissions. I also enjoyed meeting and talking with the other artists that were sharing the space.

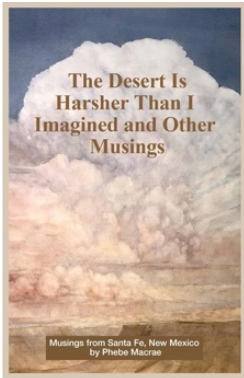
The deadline for signing up to share studios will be in very early May, as our map makers, David and Rhea Lowell, need time to lay out the studios on the map before the first mandatory participant meetings in mid-May. You may register for the tour with your own address for the showing location and change it later as long it is *before* the due date in early May. If you have questions, email eldoradostudiotour@gmail.com.

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EACA Member News

The Desert is Harsher – A New Book



EACA member Phebe Macrae has published a book of essays, [The Desert is Harsher Than I Imagined and Other musings: Musings from Santa Fe, New Mexico](#). Writes Phebe, “After retiring from a legal career with the City of New York, I moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico with my husband and our dog. These musings, written between 2019 and 2023, run the gamut from my observations on the landscape and culture of the southwest to exploring the ideas I encountered in books, podcasts, and the people I met. These musings are meant to entertain and spark your own thoughts and feelings.”

The book is now available through Amazon.

The New City of Ladies

Congratulations to three EACA members, Sharon Brush, Nicole Merkens, and Janet O’Neal, for their inclusion in the March exhibit, *The New City of Ladies*, sponsored by the New Mexico State Committee of Women in the Arts. This exhibit, juried by Tonya Turner Carroll, Marisa Sage, and Dr. Barbara Stafford, included work of 33 women artists from New Mexico. The work was shown at the Turner Carroll gallery on Canyon Road, with an enormous outpouring of support at the March 1 opening.



Sharon Brush, “Of Two Minds”
Hand-built stoneware clay with burnished slip
Size: 33”h x 23”w x 8”d



Nicole Merkens, “another Birthday”
Glazed Clay
Size: 14”h x 11”w x 8”d



Janet O’Neal, “Minerva”
Mixed media on wood
Size: 40” x 16”

Intermediate Watercolor Class

EACA Member Patsy Welch is teaching an intermediate class in watercolor at Ghost Ranch, May 4-10, 2025. “This is a class for people who have already taken an introductory watercolor class,” explains Patsy. “The Intermediate class will give students a chance to learn more advanced techniques. We will be using salt, alcohol, sea sponges as well as candle wax to find new ways to create the wide array of textures we see at Ghost Ranch.” Other methods will involve gum arabic, oxgall and masking techniques.



Watercolor by Patsy Welch

Registration information and details about accommodations are available at www.ghostranch.org.

The EACA newsletter is one way this association helps to promote the arts and crafts of its members. Please feel free to share news about your work – exhibits, publications, classes you teach – with the newsletter editor (sselkind@comcast.net) for inclusion in a forthcoming issue. (Remember that the newsletter is published in even numbered months – February, April, June, August, October and December. News should be sent to the editor by the 15th of the month before publication.)

Community Art Activity

Vista Grande Public Library, Artists for April and May



Photo by Gwendolina Feisst

This April and May, VGPL welcomes two complementary Eldorado artists: Gwendolina Feisst will exhibit her landscape photography, her first exhibit at VGPL, and Heidi Vogel will return to the library with her always-popular, colorful watercolors of nature and animals.

Gwendolina Feisst’s exhibit, titled *The Beauty I find in the World*, is the first of her work to be shown at VGPL. Gwendolina is a volunteer at the VGPL and proud to show her photography in the 2D exhibit space.

The artist’s father presented her with her first camera when she was just nine years old. Since then, photography has remained an important part of her life. “With the camera I focus my field of vision and enter a state of meditation,” she says. “I see and create with what I find.” Feisst studied art at the “Freie Kunstschule Nürtingen” and became an art therapist. She works in several other mediums besides photography: oil painting, sculpture (especially in clay), weaving, and mixed media.

Although Heidi Vogel is exhibiting watercolors at the library, she has not always worked in that medium. She launched her art journey by reading books, soon discovering that she could recreate on paper what she observed in the world. In addition to classes at a local university, she participated in workshops with various artists whose work she admired, in the process exploring various styles and techniques until eventually choosing to paint using a palette knife with oils. This technique allowed her to create pure colors and rich textures and to apply those color lessons to brush work. It was during the COVID pandemic that Vogel took up watercolors.



Watercolor by Heidi Vogel

There will be a reception at the library for the artists on Saturday April 5, from 1-3 pm. As always, the

exhibits are a partnership between the library and community artists, and 20% of sales benefits VGPL, Southeast Santa Fe County's independent 501c3 library.

VGPL Art Exhibits Coordinator, [Monica Enrich](#) continues to encourage local artists to exhibit their work. Either two-dimensional or three-dimensional art will be considered for exhibition. More details about the library's exhibiting process can be found at this [link](#).

Artists' Resources

Calls for Entry

Artworks Center for Contemporary Arts in Loveland, CO invites submissions to [And So it Remains: A Long COVID Exhibition](#). The gallery seeks entries from artists who have been affected by Long COVID. Entry fee: \$20.00. Entry deadline: April 11, 2025.

Western New Mexico University Expressive Arts Department and Francis McCray Gallery invite established and emerging women artists from New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, and Colorado to apply for their [Women in the Arts Exhibition](#), scheduled for Fall 2025 and Fall 2026. Entry fee: \$25.00. Entry deadline: April 13, 2025.

The Corrales Bosque Gallery, in Corrales, NM, invites artists to submit to their exhibit entitled [Freedom!](#) The goal is to inspire artists to think about the meaning of freedom, whether artistic, political, emotional, personal, financial, professional, historical, or any other type of liberation. Entry fee: \$15.00. Entry deadline: April 15, 2025.

The Sebastopol (CA) Center for the Arts calls for entries to their International [Fiber Art Show XII](#). This exhibit will include cash prizes for notable entries. Entry fee: \$35.00. Entry deadline: April 15, 2025.

The Old Walls Gallery in Albuquerque seeks entries for [Art the Rich](#). The gallery asks, "What does it mean to make art at a time when govt, media, industry, the platforms we use to connect, and even mainstream art institutions, are dominated by the very rich?" Entry fee: \$30.00. Entry deadline: April 18, 2025.

The Lincoln Center in Ft. Collins, CO invites quilt makers to submit entries to their [41st Annual New Legacies: Contemporary Quilts](#). Entry fee: \$35.00. Entry deadline: April 21, 2025.

The University of Texas Permian Basin, Odessa, TX, invites submissions for the 2025 [Pots-n-Prints Juried Exhibit](#). The exhibit seeks prints and ceramics made using either traditional or alternative techniques. Entry fee: \$35.00. Entry deadline: April 27, 2025.

Light Art Space in Silver City, NM seeks entries from ceramic artists to [Perception](#). The exhibit seeks work from artists who examine personal, cultural, and sensory interpretations of their environment and experiences. The jurying process includes monetary awards. Entry fee: \$30.00. Entry deadline: May 31, 2025.

About Using EACA's Social Media Feeds:

The EACA needs information about our membership to add to Facebook and Instagram Feeds.

Do you have an upcoming exhibition, are you teaching a workshop, have won an award, been accepted in a prominent show or have any art news that would be of interest to the membership or our followers on social media? With 2000 followers, our social media feeds are great ways to promote your art and gain attention. We want to show off our incredible artists.

Please forward any information and photos to: Nicole Merkens at nicole@nicolemerkens.com.

Second General Meeting – May 22. Artisan Art Supply Store has steadily supported EACA with annual surveys of new and interesting art supplies. On May 22, they will host EACA’s second General Meeting for 2025 at their store, 2601 Cerrillos Road, for this year’s survey of interesting and new materials. In past years, Artisan has generously made free samples available to EACA attendees. An email announcement will provide full details, closer to the event.

EACA Planning Calendar

- April 12: EACA Board Meeting, 10:00 AM at ECIA
- May 14: EACA Board Meeting, 10:00 AM at ECIA
- May 22: Second General Meeting, 6:00 PM at Artisan Art Supply Store, 2601 Cerrillos Road at 6:00 PM
- June 4: Deadline for submission of Studio Tour Sponsorships, including payment
- June 11: EACA Board Meeting, 10:00 AM at ECIA

2025 EACA Board Members

Website: www.eldoradoarts.org			
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/eldoradoarts			
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/eldoradoartsandcrafts			
President: Chuck Boxwell	EACAPresident@gmail.com	Membership Chair: Molly Elkind	mpelkind@comcast.net
Vice President: Julie Hill	VicePresidentEACA@gmail.com	Website Chair: Sandy Winkleman	eacawebmaster@gmail.com
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Secretary/Archivist: Rhea Lowell	EACASecretary22@gmail.com	Member-at-Large: Elizabeth Freijs	elizabethfreijs@mac.com
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Social Media Manager: Nicole Merkens	nicole@nicolemerkens.com	Social Co-Chair: Tana Dumlao	flyingrabbit@sbcglobal.net
Past President: Evie Gauthier	eviegauthier@comcast.net		

The EACA newsletter is published in even-numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, December). Please send any submissions to the editor, Sam Elkind (sselkind@comcast.net) by the 15th of the month before publication. Submissions should involve EACA activities, or be connected to members’ art enterprises - e.g., exhibits, calls for entry, classes and similar resources.