

Masterpieces of Colorado Landscape:

A Then & Now Look at Landscape Painting in Colorado

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Colorado Council on the Arts

*Sponsored by Colorado Council on the Arts
National Endowment for the Arts
El Pomar Foundation
Western States Arts Federation
Rocky Mountain News
Xcel Energy Foundation*

Foothills Art Center, with the creative support of guest curator Rose Glaser Fredrick, presents a blockbuster exhibition celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Colorado Council on the Arts with a stunning visual exploration of landscape painters of Colorado.

Since the days of gold rushes and railway expansion, artists have been painting the landscape of the West, drawing a wealth of visitors and settlers to the region. This rich tradition is deeply rooted in Colorado, as this exhibition reveals with a breathtaking look at the artists who have captured the majesty of the Colorado landscape.

This major landscape exhibition will showcase over sixty works by artists from the late 19th century to the present. In the words of guest curator Rose Fredrick,

I am thrilled with the wonderful group of both prominent 19th century and contemporary Colorado landscape artists in this show. I have met with the most generous collectors and artists who have opened their doors to me and allowed precious works to travel throughout the state. Many of the paintings of late 19th century artists have never been in shows outside of these collections, and therefore, never before accessible to the public. I am particularly pleased with the mix of styles and impressions of Colorado's landscape from the romanticized early works by such artists as Thomas Moran, Helen Henderson Chain and Joseph Hitchins to the more modern views of Ernest Lawson, Charles Bunnell and Vance Kirkland. The same is true of the contemporary artists whose works range from those of Clyde Aspevig and Gordon Brown to Len Chmiel, Charles Forsman and Karen Kitchell.

Artworks are on loan from a number of public and private collections, as well as from the artists themselves. Notable private collectors include (*in alphabetical order*): Doug Erion, Kathy Loo, Nelson A. "Buz" and Sue Rieger, and Drs. Greg and Sheila Campbell. Lending public institutions include (*in alphabetical order*): Colorado Springs Pioneer Museum, Denver Public Library, El Pomar Foundation, and Kirkland Museum of Fine and Decorative Arts. Wherever possible, artworks were borrowed from the artists themselves, offering a look at the newest in Colorado landscape works.

Addenda:

- Below: *2007 Colorado Exhibition Schedule*
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For more information on exhibits and associated events:

<http://www.foothillsartcenter.org/>

Foothills Art Center is open seven days a week:

Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Admission: \$3 adults, \$2 seniors, free for students and members.

2007 Colorado Exhibition Schedule**February 24 - April 22****Center for Southwest Studies**

Fort Lewis College

1000 Rim Dr. Durango, CO 81301

970-247-7010; <http://swcenter.fortlewis.edu/>

Contact: **Jeanne Brako**, Interim Director & Curator
970-247-7494; Brako_J@fortlewis.edu

May 12 - July 8**Foothills Art Center**

809 15th St. Golden, CO 80401

303-279-3922; www.foothillsartcenter.org

Contact: **Jennifer Cook**, Executive Director
303-279-3922; jenny@foothillsartcenter.org

July 28 - September 23**Western Colorado Center for the Arts**

1803 N. 7th St.

Grand Junction, CO 81501

970.243.7337; www.gjartcenter.org

Contact: **LaDonna Gunn**, Program Director
970-243-7337 x6; ladonna@gjartcenter.org

October 13 - December 9**Fremont Center for the Arts**

Mailing: P.O. Box 1006

Street: 505 Macon Ave. Cañon City, CO 81212

719-275-2790; www.fremontarts.org

Contact: **Mary Hammer**, Executive Director
719-275-2790; mhammer@fremontarts.org

List of Exhibition Artists

Late 19th & Early 20th Century Artists

Charles Partridge Adams
William H. Bancroft
Charles Ragland Bunnell
George Elbert Burr
John F. Carlson
Helen Henderson Chain
Alexis Comparet
Charles Craig
Joseph Hitchins
John D. Howland
Vance Kirkland
Nellie Augusta Knopf
Ernest Lawson
Raphael Lillywhite
Thomas Moran
Robert Reid
Sven Birger Sandzen
Leslie James Skelton
George Smillie
Elisabeth Spalding
Charles Stewart Stobie
Richard H. Tallant
Allen Tupper True
Frank Vavra
Harvey Otis Young

Contemporary Artists

Clyde Aspevig
Joe Arnold
Gordon Brown
Len Chmiel
Mark Daily
Joellyn T. Duesberry
John Encinias
Tracy Felix
Chuck Forsman
Ned Jacob
Karen Kitchel
Michael J. Lynch
Jim Morgan
Daniel Sprick
Don Stinson
M.W. Skip Whitcomb

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Statement from Elaine Mariner, Colorado Council on the Arts

“A healthy, vigorous life of the arts is the best evidence of a strong and growing state.”
Governor John Love, July 1965

Certainly, participation in the arts offers considerable personal benefits. But as Governor Love observed, communities that support and promote creative endeavors also enjoy greater vitality and increased economic prosperity. Recognizing the role of the State in ensuring that every citizen and every community have access to the benefits provided through the arts, in 1967 Governor Love and the state legislature established the Colorado Council on the Arts.

For 40 years the Council has provided grants and services to support arts activities in every corner of the state. This state investment has made the arts more accessible to all Coloradoans, expanded access to quality arts education for young people, and preserved our cultural heritage. For example, state support has helped community art schools offer at-risk youth an alternative to gang activity. It has helped world-class performing arts venues revitalize their downtowns and grow local tourism revenue. State support has also helped celebrate and preserve our state’s traditional artists and art forms such as saddlemaking, Spanish Colonial weaving, and Southern Ute beadwork.

Every year, CCA-supported programs and events reach 2 to 3 million Colorado citizens and visitors, generate as much as \$20 million in economic activity, and support nearly 2,000 jobs. Perhaps most important, the state investment in the arts is leveraged almost 14-to-1 through significant federal support from the National Endowment for the Arts and matching local funds from corporations, foundations and individuals.

To celebrate our “Ruby Anniversary” in 2007, the Council is very pleased to sponsor “Masterpieces of Colorado Landscape”. This inspiring exhibition highlights our state’s unique natural beauty, from our majestic mountains to our vast prairies. The exhibit also acquaints Coloradoans with the best of their state’s artistic legacy, past and present. I can think of no better way to thank the citizens of our state for their sustained support for arts and culture these past four decades.

Thank you, Colorado!

Elaine Mariner
Executive Director
Colorado Council on the Arts
January 2007

About the Key Players

(in alphabetical order)

About the Center for Southwest Studies

The Center of Southwest Studies was established in 1964 to serve as a museum and a research facility and to develop an interdisciplinary Southwest curriculum. The Southwest curriculum draws from courses in Anthropology, Art, Literature, History, and Sociology. The Center's mission is to identify, preserve, and make accessible this resource for all who are interested in the history of the Four Corners region.

About the Colorado Council on the Arts

The mission of the Colorado Council on the Arts, a division of the state Office of Economic Development and International Trade, is to promote the cultural, educational and economic growth of Colorado through development of its arts and cultural heritage. The agency invests in Colorado communities by providing grants and services that make the arts more accessible to all Coloradans, expand arts education opportunities for youth, support tourism and other economic development strategies, preserve and promote our cultural heritage, and stimulate and encourage the development of artists and arts organizations.

About Foothills Art Center

Foothills Art Center offers award-winning art exhibitions and year-round art classes in a historic setting. Located in the heart of downtown Golden, the galleries are situated in a gorgeous Neo-Gothic Victorian church, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Exhibits showcase artists of regional, national and international renown, featuring traditional and contemporary artwork. Art classes are available for people of all ages and abilities, and the gift shop offers high quality, affordable works by Colorado artists, including jewelry, ceramics, glass, paintings and much more.

About the Fremont Center for the Arts

The Fremont Center for the Arts fosters and enriches the cultural and economic health of the Greater Fremont County Region through partnerships, presentations, education and preservation of the Arts for present and future generations.

About the Guest Curator, Rose Glaser Fredrick

Rose Fredrick has worked in the Colorado arts community for nearly twenty years, curating exhibitions, promoting, lecturing and writing about artists, and advising non profit entities on how to run successful, high quality exhibitions. She has worked for such notable organizations as the National Western Stock Show, Colorado Lawyers for the Arts, Public Education and Business Coalition, and the Colorado Mountain Club, helping each to better their events by paying closer attention to the needs of the artists involved, as well as showing them ways to innovate and grow. She is a tireless supporter of Colorado artists, giving much of her free time and expertise to help further careers and open doors.

About the Western Colorado Center for the Arts

The Western Colorado Center for the Arts is a nonprofit corporation organized to promote the enjoyment and understanding of the arts through educational programs, exhibits, and the acquisition and display of a permanent collection. The Art Center has served as one of the Grand Valley's most valuable cultural resources for over 50 years.