

Land That I Love Exhibition

MAY 29 - JULY 18, 2026



MARK
ARTS

Director's Letter

Welcome to *Land That I Love*, a powerful, juried exhibition honoring the 250th anniversary of America and the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Even before our nation's birth, artists were documenting the land and developing the visual imagery that would define America. The iconic landscapes of Thomas Cole and Albert Bierstadt, the intricate natural illustrations of James Audubon and George Caitlin, the narrative scenes of American life by Norman Rockwell and Faith Ringgold, the photographic realism of Gordon Parks and Dorothea Lange, all contribute to our perception of our national identity. When words fail us, art captures the essence of what it means to love America.

We asked artists to help us celebrate our country by sharing what they love about America – the land, the wildlife and the communities. Like all the artists that come before them, these 21st century artists rose to the occasion, creating works of beauty that reflect the soul of the land. Media includes oil, acrylic, watercolor, charcoal, pastel, mixed media, print making, photography, and clay.

Three jurors from different parts of the country – Missouri, Georgia and Texas – selected the pieces from the many submissions. The exhibition contains 85 works, including four from jurors, and represents 59 artists.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating the beauty of America and the talents of its artists.



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CEO



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Award Winners

First Place - \$1,500

Rural Life by Nathan Novack

Second place - \$700

Spirit of the Plains

by Ernest Vincent Wood III

Third place - \$500

Can I Tell You A Story?

by Elsa Payton

Honorable mentions - \$100

Cold's Conqueror

by Mitchell Sahlfield

Nature's Bouquet by Dave Reiter

Serenity by Dale Hartley

Cover image: Nathan Novack -- *Rural Life*, detail -- First Place



Mission

The mission of Mark Arts is to be a vibrant regional arts hub by providing opportunities to appreciate and create art in an atmosphere of lifelong learning.



Sponsors



Shaw Family Foundation

Jurors



Tina Garrett centers her works on emotion and mood, and they often contain dramatic light or atmospheric effects. Garrett has earned recognition as an Art Renewal Center Living Master, and holds a Master Artist designation from the National Oil & Acrylic Painters' Society. Garrett is a longtime Portrait Society of America mentor for its Cecilia Beaux Forum Mentoring Program and in 2024 earned its Signature Status. She is the proud commissioned portrait artist of the First Lady of Missouri Claudia Kehoe. She has served as faculty at the Portrait Society's annual Art of The Portrait conference and the Oil Painters of America's national conference. She offers mentorship and workshops around the world annually.



Steven S. Walker is a member of Oil Painters of America, Plein-Air Painters of the Southeast, and the National Oil & Acrylic Painters' Society. He earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts at Virginia Commonwealth University with a concentration in illustration and his master's in fine arts from Marywood University. Walker has been included in several local and national juried competitions, including the Oil Painters of America Eastern Regional and National exhibitions; the Richeson75 International Art Competition: Landscape, Seascape & Architecture; PleinAir Salon; and the Art Renewal Center. He was also part of a statewide traveling exhibition with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. He was recently given signature status in the Oil Painters of America.



Soon Y. Warren is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society, American Watercolor Society, the Transparent Watercolor of America (masters list) and several other organizations. She earned an associate degree in commercial art from Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton, Virginia, and began painting full time in 1998.

Her paintings and articles have been published in *Watercolor Magic Magazine*, *Artist's Magazine*, *Watercolor Artist* magazine, *International Artist Magazine* and several others. Her paintings have been included in 14 of the *Splash: The Best of Watercolor* competition series sponsored by the Artists Network and *Watercolor Artist* magazine, the 2023 Richeson75 International Art Competition: Still Life & Floral, and she won first place in the *North Light Book* competition. She is the author of *Vibrant Flowers in Watercolor* and *Painting Vibrant Watercolor: Discover the Magic of Light, Color and Contrast*.

Exhibiting Artists



Paulina Altamirano Dallas, TX *Charrito*
20" x 16" mixed media \$2,400



John Beaudine Moorhead, MN
Glacier National Park 11" x 14"
digital pigment print \$150



Rylee Bartholomew Wichita, KS *The Architecture of Order* 20" x 24"
manipulated archival inkjet print on mat board \$400



Aida Bell Andover, KS *American Bison*
7" x 10" x 4" clay \$1,500

Exhibiting Artists



Randall Bennett Lawrence, KS
Cougar on the Move, RMNP 36" x 50"
oils on canvas \$18,000



Randall Bennett Lawrence, KS
Served with Honor, Resting in Peace
24" x 36" oils on panel \$8,640



Randall Bennett Lawrence, KS
A Late Winter Woods 48" x 48"
oils on canvas \$8,200



Marilynne Bradley Webster Groves, MO
NY East 155 Bridge 15" x 22" watercolor
\$2,200



Lynne Darrah Wichita, KS *Wolf Pack - Carefree, Curious, Cautious* 24" x 48"
oil on cradled wood panel **\$6,400**

SOLD



Carol Davis Wichita, KS
Chamisa Landscape 11.5" x 13.5"
watercolor **\$300**

SOLD



Carol Davis Wichita, KS *Afternoon Rodeo*
15" x 11" watercolor **\$400**

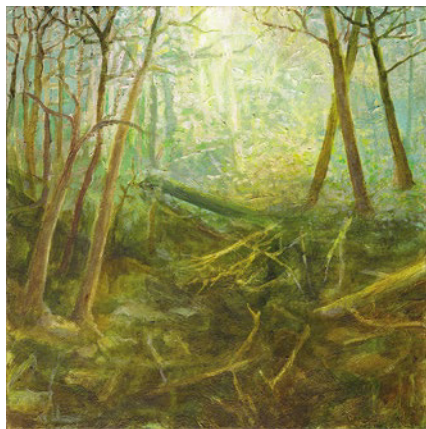


Lori Elliott-Bartle Omaha, NE
Meet me in the Prairie #1 14.5" x 12" x .75"
oil and cold wax on paper, framed in walnut
under glass **\$435**

Exhibiting Artists



Zoey Farr Bel Aire, KS *Spirit Bears*
48" x 59" acrylic and oil paint **\$1,700**



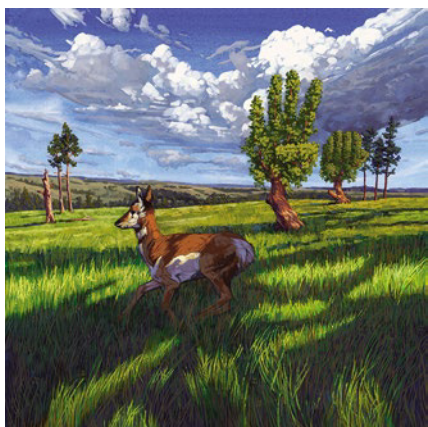
Philip Frangenberg Wichita, KS
Forest Image 2 - Alaska 2025 10" x 10"
acrylic **\$500**



Barbara Gabel Newton, KS *Trouble's
Comin* 20" x 16" acrylic **\$850**



Barbara Gabel Newton, KS
Strolling Through the Flint Hills
30" x 24" acrylic **\$850**



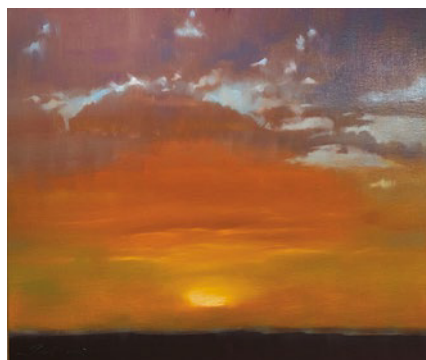
Ned Gannon Eau Claire, WI *The Message and the Messenger* 22" x 22" acrylic on Arches \$3,000



Christy Garcia Little Elm, TX *Lonestar* 20" x 20" photography \$150



Christy Garcia Little Elm, TX *Heart of the Valley* 11.5" x 20" photography \$250



Tina Garrett, juror Lee's Summit, MO *Arizona* 30" x 40" oil on Raymar linen panel \$5,800

Exhibiting Artists



Tina Garrett, juror Lee's Summitt, MO
The Big Show 30" x 40"
oil on Raymar linen panel \$4,800



Bradley Giles Cathedral City, CA
Summer Storms Over Mt San Jacinto
28.25" x 28.25" oil on canvas \$8,500



Bradley Giles Cathedral City, CA
Spring Storm in Tahquitz Canyon
15" x 18" oil on canvas \$7,000



Hugh Greer Kechi, KS *Welcome Spring*
18" x 24" acrylic \$3,600

SOLD



Hugh Greer Kechi, KS *Dawn's Early Light*
14" x 20" acrylic \$2,700

SOLD



Hugh Greer Kechi, KS *Cold Morning Bus Ride* 20" x 30"
acrylic \$4,200

SOLD



Hugh Greer Kechi, KS *Chase County School* 16" x 20" acrylic
\$2,800



Elaine (Laney) Haake Leawood, KS
Morning in America 16" x 20" oil \$2,000

Exhibiting Artists



David Harms Centennial, CO
Almost Home 30" x 40" oil **\$8,250**

SOLD



William Hays Turners Falls, MA
Crystalline Light 12" x 9" linocut
print **\$495**

SOLD



Dale Hartley Emporia, KS
Serenity 27" x 14" x 13"
earthenware clay **\$1,200**

HONORABLE MENTION

SOLD

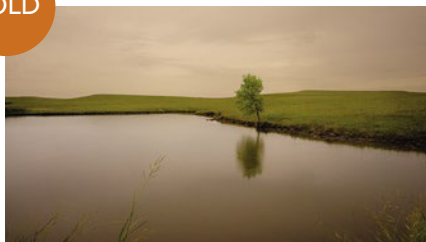


William Hays Turners Falls, MA *Last Light* 12" x 9" linocut print \$495



Sandra Hildreth Saranac Lake, NY
The Beaver Lodge 12" x 24" oil on linen \$1,500

SOLD

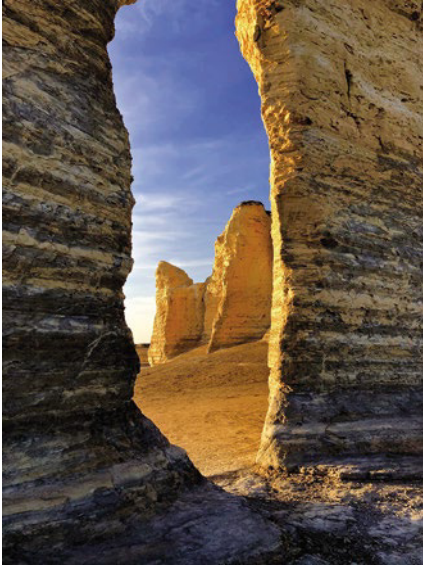


Armando Herrera DeSoto, KS
The Flint Hills in Kansas 9" x 16" digital photography \$200

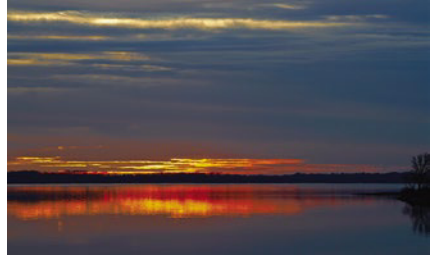


Sandra Hildreth Saranac Lake, NY
Raquette Pond Marsh 12" x 24" oil on linen \$1,500

Exhibiting Artists



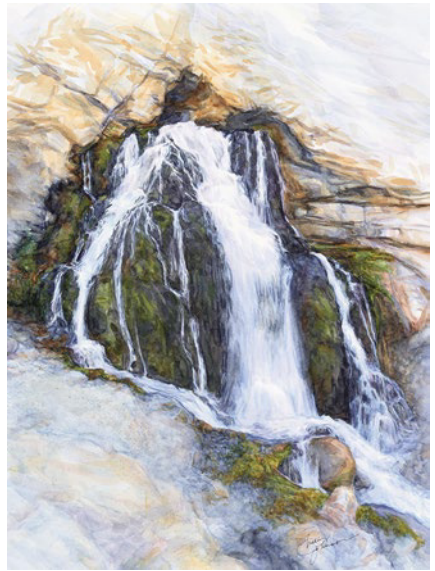
James Hill Wichita, KS *Monument Rocks*
18.5" x 15.25" photography **\$850**



James Hill Wichita, KS *Late Autumn
Sunset at Wichita Point* 13.25" x
18.25" photography **\$750**



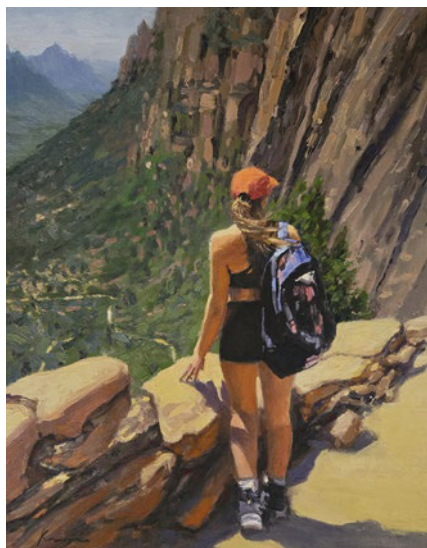
Morgan Burton Johnson Gold Beach, OR
Canyon Light 20" x 16" oil on canvas **\$800**



Shelly Johnson Boise, ID *Little Cedarwood
Creek Falls* 20" x 15" x 1" watercolor **\$1,800**



Donald Kratt Orlando, FL
Wetland Reflections 21" x 15"
 cyanotype on paper \$400



David Krenzer Derby, KS *Trail to Angel's Landing* 14" x 11" oil on canvas panel \$1,250



Sherri Lisota Holmen, WI *Ajijaak*
 41" x 31" x 3" oil on canvas \$2,100



Aaron Lade Colorado Springs, CO
Long Mount 17" x 11" acrylic
 \$1,000

Exhibiting Artists



Nancy Luttrell Wichita, KS
Up and Away 20" x 16" acrylic \$500



Jake Marshall Overland Park, KS
Walking Across America 11.5" x 15.5"
watercolor \$2,400



Jake Marshall Overland Park, KS *Half Moon Lake, Eau Claire, Wisconsin* 16" x 19.5" watercolor \$1,800

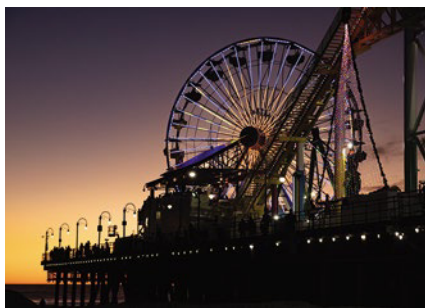
SOLD



Sheryl McLain Edmond, OK *Fall Reflections* 24" x 16" photography
printed on lightweight, highly reflective aluminum \$400

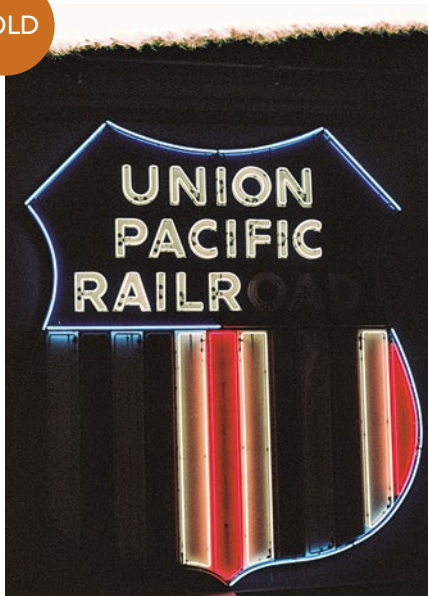


Sheryl McLain Edmond, OK
Days Gone By 16" x 24"
 fine art premium canvas **\$375**



Maria McManamey Wichita, KS *Santa Monica Pier at Christmas* 8" x 12"
 photography **\$350**

SOLD



Sean Moran Prairie Village, KS
Who Built America? 5" x 7" 1960s
 Olympus Trip 35mm film camera **\$99**



Bob Neace Wichita, KS *Sailing The Chesapeake* 36" x 48" acrylic
\$3,000

Exhibiting Artists

SOLD



Nathan Novack Hesston, KS *Above All*
40" x 36" oil paint \$4,500

SOLD

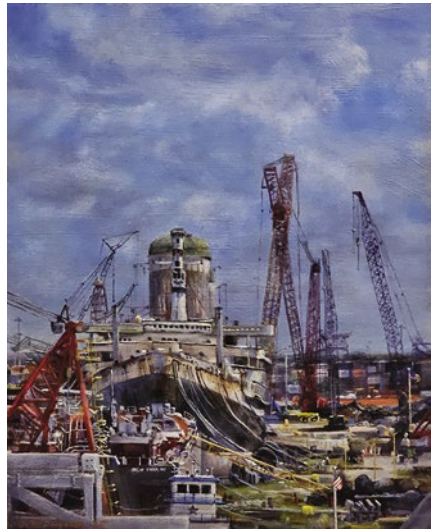


FIRST PLACE

Nathan Novack Hesston, KS
Rural Life 36" x 40" oil paint on
stretched canvas \$5,000

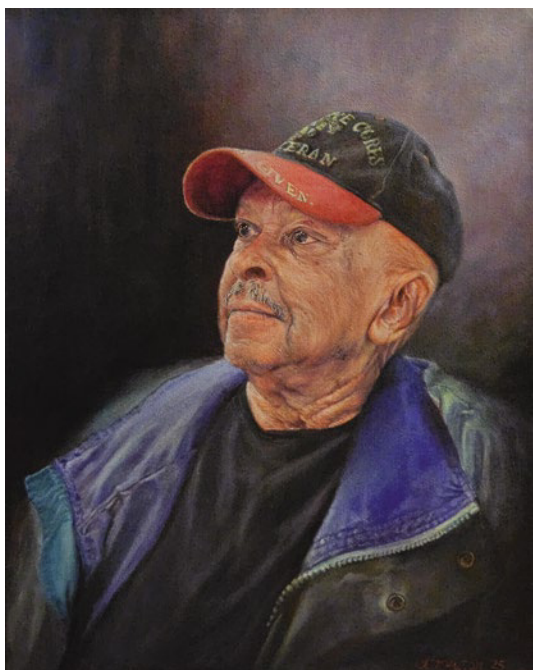


Nathan Novack Hesston, KS *Steadfast*
27" x 34" oil painting \$3,000



Elsa Payton Mobile, AL *Breaking
the Ship of State* 10" x 8" acrylic on
board \$800

THIRD PLACE



Elsa Payton Mobile, AL *Can I Tell You A Story?* 20" x 16" acrylic on canvas \$960



Laine Pike Wichita, KS *Big Blue's Harvest* 36" x 24", oil, \$3,500



Alaina Pompa Wichita, KS *Emergence: Lotus Pond* 24" x 18" oil on canvas \$600

Exhibiting Artists

SOLD



Wynn Ponder Wichita, KS *Spotted*
12" x 12" charcoal and graphite \$350

SOLD



Heather Pray-Edmondson Wichita, KS
Bison at Sunrise 8" x 10" photography
\$35

SOLD

SOLD



Heather Pray-Edmondson Wichita, KS
Abundant Harvest 14" x 11"
photography \$60



Heather Pray-Edmondson Wichita, KS
Keeper of the Bridge 14" x 11"
photography \$85

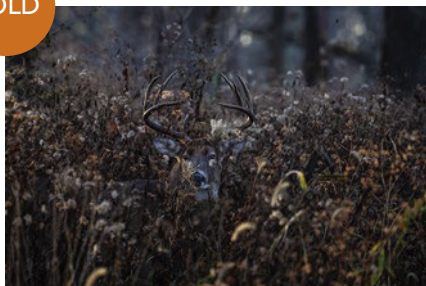


Brendan Quirk South Boston, VA *Eno River-9 (Eno River State Park, Durham, North Carolina)* 8" x 10" photography/fiber-based silver gelatin print **\$240**



Dave Reiter Parker, CO *Quiet Abundance* 12" x 24" oil on canvas over board **\$1,340**

SOLD



Alex Relaz Carpentersville, IL *American Dawn* 11" x 14" archival inkjet print **\$250**

Dave Reiter Parker, CO *Nature's Bouquet* 30" x 40" oil on canvas over board **\$4,150**

SOLD



HONORABLE MENTION

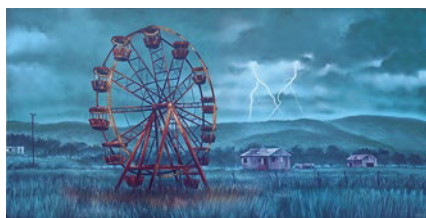
Exhibiting Artists



Cheryl J. Sachse St. George, UT
Old Fashioned Fourth 22" x 15"
watercolor **\$1,500**



Mitchell Sahlfeld Hays, KS
Halfflight 24" x 18" oil on canvas **\$1,050**



Brady Scott Hutchinson, KS
Ferris Wheel Storm 40" x 76"
acrylic on canvas **\$5,000**

Mitchell Sahlfeld Hays, KS
Cold's Conqueror 24" x 48"
oil on canvas **\$2,880**



HONORABLE MENTION



Michele Seeley Eureka, KS
Crossing the Draw 9" x 18"
 soft pastel \$750



Beth Shadur Highland Park, IL
Swirl (Antelope Canyon) 19" x 18"
 watercolor \$850



Arena Shawn Carrabelle, FL *Field of Gold* 15" x 12" oil on linen \$745

SOLD



Kelly Smith Wichita, KS
Kansas Fireworks 8" x 10"
 photography \$50

Exhibiting Artists



Jyotsna Umesh Chantilly, VA *The Ranch*
10" x 14" watercolor \$1,480



Jyotsna Umesh Chantilly, VA
A Misty Morning 11" x 14"
watercolor \$840



Susie Varner Edmond, OK
The Golden Hour on Cottonwood Creek
12" x 36" oil \$2,100

SOLD



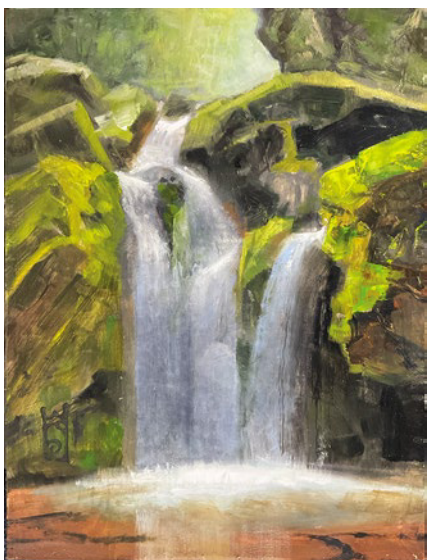
David Vollbracht Medicine Lodge, KS
Secluded 12" x 16" oil on canvas \$1,500



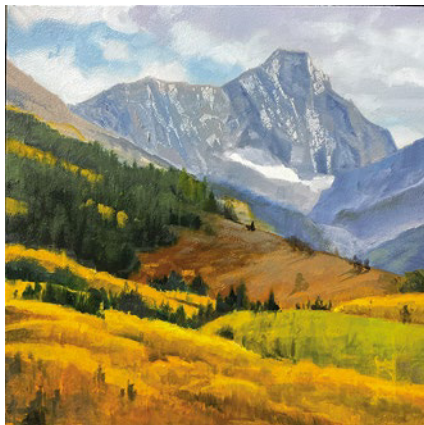
David Vollbracht Medicine Lodge, KS
Pasture Patchwork 18" x 24" x 1" oil on
 canvas \$2,400



David Vollbracht Medicine Lodge, KS
On the Shady Side 20" x 24" x 2"
 oil on canvas \$2,800



Steven Walker, juror Hahira, GA
Mystic Run 8" x 6" oil on panel \$500



Steven Walker, juror Hahira, GA *Autumn
 in Aspen* 8" x 8" oil on panel, \$650

Exhibiting Artists



Hammond Whiting Kirksville, MO
Missouri Critters 9.25" x 10" x 10"
earthenware clay, colored slip, terra sig,
underglaze \$500



Hayley Williams Wichita, KS
Before He Walks Again 31" x 23"
pastel \$2,900



SECOND PLACE

Ernest Vincent Wood III Wichita, KS
Spirit of the Plains 24" x 30" oil on
canvas panel \$8,940

Upcoming Events

Versus: A Live Art Battle

June 4

Summer Classes Session Begins

June 23

Artisan Academy: Oil Painting Starting Methods from Photos with Tina Garrett

June 25-27

Subcreators: Elisabeth Owens and John Pirtle Exhibition

(2025 Versus winners)

July 31-Sept.19

Artisan Academy: Wet Concrete Carving with Elder Jones of Sandpudding Studio

Aug. 11-13

Fall Classes Session Begins

Sept. 15

Crave Culinary Festival

Sept. 15-17 and Sept. 19

National Watercolor Exhibition

Oct. 2-Dec. 12

Holiday Tables

Nov. 5-8



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MARY R KOCH ARTS CENTER

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