



Art Access

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

OCTOBER 1, 2016 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

Dear Friends of Art Access,



Thank you for making 2016-17 another remarkable year for Art Access! This year Art Access hired our outstanding new Executive Director, Shandra Benito. On behalf of the entire board, I can attest that we are nothing less than amazed at what she and her dedicated team have accomplished. Shandra's unwavering focus on Art Access' mission of providing creative opportunities for people with disabilities and other marginalized communities has re-energized our programs, and her dedication to hiring and retaining passionate and dedicated staff has resulted in impressive momentum for the organization.

The board of Art Access is an accomplished group of 16 individuals focused on leading the organization into the future with financial strength and an unwavering focus on our mission. New ideas are gaining momentum and opportunities are presenting themselves, such as Art Everywhere and Breaking Barriers. At the same time, through our staff's efforts, we've identified new sources of funding to help renew our Partners mentorship program - a much-loved and influential program in our community that pairs professional, working artists with aspiring artists who have disabilities. Art Access is creative in responding to community needs as they are identified and in adapting programs to serve unique populations. Each program is evaluated for both the financial and social return on investment; it is the social return that keeps us motivated.

We continue to pursue innovative ideas that help remove barriers to inclusion and acceptance throughout our community. We believe that by focusing on a few big programs and working with our partners on creative solutions, we can help every person tell their story. In spite of uncertainty about the future of charitable giving, we have increased donations from nearly all sources. Even still, the board is working hard to educate the larger community about the impact of our work, and to deepen and broaden sources of funding for these programs.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated staff who work diligently to maintain the quality and accessibility of programs. We rely on the time and expertise of our volunteer board and community stakeholders who support programs and fundraising events. Finally, and most importantly, we are dependent on and grateful to our generous donors. Without them, none of this could happen.

We invite you to stop by the gallery to see our current exhibit, or even just join us on Facebook or Instagram so that you can stay abreast of the innovative and impactful work that Art Access is undertaking.

Thank you,
Virginia Gowski
Board Chair, Art Access

Dear Art Access Supporters,



This year we have done some soul searching and reflection on how Art Access can best serve you, our community. We are reaffirming our commitment to centering our programs and services around those in our community with the greatest barriers to the life-changing power of the arts: people with disabilities, immigrants, and refugees, survivors of violence, veterans, low-income families, people struggling with addiction, and homeless community members.

With that, we have updated our mission: Art Access builds an inclusive and diverse arts community by providing creative opportunities for people with disabilities and other marginalized communities and through public engagement in the arts.

This year we featured 11 distinct gallery exhibits around topics that bring our community together and start important conversations. Our Dreamer's exhibit featured powerful portraits and the stories of immigrants and refugees in our community. The Heal Courageously exhibit featured moving work of children living with life-threatening and terminal illnesses with their families done in collaboration with the Ronald McDonald House and Heal Courageously. We featured work by Pacific Islander and Indigenous artists as well as veterans artists and artists living with Multiple Sclerosis.

In our programs, we served over 15,000 people in 2016/2017 and we are excited to grow some of our most critical programs in the next year. We are bringing back the Partners Mentorship Program, to ensure that emerging artists with disabilities have the support to become thriving professional artists. We are also expanding our Art Therapy for Survivors program to make sure that all survivors in our community have the opportunity to heal through art.

It has been an honor to join you this year as Art Access' new executive director. This year has been a year of transition for me and Art Access. I moved from Seattle, WA at the very beginning of January in the middle of a winter snow storm. Despite having to shovel snow for the first time ever, I fell instantly in love with Salt Lake City and this incredible community and organization.

Thank you to everyone who has welcomed me to Salt Lake City and embraced Art Access as we entered a time of incubation and transition. I am proud to say that thanks to our tireless staff and board and supporters Art Access is as strong and committed to our work as ever.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to serving you in the year ahead,
Shandra Benito
Executive Director

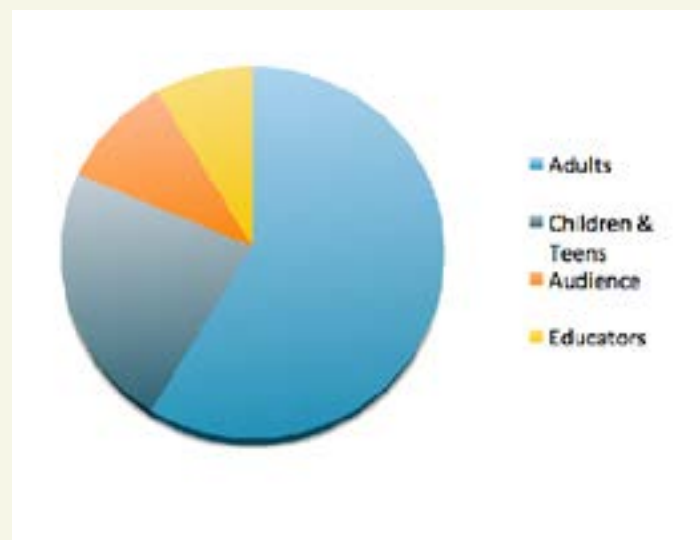
Organizational Overview

Art is for Everyone.

Founded in 1984, our mission is to build a diverse and inclusive arts community in Utah by providing creative opportunities for people with disabilities and other marginalized communities, and by providing public engagement in the arts for our broader community. Our programs provide meaningful artistic opportunities to people who have traditionally been excluded from arts and cultural activities.

Art Access has a long and proven history of providing high-quality arts education and accessibility services to Utahns of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. We have established an exceptional reputation locally for our mission-driven programs and consistently draw from a pool of local, talented, and experienced teaching artists and art therapists to conduct mentoring and workshops. We are an affiliate of VSA, which is a program of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts through its Office of VSA & Accessibility. Most significantly, we are the only arts organization in Utah that specifically considers the unique needs of people with disabilities when developing our inclusive and accessible arts programming.

Art Access serves a diverse population of adults and children with and without disabilities, as well as the elderly, youth-at-risk, refugees, the homeless, veterans, and other disenfranchised peoples. By engaging the community in educational and artful experiences through our galleries and programming, Art Access continues to play a significant role in helping to eliminate social barriers and create an inclusive world for everyone through art. We believe that the arts are an important vehicle for self-esteem development, self-expression, community building, and creating understanding and compassion across diverse communities in our state, county, and city.



Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Report

REVENUE

Gallery Sales	\$ 121,635
Federal	\$ 20,310
Salt Lake County Zoo, Arts & Parks	\$ 64,224
State of Utah	\$ 17,600
Individual Contributions	\$ 56,571
Foundations	\$ 93,710
Corporate Sponsorships	\$ 20,721
Other	\$ 23,084
In-Kind	\$ 9,864
Realized & unrealized loss on investment	\$ 4,859
Total Revenue:	\$432,578

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$ 414,691
Management & General	\$ 13,434
Fundraising	\$ 57,809
Total Expenses:	\$485,934

Fiscal Year 2017 Financial Report

ASSETS

Cash	\$ 15,690
Investments	\$ 55,254
Furniture & Equipment	\$ 14,146
Art Collection	\$ 64,200
Accounts Receivable	\$ 108,565
Total Assets:	\$257,855

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Current & Accrued Liabilities	\$ 23,939
Net Assets/Unrestricted	\$ 206,751
Net Assets/Donor Restricted	\$ 27,165
Total Liabilities & Net Assets:	\$257,855

All figures are audited. Audited financial statements issued by Larson and Company, PC are available from Art Access. Reserved funds utilized to supplement revenue.

Art Access Gallery

Founded in 1993

Art Access Gallery serves as an access point through which emerging artists, artists with disabilities, and others with limited access to the arts can enter and thrive in the local arts community. They do so by exhibiting their own artwork with that of established Utah artists and by taking part in professional development activities. In doing so, Art Access Gallery celebrates and cultivates the talents of diverse artists while educating the community to understand the artistic talents of Utahns of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.

Art Access believes that we can build a stronger community by connecting people through the storytelling inherent in the creation and appreciation of art. Each year, in addition to regular programming, we focus on two to three topics that integrate gallery exhibits, workshops, panel discussions, book group literature, and targeted partnerships. This comprehensive approach invites community members to engage more intensively in discussion, safely explore controversy, share similarities and differences, and experience respectful dialogue. Topics explored over this past year were aging and dementia, Multiple Sclerosis, immigration, grief, and bereavement.

FISCAL YEAR 2017 EXHIBITIONS:

ART ACCESS GALLERY:

THE DREAMERS PROJECT, mixed media group exhibit by artists by and about DREAMers and other immigrant populations

ART ACCESS GROUP HOLIDAY EXHIBIT

RESILIENCY - SLC RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE: HEAL COURAGEOUSLY, curated by Michelle Marthia of photographs from Ronald McDonald House

DREAMS OF A LUCID TRAVELER, a multi-media installation of hand crafted light sculptures by Aleta Boyce

ETHNIC CERAMICS, BEADED WORK, AND WEARABLE ART by Ed Napia, Rad Cuch, and Wahid Migoli

CREATIVE AGING, mixed media group exhibit featuring art made by artists 60 or older

15TH ANNUAL 300 PLATES FUNDRAISER AND EXHIBITION

PHENOMENAL ALLEGORIES, mixed media group exhibit by Anthony Siciliano and Desarae Lee

MULTIPLE ISPIRATIONS: MS + ART, group exhibit of work by artists with Multiple Sclerosis, by LD Artman, Todd Claflin, Ruth Ann Garner, and Bee Losee

PROTEGES, group exhibit of artwork by mentors and their selected mentees

5TH ANNUAL ART2GO, group invitational exhibit

ACCESS II GALLERY:

3RD ANNUAL VETERANS ART EXHIBIT, mixed media group exhibit by Veteran artists

ART ACCESS GROUP HOLIDAY EXHIBIT

HOME!/? : CLINTON WHITING, individual exhibit of paintings of children in foster care by Clinton Whiting

ANCIENT NIGHTS, photographs of ancient ruins by Marc Toso

OFF THE MAP, a multi-media group exhibit of artwork based on Salt Lake City landmarks

[DE]COMPOSITION: black and white silver gelatin prints by Doug Tolman

50 SQUARED, group exhibit featuring artwork by local high school students

MIXED MEDIA work by Blake Palmer

SHADOWS AND COLORS, photographs of Nepal by Kaustubh Thapa

STUDIO E: ARTISTS WITH EPILEPSY annual group programming exhibit with artwork from artists with epilepsy

OF STONE AND SUSTENANCE, ceramics by E. Clark Marshall



Integrated Arts Residencies for Youth

Program founded in 1993

Festivals conducted since 1984

Integrated Arts in Utah Schools was established in 1993 to provide integrated arts programs in Utah schools and service facilities for children and young adults, ages 3 to 22, who receive special education services. Art Access helps develop integrated arts programs for pre-kindergarten to 12th grade students via these methods: in and out-of-school residencies, in and out-of-school workshops, and festivals.

Based on reports from program sites and trusted teaching instructors and evaluations from participants, we know that Integrated Arts programming has demonstrated consistent success, and strengthens our community by providing free and targeted arts activities to students with sensory, cognitive, learning, developmental, and/or physical disabilities. By creating art in an inclusive environment with their peers, and under the instruction of professional teaching artists, students with disabilities can develop the following: small and large motor coordination; language and interpersonal skills; conflict resolution, behavior and stress management; creativity, self-awareness, and self-esteem; integration into the community life of their school; and additional social and academic success.

PROGRAM SITES (July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017):

Edison Elementary School

Granite Elementary School

Primary Children's Medical Center - Wasatch Canyon Behavioral Health Unit

University Neuropsychiatric Institute - Girls Transition Unit

Utah Schools for the Deaf & the Blind

Millcreek Elementary School

Westmore Elementary School

Ogden Campus

Indian Hills Elementary School

Kauri Sue Hamilton School

Jordan Valley School

The Road Home

Utah Arts Festival - Art Access Art Yard Booth

Housing Authority of Salt Lake, Bud Bailey Apartments

Matt's Place



Programs and Services

Artist Residencies for Adults

Program founded in 1995

Art Access facilitates collaboration between disability service providers and professional artists to create residency programs as requested by disability or cultural service organizations. Each residency is designed to accommodate the unique needs of the requesting organization's clients. Residency activities include an array of visual, performing, and literary arts.

This fully participatory program provides adults with disabilities the opportunity to be creatively engaged and to have direct access to professionals in the arts. Residencies are conducted year-round for groups of adults at community partner venues where adults with disabilities live or gather, such as rehabilitation centers, care centers, senior centers, and other disability service organizations.

FISCAL YEAR 2017 PROGRAM SITES:

Neighborhood House Adult Day Services in Cottonwood
Palmer Court Extended Stay Shelter in Salt Lake City
SPLORE in Salt Lake City
TURN City Center for the Arts in Salt Lake City
Utah Council of the Blind in Salt Lake City
Utah Independent Living Center in Salt Lake City
Valley Behavioral Health JDOT Unit in Salt Lake City
Work Activity Center in West Valley City
George E. Wahlen Department of Veterans Affairs Inpatient Psychiatric Unit in Salt Lake City
Skaggs Rehabilitation Center at the University of Utah Health Care Center



Programs and Services

Literary Arts Workshops

Program founded in 1996

Creative Writing Workshops & Residencies

Through a series of writing workshops and residencies conducted by professional writers, adults and teens can develop and polish their writing skills, as well as share their voices and perspectives with the wider community. Residencies are held at partner venues where people with disabilities live or gather. Workshops are conducted at Art Access and often culminate with scheduled readings.

FISCAL YEAR 2017 PROGRAMS:

Writing through Grief: A Personal Essay Workshop taught by Debbie Leaman from September 17 to October 8.

Intersections II: Forging Family taught by Eric Samuelsen from October 15 to November 5.

Creative Aging: Re-imagining Your Life taught by Debbie Leaman from February 7 to March 25, with an intensive workshop on March 4 and a public reading of works on May 5.

Creative Aging: Public Reading of *Memories Last Breath* by Gerda Saunders with Gerda Saunders on June 16.

Art Access Book Group

Program founded in 2012

In spring 2012, Art Access started a Book Group to investigate how and why people with disabilities have been depicted in literary texts and to consider the social and cultural impact of these depictions. We took our cue from the field of Disability Studies and have been analyzing how such representational issues are driven by history and politics and by slippery concepts such as "normalcy," "ability," "difference," embodiment," and "identity."

FISCAL YEAR 2017 BOOKS DISCUSSED:

Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie facilitated by Susan Anderson

The Long Walk by Brian Castner with the Hive Mind Book Club

Things I Should've Told My Daughter by Pearl Cleage facilitated by Nkenna Onwuzuruoha

WORKSHOPS

Teen Workshops

Program founded in 1995

Art Access believes that teens can find a sense of community, develop transferable and long-lasting life skills, and flourish in the nurturing, creative, and productive environment. Our workshops are taught by professional artists and teens working alongside their peers who are also passionate about making art. These are the only visual arts workshops in the Salt Lake City area specifically designed with the needs and abilities of ALL teens in mind.

2017 WORKSHOPS:

Shibori-Dyed Silk Scarves taught by Lisa Chin on October 15*

Teen Printmaking taught by Anna Hansen on February 4

Introduction to Collage, held at the VOA's Homeless Youth Resource Center, taught by Emily Larsen and Heidi Olsen on August 19 and September 2. *

*Provided in partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts



Adult Workshops

Program founded in 1998

Adult Art Workshops are held in the Art Access workshop space and invite art-minded adults to experience a day of creating art, guided by professional artists in an inclusive setting. Each year this series of five workshops offers a variety of art medium and an opportunity to develop new art skills.

2017 WORKSHOPS:

Words & Picture Arts Journaling taught by Melissa Rasmussen on October 22

Holiday Printmaking: Unique Gift-Giving Essentials taught by Anna Hansen on December 3

Open Studio for Deaf Artists with Shandra Benito and the Sanderson Center on April 9

Open Studio for Deaf Artists with Shandra Benito and the Sanderson Center on June 6



Children's Workshops

Program founded in 2011

Workshops offer young participants an opportunity to engage creatively in a variety of visual arts projects in an inclusive environment. By integrating children with and without disabilities, Art Access children's workshops work to eliminate barriers, empower participants, and foster growth. The collaborative atmosphere fostered by the program provides a safe and inclusive environment for creative language that instills self-worth, ability and respect.

2017 WORKSHOPS*:

DIY Halloween Costumes taught by Sarah Kappos on October 15

Make Your Own Stuffed Lovey: Intro to Fiber Arts taught by Virginia Catherall on December 3

Visual Art Workshop taught by Kindra Fehr for students from Eva Carlston Academy on May 23

*All workshops provided in partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts



Veterans Workshops

Program founded in 2012

Art Access has partnered with the George E. Wahlen Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center since 2012 to provide a series of Veterans' workshops focusing in on the visual and literary arts. Art Access is keenly aware of the rise in Veterans returning from deployment and service with physical, mental, and/or emotional disabilities, as well as the current health care crisis for Veterans nationwide. While we understand that no one organization can address the unique, urgent, and complicated issues that face Utah Veterans, our Veterans programming is part of a local support system that honors their service, helps them process and express their experiences, and ease the transition to civilian life. Veterans can benefit from creating art in a therapeutic environment while also sharing their personal stories with the community. Program goals include offering Veterans creative outlets, therapeutic and healing opportunities, and a sense of community.

2017 WORKSHOPS:

Power of an Image taught by Benny van der Wal from October 14 to November 4
Art Therapy taught by Leslie Williams on January 28

Playwriting Workshop taught by Julie Jensen from February 28 to March 31, with a staged reading on April 24

Introduction to Acrylics taught by Andrew Ehninger from June 6 to June 27

Introduction to Poetry taught by Jon Sebba from September 22 to October 13

The 3rd Annual Veterans Art Exhibit was held from October 21 through November 11 in the Access II Gallery. An artist' reception was hosted on Friday, October 21.



ART THERAPY

Studio E: The Epilepsy Art Therapy Program

Conducted since 2014

Studio E* is an art therapy program open to people with epilepsy in 30 U.S. cities, where participants are given the opportunity to creatively express themselves and their emotions. Living with epilepsy can be challenging and art therapy may be beneficial in working through how the condition impacts an individual's life.

Epilepsy Foundation of Utah and Art Access provide this program in Utah. It includes opportunities for children and adults with epilepsy to express themselves through art. Participants work with a board-certified art therapist in a group setting to create art pieces using visual art mediums.

Ida Yoked (MA, ATR) conducted four sessions of Studio E for adult participants from March 18 to April 15.

Jill Johnson (MAAT) conducted two sessions of Studio E for children and teens from June 13 to June 15, and June 20 to June 22.

*This program is offered exclusively to people living with epilepsy.



Resilience: Art by Survivors

Program founded in 2014

Art Access' Resilience: Art by Survivors program provides adult participants with an opportunity to express themselves and heal through art. Led by a certified art therapist each this workshop series offers survivors of sexual abuse a safe and creative forum to express their experiences, emotions, and trauma. This program culminates in a 3-day retreat for all workshop participants. Survivors of any type of sexual abuse, trauma, assault, incest, rape, etc. and survivors of all genders are welcome in this program.

2017 WORKSHOPS:

Open Studio for Survivors of Sexual Assault facilitated by Jill Johnson (MAAT) and Elise Butterfield on February 11.

Art Therapy for Survivors of Sexual Assault facilitated by Jill Johnson (MAAT) and Elise Butterfield from March 2 to April 6.

Art Therapy for Survivors of Sexual Abuse- Retreat facilitated by Jill Johnson (MAAT) and Elise Butterfield during April 2017.

2017 Program Sites:

Hill Air Force Base

Art Access

National Ability Center

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Everyone Welcome

Program founded in 2002

Everyone Welcome is a cultural access education program for docents and staff of Utah's art and cultural facilities, provided in partnership with the Utah Museum of Fine Arts. The goal of Everyone Welcome is to create awareness and understanding of accessibility and disability issues to foster a welcoming environment for patrons with disabilities. The program examines the language used regarding disability, and explores attitudes and strategies for achieving a climate of inclusion. Trainings highlight the importance of the arts for people of all abilities and incorporate key elements of human-centered design.

The Permanent Collection

Program founded in 1991

To promote our organization's mission, Art Access purchases and collects artwork from local artists with disabilities. This body of work is named the Permanent Collection and currently includes over 150 pieces of original art. Artwork from the collection is available for short-term loan and public display at no cost to the host location.

2017 DISPLAY LOCATIONS:

Barros Law Firm
Disability Law Center
Match and Farnsworth
Salt Lake Acting Company
Salt Lake City Police Department Community Connection Center
University of Utah Neurobehavioral Unit
Utah Film Center

PERFORMING ARTS

Program founded in 2011

Through use of the performing arts, Art Access seeks to educate the public to respect and celebrate differences among all people. Appropriately themed productions are performed for groups of attendees, who may be school students or adults from the community. Following performances, attendees are encouraged to participate in discussions about the pieces and to address the theme of respecting and embracing diversity and difference. Productions are chosen that exhibit our organizational philosophy of inclusion and that create a clear level of understanding of the beauty and depth of our community.

2017 WORKSHOPS:

Devised Theater Workshop with Marck Macey from March 25 to April 15, with a performance on April 15.

INTERSECTIONS II: Forging Families staged readings directed by Eric Samuelson. Presented by Art Access and Plan B Theater in the Art Access Gallery on April 28 and 29.



Donors to Art Access

Oct. 1, 2016-Sept. 30, 2017

Art Access is grateful to the following for their generous support. Email megan@accessart.org with corrections and/or questions.

\$30,000 and above
Salt Lake County Zoo, Arts & Parks Program

\$10,000 - \$29,999

Jarvis & Constance
Doctorow Foundation

Utah Division of Arts & Museums

George S. & Dolores Dore
Eccles Foundation

Sorenson Legacy
Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999
Lundbeck/Epilepsy
Foundation of Utah
Robert Norris Charitable
Trust
Janet T. & Lawrence T.
Dee Foundation
Larry H. Miller Charities
McCarthy Family
Foundation
Salt Lake City Arts
Council

\$2,500 - \$4,999
Clark L Tanner
Foundation
R. Harold Burton
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Utah Humanities
US Bancorp Foundation

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Melville Stables
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Jeannette F. Swent
Kennecott Utah Copper
Utah Arts Festival
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Sorenson
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Coury/Pyper Wealth
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Janice DeCosmo & David
Butterfield
Patricia Legant

\$100 - \$299

Neighborhood House
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Darrell Moore
Pamela J. Atkinson
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Janice Gee
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Mauria Tanner
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Robert Walton-Steadman
Poonam Soni
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\$25-\$99

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Teresa Braam
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Emily Carruth Fuller
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In-Kind Donations

Brushworks Gallery
Barbacoa Mexican Grill
Bullock Frame Company
Carlucci's Bakery
CATALYST Magazine
Diamond Rental
Gourmandise - The
Bakery
Kajika Interpreting
Services
Millcreek Cacao Roasters
Red Rock Brewing
Ruby Snap
Tanner Frames
Utah Arts Festival
Mark Miller Suburu
Microsoft
City Weekly

300 Plates Artists

Ryan Akerley
Rob Adamson
Kara Jane Aina
Paige Crossland
Anderson
Marti Grace Ashby
Pat Bagley
Cassandra Barney
Brian Bean
Anne Becker
Terrece Beesley
Katrina Berg
Linda Bergstrom
Paul Vincent Bernard
Brandt Berntson
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 Lillian Timmerman
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 Jamie Webb
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Special thanks to Amanda
 K. Finalyson, Jackelin Slack,
 and Heidi Olsen for their
 contributions during the
 2016-2017 year.

Contracted Coordinators

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 Kindred Spirits Children's
 Workshops

Susan Anderson
 Art Access Book Group

Nkenna Onwuzuruoha
 Art Access Book Group