

# Textiles: Ojo de Dios Weaving

Ruby Red Workshop  
Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Educator: Cal Duran, [volarduran@yahoo.com](mailto:volarduran@yahoo.com)

## **Pricing:**

Museum Friend: \$95 / Member: \$100 / Student: \$100 / Non-Member: \$110

*\*Price includes a \$30 Studio Fee for all materials provided.*

## **Class Description:**

Students will learn the history, significance, and traditions of Ojo De Dios, also known as Gods Eyes.

Using yarn, students will weave in their own unique patterns while discovering how these ancient weavings connect us more deeply to our ancestral roots. The artistic practice of making Ojo de Dios will be explored as a form of meditation.

## **What to Expect:**

During class time, students will make an 18" x 18" eight-sided weaving. They will learn five different weaving patterns. Students will also be introduced to oral histories and the story of Grandmother Spider and the Time-keeper Weavers.

## **Class Cancellation Policy:**

If a class or workshop needs to be cancelled due to inclement weather or teacher illness, a "make-up" day will be scheduled on a SATURDAY as the educator's schedule allows.

## **Materials:**

All materials will be provided for students and are included in the price for this workshop.

## **Educator:**

Cal Duran is a Queer, Two Spirit, Indigenous, Native, Mixed blood. Latinx, Manito, Mestizo, Chicanx, Indian Artist, and Arts Educator from Colorado. Art has been a portal to channel his indigenous ancestors, where he slips under an emotional spinning vortex of creation. The makers of his blood flow through him. He channels the artisans, craft-makers, mud-dwellers, star-makers, dream-weavers and earth-brothers and sisters the ones who paved the way and forged the path. His work carries spirit and his truth is in everything he creates. He has roots that bridge India, Mexico and the natives of this land. He finds himself exploring parallels between his hybrid identities found in myth, religion, and ritual.

He has shown altars, installations and artwork in museums and galleries throughout the Denver Metro area and beyond. He continues to honor his ancestors and recently created a room at Meow Wolf in Denver, honoring the indigenous tribes of Colorado and the Americas. He understands the importance of land acknowledgment honoring all the Earth tribes across the globe and the indigenous lineages down his blood line. Growing up separated from his culture,

his mom was adopted, and his father was not in his life, he grew up trying to figure out his cultural roots. Art was where he could connect and find his heritage. It was through art that he began to connect to his ancestors. He is guided by these ancestors to create altars as beacons of light for the ones beyond this realm.

As a youth educator, Cal understands how important art is for our next generation in creating safe spaces and helping youth find their voice. He is honored to weave his vision of ancestral knowledge in order to guide others as they seek to reconnect to ancestors, create altars and remember where they came from. He gives gratitude and love to everyone working hard to create a world full of love, joy and creativity.

<https://www.artbycal.com/>

## **Ruby Room Policies**

### **Cleanup:**

Please remove all artworks from the classroom at the end of each class. If wet paintings or in-progress artworks need to be stored in the classroom, there is limited storage in the equipment closet. Students will also need to take home all their own materials after each class. Make sure that art supplies and equipment belonging to the DAM are put back in the appropriate locations. Sponges and cleaning solution are provided in the classroom for cleanup.

### **Classroom Access:**

Students will have access to the classroom only during scheduled class hours and open studio hours. Please contact the Manager of Creative and Public Engagement, Sarah Rockett, if you need to arrange entrance to the Ruby Room outside of those hours – [srockett@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:srockett@denverartmuseum.org).

### **Material Usage:**

#### **Approved Processes & Materials**

- All materials that are non-toxic and non-flammable
- Chalk/charcoal/compressed powder-based drawing materials
- Loose powder-based drawing/painting materials – i.e. powdered graphite, powdered pigment
- Loose powder-based 3D materials – i.e. plaster, alginate
- Clay – air drying only
- Oil paints & oil medium
- Adhesives
- Odorless mineral spirits – in small amounts
- Acetone – in small amounts
- Hot plates – for encaustic or use w/ wax-based process
- Hot glue & hot glue guns

**Please ask if you are unsure about using certain materials in the workshop.**

#### **Restricted Processes & Materials:**

- Aerosols
  - No spray paint onsite
  - Fixatives and finishing sprays can be used outside with the use of a drop cloth.
- Saws/Wood cutting
- Organic materials

- Any materials that off-gas or produce a pungent smell will require prior approval.

### **Flammable Materials:**

**STORAGE:** Any flammable materials left in the classroom must be stored in the flammable materials cabinet when not in use. This includes all aerosol products, mineral spirits, acetone, etc.

**DISPOSAL:** Please use the flammables disposal container to dispose of all flammable materials or rags, paper towels, etc. that have been saturated with flammable materials. Do not put these items in the regular trash can or down the sink. This includes materials such as mineral spirits, acetone, paint thinner, oil paint, etc.

### **Disposal of Viscous Materials:**

- **Paint:** Scrape or wipe large amounts of paint into the trash can. Remaining paint may be washed down the sink. Make sure that paint does not sit and dry on the bottom of the sink. Use sponges to wash out the sink, and run water for 1-2 minutes after paint disposal.
- **Plaster:** Dispose of wet plaster into the trash can. Leave container to dry, and crack remaining plaster into the trash once it is dry. Hands and tools used for plaster may be washed in the sink with water running 1-2 minutes after washing.
- **Clay:** Remove wet/dry clay from hands and tools as much as possible before washing in sink. Run water in sink for 1-2 minutes following washing.

### **Safety:**

Teachers and students are responsible for practicing safe work habits at all times, as improper use of tools could cause injury. Please work intelligently, safely, and follow all safety guidelines.

- Teachers and students are only to use equipment and tools that they either already know how to use or have been instructed how to use. If you have a question about how to operate any equipment, please ask!
- Work smart, pace yourself, and be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Safety glasses, safety goggles, nitrile gloves, and dust masks are available upon request.