

# Drawing: Exploring Unconventional Tools

Ruby Red Workshop  
Saturday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
May 2, 2026

Educator: Lauri Lynnxe Murphy, [lynnxe@gmail.com](mailto:lynnxe@gmail.com)

## CLASS DESCRIPTION

At its heart, drawing is simply mark-making, and the ways in which one can make an interesting mark are endless - drawing is often seen as a simple act, but the definition is expansive. This can be seen plainly in the Denver Art Museum's collections—Frederick Sommer made a drawing by simply impressing a sharp implement into foil, and Andy Goldsworthy placed an icicle on paper, calling the record of the melting and the marks left behind a drawing. In the instructor's own work, she places snails on black paper and cuts around the slime they leave behind to make a drawing.

In the quest to make an interesting mark, artists have experimented with process, made their own tools, designed systems and even built machines in the quest to make an interesting mark. In this 1-day workshop, students will explore some of this methodology for inspiration, create their own tools, and play with a variety of unusual materials in the quest to make that perfect, compelling mark on paper.

### Pricing:

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

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

### Refund and Class Cancellation Policy:

The Denver Art Museum adheres to a no-refund, no-exchange policy. If you are unable to attend, please consider your payment a tax-deductible donation.

If a class or workshop is cancelled by the Denver Art Museum due to inclement weather or teacher illness, a make-up day will be scheduled on a later SATURDAY as the educator's schedule allows.

### **Accessibility Statement:**

To request large print materials, a sign language interpreter, CART or any other accessibility service, please email [access@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:access@denverartmuseum.org) at least ten (10) business days in advance of the program. We will make every effort to provide accommodation for requests made outside of that window of time.

Please see further information about accessibility, parking, and directions to the DAM here: <https://www.denverartmuseum.org/en/accessibility>

### **Materials:**

All materials will be provided for this workshop and are included in the Studio Fee of \$30.

### **What to Expect:**

This workshop will begin with a discussion and slide show of some of the more unusual ways artists have approached the idea of drawing. Students will then have the opportunity to experiment with a wide variety of ways of making a mark and will be encouraged to invent their own methodologies and craft their own tools. No prior technical knowledge is needed, this workshop is a great entry point for those who might be heard saying they "can't draw" - by the end of the class, students will have gained the confidence to never utter those words again after learning to approach the act of drawing with playfulness and innovation. Every level of experience should gain some new understanding of the oldest human means of making art.

### **Educator:**

Lauri Lynnxe Murphy is a bio artist, sculptor, and writer living in Denver, Colorado, where the natural world has been a source of inspiration and materiality for her work, which is largely focused on extinction, invasive species, adaptation, and interspecies communication. Much of her work is made by collaborating with imperiled species and the systems they employ, such as building sculptures with bees or making drawings with snails, along with foraging materials from the wild or the landfill. Motivated by a desire to encourage a sense of love for nature in order to inspire action to protect it, her work is deeply research-driven and often seeks interdisciplinary collaborations. Lauri received her Master of Fine Arts from The Ohio State University on fellowship in 2012 and was a Redline Resource Artist from 2020 - 2022. She has shown her work internationally, and her most recent

solo exhibition was at the Arvada Center for Arts and Humanities in March of 2022.

[www.lynnxe.com](http://www.lynnxe.com)

## WORKSHOP SPACE POLICIES

### About:

The Ruby Red Workshop is a dedicated space for Creative Classes and adult programs located on the first floor of the DAM's Martin Building. Students can expect a traditional style art workshop with tables and four-legged chairs with backrests. There are a variety of other seating options available. Sinks, soaps, paper towels, and waste receptacles are accessible in the workshop. Restrooms are located in the elevator bay just outside the workshop entrance. Food and beverages are allowed inside the workshop space, please ensure that you do not enter any galleries with these items.

Each class is different and does not follow a strict or set structure, but will generally include instructor presentations and demonstrations, class gallery visits to view artworks in the DAM collections, individual work time supported by class instructor and assistant, and discussion or share-out time of finished works and works-in-progress.

### 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 on drying racks and in the equipment closet. Students must take home their own materials after each class. Please ensure that art supplies and equipment belonging to the DAM are put back in the appropriate locations. Sponges, paper towels, and cleaning solution are provided in the classroom for cleanup.

### Classroom Access:

Students will have access to the classroom only during scheduled class hours. Please contact Mia DeBakker, Creative & Public Engagement Coordinator, if you need to arrange entrance to the Workshop outside of those hours – [mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org).

## QUESTIONS

Questions about class content, curriculum, materials, etc. can be directed to Mia DeBakker at [mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org) or Sarah Rockett at [srockett@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:srockett@denverartmuseum.org).

For any questions concerning your registration, please reach out to our Sales & Service Team at [info@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:info@denverartmuseum.org) or (720) 913-0130.

Thank you for being part of Creative Classes at the DAM!