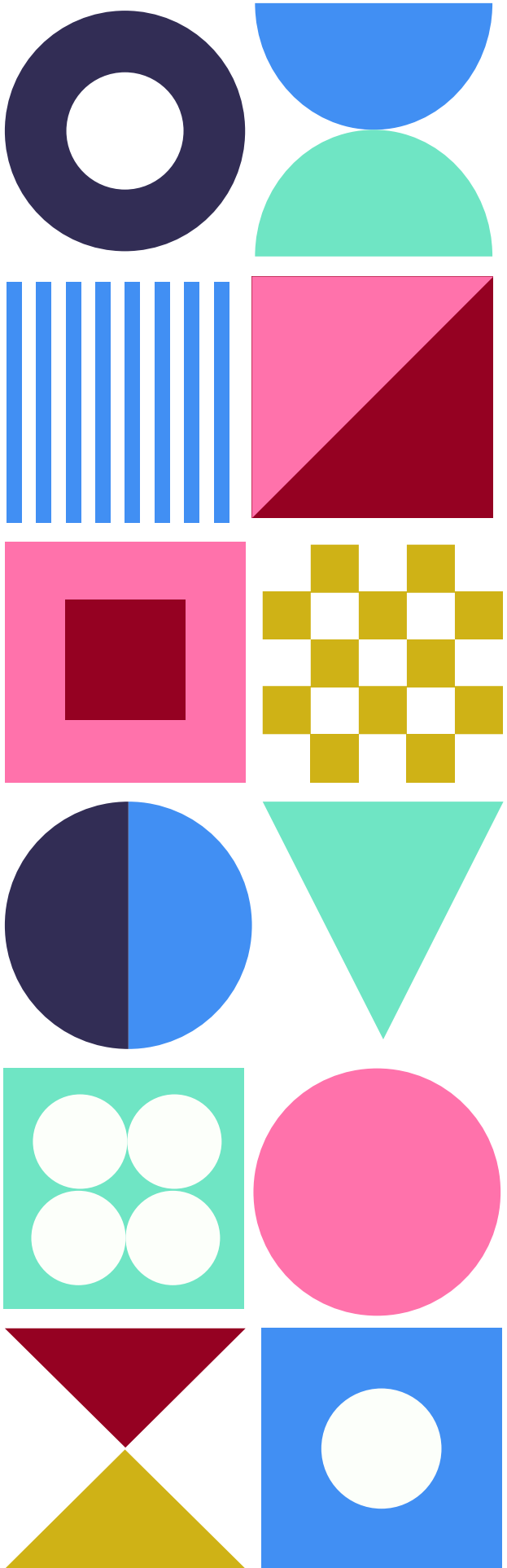




DENVER
art
MUSEUM

**Creative
Classes**

WINTER/SPRING 2026

Creative Classes offer an opportunity to learn from local professional creatives in a studio art environment. Each unique class is designed by a teaching artist for an adult audience, with specific connections to Denver Art Museum exhibitions and collections. Connect with professional creatives, learn a new skill, and expand your own creative practice.

Location

Creative Classes will be held in the DAM's state-of-the-art classrooms, located inside the Bartlit Learning and Engagement Center in the Martin Building.

Registration

November 13: Museum Friends

November 14: All members

November 15: Open to everyone

Space is limited and advance registration is required.

Pricing

6-week class*:

Museum Friend: \$240

Member: \$255

Student: \$255

Nonmember: \$300

4-week class*:

Museum Friend: \$130

Member: \$135

Student: \$135

Nonmember: \$160

***Students will purchase their own materials. No Studio Fee.**

Some exceptions.

2-day workshop**:

Museum Friend: \$130

Member: \$135

Student: \$135

Nonmember: \$160

****All materials provided with an additional Studio Fee of \$30-90.**

1-day workshop***:

Museum Friend: \$65

Member: \$70

Student: \$70

Nonmember: \$80

*****All materials provided with an additional Studio Fee of \$30-90.**

Register at:

denverartmuseum.org/creative-classes

720-913-0130



1-Day Workshops Saturdays | 10 am–2 pm

Drawing: Mark-Making as Meditative Practice

January 10

Papercraft: Hand Papermaking

January 24

The Traditional Japanese Art of Bonseki:

Seasons in Sand, Session One

February 7

**Parfleche Painting: Indigenous Design,
Session One**

March 7

Abstract Collage: The Art of Intuitive Flow

March 21

**Parfleche Painting: Indigenous Design,
Session Two**

April 4

The Traditional Japanese Art of Bonseki:

Seasons in Sand, Session Two

April 18

Drawing: Exploring Unconventional Tools

May 2

2-Day Workshop Saturdays | 10 am–2 pm

Textiles: Personal Truth Tapestries

February 21 & 28

Drawing: Discovering Butterflies

May 16 & 23

4-Week Classes Tuesdays | 5:30–7:30 pm

Painting: Impressionist-Inspired Watercolor

January 6–27

Textiles: Introduction to Crochet

February 10–March 3

Drawing: Introduction to Ink Mediums

March 17–April 7

Painting: Flow State

April 21–May 12

4-Week Classes Thursdays | 10 am–12 pm

Painting: Introduction to Oil

February 12–March 5

Drawing: Nature Journaling

March 19–April 9

Painting: Introduction to Watercolor

April 23–May 14

6-Week Classes Thursdays | 1:30–4 pm

Painting: Flow State

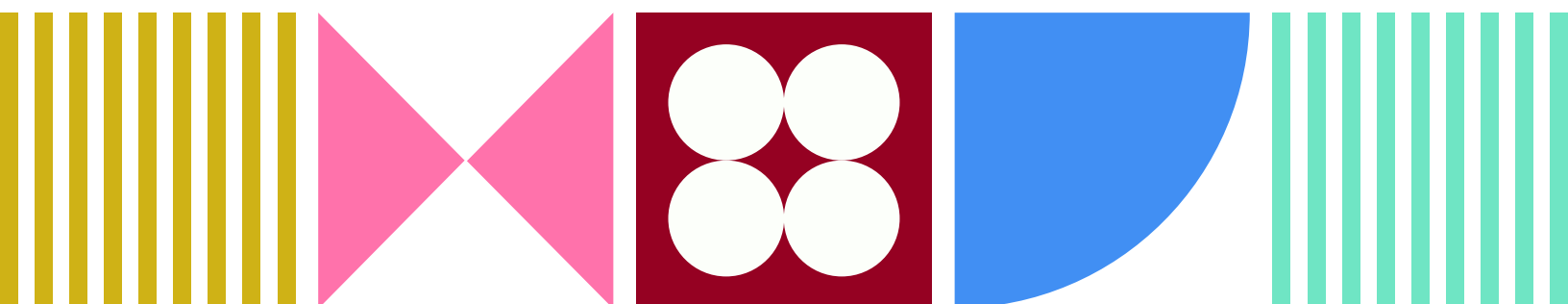
January 8–February 12

Papercraft: Book Arts

February 26–April 2

Painting: Abstract Multiples in Acrylic

April 16–May 21



1-Day Workshops

Drawing: Mark-Making as Meditative Practice

Educator: Tonia Bonnell

Date: January 10, 2026

Time: 10 am–2 pm

This drawing-based, 1-day workshop will focus on exploring repetitive mark-making as a calming, meditative practice. Students will use repetition with a variety of drawing materials to discover the benefits of slowing down, finding focus, and developing rhythm in order to counteract the high stress of our fast-paced society. With emphasis on exploration, this class is open to all levels of creatives while placing value on the practice of being present in the moment rather than thinking too far ahead to a finished piece.

To gather ideas and an understanding of ways in which repeated marks are used by artists, the class will tour the Denver Art Museum galleries to see works by Agnes Martin, Vance Kirkland, Lucy Lewis, and Camille Pissarro (and other Impressionists). In addition, students will view works by modern and contemporary artists beyond the DAM Collections. Students will experiment with mark-making in sketchbooks using a variety of drawing tools including pencils, pens, markers, and other dry media. This experimentation will lead to creating a work or multiple works on small-format fine art paper. Class participants will develop a unique visual language of marks to add to their toolbox for both artistic creation and personal well-being.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$95

Member: \$100

Student: \$100

Nonmember: \$110

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



Educator Bio:

Tonia Bonnell is a Denver-based artist whose work is rooted in both attentiveness and subtlety. Growing up surrounded by cornfields in Illinois, she developed a fascination with clouds—an ever-changing subject that continues to inspire her. Tonia earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Illinois State University in

2001 and her Master of Fine Arts in Printmaking from the University of Alberta in 2005. After graduate school, she moved to Denver and taught at the Art Institute of Colorado, Metro State University, and the University of Denver. Her career has included artist residencies at Anderson Ranch in Snowmass Village, Colorado, and Women's Studio Workshop in upstate New York. She has shared her work and process through artist talks and on panels, including Printmaking and the Mundane at the College Art Association conference in Chicago. Tonia gave museum-goers a glimpse into her studio practice as a Hamilton Studio Demonstrating Artist at the Denver Art Museum in 2014. Her prints won Best in Show in the 528.0 Regional Printmaking Exhibition (2024) at the Arvada Center. She is represented by Walker Fine Art, and her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally. Tonia hikes in the mountains to restore her soul and works from her home studio where she explores the complex potential of repeated marks.

toniabonnell.com

Papercraft: Hand Papermaking

Educator: Elizabeth Truskin

Date: January 24, 2026

Time: 10 am–2 pm

In this 1-day workshop, students will learn how to make paper from recycled materials. Students will gain an understanding of papermaking methods through the process of creating paper pulp and using different screen sizes to press and dry their own custom paper pages. This paper can be used for cards, tags, and artwork. Each student will leave the workshop with a handful of unique recycled paper sheets.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$125

Member: \$130

Student: \$130

Nonmember: \$140

*Price includes a \$60 Studio Fee for all materials provided.



Educator Bio:

Elizabeth Truskin is an artist from Denver, specializing in acrylic, watercolor, and mixed-media paintings. Elizabeth instructs a variety of art classes for the Denver Art Museum, the Art Students League of Denver, Denver Parks and Recreation, and Redline Contemporary Arts Center. She hosts public art events throughout the Front Range and loves connecting with her community through artmaking.

[instagram.com/elizabeth_truskin_studios_](https://www.instagram.com/elizabeth_truskin_studios_)

1-Day Workshops

The Traditional Japanese Art of Bonseki: Seasons in Sand

Educator: Sara Linden

Session 1: February 7, 2026

Session 2: April 18, 2026

Time: 10 am–2 pm

This 1-day workshop will introduce participants to the meditative practice of arranging white sand, stones, and small tools on black lacquer trays to create ephemeral miniature landscapes. Rooted in ancient Japanese and Chinese traditions and connected to the appreciation of *suiseki* (scholar's stones), *bonseki* embodies themes of ephemerality, seasonal awareness, and poetic reflection. Through guided demonstrations, hands-on practice, and quiet viewing (*haiken*), students will learn both introductory and intermediate techniques for shaping landscapes such as winter skies, blossoms, and birds in flight. The workshop will incorporate seasonal poetry, a tea and sweets service, and group reflection. In addition, participants will have the rare opportunity to view selections from the instructor's personal antique *bonseki* collection, including traditional trays and tools, offering a tangible connection to the art form's history and refinement. The class resonates with Japanese aesthetic traditions within the Arts of Asia collections at the Denver Art Museum.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$125

Member: \$130

Student: \$130

Nonmember: \$140

*Price includes a \$60 Studio Fee for all materials provided.



Educator Bio:

Sara Linden is a contemporary *bonseki* artist and cultural preservationist based in Arvada. Her work showcases the traditional Japanese art of ephemeral sand painting through poetic seasonal compositions. Her practice blends knowledge gained from years of formal study in *chadō* (tea ceremony), *kadō* (ikebana), and *bonseki*, including intensive training in Kyoto. She holds instructor-level certifications in *Ikenobo ikebana* (Waki Kyōju Sankyū, Instructor 3rd Grade; Junkakyō) and foundational *chadō* ranks (Nyūmon, Naraigoto), reflecting deep engagement with classical Japanese aesthetics and ritual. Her work is regularly exhibited at Boulder's Canyon Gallery and was featured internationally in Kyoto in November 2025.

Sara's works reflect a quiet reverence for seasonal change and impermanence, combining historical precision with contemporary aesthetic sensibilities. Her work is rooted in a reverence for resources, time, and tradition, and reflects a quiet dedication to preserving endangered cultural arts while offering viewers an experience of seasonality, impermanence, and beauty. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and a Master of Library Science.

bonsekifurusato.com

Parfleche Painting: Indigenous Design

Educator: Danielle SeeWalker

Session 1: March 7, 2026

Session 2: April 4, 2026

Time: 10 am–2 pm

This 1-day workshop will explore the Indigenous design practice of *parfleche*. The name *parfleche* was initially used by French fur traders and derives from the French language *parer* meaning "to parry" or "to defend," and *flèche* meaning "arrow". *Parfleche* was used to describe tough rawhide shields carried by Plains Indian warriors but was later used primarily for decorated rawhide containers. Plains Indian tribes often had an abundant source of hides in the buffalo they hunted, but, as they were nomadic, they had little opportunity to tan the skins. *Parfleche*, or rawhide, was prepared by cleaning and dehairing the skin and then by stretching it and allowing it to dry in the sun. This process created a stiff but durable leather that was used for many items, including bags, boxes, envelopes, and war shields. Designs historically consisted of geometric shapes and symbols in primary colors. Today, many contemporary Plains Indian artists evolve the idea of *parfleche* by making earrings, bracelets, wallets, etc. Students will explore *parfleche* techniques and create their own keychain or earrings using their newfound knowledge.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$95

Member: \$100

Student: \$100

Nonmember: \$110

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



Educator Bio:

Danielle SeeWalker is Húnkpaphá Lakhóta and citizen of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota. She is a fine artist, muralist, writer, activist, and boymom of two, based in Denver. Her visual artwork often incorporates the use of mixed media and experimentation while incorporating traditional Native

American materials, scenes, and messaging. Her artwork pays homage to her identity as a Lakhóta *winyan* (woman) and her passion to redirect the narrative to an accurate and insightful representation of contemporary Native America while still acknowledging historical events.

Alongside her passion for creating visual art, Danielle is a freelance writer and published her first book in 2020 titled, *Still Here: A Past to Present Insight of Native American People & Culture*. She is also very dedicated to staying connected and involved in her Native community and has served as a mayoral-appointed City Commissioner for the Denver American Indian Commission since 2019. Danielle has also been working on a personal, passion project since 2013 with a long-time friend called The Red Road Project. The focus of the work is to document, through words and photographs, what it means to be Native American in the 21st century by capturing inspiring and positive stories of people and communities within Indian Country.

seewalker.com

1-Day Workshops

Abstract Collage: The Art of Intuitive Flow

Educator: Teresa Cribelli

Date: March 21, 2026

Time: 10 am–2 pm

This intensive 1-day workshop will guide students through the exciting process of transforming disparate materials into cohesive and expressive works of art. Moving beyond traditional representational imagery, students will explore the power of shape, color, texture, and composition to evoke emotion and tell stories without explicit narratives. The workshop will begin with a focused visit to the Denver Art Museum's Modern & Contemporary Art galleries where students will examine David Huffman's *Provo Soul* in order to spark imagination and reflect on composition. Students will return to the studio to experiment with a variety of cutting, adhering, and coloring techniques. Students will also learn how to cultivate and build a rich source material collection and develop a personal vocabulary for creating compelling abstract compositions. Whether an experienced artist or a curious beginner, this workshop will help each student develop their creative practice and leave them with a newfound appreciation for the art of collage.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$95

Member: \$100

Student: \$100

Nonmember: \$110

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



Educator Bio:

Teresa Cribelli started her art career in the archive; inspired by the historical documents she used in her academic research in Brazil, she became interested in the ways that collage can bring the past and the present together. While living in Brazil she was also inspired by the wheat paste street art of Rio

de Janeiro. Part of Rio's vibrant street art culture, wheat paste posters (graphic art printed on paper and pasted to walls) became a type of open-air collective collage she watched for on her daily commute. Inspired by the outsider artists who make street art, she began collecting and then experimenting with vintage papers to make her own collages. Bringing her training as a historian to her practice (she taught Latin American History at the University of Alabama for 11 years) Teresa uses her small-scale analog collages to make visual statements about power, gender, and the environment told through the lens of history. Her work has been shown at Kolaj Fest in New Orleans and Paperworkers Local in Birmingham, Alabama among other venues. Her pieces are held in private collections and in the Doug and Laurie Kanyer Art Collection. Street art pieces based on her collages can be seen in Tuscaloosa and Birmingham, Alabama; Denver, Colorado; Barcelona, Spain; and São Luís, Brazil.

[instagram.com/tacoflotilla/](https://www.instagram.com/tacoflotilla/)

Drawing: Exploring Unconventional Tools

Educator: Lauri Lynnxe Murphy

Date: May 2, 2026

Time: 10 am–2 pm

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

Nonmember: \$110

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



Educator Bio:

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.

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

2-Day Workshops

Textiles: Personal Truth Tapestries

Educator: Charis Fleshner

Dates: February 21 & 28, 2026

Time: 10 am–2 pm

In this 2-day workshop, students will create unique, personal, free verse tapestries inspired by Tracey Emin's work—in particular, her applied blankets and tapestries. This class will explore textiles, typography, the personal in art, materiality, and more. Students can expect to feel empowered to be personal in their work and to see the power of textiles and materiality as catharsis. This workshop also offers a fun entry point for writers to experiment with fiber art! No experience is necessary for this class; beginner artists and writers are welcome as well as experienced artists interested in exploring fiber arts and the personal in their art practice.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$160

Member: \$165

Student: \$165

Nonmember: \$190

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



Educator Bio:

Charis Fleshner's studio practice currently focuses on textiles, expanded drawing, craftivism, and the intersections of feminism and art. She is always exploring ways to create visceral experiences through work that is either interactive or teases viewers with the desire to experience layers of meaning and texture. Materiality, personal experience, object-oriented ontology, and craftivism are an integral part of her ideas and process. The words of Audre Lorde never cease to inspire and drive her studio practice: "For there are no new ideas. There are only new ways of making them felt."

Art is how she processes and seeks to understand life and the human condition. Her work has been exhibited at the Museum of Art Fort Collins, Emmanuel Gallery in Denver, and Strata Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She currently teaches at Aims Community College in Greeley and at the Denver Art Museum.

charismakesart.com

Drawing: Discovering Butterflies

Educator: Anna Kaye

Dates: May 16 & 23, 2026 (May 16 at the DAM, May 23 at the Butterfly Pavilion)

Time: 10 am–2 pm

Join the Butterfly Pavilion and the Denver Art Museum for a two-part artistic adventure! In part one, students will learn to draw butterflies by exploring their representation in artworks from the Denver Art Museum's collections, while also discovering the fascinating anatomy of butterflies through the presentation of preserved specimens. In part two, students will be given a guided tour and immersed in the Butterfly Pavilion's lush conservatory, surrounded by thousands of free-flying butterflies. They will continue to refine their drawing practice in this natural setting with the opportunity to nature journal and draw from live or preserved specimens. This two-part workshop is perfect for artists and nature enthusiasts alike and does not require any prior technical knowledge.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$130

Member: \$135

Student: \$135

Nonmember: \$160

*All materials will be provided for students.



Educator Bio:

Anna Kaye was born in Detroit, Michigan, and now lives in Denver where she works in her studio creating drawings, paintings, videos, and sculptures that are inspired by the natural world. Witnessing the urban decay from de-industrialization as a child enhanced her sense of empathy, compassion, love for diversity and justice, and reverence for the natural world. She earned her B.S. in geology and fine art at Skidmore College, NY. She continued her education at Yale in painting, drawing, printmaking, and photography. She earned her M.F.A. at Washington University in St. Louis where she was awarded the Laura and William Jens Scholarship and a teaching on record position. Anna Kaye's artwork is a part of international, private, public, corporate, and museum collections. Kaye donates a percentage of all sales annually to environmental funds. She curates large-scale exhibitions that promote social action and connectivity. She currently teaches at the Denver Art Museum and Denver Botanic Gardens.

annakayeart.com

4-Week Classes | Tuesdays

Painting: Impressionist-Inspired Watercolor

Educator: Sarah Shay

Dates: January 6–27, 2026

Time: 5:30–7:30 pm

The foundations of learning and practice in this 4-week class will be centered around the question of how the Impressionists captured light and color in their paintings. Students will explore different approaches in creating a sense of atmosphere with color, light and shadow, and mark-making through the study of *The Honest Eye: Camille Pissarro's Impressionism* and other Impressionist works in the DAM collections. Students will learn basic watercolor techniques to guide their artistic explorations, culminating in a final painting over the course of the class session.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$135

Member: \$140

Student: \$140

Nonmember: \$175

*The registration cost includes a Studio Fee for ticketed entry to *The Honest Eye: Camille Pissarro's Impressionism*, \$5 for Members, \$15 for Non-Members. Students will purchase their own materials and should expect to spend \$80–100.



Educator Bio:

Sarah Shay is a Denver-based artist. For Sarah, painting is a means of slowing down and nourishing a connection within ourselves and with each other. Sarah studied Photography and Anthropology at the University of Iowa, and Arts and Education at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Teaching and learning are at the core of Sarah's painting practice, and Sarah has taught in K-12, higher education, and community-based programming in Colorado.

[instagram.com/sarahshaystudio](https://www.instagram.com/sarahshaystudio)

Textiles: Introduction to Crochet

Educator: Sadie Young

Dates: February 10–March 3, 2026

Time: 5:30–7:30 pm

This 4-week class will offer a well-rounded introduction to the art of crochet taught by Sadie Young, the creator of *The Tangled Self*, an installation at the Denver Art Museum. Class will begin with instruction on the basics of crocheting in 2D, using single crochet and double crochet, allowing students to work on a small project, such as a scarf or beanie. Later, students will expand their knowledge of 2D stitches and build a deeper understanding of different stitches with hands-on assistance. As the class progresses, students will learn more complex methods of crocheting and how to crochet in the round, perform color changes, and more! Students will also learn about the basic tools needed for crocheting as well as tips and tricks for specific tools. This class will cover the differences between yarn types and provide guidance on where to source various yarns. The instructor will introduce students to the basics of reading patterns and impart the necessary foundational knowledge and confidence to crochet simple items without a pattern. The goal of this class is for students to leave the course with the knowledge they need to continue crocheting on their own as well as leave classes with finished items to treasure forever! The class will spend time in the installation *The Tangled Self*, where students will learn how the instructor problem-solved specific sculptural and 2D elements inside of the installation.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$130

Member: \$135

Student: \$135

Nonmember: \$160

*Students will purchase their own materials for this class and should expect to spend \$40–60.



Educator Bio:

Sadie Young is a multimedia and installation artist whose practice spans crochet, fine oil portraiture, carpentry, and immersive installations. While she has explored a variety of mediums, her solo artistic voice resonates most strongly through fiber arts. Since creating her first large-scale yarn installation in 2020,

Sadie has been captivated (hooked) by the medium's versatility and tactile connection. Though she continues to explore other materials and mediums in her large-scale projects & studio practice, yarn remains at the heart of her solo work.

Sadie's art is deeply influenced by her background in psychology, particularly Jungian concepts, which inspire her exploration of the self and emotional landscapes. She earned her BFA from MSU Denver in 2015 and months after founded Spectra Art Space, a woman-owned gallery and immersive art experience venue in Denver. Spectra supports emerging and local artists through rotating exhibitions, events, and award-winning immersive experiences, with a mission to make art accessible to creators and patrons alike.

spectraartspace.com/

4-Week Classes | Tuesdays

Drawing: Introduction to Ink Mediums

Educator: Sarah Pedry

Dates: March 17–April 7, 2026

Time: 5:30–7:30 pm

In this 4-week introductory level class, students will explore tools and techniques for making dynamic drawings with ink and brushes. Inspired by art from both the Denver Art Museum's Arts of Asia and Impressionism collections, students will create drawings of plants, animals, and landscapes with a focus on line, composition, and pattern. Students will learn to approach ink drawings with confidence, and a spirit of experimentation.

Students will become comfortable with the mediums of ink and brush, while learning about how Asian Art inspired Van Gogh and other Impressionist artists. They will focus on creativity, self-expression, and joy in the process of drawing with ink.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$130

Member: \$135

Student: \$135

Nonmember: \$160

*Students will purchase their own materials for this class and should expect to spend \$80-100.



Educator Bio:

Sarah Pedry is an artist and illustrator whose work centers around the bond between humans and the landscape. Her work has recently appeared in Pencil Magazine, and on the cover of CALYX: A Journal of Art and Literature by Women+. She is also the co-author and the illustrator of the picture book,

How Birds Sleep (mineditionUS/Astra, 2023), which was a School Library Journal Best Book of 2023, among other honors. Her illustrations have appeared on signs and apparel for the High Line Garden in New York City. She has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and a Master of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Art.

sarahpedry.com

Painting: Flow State

Educator: Sarah Darlene

Dates: April 21–May 12, 2026

Time: 5:30–7:30 pm

Flow State is a 4-week abstract painting class that explores the connections between intuitive painting, mindfulness, meditation, and community. Students will learn how to combine abstract painting and drawing skills with mindfulness meditation techniques. Each class will present different ways this hybrid practice can be used to hold space for ourselves and each other. Students will work individually and as a group using acrylic paint, pastels, paper, and canvas. This class will connect to abstract works in the Denver Art Museum collection, including pieces by artists like Mark Bradford, Elaine de Kooning, Joan Mitchell, Sam Gilliam, Shinique Smith, and Sonia Gechtoff.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$130

Member: \$135

Student: \$135

Nonmember: \$160

*Students will purchase their own materials for this class and should expect to spend \$30-50.



Educator Bio:

Visual artist Sarah Darlene explores the functionality of abstraction through a feminine, queer, and contemporary perspective. Her work investigates the intersections of painting, social practice, and meditation and their collective ability to promote self-reflection, cathartic healing, and true social change. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and Drawing from Louisiana State University, and an Executive Certificate of Nonprofit Management from the University of Notre Dame. She has been a member of Strangers Art Collective since 2015 and is a former Artist in Residence at RedLine Contemporary Art Center in Denver. Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States and Iceland.

sarahdarlene.com

4-Week Classes | Thursdays

Painting: Introduction to Oil

Educator: J.R. Monks

Dates: February 12–March 5, 2026

Time: 10 am–12 pm

This 4-week introductory oil painting class is an excellent opportunity to learn about the materials and techniques of painting in the oil medium. Students will start by asking what makes oils unique and how to celebrate this beautiful and expressive medium. Students will use a variety of subjects to practice the working methods and techniques presented in class. The focus will be alla-prima painting; however, students will discover simple glazing techniques to adjust their paintings. This creative journey in oils will also include instruction in drawing with the brush, color theory and mixing, understanding the importance of judging values, and using a variety of edges to give a painting added depth and interest. Oils are incredibly versatile, and the Denver Art Museum's collections will inspire students and reinforce concepts discussed in class. Students will look at representational and abstracted works to dive deeper into their personal painting journey.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$130

Member: \$135

Student: \$135

Nonmember: \$160

*Students will purchase their own materials for this class and should expect to spend \$120-180.



Educator Bio:

J.R. Monks is a contemporary visual storyteller of the West. He works both directly in the field and in his studio and strives to be honest and bold in his approach creating images that speak to the beauty, grit, and spectacle of the Western United States. J.R. is a 4th generation Colorado rancher and maintains a studio in his small hometown on the eastern plains near the ranch where he was born and continues to live. J.R. feels a deep connection to the landscape and those who live closely in harmony with her, and his art is a humble homage to the infinite complexity of nature. J.R. is a Signature member of the Montana and Colorado Watercolor Societies, with his work included regularly in juried shows across the country.

jrmonks.com

Drawing: Nature Journaling

Educator: Anna Kaye

Dates: March 19–April 9, 2026

Time: 10 am–12 pm

In this 4-week class students will take inspiration from the Denver Art Museum's Sensory Garden and collections to explore the link between creativity and the natural world. Students will experiment with a variety of drawing techniques and materials as they learn to look closely at details, patterns, and textures in nature. This class will give students the opportunity to engage their senses and connect more deeply with nature, grow observational skills, and use creative prompts to fill their journal with fascinating natural subjects.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$130

Member: \$135

Student: \$135

Nonmember: \$160

*Students will purchase their own materials for this class and should expect to spend \$20-30.



Educator Bio:

Anna Kaye was born in Detroit, Michigan, and now lives in Denver where she works in her studio creating drawings, paintings, videos, and sculptures that are inspired by the natural world. Witnessing the urban decay from de-industrialization as a child enhanced her sense of empathy, compassion, love for diversity and justice, and reverence for the natural world. She earned her B.S. in geology and fine art at Skidmore College, NY. She continued her education at Yale in painting, drawing, printmaking, and photography. She earned her M.F.A. at Washington University in St. Louis where she was awarded the Laura and William Jens Scholarship and a teaching on record position. Anna Kaye's artwork is a part of international, private, public, corporate, and museum collections. Kaye donates a percentage of all sales annually to environmental funds. She curates large-scale exhibitions that promote social action and connectivity. She currently teaches at the Denver Art Museum and Denver Botanic Gardens.

annakayeart.com

4-Week Classes | Thursdays

Painting: Introduction to Watercolor

Educator: Elizabeth Truskin

Dates: April 23–May 14, 2026

Time: 10 am–12 pm

In this 4-week class, students will learn a variety of watercolor techniques through practice and will experiment with the ways watercolor interacts with other media through the creation of multiple watercolor paintings. Students will practice wet-on-wet and wet-on-dry techniques, and layering watercolor with other media like watercolor markers, pastels, and acrylic. Students will have time to paint personal projects or follow step-by-step instructions to make a variety of art pieces. By the end of the session, students will understand the basic techniques and practices in watercolor painting and feel comfortable experimenting at home to form their own practice centered around joy and experimentation.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$130

Member: \$135

Student: \$135

Nonmember: \$160

*Students will purchase their own materials for this class and should expect to spend \$40–60.

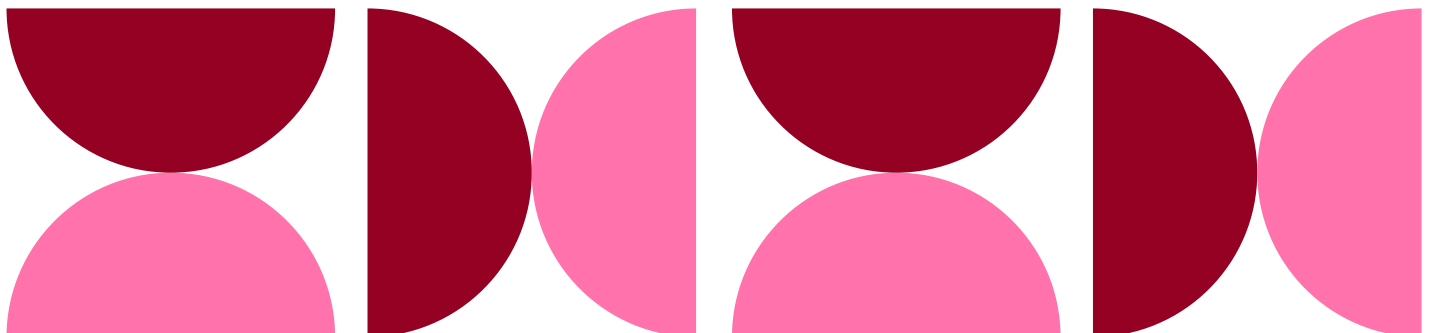


Educator Bio:

Elizabeth Truskin is an artist from Denver, specializing in acrylic, watercolor, and mixed-media paintings. Elizabeth instructs a variety of art classes for the Denver Art Museum, the Art Students League of Denver, Denver Parks and Recreation, and Redline Contemporary Arts Center. She hosts public art events

throughout the Front Range and loves connecting with community through art-making.

[instagram.com/elizabeth_truskin_studios_](https://www.instagram.com/elizabeth_truskin_studios_)



6-Week Classes

Painting: Flow State

Educator: Sarah Darlene

Date: January 8–February 12, 2026

Time: Thursdays | 1:30–4:00 pm

Flow State is a 6-week abstract painting class that explores the connections between intuitive painting, mindfulness meditation, and community. Participants will learn how to combine abstract painting and drawing skills with mindfulness meditation techniques. Each class will present different ways this hybrid practice can be used to hold space for ourselves and each other. Participants will work individually and as a group using acrylic paint, pastels, paper and canvas. This class will connect to abstract works in the Denver Art Museum collection, including pieces by artists like Mark Bradford, Elaine de Kooning, Joan Mitchell, Sam Gilliam, Shinique Smith, and Sonia Gechtoff.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$240

Member: \$255

Student: \$255

Nonmember: \$300

* Students will purchase their own materials for this class and should expect to spend \$30-50.



Educator Bio:

Visual artist Sarah Darlene explores the functionality of abstraction through a feminine, queer, and contemporary perspective. Her work investigates the intersections of painting, social practice, and meditation and their collective ability to promote self-reflection, cathartic healing, and

true social change. She holds a BFA in Painting and Drawing from Louisiana State University, and an Executive Certificate of Nonprofit Management from the University of Notre Dame. She has been a member of Strangers Art Collective since 2015 and is a former Artist in Residence at RedLine Contemporary Art Center in Denver. Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States and Iceland.

sarahdarlene.com

Papercraft: Book Arts

Educator: Jasmine Abena Colgan

Date: February 26 –April 2, 2026

Time: Thursdays | 1:30–4:00 pm

This all-level studio class explores the art of paper and bookmaking through the lens of modern & contemporary art as well as cross-cultural traditions. Students will learn hands-on techniques in papercraft and book arts—ranging from folded and stitched book structures to sculptural paper forms—while drawing inspiration from African, Asian, Ancient American, and Latin American artistic practices.

Throughout the course, students will engage with select works from the Denver Art Museum's collections and exhibitions, using these as catalysts for creative exploration. By studying pattern, symbolism, and material traditions across cultures, students will discover how book arts can become a vessel for storytelling, cultural exchange, and personal expression.

The class emphasizes experimentation with media such as handmade and recycled papers, collage and mixed media. Students will leave with a series of unique artist books and paper-based projects that reflect both technical skill and imaginative interpretation.

No prior experience is required, only curiosity and a willingness to explore the possibilities of paper.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$260

Member: \$275

Student: \$275

Nonmember: \$320

*Students will purchase their own materials for this class and should expect to spend \$80-100. The DAM will supply bulk materials for an included \$20 Studio Fee.



Educator Bio:

Jasmine Abena Colgan is a Denver-based artist, educator, and entrepreneur whose work blends contemporary design with cultural storytelling. Her practice spans photography, handcrafting, book arts, and material exploration, often drawing inspiration from her Ghanaian and Irish heritage. Colgan's art

has been exhibited in spaces such as the Denver Art Museum, Emmanuel Gallery, and the BRDG Project, as well as through community-based fashion and cultural events. In addition to her studio practice, she is the founder of by abena, a skincare and lifestyle brand rooted in natural materials and traditional craft, and Tough Skin, an empowerment-driven project celebrating resilience and identity. Her work has reached diverse audiences through museum collections, fashion collaborations, and public workshops, where she emphasizes creativity as a tool for connection and self-expression.

photographsbyjazz.com

6-Week Classes

Painting: Abstract Multiples in Acrylic

Educator: Moe Gram

Date: April 16–May 21, 2026

Time: Thursdays | 1:30–4:00 pm

In this 6-week class, students will abandon the idea of working on just one painting at a time and dive into creating many at once! Students will explore the dynamic process of making multiple abstract paintings in tandem, developing a cohesive set of works while experimenting with style, texture, and color. Instruction will begin with essential acrylic painting techniques and a bite-sized introduction to color theory, followed by guided exploration of the medium. Students will learn to balance spontaneity and intention while keeping their paintings connected yet distinct. By the end of the course, students will have completed their own miniature body of work with four abstract acrylic paintings and will have gained the skills and confidence to keep creating beyond class. All skill levels are welcome; this class is perfect for curious beginners to seasoned artists looking to shake up their process.

Pricing*:

Museum Friend: \$240

Member: \$255

Student: \$255

Nonmember: \$300

* Students will purchase their own materials for this class and should expect to spend \$60-80.



Educator Bio:

Moe Gram is a multi-disciplinary visual artist, designer, and community engagement consultant based out of Denver, Colorado. With a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Visual Arts and a Minor in Cultural Studies from California State University Bakersfield (2014), and a focus in Museum Studies from

CSU Firenze in Florence, Italy (2011-2012), Gram's work blends artistic expression with social impact. Known for her dynamic murals, immersive installations, and community-driven projects, Moe Gram has exhibited widely, including solo shows like *How To Earn Your Big Girl Panties* at the University of Northern Colorado (2024) and large-scale murals at festivals such as the Street Wise Mural Festival (2023, 2021) and Babe Walls (2020). Her artwork often places itself at the intersection of art and community, exploring themes of self-empathy, human compassion, and the distortion of memories. Notable installations include *Get Close, But Don't Touch* at MCA Denver (2021) and *A Texture Garden* at Meow Wolf's Dark Palace Music Festival (2019).

moegram.com

Register at:

denverartmuseum.org/creative-classes
720-913-0130

