



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CREATIVE CLASSES TEACHERS

The Denver Art Museum (DAM) seeks creative educators to develop and instruct Creative Classes for adult audiences for the Winter/Spring 2027 semester. Both experimental and traditional approaches that speak to the breadth of creative practice may be explored—to widen and ignite the creative perspective of DAM visitors and develop connections with exhibitions and collections.

Current Creative Classes include topics such as: meditation and painting, drawing, non-traditional weaving techniques, collage, wet felting, and papermaking. Our motto is "everyone is creative", and we work to create a class schedule and class content that will spark the interest of a wide audience with both traditional approaches and mediums as well as non-traditional and experimental classes.

We are open to all creative pursuits in the Visual Arts that can educate an adult audience in learning new techniques and developing a deeper understanding of creative practice. For Winter/Spring 2027 we are specifically interested in the following practices (among others!) to round out our offerings:

Indigenous Art practices; poster art; practices and content focused on identity, empowerment, & persona; content focused on women and womanhood; content related to nature

Visit <https://form.jotform.com/260976639223163> for proposal requirements and submissions.

The museum serves as a platform for creative expression and community well-being by collecting and presenting work by artists from diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences, including those communities that have been historically underrepresented in museums. We give space to a wide range of artist voices by sharing the work of and collaborating with artists and creatives from all races, backgrounds, and identities.

In order to do this, we aim to create a working environment where creatives are included from the beginning as essential collaborators and empowered to show up as their full selves in those collaborations. It is our intention to work with a wide range of

creatives in the development of our programs and spaces. We strive not only to maintain relationships, but also to spread connections and opportunities across the creative community.

Educators will be expected to:

- Develop adult-focused course/workshop curriculum in collaboration with DAM staff.
 - Highlight their own creative expertise and practice.
 - Connect course content to DAM exhibitions and/or collections.
 - Utilize media appropriate for available facilities and equipment.
- Provide a detailed materials list with website links.
- Complete the contracted hours and instruct each class/workshop session as scheduled.
- New teachers must attend a teacher training session.
- Provide a biography, headshot, and high-resolution images of personal or student artwork for promotional purposes.
- Complete a feedback form to help the DAM evaluate and further develop the program.

The DAM will provide:

- Classroom/workshop facilities and equipment
 - All classes are held in the DAM's Bartlit Learning & Engagement Center. The Ruby Red Workshop and Sky Blue Workshops are meant for artmaking. The workshops are stocked with limited studio art equipment and basic teacher supplies. You are welcome to create a mess as long as it can be cleaned up by the end of the class session. Please avoid processes that require use of toxic materials. ([Contact mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org) with questions regarding materials usage or equipment in the workshop spaces.)
- Student materials
 - 6-week & 4-week classes: Students will purchase all their own materials. DAM will provide students with a materials list with items specified by the artist educator. The DAM partners with Meininger Art Supply to offer class kits for accessible, local shopping.
 - 2-week classes & 1-day workshops: The DAM will purchase all student materials. An additional materials studio fee will be added to the price of the class for students at a rate of \$30/60/90 dependent upon cost of materials.
- Online registration and check-in
 - DAM staff will create and manage the online registration system for all classes/workshops and will assist with checking-in students at class time.

A roster of students will be provided to educators following the close of online registration for each course.

- **Access to galleries and exhibitions**
 - All educators will have access to the galleries and exhibitions included in general admission. Educators are encouraged to take their students to view artworks within the museum during class time for inspiration, historical context, and technical examples. To access a ticketed exhibition, an additional fee will be included in the student Studio Fee.
- **Promotional materials**
 - The DAM will create a course catalog and other promotional materials. Our Communications and Marketing teams will also schedule social media posts and website updates for advertising.

Qualifications:

- Current and active creative/artistic practice in Colorado
- Desire to share your creative expertise with others
- Experience teaching a wide age range of adults
- Bachelor's degree in a related field OR equivalent experience

Things to consider in your class proposal:

- **Easy entry points:** Your students will largely be at a beginner level. We look for content that has easy entry points for beginners, but also room to expand for experienced students.
- **Wide age range:** While DAM audiences lean toward older adults, you can expect students to have a wide age range. We look for classes and teachers that can accommodate this variety (16-96), as we work to have a greater diversity of ages in classes.
- **Materials for students:**
 - **6-week & 4-week classes:** Lean into materials that are more easily accessible for the public and can be found at most art stores. You will be asked to provide a dollar range for materials that the average student can expect. The high end of this range should not exceed \$100. The DAM partners with Meininger Art Supply for materials kits and local shopping options for students.
 - **2-week classes & 1-day workshops:** The DAM will purchase all class materials and provide individual packets to each student. Most of our materials are purchased via Blick and Amazon. You will be asked to choose the appropriate studio fee for your workshop: \$30, \$60, or \$90.

- **Materials restrictions:** While we can accommodate most materials, ventilation is still a challenge. Please consider materials and techniques that require little ventilation.
- **Onsite:** Creative Classes are held onsite at the DAM. As of now, our program cannot accommodate classes that are held in alternative locations or are field trip based.

Proposal materials:

<https://form.jotform.com/260976639223163>

- Word document or PDF with the following information:
 - A brief description of the course or workshop you would like to teach. Include information regarding media and necessary equipment.
 - Note the duration of the class (4-week, 6-week, 2-week, or 1-day workshop).
 - You may propose more than one class or workshop.
 - How your class/workshop will connect to DAM collections and exhibitions. See the DAM website for upcoming exhibitions and current collections.
 - The impact this class will have on students. What do you want students to get out of the class?
 - Provide a full materials list for each course or workshop you are proposing.
 - 6-week & 4-week classes: provide a dollar range that students can expect to pay for materials, i.e. \$50-100.
 - 2-week & 1-day workshops: choose a studio fee to cover materials for each student, \$30/60/90.
- A copy of your current Resume/CV.
- Link to your creative website.
- Contact information for two professional references who can speak to your expertise as a creative and educator.

Winter/Spring 2027 Schedule:

Classrooms are reserved for 30 minutes before each class/workshop to allow time for setup, and for 30 minutes after the class for cleanup. Creative Classes teachers are paid at a rate of \$30-32/hour (dependent on experience) for time instructing the class, developing the curriculum, and class prep.

**If a class is cancelled due to low registration, the DAM will pay the teacher 1/3 of the contracted honorarium.*

Indicate Your Availability:

(Total number of classes for the semester schedule to be determined at a later date.)

6-week class, meets 2.5 hours per week, compensation: \$1,185-1,376 (dependent on experience)

- 1:30 – 4:00 pm on Thursday afternoons
 - January 7 – February 11
 - February 25 – April 1

4-week class, meets 2 hours per week, compensation: \$810-865 (dependent on experience)

- 5:30 – 7:30 pm on Tuesday evenings
 - January 12 – February 2
 - February 9 – March 2
 - February 16 – March 9
 - March 16 – April 6
 - March 23 – April 13
 - April 27 – May 18
- 10:30 am – 12:30 pm on Thursday mornings
 - February 4 – 25
 - March 11 – April 1
 - April 15 – May 6
- 10:30 am – 12:30 pm on Saturday mornings
 - April 10 – May 1

2-week class, meets 4 hours per week on Saturdays, compensation: \$640-672 (dependent on experience)

- 10:30 am – 2:30 pm
 - Saturday, May 8 & 15
 - Other dates are possible

1-day workshop, meets for 4 hours on a Saturday, compensation: \$420-450 (dependent on experience) *Please note: we are open to proposals for two-part Saturday Workshops as well as single-part. Compensation for two-week classes is \$640-670 (dependent on experience).

- 10:30 am – 2:30 pm
 - Saturday, January 9
 - Saturday, January 23
 - Saturday, January 30
 - Saturday, February 6
 - Saturday, February 13
 - Saturday, February 20
 - Saturday, February 27
 - Saturday, March 6

- Saturday, March 13
- Saturday, March 20
- Saturday, April 10
- Saturday, April 17
- Saturday, April 24
- Saturday, May 1

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Timeline:

- Request for Proposal DUE: May 4, 2026 (12:00 am MST)
- Review of proposals: May 4 – 8, 2026
- Virtual interviews: May 20 & 21, 2026
- Selected teachers notified: May 26, 2026
- Class schedule finalized: June 8 – 12, 2026
- Contracts sent to teachers: June 15, 2026
- Signed contracts due: June 22, 2026
- Syllabus and promotional information due from teachers: July 13, 2026
- Winter/Spring 2027 semester registration open: beginning of November 2026
- Classes begin: January 2027

Questions?

Contact Mia DeBakker, Creative & Public Engagement Coordinator

mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org