

SUMMER 2026

KALAMAZOO INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Sightlines

CELEBRATING 102 YEARS



KALAMAZOO INSTITUTE OF ARTS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michelle Hargrave

MUSEUM AND GALLERY SHOP HOURS

Wednesday 11am-5pm
Thursday 11am-8pm
Friday-Saturday 11am-5pm
Sunday 12-4pm

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COVER IMAGE CREDIT:

Cara Romero, *Arla Lucia*, 2020, archival pigment
print. © Cara Romero. Courtesy of the artist.

Dear Friends,

As summer approaches, there is a special sense of energy and anticipation at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. Warmer weather, longer days, and a vibrant season of art and programs bring new life to the KIA each year. This season, perhaps more than any other, invites us to come together—whether gathering with family and friends, exploring new ideas, or simply taking time to experience something meaningful in person.



At the KIA, we see every day how art brings people together. It creates space for connection in our galleries, classrooms, and programs, and also across time and geography through the artists and stories that shape our shared human experience. Whether you are encountering a work or story for the first time or returning to one that feels familiar, art has a way of opening conversations, deepening understanding, and reminding us of both our differences and our common ground.

This spring, *Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks* has done just that, welcoming new and diverse audiences and sparking discussions around design, culture, identity, and innovation. It has been exciting to see how this exhibition has broadened who we reach and how people engage with the museum.

As we look ahead, we are especially excited for a summer filled with opportunities to gather together. On May 1, we celebrate the work of our Kirk Newman Art School Post-Baccalaureate Residents—emerging artists whose creativity and dedication reflect the future of the field.

At the heart of the season is a beloved tradition: the 75th Annual KIA Arts Fair, taking place June 5 and 6 in Bronson Park. For generations, this event has drawn artists, residents, and visitors into a vibrant and welcoming downtown experience. It is a chance to engage directly with artists, discover new work, and celebrate the creativity that defines our region. This milestone year underscores the Arts Fair's powerful role in energizing Kalamazoo, supporting artists, and strengthening the vitality of our arts scene.

Later in June, we open *For the People, By the People: America at 250*, a major exhibition that invites reflection on our nation's history, ideals, and evolving identity. Timed with the 250th anniversary of the United States, the exhibition considers both the promise of freedom and the complexities of our shared past, bringing together historic and contemporary voices in a thoughtful and timely dialogue.

Alongside this, the *West Michigan Area Show* highlights the incredible talent within our region, offering artists the opportunity to share their work and be recognized through juried awards. *From Cobalt to Indigo: The Power of Blue in East Asia*, on view through July 12, invites visitors to explore how a single color can bridge cultures, histories, and artistic traditions across centuries.

We are also delighted to continue building community through special events, including the return of UNFRAMED: Soirée on October 17. Across all of these experiences, our belief remains the same: art is not just something to observe, but something to experience together. Whether in our galleries, studios, or shared spaces, the KIA is a place where people come to connect—with art, with ideas, and with one another.

Thank you for being part of this community and for helping make the KIA such a dynamic and inviting place. I hope to see you here this summer.

Warmly,

Michelle Hargrave
Executive Director



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Want to support our permanent collection? Choose from several unique pieces to adopt.

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- West Michigan Area Show*
- From Cobalt to Indigo: The Power of Blue in East Asia*



Celebratory and contemplative, this exhibition invites visitors to reflect on America's founding principles and our enduring ties to liberty, justice, and identity.

15 PROGRAMS

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- ArtBreaks
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Elizabeth Semmelhack, Director and Senior Curator, visits from the Bata Shoe Museum In Toronto to discuss her curation of *Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks*.

22 KIRK NEWMAN ART SCHOOL

KNAS offers online and on-site classes from ceramics and jewelry to printmaking and photography. Full and partial semester courses as well as one- and two-day workshops are available. page 22




Summer class registration opens May 4 for members!

*Hank Willis Thomas, *Community*, 2024, polished stainless steel. © Hank Willis Thomas. Courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York.

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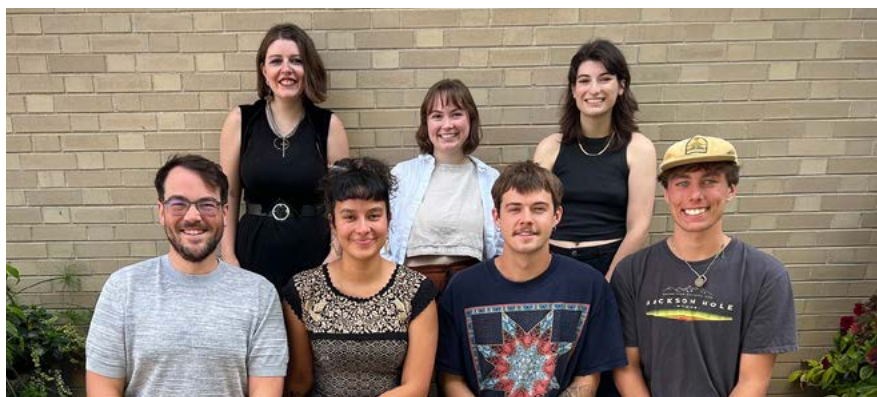
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 Sign up for our weekly email newsletter at kiarts.org/newsletter



NEWS & NOTES

KNAS Residents' Show & Opening May 1-31, 2026



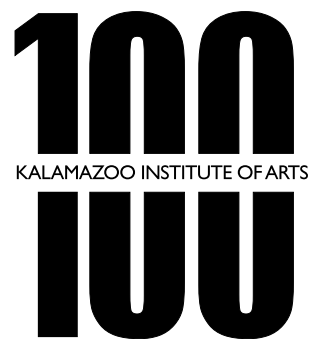
Back row: Audrey Rumzek, Printmaking; Ellie Stanislav, Ceramics; Carolyn Ingram, Printmaking. Front row: Luke Zimmer, Photography; AnaLuz Sainz Rodriguez, Ceramics; Jackson Willits, Drawing/Painting; Daniel Isaksen, Sculpture.

The Kirk Newman Art School's Post-Baccalaureate Program is designed for recent fine arts graduates seeking to grow and strengthen their creative practice in a supportive community with access to professional studio facilities. The culmination of the 2025–2026 resident artists' work will be on display in the KNAS commons from May 1–31. This unique group exhibition will feature new works in Ceramics, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, and Sculpture from our seven residents. The opening reception for this exhibition will coincide with Art Hop on Friday, May 1, from 5–8pm. Join us in celebrating the talents of these amazing emerging artists! To learn more about each resident and their art making journey, visit the KIA YouTube page for our virtual ArtBreak series. The residency application deadline for 2026–2027 is May 15, 2026. Please visit kiarts.org and look for the Residency Program in KNAS to apply.

Free July

Celebrate over a century of visual arts as the KIA turns 102 on July 2. In honor of the KIA's birthday month, we are thrilled to bring back our Free July initiative for a third year! Free July includes free admission for the entire month of July. Experience everything the KIA has to offer by visiting with family and friends as we continue our centennial celebrations this summer. Interested in becoming a Free July sponsor and increasing access to the KIA? Please contact Josiah Solis, Donor and Corporate Relations Manager, at josiahs@kiarts.org.

Free July is made possible by generous support from Jim & Carol Carter.



June is Southwest Michigan Cultural Membership Exchange Month

From June 1–30, 2026, KIA members will enjoy free admission to five of West Michigan's most beloved attractions: Air Zoo, Binder Park Zoo, Gilmore Car Museum, Kalamazoo Nature Center, and the Kellogg Bird Sanctuary and Manor House. Additionally, members of these attractions will have free reciprocal passes to the KIA, simply by presenting their respective membership cards and photo ID. Show off your KIA membership card to receive this great perk!

For more information on the membership exchange, please visit swmimemberexchange.com.





Future Now Pop-up Shop Open until June 7, 2026

Explore the Gallery Shop's exclusive *Future Now* Exhibition Shop for innovative, art-inspired merchandise celebrating creativity, design, and self-expression. It's well stocked on items that you

can take home to remember the exhibition, including the *Future Now* exhibition catalog, sweatshirts, levitating shoe displays, kids' learning games, and works by local artists.

Visit the Gallery Shop online

Discover a curated selection of arts-inspired gifts from local and regional artists, unique ceramics, glass, books, prints, exhibition-themed items, and KIA branded merchandise. Every purchase supports the KIA mission. Visit kiarts.org/shop where new KIA branded items have been added.



Gallery Shop at the 75th Annual KIA Arts Fair

The Gallery Shop will be in Bronson Park during the Arts Fair June 5 & 6, featuring limited time products to commemorate the 75th year. **Visit the Gallery Shop at our tent or inside the KIA and mention "Happy 75th" to receive 10% off your purchase during the Arts Fair.** Some restrictions apply.

Double Discount Days return May 6-10!

Enjoy double your KIA Member discount when you spring into the Gallery Shop for celebration supplies.

- Keep track of 2026 with an art inspired wall or desk calendar.
- Gift mom a unique, handmade work of art this Mother's Day.
- Honor Memorial Day and Juneteenth with stickers, buttons, and shirts.
- Don't forget about Dad on June 21! We have cards, cufflinks, coffee mugs and more.
- Feel the spirit of the 4th of July with sweet treats from 13 Cookies or stars & stripes luminary lanterns.



ADOPT A

WORK of ART

Support our permanent collection for future generations when you Adopt a Work of Art, through August 2026. With 23 unique pieces of art from the KIA's permanent collection, this exclusive opportunity allows you to make an impact by adopting a remarkable work of art. For more information, please contact Josiah Solis, Donor & Corporate Relations Manager, josiahs@kiarts.org.



Kay WalkingStick, *North Rim Clouds*, 2016, Oil on wood panel. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Elisabeth Claire Lahti Fund, 2018.3.A-B.

In Memoriam: Timothy Light

Timothy Light—scholar, collector, and deeply valued member of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts community—passed away on December 14, 2025. For more than three decades, Tim and his wife, Joy, were devoted champions of the KIA, shaping the museum in ways that will be felt for generations.

Tim brought intellectual curiosity, global perspective, and a deep belief in cultural exchange—especially through Asian art—to all that he did. He served as a thoughtful leader on the KIA Board, as well as on numerous local, national, and international organizations, always guided by a commitment to learning and connection.

Together, Tim and Joy built a remarkable collection of East Asian art through years of travel and study, with a focus on contemporary artists engaging traditional forms. Their vision led to the creation of the Joy Light Gallery of Asian Art in 2007 and the Joy Light East Asian Art Acquisition and Exhibition Fund in 2010—transformational gifts that have enabled the KIA to present 50 exhibitions and add nearly 80 works to the collection.

Through these contributions, along with the annual Joy Light Lecture, Tim and Joy created enduring firsthand opportunities for our community to engage with Asian art and ideas. Their support has broadened perspectives, encouraged dialogue, and deepened understanding, inviting visitors to experience how art can inspire, illuminate, and connect us across cultures. This commitment to access and exchange defined Tim's enduring impact on the KIA and the community it serves.

In October 2025, we had the privilege of honoring Tim and Joy at our UNFRAMED Soirée, celebrating their extraordinary commitment to the KIA and to the arts. It was a moment of gratitude that now carries even deeper meaning.

We remember Tim with great respect and affection, and we remain profoundly grateful for the legacy he and Joy have created at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts.



In Memoriam: Donna Lambert

Longtime KIA member, supporter, and cherished friend, Donna Lambert passed away on February 6, 2026. She was a vibrant and engaged presence in Kalamazoo's arts community, known for her curiosity, generosity, and love of learning through art.

Donna took great joy in bringing artists to Kalamazoo to share their work and perspectives, enriching the cultural life of the community in meaningful ways. A dedicated supporter of both the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and the Art League, she was passionate about helping each organization present meaningful programs that connected artists and audiences. She served as chair of the Art League's Program Committee and later as President, offering thoughtful leadership and a deep commitment to advancing its mission. At the KIA, her generosity, along with Tom's, helped make possible exhibitions such as *Ink Rhapsody: The Art of the Lingnan Masters in Hong Kong*.

Her love of art was also deeply personal. She and Tom shared a joy in discovering art together—especially during trips to New York, where they spent time in galleries and museums, looking closely, asking questions, and returning home with ideas they were eager to share with KIA staff. She delighted in those conversations and in the possibilities they sparked for Kalamazoo.

A passion for the arts began early in Donna's life through performance, with singing and acting in high school and college, and later at the New Vic Theatre. A graduate of Kalamazoo College, where she met Tom, she went on to earn a Master's degree in English from Western Michigan University. She taught in both the English department and the business school before returning to Kalamazoo College as assistant registrar.

Donna's warmth and generosity shaped her life in the arts and in the community. She will be remembered not only for her support of the KIA, but for the spirit of engagement and joy she brought to every artistic experience—her delight in discovery, conversation, and the exchange of ideas.

We are deeply grateful for the friendship we shared with Donna and for the many ways she and Tom enriched the life of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts.

A celebration of life will be held at the KIA on Friday, May 29.



Collection Highlight

Created in 1976 to mark the bicentennial of the United States, the *Sharpshooter '76* series by artist John Doyle (1939–2010) reflects on American history through the lens of continual war and violence. The series is presented chronologically, beginning with *Continental*, which features two soldiers of the Continental Army, the army that fought the British in the Revolutionary War, and ending with *Sony War*, which represents the Vietnam War through the safe distance of a television set. *Storybook War*, the second work in the series, depicts the War of 1812, which began when tensions between the US and Britain over trade, military aggression, and territory boiled over into open conflict. The work depicts an open spiral-bound book, with a British warship, the fictional HMS Pure, on the left-hand page and British and American soldiers on the right-hand page. In the upper right corner, a British soldier, with a wind-up key on his back, stares in profile at a defiant American soldier who faces the viewer. We are unsure if he is also a toy. The title, *Storybook War*, and the loose, cartoonish imagery contrast with the reality of a war that killed tens of thousands. Doyle strips his figures of defining details and, in some cases, reduces them to mechanical toys, suggesting an automation of sorts. In doing so, Doyle underscores the dehumanizing machinery of war, soldiers becoming interchangeable pawns to a larger, impersonal system of conflict. About this series, Doyle writes, “I wanted to do something that people at the time didn’t particularly want to deal with. War... I also wanted to show that the history of this country is a rather bloody affair... Courageous, no doubt, but dehumanizing nonetheless.”



John Doyle, *Storybook War* from the series *Sharpshooter '76*, 1976, lithograph. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Gift of Arthur and Janet Riley, 2013.58.3.

An additional work from the *Sharpshooter '76* series will be on display during *For the People, By the People: America at 250*, opening at the KIA on June 27.

Member Spotlight: Sarah Somers

Sarah Somers is a longtime member of the KIA and a dedicated presence in Kirk Newman Art School ceramics studios. Originally from Kalamazoo, Sarah has also lived in San Francisco and Dallas. She attended college in Northern California before eventually returning home to Kalamazoo, where she followed her passion for all things clay and kiln.

Sarah began at KNAS with a drawing class before transitioning into ceramics, where she found both her medium and her community. She credits the strength of the ceramics department, including instructors such as Julie Devers and Wyatt Lane, as a major reason she continues to stay involved. She treasures the vibrant, collaborative culture of the studio.

Sarah especially enjoys soda firing for its unpredictability and the way it allows the clay and atmosphere to create natural coloring and variation without relying heavily on glazes. Many of her finished works take the form of ceramic lamps, and her home is filled with pieces she has made over the years in classes.

“The thing I like most about the creative process is going from the idea in your head to seeing what comes out of your hands. The result is always different, and that is okay. It starts with a kernel in your head and when you get to the materials it morphs into something unexpected.” Sarah says.

Her relationship with the KIA extends beyond the studio. As a member, she takes advantage of early discounted registration for classes and is known to log in right at 8am to secure a seat in the courses she finds most exciting. She has also gotten the most out of her KIA Friend Level Membership to access reciprocal benefits offered by over a thousand museums and cultural organizations across North America, allowing her to visit other institutions free of charge while traveling with friends and family. One of her favorite past exhibitions at the KIA was *Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem* in Fall 2019.



Even outside scheduled class time, Sarah is deeply engaged in her practice. She often keeps track of dozens of pieces at once, mentally noting where each is in the process and what steps need to come next. This routine helps her stay organized and clear her mind.

In her free time, Sarah enjoys reading contemporary fiction. She is also a proud mother of two sons. Whether she is in the studio, attending an event, or planning her next class, Sarah remains a seasoned and enthusiastic member of the KIA.



**Kick-off
to summer
celebration!**

Kalamazoo Institute of ARTS FAIR

Kick off summer with the 75th Annual Kalamazoo Institute of Arts Fair in historic Bronson Park in beautiful downtown Kalamazoo!

Friday, June 5, 3-8pm
Saturday, June 6, 9am-5pm

This two-day, juried fine arts fair welcomes 17,000+ visitors to the park to celebrate and invest in the participating artists from across Michigan and the country showcasing their creative talents. In its 75th year, the KIA Arts Fair will feature 140+ artists presenting and selling their original, handcrafted artwork across 12 distinct mediums. Their stunning work is ready to be displayed and used in your home or office, featured in your garden, or worn to your next special occasion. You are sure to find something truly unique shopping the wide selection of fine artists.

Throughout Friday and Saturday, you can partake in shopping, live entertainment from local talent, kids' activities, artist demonstrations from the Kirk Newman Art School, fine food truck fair, and FREE admission to KIA galleries.

The KIA is proud to celebrate and be a part of JumpstART weekend featuring the KIA Arts Fair, Art on the Mall, the Do Dah Parade, Kalamazoo Pride and more. There is something for everyone in Bronson Park and beyond!



Image by Colleen Woolpert.

Shop a wide selection of fine artists working in a variety of mediums including:

- Jewelry, Precious & Non-Precious
- Photography, Digital Media
- Drawing, Pastels & Prints
- 2D & 3D Mixed Media
- Metal, Sculpture
- Fiber, Leather
- Ceramics
- Painting
- Wood
- Glass

VOLUNTEER!

The KIA Arts Fair is made possible with the generous help of volunteers like you. A wide range of volunteer opportunities are available. Join the fun and receive a free KIA Arts Fair T-shirt! Contact artsfair@kiarts.org for more information.



Photos by Colleen Woolpert

SUPPORT!

Interested in supporting this longstanding and beloved community event? To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please reach out to Donor & Corporate Relations Manager, Josiah Solis, at josiahs@kiarts.org.

The KIA Arts Fair is made possible by support from:

PARTNERS



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Elizabeth Upjohn Mason

Oliver S. Howell



MEDIA PARTNER



PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Vote for your favorite artist to win the People's Choice Award! Vote on Friday (3-8 pm) in the park, must be present to cast your vote! Awards will be announced at 10am on Saturday.

SPONSORED BY



Events Recap

Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks Members' Preview

A sneak(er) peek at the *Future Now* exhibition for KIA Members.



Opening remarks from American Federation of Arts CEO Pauline Forlenza & KIA Executive Director Michelle Hargrave.



Members explore the transformative, innovative exhibition.



Over 60 pairs of footwear are on view through June 7.

Nuestro Futuro

A chance to imagine what the future can look like when art and community move forward together.



Local Latinx artists showcase their work.



WMU student volunteers from Somos Votantes gather at the KIA entrance.



Food, community, and connection in the auditorium.

Photos by Isabella Salas.

Future: REMIX

Fabulous footwear was front and center. Thank you to our Kicks Contest judges and participants, and event partners and sponsors, for taking the evening to the next level of fashion.



Putting their best feet forward.



Kicks Contest winners present an array of impeccable style.



Sweet treats from Dessert First, including a shoe cake.

EXHIBITIONS

Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks

THROUGH JUNE 7, 2026

Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks is a groundbreaking new exhibition featuring nearly 70 futuristic footwear designs pushing the boundaries of what footwear can be. Exhibition highlights include the self-lacing Nike MAG (first conceived for the movie *Back to the Future Part II*), digitally designed and 3D-printed shoes, sneakers made from mushroom leather and reclaimed ocean plastics, virtual footwear, and more.



The exhibition is co-organized by the American Federation of Arts and the Bata Shoe Museum, and curated by Elizabeth Semmelhack, Director and Senior Curator of the Bata Shoe Museum.



This exhibition at the KIA is made possible, in part, with generous support from:

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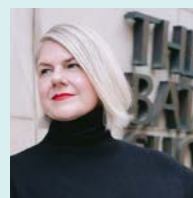
Future Now Events & Programs

Artful Evening: *Future Now*

Thursday, May 14, 6-7pm



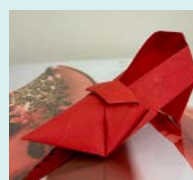
Join us for a special Artful Evening with in-person guest speaker, Elizabeth Semmelhack, Director and Senior Curator of the Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto, to learn about why shoes matter and how designers today are revolutionizing what we will put on our feet tomorrow.



Photography by Zvelle.

Library Activity: Mini Origami Shoes

Saturday, May 16, 11am-2pm



Inspired by the innovation and history of sneakers, we will provide origami paper to fold your own mini shoe. A variety of styles and difficulty levels will be provided in the library to try your

hand at this detailed paper project.

Discussion: *Sneaker Marauders: Poems by Ran Walker and Van G. Garrett*

Wednesday, May 20, 2-3pm



This short collaboration celebrates sneaker culture through poetry in two parts. Themes in this book will tie into *Future Now*.



Gelli Plate Printing: Sneakers

Saturday, June 6, 11am-2pm



Visit the KIA during the Arts Fair for this hands-on art activity. We will provide the supplies to create your own Gelli Plate printed sneaker and experiment with colorways inspired by objects featured in *Future Now*.

For the People, By the People: America at 250

JUNE 27–OCTOBER 4, 2026

For the People, By the People: America at 250 looks to the nation's impending semiquincentennial as an opportunity to reflect on America's enduring ties to liberty, justice, and identity. Drawing inspiration from the democratic ideals articulated in the U.S. Declaration of Independence and the national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner," this exhibition considers how the promise of freedom has been expressed, questioned, and reimagined across generations. Using four core themes: pursuit of liberty and fight for visibility; patriotism, war, US iconography, and disillusionment; American labor and ambition; and reckoning with U.S. history and envisioning its future, *For the People, By the People* brings together artworks from the KIA's collection and loans of bold contemporary voices to examine the symbols, struggles, and aspirations that shaped and continue to inform American life.

Spanning photography, printmaking, painting, sculpture, and installation-based works, this exhibition juxtaposes notable artists such as Dorothea Lange, Jacob Lawrence, Alfred Stieglitz, Hank Willis Thomas, and Andy Warhol with rising artists like Erica Lord, Julio Cesar Morales, and Cara Romero, among many others. From iconic images of migration, progress, and protest to poignant, yet declarative text works to portraits that center Indigenous, African American, and diasporic experiences, the artists featured in *For the People, By the People* form and challenge the rhetoric and visual language of patriotism, social consciousness, labor, representation, and belonging.

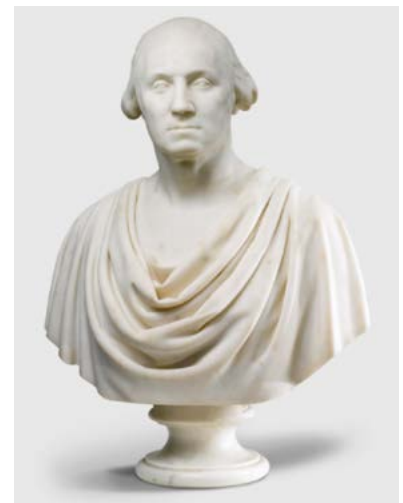
Simultaneously celebratory and contemplative, this exhibition invites visitors to reflect on the United States of America's founding principles and our current lived realities. By placing historic works in dialogue with contemporary practices, *For the People, By the People: America at 250* not only commemorates the nation's 250th anniversary, but it also serves as a timely meditation on who "the people" were then—and who we aspire to be now.



Flo Ngala, *Hot Girl Summer*, 2020, color digital print. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Elisabeth Claire Lahti Fund, 2020.41.



Charles Marion Russell, *Trail Boss*, ca. 1897, watercolor and graphite underdrawing on paper. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Gift of the Estate of Martha Parfet, 2017.47.



Hiram Powers, *George Washington*, 1838-1844, carving after 1844, marble. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Acquired through the generosity of an anonymous donor, 2012.52.

For the People, By the People is made possible by generous support from:



NATIONAL
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HUMANITIES

West Michigan Area Show

MAY 29–SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

The work of West Michigan's talented artistic community will be on view in this year's *West Michigan Area Show*. Opening Friday, May 29, this crowd-pleasing annual juried exhibition was carefully curated from more than 400 submitted entries, ranging from paintings, prints, and photos to mosaics, ceramics, jewelry, sculpture, and mixed-media works. This year's juror is Xuxa Rodríguez, Patsy R. and Raymond D. Nasher Curator of Contemporary Art at Duke University's Nasher Museum. Prior to her role at Duke, Rodríguez served as the Associate Curator of Contemporary Arts at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and earned a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Rodríguez will present an ArtBreak lecture on Wednesday, May 27, at noon in the KIA auditorium.

Winners of awards totaling over \$5,000, including a \$1,000 grand prize, recognizing excellence across various media, will be announced at the Awards Night and Members' Preview on Thursday, May 28, at 6pm.

The *West Michigan Area Show* is made possible by generous support from:



David Isaacson in memory of his wife, Helen Sheridan.



2026 Award Sponsors

- Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo
- City of Portage
- Eclectic Glass Guild of Southwest Michigan
- Kalamazoo Art League
- Kalamazoo Book Arts Center
- Kalamazoo Log Cabin Quilters
- Ninth Wave Studio Award
- Southwest Michigan Printmakers
- West Michigan Potters Guild



2025 *West Michigan Area Show* photo by Colleen Woolpert.

New for 2026: Visit the WMAS gallery to vote for the People's Choice Award during the Awards Night. The winner of the People's Choice Award, sponsored by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, will be announced this same evening.



2026 WMAS Juror Xuxa Rodríguez



Shoson Ohara, *White Herons in the Moonlight*, 1926, woodblock print. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Gift of Elizabeth Hawk, 1996/7.8.

From Cobalt to Indigo: The Power of Blue in East Asia

THROUGH JULY 12, 2026

From Cobalt to Indigo: The Power of Blue in East Asia is an exploration of one of the most enduring and influential colors in global art history. Spanning centuries of Chinese and Japanese creativity, the exhibition traces how the color blue—once among the rarest and most prized pigments—shaped artistic innovation, cultural exchange, and aesthetic identity across East Asia. This exhibition brings together works that illuminate the remarkable journey of blue across materials and artistic traditions. *From Cobalt to Indigo* will explore symbolism, craftsmanship, technological advancements, and cross-cultural influences, inviting audiences to see a familiar color anew.

Sponsored by the Joy Light East Asian Art Acquisition and Exhibition Fund

Resilience—A Sansei Sense of Legacy

AUGUST 8–NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Told from the point of view of Sansei (third-generation) Japanese Americans, *Resilience—A Sansei Sense of Legacy* is an exhibition of eight artists whose work reflects on the effects of EO9066—the 1942 law that ordered the forced imprisonment of all Japanese Americans living on the West Coast of the United States—as it resonated from generation to generation. While several of the artists in *Resilience* employ traditional Japanese methods in constructing their work, others use Japanese cultural iconography as a jumping-off point for personal explorations of the incarceration camps. Each in their own way, the artists in this exhibition express moments of deeply felt pain and reluctant acceptance, emotions which were often withheld by their elders.

Resilience—A Sansei Sense of Legacy is a program of:

ExhibitsUSA

and

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ENDOWMENT for the ARTS**
arts.gov

Presentation in Kalamazoo is sponsored by the Joy Light East Asian Art Acquisition and Exhibition Fund.



Jerry Takigawa, *Citizen's Indefinite Leave*, 2017; pigment print on Hahnemuhle Photo Rag, 22 x 17 inches; Courtesy of the artist.

Free Thursdays at the KIA

Enjoy free admission and extended hours until 8pm every Thursday, thanks to generous support provided by Art Bridges Foundation's Access for All program and the Efroymsen Family Fund.



Special programs and events during Free Thursdays at the KIA will have this icon:



KIA Highlights

DATE	TIME	EVENT
May 1	11–11:30am	Wonder Walk: Looking At Landscapes
May 1	5–8pm	<i>KNAS Residents' Show</i> Opens
May 4	8am	KNAS Summer Class Enrollment Opens for Members
May 7	5:30–6pm	Gallery Gathering: <i>From Cobalt to Indigo: The Power of Blue in East Asia</i>
May 9	10:30am–12pm	Art Detectives: <i>We're All Works of Art</i> by Mark Sperring
May 11	8am	KNAS Summer Class Enrollment Opens for All
May 12	11am–5pm	<i>2026 High School Area Show</i> Closes
May 14	6–7pm	Artful Evening: <i>Future Now</i> with Elizabeth Semmelhack
May 20	2–3pm	Book Discussion: <i>Sneaker Marauders: Poems</i> by Ran Walker and Van G. Garrett
May 27	12–1pm	ArtBreak: Curating At The End Of The World: An Apocalyptic Manifesto
May 30	11am–5pm	<i>2026 West Michigan Area Show</i> Opens
May 31	4pm	<i>KNAS Residents' Show</i> Closes
June 5	3–8pm	75th Annual KIA Arts Fair
June 6	9am–5pm	75th Annual KIA Arts Fair
June 7	Noon–4pm	<i>Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks</i> Closes
June 18	11am–2pm	Juneteenth Commemoration
June 18	6–8pm	Summer Jams
June 25	6–7pm	Artful Evening: Botanical Art of Julia Whitney Barnes
June 26	5:30–7pm	<i>For the People, By the People: America at 250</i> Members' Preview Event
June 27	11am–5pm	<i>For the People, By the People: America at 250</i> Opens
July 9	5:30–6:30pm	Gallery Gathering: <i>2026 West Michigan Area Show</i>
July 12	11am–5pm	<i>From Cobalt to Indigo: The Power of Blue in East Asia</i> Closes
July 16	6–7pm	Artful Evening: Singing Citizenship: The Origins and Role of America's Anthem
July 23	6–8pm	Summer Jams
July 27	8am	KNAS Fall Class Enrollment Opens for Members
August 3	8am	KNAS Fall Class Enrollment Opens for All
August 8	11am–5pm	<i>Resilience—A Sansei Sense of Legacy</i> Opens

■ = Museum Education ■ = Exhibition Opening/Closing ■ = KNAS ■ = Other Events

PROGRAMS



All programs are open to the public and free unless otherwise noted. Caregivers must stay with their children during family programs. Check out our YouTube page for select livestreamed programs.

ArtBreaks: A bimonthly lecture series featuring local artists, scholars, and community leaders.

Art Detectives: A monthly program for children ages 4-8 to read a story, look at art, and make a project to take home.

Artful Evenings: A monthly series of special programs ranging from scholars' talks to interactive workshops. Support provided by the Art Bridges Foundation's Access for All Program.

Book Discussions: Monthly discussions of books relating to topics in art. Participants are not required to read the book, but it will facilitate discussion.

Gallery Gatherings: Monthly, short, lightly-moderated conversations about artworks from ongoing exhibitions. Chairs & gallery stools available.

Wonder Walks: A monthly program for children ages 2-4, free with admission. Includes close looking at a few artworks and other activities.

Preregistration is strongly encouraged for all programs.

SUNDAY DROP-IN CONVERSATIONS

Between June 27 through October 4, drop-in on Sundays between 1:30-2:30pm and have a conversation with a docent who can provide information and answer questions about the *For the People, By the People: America at 250* exhibit.

Library Display: From Page to Palette

May

Let our collection of books help take you from reading to making! Discover different palettes and the ways colors contrast and harmonize.

Cover of *Color: A Visual History from Newton to Modern Color Matching Guides* by Alexandra Loske



Dress Code: Edward Hopper, Urban Solitude, and the Clothing of Modern Life

Thursday, May 7, 6-7pm

Explore the artwork of Edward Hopper in this lecture by Dr. James Denison, in his final lecture as Postdoctoral Fellow at the KIA and Kalamazoo College.

Denison's presentation will consider the use of fashion in Edward Hopper's paintings of urban American life, interpreting his simplified representations of clothes as a strategy crucial to the sense of isolation and emotional restraint often associated with his work. Hopper's paintings of the 1920's, '30s, and '40s only represent a limited portion of the fashion landscape of the era, a potent choice given the widely held notion that his pictures thematize the psychological experience of modern life.



Dr. James Denison



Leon Makielski, *Entrance to the Royal Gardens, St. Cloud*, 1911, oil on canvas. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Gift of Bill and Paula Weiner, 2012.58.

Wonder Walk: Looking at Landscapes

Friday, May 1, 11-11:30am

Spring is creeping closer, and we're ready to get outside. Until it warms up, join us for a stroll through the permanent collection to enjoy some sunny landscapes and think ahead to brighter days. We'll discover how artists represent the natural world and have fun with a few gallery activities along the way.

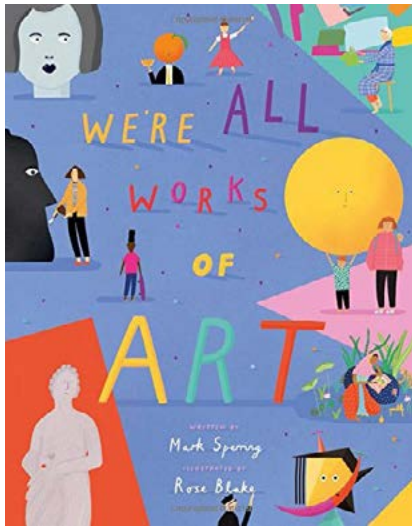
Gallery Gathering: From Cobalt to Indigo: The Power of Blue in East Asia

Thursday, May 7, 5:30-6pm

Immerse yourself in shades of blue as we explore selected works from the exhibition *From Cobalt to Indigo: The Power of Blue in East Asia*, on view in the Joy Light Gallery through July 12. Together we will learn more about the cultural significance and wide-reaching influence of the color blue in the art of East Asia.

Utagawa Hiroshige II, No. 9, *Benten Shrine in Shinobazu Pond (Shinobazu-ike Benten)*, 1860, multi-color woodblock print on paper. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Gift of the Kirk and Georgia Newman Family, 2021.4.





We're All Works of Art by Mark Sperring

Art Detectives: *We're All Works of Art* by Mark Sperring

Saturday, May 9, 10:30am–Noon



In May, Art Detectives will be on the case, searching for how artists show people in their artwork. We'll read a book about different artistic styles, hunt for faces and figures in the permanent collection, and finish by creating our own portrait masterpiece to take home. Arty will be on vacation in June, July, and August. Please join us again in September when Arty returns.

Artful Evening: *Future Now*

Thursday, May 14, 6–7pm

Join us for a special Artful Evening with Elizabeth Semmelhack, Director and Senior Curator of the Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto! Semmelhack is the curator of *Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks*. During this program, she will talk about why shoes matter and about how designers today are revolutionizing what we will put on our feet tomorrow. If you've enjoyed *Future Now*, don't miss this opportunity to meet the curator behind the exhibition!



Photography by Zvelle.



Library Activity: Mini Origami Shoes

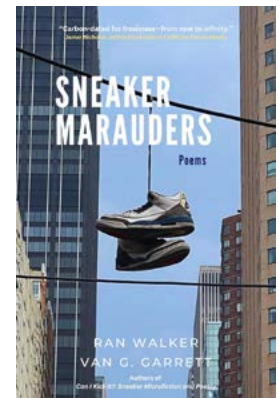
Saturday, May 16, 11am–2pm

Inspired by the innovation and history of sneakers, we will provide origami paper to fold your own mini shoe! A variety of styles and difficulty levels will be provided. Check out *Future Now* for inspiration and then drop by the library to try your hand at this detailed paper project.

Book Discussion: *Sneaker Marauders: Poems* by Ran Walker and Van G. Garrett

Wednesday, May 20, 2–3pm

This short collaboration celebrates sneaker culture through poetry. Consisting of two parts, part one is a micro saga-in verse about a quest to find sneakers but yields an even great discovery beyond shoes. Part two is a collection of prose poems, a kind of mixtape, which explores many aspects of sneaker culture from overarching artistic reflections to personal ties to footwear. Themes in this book will tie into *Future Now*.



Sneaker Marauders: Poems by Ran Walker and Van G. Garrett

Best of the 48-Hour Film Festival

Thursday, May 21, 6–7:30pm





Each year, a growing number of talented Kalamazoo filmmakers, both amateur and professional, take on the challenge of participating in the Kazoo 48-Hour Film Festival. Assigned a genre, prop, character quirk, location, and line of dialogue to use within a short film, participants have just 48 hours to bring their visions to life.

The winning films for 2026, selected in multiple categories, were announced during a public screening at the GQT Kalamazoo 10 Theater on April 23.

During this celebratory event at the KIA, watch the winning films and hear from the filmmakers themselves about their experiences and personal highlights from the festival!

ArtBreak: Curating At The End Of The World: An Apocalyptic Manifesto

Wednesday, May 27, Noon-1pm  







Dr. Xuxa Rodriguez. Photography by Kat Wilson.

What does it mean to curate as we live through apocalyptic times? Join our 2026 *West Michigan Area Show* juror, Dr. Xuxa Rodriguez, as she shares about her curatorial practice and explores what making exhibitions and writing about art means as the stakes of our collective global livelihoods grow higher. Dr. Rodriguez will offer reflections and proposals for working and living through difficult times to find meaning and hope even in the darkest of days.

Our ArtBreak program will be on hiatus in June and July. Join us in August when ArtBreaks resume!

Library Activity: Gelli Plate Printing: Sneakers

Saturday, June 6, 11am-2pm    

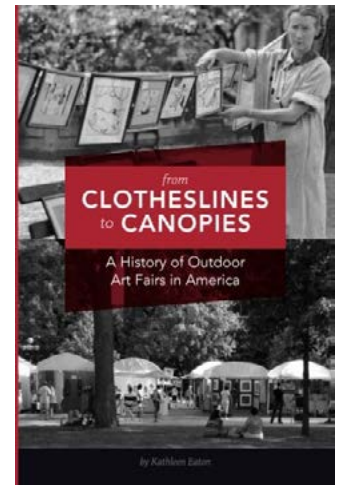


Stop in to the KIA during Arts Fair for a hands-on art activity! We will provide the supplies to create your own Gelli Plate printed sneaker. Experiment with colorways inspired by objects featured in *Future Now!*

Library Display: Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Arts Fair



June   

Originally dubbed The Clothesline Art Show, this community art fair held in Bronson Park has become a signature celebration on the KIA events calendar. Stop by the library where we will have a display of books and items related to the history of the KIA Arts Fair!

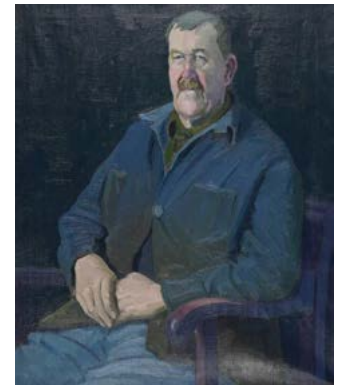


Cover of *From Clotheslines to Canopies: A History of Outdoor Art Fairs in America* by Kathleen Eaton

Wonder Walk: Figures and Faces

Friday, June 12, 11-11:45am  

In June, bring your little ones for a stroll through the permanent collection. Through close looking and simple gallery activities we'll search for figures and faces in the artwork.



Frederick Frary Fursman, *Portrait of a Man*, ca. 1920-24, oil on canvas. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Gift of the Dryer Family Foundation, 1995/6.13.






Henry Ossawa Tanner, *The Visitation*, ca. 1909-1910, oil on canvas. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Gift of Ronda Stryker and William Johnson, 2005.11.






Manierre Dawson, *Mother and Child*, 1912, oil on canvas. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Donald S. Gilmore by exchange, 2012.50.

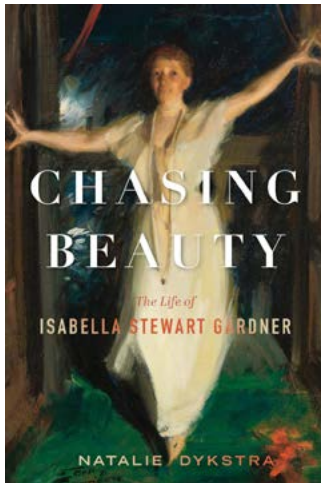
Gallery Gathering: Manierre Dawson's *Mother and Child* and Henry Ossawa Tanner's *The Visitation*

Thursday, June 11, 5:30-6pm   

During this Gallery Gathering, we will take a closer look at Manierre Dawson's *Mother and Child* and Henry Ossawa Tanner's *The Visitation*. While both early 20th century paintings depict religious scenes, the artists approached their subject matter in distinctly different ways. Dawson, credited with being America's first abstract artist, employs Cubist techniques, while Dawson, considered the first African American artist to attain international acclaim, blends Realism and Impressionism.

Book Discussion: *Chasing Beauty: The Life of Isabella Stewart Gardner* by Natalie Dykstra




Wednesday, June 17, 2-3pm   



Cover of *Chasing Beauty: The Life of Isabella Stewart Gardner* by Natalie Dykstra

Author Natalie Dykstra recounts the story of Isabella Stewart Gardner’s extraordinary life in this moving and illuminating biography. A Boston socialite, Gardner lived a life full of passion but one which was also marked by grief. Dykstra delivers compelling insight into Gardner’s friendships, world travels, and her keen eye for collecting treasures all of which shaped the creation of the Stewart Gardner Museum.

Juneteenth Commemoration




Thursday, June 18, 11am-2pm   

Join the KIA as we remember Juneteenth, which is a holiday that commemorates the abolishment of slavery in the United States. Enjoy a special tour highlighting artwork by African American artists, participate in drop-in low-mess art activities, and more.

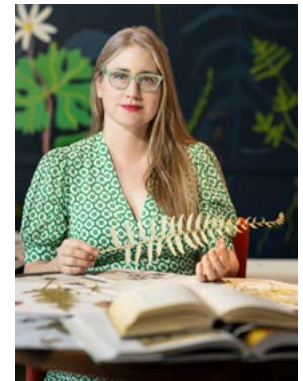


Juneteenth 2025

Artful Evening: Botanical Art of Julia Whitney Barnes

Thursday, June 25, 6-7pm   

During this Artful Evening talk, artist Julia Whitney Barnes will speak about her *Planting Utopia* series, featured in the Hancock Shaker Museum, the Shaker Heritage Society, and the Albany International Airport. Barnes will also address her larger body of research and her permanent artwork *The Botanist’s Mural*. On view in Vassar College’s newly-built Vassar Institute, the mural is based on the herbarium that dates back to the founding of the college in 1861.



Julia Whitney Barnes. Photography by Sean Hemmerle.









Cover of *In this Proud Land: American 1935-1943 As Seen in the FSA Photographs* by Roy Emerson Stryker and Nancy Wood

Library Display: *For the People, By the People*

July   

Extend your gallery experience and visit the Meader Fine Arts Library to view our collection of titles and learn more about the art and artists featured in this exhibition marking this historic moment.

Summer Jams

Thursday, June 18, 6-8pm   
 Thursday, July 23, 6-8pm   

Join us for Summer Jams, an open mic night celebrating music, poetry, and creative expression. This event invites performers of all kinds to share their talents in a welcoming community space. Visitors are also invited to simply come enjoy the performances, connect with others, and vibe. As part of Free Thursday, admission to the galleries is free, making it a perfect evening to experience art, creativity, and community at the KIA.



Gallery Gathering: West Michigan Area Show

Thursday, July 9, 5:30–6:30pm



Tour the *West Michigan Area Show* with some of the talented local artists whose work is included in the exhibition! During this extended Gallery Gathering, we will hear from artists working in a variety of media, offering insights on the pieces they contributed to the show, their points of inspiration, their approaches to the creative process, and more. Check our web calendar for updated information on the artists who will be joining us!



2025 West Michigan Area Show. Photography by Colleen Woolpert.



Miklos Suba, *Court Street, Brooklyn N.Y., 1934*, oil on canvas. Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gilmore, 1972/3.44

Wonder Walk: Storytelling Through Art

Friday, July 10, 11–11:45am



In July, little art lovers will explore *For the People, By the People: America at 250*. The exhibition highlights the story of America and its diverse communities. We'll spend some time in the galleries to see how artists bring those stories to life.

Artful Evening: Singing Citizenship: The Origins and Role of America's Anthem

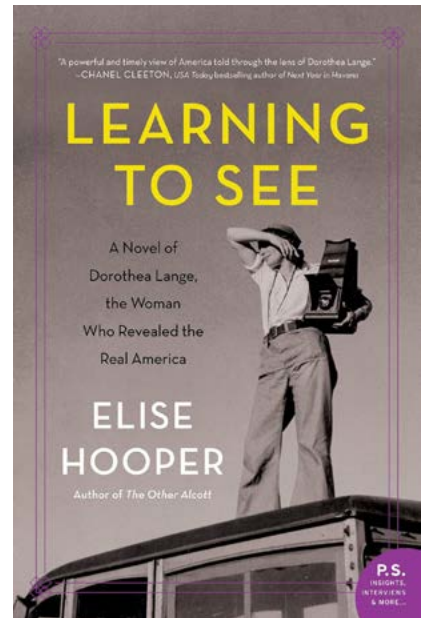
Thursday, July 16, 6–7:30pm



The story of the U.S. national anthem—"The Star-Spangled Banner"—is surprising and too little-known. Among the typical misunderstandings is that its author, Francis Scott Key, wrote a poem. In fact, he wrote a lyric to a well-known tune, creating a song that brought emotion into the drama of America. Key sought both to bring Americans together and to inspire active citizenship. This talk by Dr. Mark Clague explores the forgotten details of Key's song, how it came to be an important symbol in American life, and what it means for Americans today.



Dr. Mark Clague



Cover of *Learning to See: Novel of Dorothea Lange, the Woman Who Revealed the Real America* by Elise Hooper

Book Discussion: *Learning to See: A Novel of Dorothea Lange, the Woman Who Revealed the Real America* by Elise Hooper


Wednesday, July 15, 2–3pm



Elise Hooper's biography of Dorothea Lange follows her life from early successes running a portrait studio in San Francisco to her Depression-era work documenting America's suffering and injustice. As she pursues her art through personal and professional turmoil, Lange's camera becomes a powerful tool for empathy, reform, and truth-telling, even at great personal cost. This discussion will tie into themes in the exhibition *For the People, By the People*.




Community Day

Saturday, July 18, 11am-2pm 

You're invited to a fun-filled day! This special all-ages event will feature exciting activities, outstanding exhibits, fun in the Meader Fine Arts library, and much more. Whether you're a long-time KIA enthusiast or a first time visitor, this event will provide something for everyone to enjoy.

For the People, By the People: An Exploration with Face Off Theatre Company

Thursday, July 30, 6-8pm 

Explore the *For the People, By the People: America at 250* exhibition with theatre artists from Face Off Theatre Company! This program offers guests an opportunity to learn more about artists who have powerfully shaped the landscape of American theatre and visual art. As we make our way through the galleries, Face Off performers will deliver excerpts from works by prominent Black American playwrights alongside selected artworks from the exhibition.



KALAMAZOO ART LEAGUE

Kalamazoo Art League continues into 2026 with more intriguing speakers and events. Don't miss the Food as Art program in which area chefs create a colorful palette of appetizers and desserts that relate to the theme of each lecture.

Art League membership is \$45 and open to any KIA member. At this point during the season, you can join for half price and enjoy the three remaining lectures for free. For more information, visit KalamazooArtLeague.org.



Eric Souther: "Kinetic Imaging: New materialism, Anthropology, Ritual, Deep time, and Toolmaking"

May 13, 2026 at 6:30pm in the KIA Auditorium.
Reception following lecture

Souther incorporates a diverse range of disciplines and approaches, such as interactive installations, audio-visual performances, single-channel video, and custom software. His work brings together technological elements to create systems and tools that offer new perspectives and result in unexpected imagery and meaning.



Eric Souther



Raclin-Murphy Museum of Art Tour

May 5, 2026

The Kalamazoo Art League depARTure will travel to the University of Notre Dame's Raclin-Murphy Museum of Art, one of the nation's oldest and most esteemed academic art museums. Participants will experience a Curator's tour, offering insights into "Bridging Time and Place," a landmark, one-time exhibit celebrating the museum's 150th Anniversary.

KIRK NEWMAN ART SCHOOL



ONLINE CLASS



1- & 2-DAY WORKSHOPS



REQUIRES PREREQUISITE

Enrollment for summer semester opens to members on May 4 and the public on May 11 at 8am.

Ceramics

Beginning students are responsible for purchasing their own pottery tools; estimated cost is \$20. Limited open studio hours for ceramics available.

BEGINNING CERAMICS

Welcome to the world of clay! Students will be introduced to a variety of clay-forming techniques to complete several unique projects. Coiling, pinching, and slab-building will be demonstrated, just add your own creative touch. Finish pieces with glazes in both high and low temperature firings.

Both sections:

Studio 7 \$280 / Members: \$260

(A) Amy Hudson

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 6:30–9pm

(B) Mitzi Davis

Thu (8 wks) 6/11–7/30 6:30–9pm

PINCH POTS AND ORGANIC OBJECTS

Utilizing how the earliest pots were formed by hand, explore sculptural forms inspired by nature. Find relaxation in the shaping of clay, connecting with the material, and exploring surface techniques while using organic objects as your source. Various firing techniques will help convey the realism of your pieces. Your hands are your tools and previous experience is not required.

Maria Scott

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 1–3:30pm

Studio 7 \$280 / Members: \$260



BEGINNING POTTER'S WHEEL

This is the ideal class for students who are interested in the potter's wheel. Learn to center and transform a ball of clay into a finished pot. Weekly demonstrations introduce basic forms such as cylinders, cups, bowls, and plates. Studio slips and glazes will be discussed for completing your pottery. Students are responsible for their own pottery tools.

Beginning Ceramics

Both sections:

Studio 5 \$290 / Members: \$270

(A) Lindsay Hayosh

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 6:30–9pm

(B) Wyatt Lane

Thu (8 wks) 6/11–7/30 1–3:30pm

INTERMEDIATE POTTER'S WHEEL

Learn to confidently produce the pots of your imagination while refining or refreshing your craftsmanship. Techniques of forming spouts, lids, handles, and altered forms will be demonstrated. This class is a progressive step in mastering the potter's wheel. Surface decoration and high fire glazing will be demystified as you finish the pots that will become an everyday part of your home.

Beginning Potter's Wheel

Lindsay Hayosh

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 6:30–9pm

Studio 5 \$290 / Members: \$270

HANDBUILT VASES

Explore a variety of hand building techniques for creating vases for your summer blooms. Slab, coil, and pinch methods will be demonstrated, allowing students to improve their skills and gain confidence as hand builders. Bud vases, flower bricks, and larger stacked vessels will be just a few of the forms we'll explore. Students can utilize both stoneware or red earthenware clay bodies in this class.

Beginning Ceramics

Susan McHenry

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 1–3:30pm

Studio 7 \$290 / Members: \$270

MAKE IT A SET, IN EARTHENWARE

Bring the full spectrum of color to your pots by utilizing the studio's rich, low fire red earthenware clay. Explore vibrant colors, brushwork, pattern, and design as you work in a series, crafting multiple forms. Consider the relationship of pots to each other whether they are contained on a tray or assembled for serving a favorite meal. Wheel throwing will be emphasized, yet hand builders are welcome. This class will be a fun approach to refining your functional pottery.

Beginning Ceramics

Mitzi Davis

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 6:30–9pm

Studio 7 \$290 / Members: \$270



Ceramics (cont'd)

RAKU & ALTERNATIVE LOW FIRE

Pulling hot pots from the kiln and seeing results within minutes describes the excitement of raku firing. Learn the various techniques and reduction variables that produce unique and beautiful results. With instructional emphasis on firing and experimentation, you'll have the flexibility of hand building or wheel-throwing. Horsehair, naked raku, obvara, and sagger firings are offered in this popular class.

🌀 Beginning Ceramics

Diane Niehof

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 10am–12:30pm
Studio 5 \$290 / Members: \$270

PRESS MOLDED TILES

Learn the skill of plaster mold making to create personalized tiles. Using a combination of low- and high-relief sculptural modeling, students will create a tile suitable for plaster press molds. Model your clay, build the mold box, mix and pour plaster, and clean your molds. After pressing, explore glaze and composition arrangements with your tiles.

🌀 Beginning Ceramics

Ellie Stanislav

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 1:30–4pm
Studio 5 \$290 / Members: \$270



COPY CAT

One of the traditional ways of visual learning is through imitation. We'll examine historical, traditional, and contemporary works that inspire us and break down their formal parts. By replicating with your own artistic expression, you'll discover new techniques while accessing the elements that drive your work.

🌀 Beginning Potter's Wheel

Chad Bagge

Mon (8 wks) 6/8–7/27 6:30–9pm
Studio 5 \$290 / Members: \$270



SODA FIRING

Explore a classic approach to firing your work in a high temperature soda kiln. This is a studio-style course with an emphasis on forming, decorating, and glazing pots for atmospheric firing. Students will actively participate in all aspects of the process, not only loading and maintaining the kiln, but in selecting and mixing the slips and glazes for class use.

🌀 Intermediate Ceramics

Julie Devers

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 10:30am–1pm
Studio 5 \$305 / Members: \$285

ANAGAMA

Achieve ceramic surfaces only possible in the KIA wood kiln. Experience having your pieces glazed with wood ash and kissed by the flame while firing with a community of passionate stokers. The studio portion of this class discusses the loading, firing, history, and anticipated results as you produce pots and sculptures specific to our anagama kiln. At the kiln site students will prep cord wood to fuel the kiln and work shifts, keeping the firing burning for four days. Unloading day reveals pots that will be as unique as the wood fire process. This class requires physical work, stamina, full participation, cooperation, and availability in late September for our firing.

🌀 Intermediate/Advanced Ceramics

Julie Devers

Mon (8 wks) 6/8–7/27 6:30–9pm
Studio 7 \$315 / Members: \$295

INDEPENDENT CLAY STUDIO

A studio class for the self-directed student with intermediate to advanced ceramics skills. Focus on your individual, creative interest in hand building, throwing, designing, and finishing. Instructor guidance, assignment review, and critiques are included.

🌀 Intermediate Ceramics

Wyatt Lane

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 1:30–4pm
Studio 5 \$290 / Members: \$270



Accessible Arts

ACCESSIBLE ARTS

A class uniquely designed for adults with developmental disabilities who want to express their creativity within multiple mediums. Projects will include hand-building in clay, sculpture, painting, and papercraft. Students should be capable of following basic instructions and work with minimal assistance. *Full scholarships for this class are available with support from the KIA's scholarship fund.*

Lisa Carnell

Mon (8 wks) 6/8–7/27 6:30–9pm
Studio 4 \$260 / Members: \$240



Drawing



DRAWING BASICS

Pick up the pencil and learn basic drawing techniques including observational line drawing, composition, and value with a focus on black and white media. Students will receive feedback on their work, including at-home assignments and discussions on draughtsmanship, style, and visual literacy. Please bring an 18" x 24" drawing and newsprint pad, and pencil types 2H, HB, 2B, 6B.

Both Sections:

Studio 6 \$245 / Members: \$225

(A) David Yeider

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 1–3:30pm

(B) Hank Mattson

Thu (8 wks) 6/11–7/30 6:30–9pm

NATURAL SCIENCE ILLUSTRATION

Study natural subjects including plants, insects, animals, and anatomy and learn to observe, analyze, and illustrate work that combines thoughtful accuracy with personal artistry using a variety of mediums.

Olivia Mendoza

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 6–8:30pm
Studio 2 \$245 / Members: \$225

COLORED PENCIL TECHNIQUES IN REALISM

Learn methods and techniques from exercises and demonstrations designed for colored pencil realism that can be applied to a variety of subject matter. Class will begin with basic skills and then advance towards greater complexity, with the final weeks focusing on a self-chosen project.

Olivia Mendoza

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 6–8:30pm
Studio 2 \$245 / Members: \$225

INDEPENDENT STUDY: GRAPHITE AND COLORED PENCIL

Expand your drawing abilities by pursuing the subject matter of your choice using graphite or colored pencils, with individual attention and guidance given. Projects will be self-driven and exercises in technique and method will be offered for practice. This class will serve as an environment to focus on your personal artistic growth.

🌀 Drawing Basics or equivalent

Olivia Mendoza

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 9:30am–12pm
Studio 6 \$245 / Members: \$225

BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION

Learn to render realistic illustrations of plant life using colored pencils. Lessons will have an emphasis on examining details, capturing accuracy, and using color theory to create vibrant depictions of nature. Students can provide their own reference image or use provided photographic materials.

🌀 Drawing Basics or equivalent

Olivia Mendoza

Thu (8 wks) 6/11–7/30 6–8:30pm
Studio 2 \$245 / Members: \$225

URBAN SKETCHING

Meet up with fellow artists and practice your sketching skills on-location. Each week we will meet at a new location within Kalamazoo to talk about drawing techniques and approaches, spend time sketching, and then share what we made with the group. Please bring a sketchbook, your favorite drawing materials, and a water bottle.

Hank Mattson

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 6–8:30pm
Multi-Purpose Classroom
\$245 / Members: \$225



Painting

OIL AND ACRYLIC PAINTING

Explore oil or acrylic painting from alla prima painting to layered techniques involving underpainting and overpainting. All styles, directions, and content encouraged. Bring whatever painting materials you have.

 Drawing Basics or equivalent

Kenneth Freed

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 1–3:30pm
Studio 6 \$255 / Members: \$235


BEGINNING WATERCOLOR

Focus on the foundations of watercolor painting to learn about the qualities of watercolor paint, the materials, tools, and methodologies used. Gain the confidence to proceed in watercolor that comes with a firm start.

(A) Mariah Donmyer

Mon (8 wks) 6/8–7/27 6:30–9pm
Studio 2 \$255 / Members: \$235

(B) Susan Badger

Thu (7 wks) 6/18–7/30 1–3:30pm
 Online \$215 / Members: \$195

WATERCOLOR WITH EXPRESSION

Develop and express your creativity with watercolor techniques including wet into wet, color mingling, and layered transparent washes. Composition, simplification of shape, color, and value will also be explored.

 Beginning Watercolor or equivalent

Both Sections:

Online \$215 / Members: \$195

Susan Badger

(A) Tue (7 wks) 6/16–7/28 6:30–9pm
(B) Wed (7 wks) 6/17–7/29 1–3:30pm

WATERCOLOR REALISM

This class introduces watercolor painting techniques with an emphasis on realism and artistic expression. Students will be guided to ensure individual aesthetic objectives are met. Please bring images or objects to class.

David Yeider

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 10am–12:30pm
Studio 6 \$255 / Members: \$235

WATERCOLOR AND MORE IN THE OUTDOORS

Students will work en plein-air (outdoors!) in watercolor and a variety of drawing media. We'll create loose and expressive studies at a variety of local sites, learning to focus our composition and yet freely interpret our subjects

Susan Badger

Mon (3 wks) 6/15–6/29 11:30am–3:30pm
Locations to be announced
\$165 / Members: \$145



Artwork credit Mariah Donmyer

PET PORTRAITURE IN ACRYLIC PAINT

This class will teach you how to capture the personalities and adoration of our beloved pets in a realistic style. We will explore the techniques of acrylic paint and learn to capture all types of furs, feathers, or scales. Please bring reference images to class.

Mariah Donmyer

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 6:30–9pm
Studio 6 \$255 / Members: \$235



Enrichment

Creative Practice

FRAMING WORKSHOP
 Learn to make your own simple frames for paintings, prints, and drawings using accessible materials and methods that can be replicated at home! Some basic woodworking skills will be covered as well as tips and tricks for upcycling thrifted frames.

Deborah Mattson
 Tue (2-day) 6/16–6/23 6–8pm
 Studio 4 \$90 / Members: \$70

BULLET JOURNALING
 Get creatively organized while making your very own custom bullet journal! Learn the design fundamentals of bullet journaling, as well as fun and creative ways to organize and plan the rest of 2026. Tackle a stressful task with friends by brainstorming weekly layouts, to-do lists, and cute monthly calendar ideas.

Elise Head
 Mon (1-day) 6/22 6–8:30pm
 Boardroom \$60 / Members: \$40



Creative Writing & Languages

WRITING POETRY
 Discover how language and imagination come together to create the literary arts. Read, write, and discuss contemporary poetry, and a little prose, in a range of styles. Classes will be conducted in a workshop setting with the primary focus of the class being discussion of one another's writing. Additional activities may include in-class writing exercises.

Scott Bade
 Tue (6 wks) 6/9-7/14 6:30-9pm
 Boardroom \$190 / Members: \$170

FRENCH POUR S'AMUSER (FOR FUN)
 Brush up on your French Conversation or start from scratch in a fun and supportive environment. Learn basic French terms while discussing popular French music, film, art, and food. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

Elise Head
 Mon (2-day) 7/22–7/29 6–8:30pm
 Boardroom \$90 / Members: \$70

WHAT IT MEANS TO ME: EKPHRASTIC WRITING
 Explore your response to works of art from the KIA's collection. Join accomplished poet and instructor Elizabeth Kerlikowske to practice describing and interpreting artworks using poetry and prose. Class will consist of brief lectures, gazing at artwork in the KIA's revolving exhibitions and permanent collection, writing, and group discussion. Expect to learn more about yourself, writing, and art!

Elizabeth Kerlikowske
 Thu (4 wks) 6/18-7/9 6-8:30pm
 Boardroom \$135 / Members: \$115



SIGN LANGUAGE WORKSHOP
 Advance your communication skills and language accessibility through the world of American Sign Language. Come ready to jump start comprehension and production skills in conversational ASL through practice and use of the targeted linguistic structures. U.S. deaf culture and history will also be covered. This class is open to all students, with or without previous experience.

Tanya Timmerman
 Sat (1-day) 6/20 12:30–2:30pm
 Studio 2 \$60 / Members: \$40

Enrichment (cont'd)

Wellness



SOUND BATH: THE FLOW OF CREATIVITY

Immerse yourself in an evening of sound that will take you to a place of peace, stillness, and connection. During the sound immersion various instruments will fill the space such as Tibetan singing bowls, crystal bowls, and gongs. These allow you to move into a state of deep relaxation. Rest, recover, and heal your physical, emotional, and energetic bodies while dislodging creative blocks. Students are encouraged to bring a yoga mat and blanket.

Kara Markovich

Wed (1-day) 6/10 6–7:30pm
Auditorium \$60 / Members: \$40



PILATES WORKSHOP

Come engage in a more gentle yet still beneficial form of Pilates, called mat Pilates. Improve core strength and endurance while increasing general flexibility. Options for modifications make it fun and effective for any individual skill level. Please bring a thick Pilates mat or two or more yoga mats for extra padding.

Patra Ryder

Sun (1-day) 6/14 1–3pm
Auditorium \$60 / Members: \$40



MEDITATION, MINDFULNESS AND MUDRAS

Discover new skills for relaxing the mind and body, while developing inner clarity. Hand mudras for physical, mental, and emotional health will also be explored. Please feel free to bring a yoga mat or use the chair that will be provided.

Patra Ryder

Sun (1-day) 6/28 1–3pm
Auditorium \$60 / Members: \$40

YOGA

Practice an eclectic style of yoga designed for all levels. You will be guided through slow movement; static poses, breathing techniques, and meditative relaxation. Yoga helps with flexibility, strength, and often can help with metabolic functions. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat.

Patra Ryder

Mon (8 wks) 6/8–7/27 5:15–6:15pm
Auditorium \$160 / Members: \$140

Fiber

FLOOR LOOM WEAVING

Come and join the community centered around one of the few weaving studios in Southwest Michigan. All levels of weavers, from beginner to advanced, are welcome. Beginners will weave a sampler to learn the basics. For those familiar with weaving, an individualized plan of study will be created.

Both Sections:

Weaving Studio \$255 / Members: \$235

(A) Gretchen Huggett

Thu (8 wks) 6/11–7/30 1–3:30pm

(B) Mary Ann Robertson

Thu (8 wks) 6/11–7/30 6:30–9pm

RIGID HEDDLE WEAVING

Discover the art of rigid heddle loom weaving in a creative and supportive atmosphere. Students will learn the basics of weaving including winding a warp, dressing the loom, weaving, and finishing cloth. Weave structures will be explored including hand manipulating threads and utilizing pick up sticks to achieve a desired pattern. Loom and yarn will be provided. Students are welcome to bring hand spun yarns for use in a project.

Amanda Casanova

Wed (7 wks) 6/17–7/29 6–8:30pm
Studio 4 \$230 / Members: \$210

INTRO TO SPINNING: SPINDLE TO WHEEL

Learn to spin yarn by hand! Students will learn the basics of spinning yarn using the drop spindle before moving on to the wheel. A strong emphasis on fundamentals makes this class a great fit for new spinners or those who may need a refresher. Spinning wheels and spindles for student use may be reserved at the time of enrollment.

Emily Wohlscheid

Tue (6 wks) 6/9–7/21 6–8:30pm
Weaving Studio \$225 / Members: \$205
No class 7/7



Jewelry

BEGINNING JEWELRY

In this live demonstration class, you will learn the basics of handcrafted jewelry making, including layout, piercing, filing, texturing, roller embossing, soldering, basic stone setting, finishing, and polishing. You'll leave the class with completed projects to show off your newfound skills.

Both Sections:

Jewelry Studio \$265 / Members: \$245

Amelia Falk

(A) Wed (7 wks) 6/17-7/29 1-3:30pm

(B) Thu (7 wks) 6/18-7/30 6:30-9pm



INTRODUCTION TO LAPIDARY STONE CUTTING FOR CABOCHONS

Learn how to cut, grind, and polish stone slabs to create calibrated and free-form cabochons for your jewelry and metalwork designs.

Dawn Coeur

Mon (8 wks) 6/8-7/27 6:30-9pm

Jewelry Studio \$300 / Members: \$280



INDEPENDENT STUDY: JEWELRY

Utilize our well equipped jewelry studio with the guidance of an instructor. This dedicated class provides a self-paced environment for students to complete unfinished projects and new work. Take advantage of customized demonstrations and individual assistance to further your jewelry practice.

Beginning Jewelry or equivalent

Amelia Falk

Thu (7 wks) 6/18-7/30 1-3:30pm

Jewelry Studio \$265 / Members \$245

NO SOLDER SETTINGS

Fabricate no solder settings for stones and found objects! Utilizing cold connections like rivets and tabs, students will explore methods for creating unique settings from base metals without the use of the torch.

Beginning Jewelry or equivalent

Emily Wohlscheid

Tue (6 wks) 6/9-7/21 1-3:30pm

Jewelry Studio \$230 / Members: \$210

No class 7/7

FANTASTIC FIBULA

Students will explore and create a fibula pin. Techniques such as forging, forming, soldering, piercing, and more will be covered.

Beginning Jewelry or equivalent

Lauren Tripp

Thu (2-day) 6/4-6/11 10am-1pm

Jewelry Studio \$135 / Members \$115

TEMPTING TITANIUM

Discover the beauty and versatility of titanium in this hands-on workshop. Students will learn the fundamentals of working with this lightweight yet incredibly strong metal, known for its vibrant anodized colors and modern aesthetic. Participants will experiment with voltage-based coloring, texture creation, and finishing techniques while developing an understanding of titanium's distinctive properties compared to traditional jewelry metals.

Amelia Falk

Sun (1-day) 6/21 12-4pm

Jewelry Studio \$125 / Members \$105



Photography

TRADITIONAL BLACK AND WHITE FILM AND PRINTING

Develop your black & white film and print! Through demonstrations and supervised printing sessions, participants will learn film and print development, how to control print contrast, and special darkroom techniques. This class is a perfect opportunity to print your special black and white negatives from the family archives. Students must provide their own film and paper for the class. Darkroom chemicals and equipment are provided.

Both Section:

Darkroom \$205 / Members: \$185

Mary Whalen

(A) Tue (6 wks) 6/23–7/28 11am–1:30pm

(B) Tue (6 wks) 6/23–7/28 6:30–9pm

THE DIGITAL DARKROOM PART 1: THE BASICS

This class sets the foundation for using both Lightroom and Photoshop as companion programs to unlock the full potential of your digital photography. Learn the basics for each app and how to use them together before moving on to higher levels of skill.

🔗 Lightroom Classic software installed on your computer

Kris Walker

Mon (8 wks) 6/8–7/27 6–8pm

Computer Lab \$205 / Members: \$185

COLOR FILM PROCESSING & SCANNING

Discover the fundamentals of color film processing and scanning in this hands-on course. Learn how to develop your own color negatives and prepare them for both digital and print formats. You'll gain practical experience using our fully equipped darkroom, mastering the key steps of processing color film—where temperature control is critical for achieving high-quality results. In addition to film development, we'll cover scanning techniques that ensure your images are optimized for web sharing or professional-grade printing. Whether you're a beginner looking to dive into color film or an experienced photographer wanting to refine your skills, this course provides all the guidance and tools you need to bring your film photography to life.

Dan Selvidge

Thu (3 wks) 6/11–6/25 6:30–9pm

Darkroom & Computer Lab

\$135 / Members: \$115



CAMERA BASICS: MOVING PAST AUTO MODE

Taking your camera out of auto can be intimidating but full freedom from that mode is achievable. This technical course takes you through your camera's manual and teaches you the fundamentals of how ISO, shutter speed, and F-stop work together for understandable, predictable, and repeatable results. Participants need to provide their own cameras that have user controls for shutter speed and lens opening. Please bring your owner's manual to the first class.

🔗 A camera capable of manual exposure

Amelia Falk

Tue (6 wks) 6/9–7/14 6:30–9pm

Multi-Purpose Classroom

\$195 / Members: \$175

EXPLORING ABSTRACT PHOTOGRAPHY

Break free from literal representation and discover the expressive potential of form, color, texture, and movement. The class will study prominent abstract artists, delve into a variety of genres and techniques along with weekly projects and class critiques/discussions.

Kris Walker

Tue (4 wks) 6/9–6/30 6–8:30pm

Computer Lab \$140 / Members: \$120



Photography (cont'd)

LIGHT ANYWHERE: PORTABLE FLASH FOR REAL- WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY

A studio is not a place. It's a way of seeing. In this location-based lighting course, we'll explore how to transform ordinary spaces into compelling photographic environments using a small, affordable flash setup—what I call a “studio in a bag.” Working on location—inside the KIA, downtown streets, and outdoor spaces—we'll learn how to: introduce artificial light into natural environments, sculpt subjects using small manual flash units, control contrast and direction and blend flash with ambient light for cinematic results. This class emphasizes creative control, adaptability, and practical problem-solving. You'll learn how to walk into almost any environment and shape light to match your vision. No studio required.

📷 A manual flash unit and radio trigger specific to your camera

Dan Selvidge

Thu (5 wks) 7/2–7/30 6:30–9pm
Photo Studio \$170 / Members: \$150



Image courtesy of Mary Jo Amus

CREATIVE FLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY

Learn to photograph flowers using depth of field creatively and lighting to capture the beauty of your flower(s). Mary Jo will discuss composition, best camera settings and how the background choice can produce beautiful fine art photographs suitable to hang on a wall. We will set up indoors to photograph and outdoors as weather permits. A DSLR or mirrorless camera with a macro lens and tripod are recommended but not required. Camera phone users are welcome.

📷 Familiarity with your camera that is capable of manual exposure

Mary Jo Amus

Mon (6 wks) 6/15–7/20 6–8:30pm
Multi-Purpose Classroom
\$195 / Members: \$175

EXPLORING ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY

A practical introduction to the realm of architectural photography. This course includes a classroom segment discussing the specific techniques and principles of the genre, a guided class photowalk in downtown Kalamazoo, and a class showcase of the photos with critique.

Kris Walker

Tue (4 wks) 7/7–7/28 6–8:30pm
Computer Lab \$140 / Members: \$120

IPHONE PHOTO POSSIBILITIES!

Using the camera phone as your photographic tool, students will learn to effectively capture and edit with various apps. We will explore the creative possibilities of the iPhone as a camera! Please bring your iPhone fully charged to the first class.

Mary Jo Amus

Wed (4 wks) 6/10–7/1 1–3pm
Lighting Studio \$120 / Members: \$100

ALTERNATIVE PHOTO PROCESS / CYANOTYPE

Coat paper with light sensitive photochemistry and exposing using sunlight to make fine art prints of your photos. Students will generate digital negatives to contact print onto freshly coated paper. After developing the cyanotypes with water, you'll have the option to tone and to selectively color or color the entire image. This digital negative making technique can be used for most alternative printing processes, blending digital technology with hands-on printing.

📷 A basic knowledge of Photoshop is helpful.

Mary Whalen

Wed (3 wks) 7/15–7/29 1–4pm
Darkroom and Computer Lab
\$160 / Members: \$140

BOTANICAL CYANOTYPES WITH ENCAUSTICS

Combining two historic processes, the 19th century photo process—cyanotype and the ancient craft of beeswax and resin—encaustic, you will truly make a one-of-a-kind work of art. You'll hand coat watercolor paper, expose your arranged grasses, ferns, and or flowers in the sun as a starting point. Dried prints will be prepped and worked on in the encaustic studio, layering wax and hand coloring to create a dimensional dream like image.

Laurie Pruitt

Sat (3 wks) 7/18–8/1 1–4pm
Darkroom and Studio 6
\$160 / Members: \$140

Printmaking

BEGINNING PRINTMAKING

Immerse yourself in a variety of projects designed to teach you the history and practice of printmaking. Students will carve a simple rubber stamp and a linoleum block, learn about intaglio methods by completing drypoint and acid-etched plates, and draw and print a simple plastic lithography plate.

Both Sections:

Printmaking Studio
\$270 / Members: \$250

Deborah Mattson

(A) Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 1–3:30pm
(B) Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 6:30–9pm

INTERMEDIATE PRINTMAKING

Develop printmaking skills while learning new processes for intaglio and relief. Students will learn new techniques for adding texture and value to their intaglio plates, experiment with wood matrices through reduction carving and mokulito (wood lithography), and learn multi-color printing and registration techniques. There will also be time for work on independent projects. Bring previous prints, work-in-progress, sketches, and ideas to the first class.

🌀 Beginning Printmaking

Both Sections:

Printmaking Studio
\$270 / Members: \$250

Deborah Mattson

(A) Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 1–3:30pm
(B) Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 6:30–9pm

INTRO TO LITHOGRAPHY

Discover your drawings coming to life as reproducible prints. Students will begin with Pronto plate printing, one of the easiest and fastest printing processes. This course will also cover the more traditional lithographic media of aluminum plates and stones. Step-by-step instructions will take you through the basics of plate preparation and press operation. Enjoy drawing and printing your own image with the potential of creating an edition of your own prints.

Deborah Mattson

Thu (8 wks) 6/11–7/30 1–3:30pm
Printmaking Studio
\$270 / Members: \$250

SCREEN PRINTING BASICS

Learn the basics of screen printing and develop your skills into multi-layer prints. Sessions include individualized instruction with plenty of work-time in the studio. Students can screenprint on paper or fabric to make their own prints, cards, posters, or gifts. Bring drawings, photos, works-in-progress, or ideas to the first class.

Hank Mattson

Tue (4 wks) 6/9–7/28 6:30–9pm
Printmaking Studio
\$155 / Members: \$135

INTERMEDIATE RELIEF PRINTING

Take your linocuts and woodcuts to the next level in this class for intermediate block printers. We'll focus on multicolor prints, exploring techniques for layering multiple blocks, and single-block reduction prints. Students should be familiar with basic carving and printing techniques.

Trevor Grabill

Tue (8 wks) 6/11–7/30 6:30–9pm
Printmaking Studio
\$270 / Members: \$250

FINE ART GEL PLATE PRINTING

Explore the versatile gel printing process to create monotypes. In this class we will experiment with various techniques to build imagery on the gel plate using image transfers, corrugated cardboard, stencils, and a variety of 3D objects that can be used for mark-making. We will create multiple color prints in a single pull. This class is ideal for beginners to advanced printmakers.

Jerry Hartly

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 1–3:30pm
Printmaking Studio
\$270 / Members: \$250



WATERCOLOR WOODBLOCK PRINTMAKING

In this watercolor woodblock class, students will learn to create black-and-white and multi-color print editions using watercolors and traditional Japanese tools and techniques. This timeless process is perfect for making art at home; all materials are non-toxic, prints dry instantly, and cleaning up is fast and easy. Each class will have a demonstration, individual and group feedback sessions, and studio time.

Charles Coates

Mon (4 wks) 6/8–6/29 6:30–9pm
Printmaking Studio
\$160 / Members: \$140

MULTI-COLOR WATERCOLOR WOODBLOCK PRINTMAKING AND CONTINUING STUDY

This four-week class welcomes both new and returning students. New participants will learn the basics of Japanese woodblock printmaking, creating colorful editions using water-based inks and traditional techniques. Returning students will expand their skills with advanced multi-block printing, key-block pasting for better registration, and paper flattening. All participants will gain hands-on experience in this non-toxic art form, leaving with the ability to create stunning prints in their own studios.

Charles Coates

Mon (4 wks) 7/6–7/27 6:30–9pm
Printmaking Studio
\$160 / Members: \$140

Printmaking (cont'd)

SOUTH STREET PRINT FEST: CYANOTYPES & PRINTMAKING AT THE KIA

Saturday, September 26 from 10am–3pm

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, September 26, the KIA will host a day-long outdoor event honoring the disciplines of photography and printmaking from 10am–3pm. Celebrate the 19th-century cameraless photographic printing process of cyanotype in honor of World Cyanotype Day or experience how vibrant, large-scale prints from relief carvings are produced using an asphalt roller.

To support this exciting day, KNAS is offering two mini workshops, one on Saturday, June 20 to prepare for the onsite, large-scale relief carving. The other workshop will occur immediately following the event on Sunday, September 27 to hand color your cyanotypes. Those who sign-up for either workshop will receive a preferred spot for the event on September 26. Spaces to participate in either activity are limited, so make your plans early. More details about South Street Print Fest will be posted on the KIA website in late May. The event will be held in KIA's parking lot off of South Street. A rain date is scheduled for Saturday, October 3.

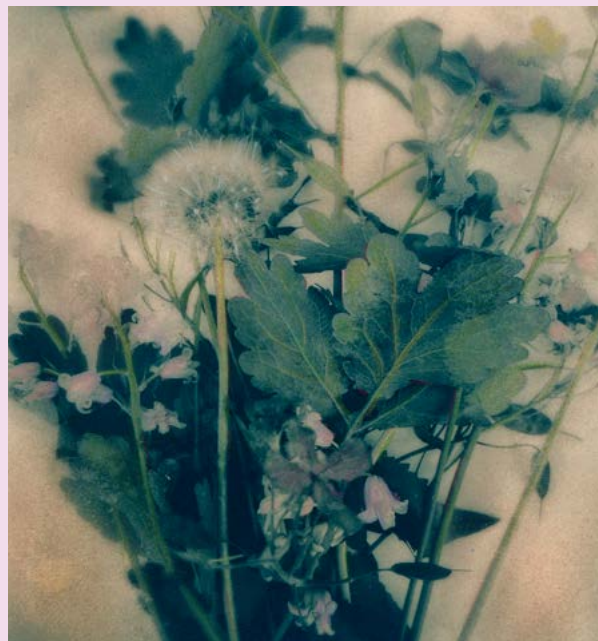


SUMMER STEAMROLLER PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP

Do you want to make a large-scale relief print at September's South Street Print Fest, but don't know where to start? This workshop will give you the information you need to prepare your woodblock for the event. Topics will include image design, wood and tool choices, and what to expect when your block is printed. Workshop tuition covers registration, fabric, and ink for the September 26 event. Tuition is a per person rate, even if you chose to do a collaborative matrix.

Deborah Mattson

Sat (1-day)	6/20	10am–Noon
Sat (1-day)	9/26 (event date)	Time: Reserved
Printmaking Studio	\$100 / Members: \$80	



FALL HAND COLORED CYANOTYPE WORKSHOP

Are you interested in making several cyanotype images at September's South Street Print Fest and want to learn how to enhance your pieces using hand coloring techniques and collaged elements? This workshop is for you! Workshop tuition will cover your cyanotype registration and materials for the September 26 event and it will also support your workshop supplies the next day. Tuition is a per person rate even if you choose to participate in the event as a group. No experience necessary.

Mary Whalen

Sat (1-day)	9/26 (event date)	Time: Reserved
Sun (1-day)	9/27	1–3pm
Studio 6	\$100 / Members: \$80	

Artwork Credit: Mary Whalen

Sculpture

BEGINNING AND INTERMEDIATE METAL FABRICATION

This course is available to those new to metal or interested in refining their metalworking skills. Students will learn MIG, gas, and arc welding to weld, bend, and transform metal. In this class we will explore design, form, and creative engineering to develop unique sculptural forms from steel. Some materials provided. Students are responsible for appropriate protective clothing.

Brent Harris

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 10am–12:30pm
Studio 1 \$275 / Members: \$255

BRONZE FOUNDRY 2: THE POUR

Explore the ancient art of bronze casting. In the summer portion of this two-part class, students will work together learning the practice of running a foundry. Safety and teamwork will be emphasized as students work as a team to pour molten bronze into their molds. Metal finishing with hand and power tools will be taught to refine their work. Patina techniques will be used to finish the sculptures and bring the student's work to life.

Brent Harris

Thu (7 wks) 6/11–7/30 10am–1pm
Studio 1 \$295 / Members: \$275
No class 7/16



INDEPENDENT STUDY: WELDED METAL SCULPTURE

This class is for the self-directed student who wants to expand their skill sets and enhance their abilities in metal sculpture. Students must be familiar with the safe use and operation of the equipment in the studio. Students will provide their own approved material. Problem solving and techniques will be the focus of the class.

🔗 Permission of the instructor is required

Paul Nimz

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 6:30–9pm
Studio 1 \$275 / Members: \$255

METAL GARDEN ART

This class is for newcomers interested in making their own unique steel garden sculptures. Students will learn basic MIG welding techniques, plasma cutting, and metal fabrication in a safe, encouraging environment.

Paul Nimz

Tue (8 wks) 6/9–7/28 10–12:30pm
Studio 1 \$275 / Members: \$255

PUBLIC SCULPTURE

Learn more about the history of public art and work as a team to create a public sculpture in Kalamazoo. Together we will explore the fundamental elements of designing, planning, and fabricating public sculpture. Students will then weld, fabricate, and work collectively in conjunction with the Edison Neighborhood Association to make a collaborative piece come to life. The completed piece will be installed in the fall as weather permits. Some class time will take place off site to survey potential locations and meet with local planners. This class supports a range of media, but the final public piece will be made from steel. No prior experience necessary.

Brent Harris

Mon (7 wks) 6/8–7/27 10am–1pm
Studio 1 \$275 / Members: \$255
No class 7/13

COSPLAY COSTUME FABRICATION

Make all your costume and cosplay dreams come true! Learn to express yourself through crafting wearable art in a supportive community by making armor, wings, horns—and more! From experienced cosplayers, to costume novice, all skill levels are welcome.

Elise Head

Mon (8 wks) 6/8–7/27 6:30–9pm
Studio 1 \$250 / Members: \$230

THE AFTERLIFE OF FOUND OBJECTS

In this class, you will learn the principles of 3D design, to think of spatial relationships in multiple contexts, and to engage with “third spaces” as you journey into the afterlife of discarded objects. Foraging for your materials, you will redefine the value of consumable substrate, in a return to public space, emerging with a reimagined beauty.

Rufus Snoddy

Wed (8 wks) 6/10–7/29 1–3:30pm
Studio 1 \$275 / Members: \$255

PAINTING AS OBJECT

‘Painting as Object’ is the act of making a painting from the perspective and philosophy of what many artists who execute this type of work call “thingness.” Rather than making a painting that creates illusions we will be breaking down the structural parts of a painting, elaborating on and embellishing them. Principles will be expanded on for the purpose of well constructed and convincing composition. ‘Painting as Object’ embraces a variety of techniques and materials in the creation of unlimited compositional options and directions.

🔗 Painting Fundamentals or equivalent experience

Rufus Snoddy

Thu (8 wks) 6/11–7/30 4–6:30pm
Studio 1 \$275 / Members: \$255

Children's Classes

Tuition for children and teen classes has been reduced through the generosity of John and Rosemary Brown.

Appropriate age and grade strictly enforced. All materials are provided.



GRADES 1–3

ART EXPRESSION

Weekly classes allow children to experience the styles and techniques used by artists, learn art vocabulary, and develop art-making skills through discussion and hands-on activities using a variety of media for drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, fibers and more!

Stephanie Teegardin

Sat (7 wks) 6/13–8/1 9:30–11am

Studio 2 \$165 / Members: \$145

No class 7/4

GRADES 4–6

THE ART OF DRAWING

Develop the art of drawing! While continually building on the concept of seeing as the most important tool for drawing, this class will explore the elements of drawing through a variety of media. Each class will be devoted to a deeper understanding of drawing techniques.

Al Harris

Sat (7 wks) 6/13–8/1 9:30–11am

Studio 4 \$165 / Members: \$145

No class 7/4

CLAY ON THE WHEEL

Create pieces through a variety of techniques on the wheel! Students will create vessels on the potter's wheel guided by demonstration of basic skill and a variety of techniques including hand building. An independent class with one-on-one instruction, developing a personal style will be encouraged.

Mitzi Davis

Sat (7 wks) 6/13–8/1 9–11am

Studio 5 \$215 / Members: \$195

No class 7/4

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

DRAWING & PAINTING

An independent study oriented class with one-on-one instruction provided with an emphasis on the exploration of visual culture through drawing and painting mediums and subject matter. Students will be encouraged to create artwork that brings out their unique talent and creativity. This class will help students with their own personal vision and many mediums will be covered.

David Yeider

Sat (6 wks) 6/13–7/25 9–11:30am

Studio 6 \$195 / Members: \$175

No class 7/4

CLAY ON THE WHEEL

Students will create vessels on the potter's wheel using basic skills and a variety of techniques including hand building. An independent class with one-on-one instruction, developing a personal style will be discussed. Creating pieces using a variety of techniques will be the goal.

Mitzi Davis

Sat (7 wks) 6/13–8/1 12–2:30pm

Studio 5 \$235 / Members: \$215

No class 7/4

FUN IN THE SUN WITH CYANOTYPES

Cyanotypes are a 19th-century photographic printing process that uses sunlight to create vibrant blue-and-white images. Each week, students will produce their own unique prints using found objects, hand-drawn images and photographs. No photography experience is necessary.

Emily Walsh

Sat (4 wks) 7/11–8/1 9–11:30am

Photography Darkroom \$150 / Members: \$130

FASHION ILLUSTRATION

Through in-class exercises and independent study, students will experiment with various mediums as they learn how to render fabrics and play with silhouettes on paper. Students will work on drawing from life, reference images, and their imagination—and develop their own illustrative style in the process.

Emily Walsh

Sat (4 wks) 7/11–8/1 1–3pm

Photography Darkroom \$120 / Members: \$100



Children's Classes (cont'd)

SUMMER ART CAMPS

AGES 4-K

Designed to be our campers introduction to the art museum as well as camp. We will create in clay and paint and use different media everyday. We will take a break from creating by having a snack in our courtyard.

Camp Faculty

Half day, one week \$230 / Members: \$210 9am-12pm

(A) 6/8-6/12

(B) 6/15-6/19

(C) 7/6-7/10

(D) 7/13-7/17



GRADES 1-5

Campers will move through our art studios and work on various projects every day. This Art Camp schedule is designed for both a half-day or full day's experience. Each full day session is one week, Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm, with a supervised one-hour lunch period. Please be sure to enroll your student in the grade level they will be entering in the fall of 2026.

Camp Faculty

Full day, one week \$390 / Members: \$370

Half day, one week \$245 / Members: \$225

Art Camp #1

6/8-6/12

(A) 9am-4pm

(B) 9am-12pm

(C) 1-4pm

Art Camp #2

6/15-6/19

(A) 9am-4pm

(B) 9am-12pm

(C) 1-4pm

Art Camp #3

6/22-6/26

(A) 9am-4pm

(B) 9am-12pm

(C) 1-4pm

Art Camp #4

7/6-7/10

(A) 9am-4pm

(B) 9am-12pm

(C) 1-4pm

Art Camp #5

7/13-17

(A) 9am-4pm

(B) 9am-12pm

(C) 1-4pm

Art Camp #6

7/20-7/24

(A) 9am-4pm

(B) 9am-12pm

(C) 1-4pm

YOUNG ARTISTS MULTI-MEDIA ART CAMP GRADES 6-11

This camp will provide a unique opportunity for young artists to work with a variety of mediums. We will visit the Kirk Newman Art Schools various art studios to do things like painting, printmaking, and clay. Every day will be something new. The session is one week, Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm, with a supervised one-hour lunch period. Please be sure to enroll your student in the grade level they will be entering in the fall of 2026.

Camp Faculty

Full day, one week \$395 / Members: \$375

(A) 6/22-6/26 9am-4pm

(B) 7/20-7/24 9am-4pm



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to summer
celebration!

Kalamazoo Institute of
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FAIR

June 5 & 6, 2026

FRIDAY 3-8PM • SATURDAY 9AM-5PM

