



OTERO ARTS NEWS

JUNE/JULY, 2026 * WWW.OTEROARTS.ORG * FB: OTERO ARTS INC

At the beginning of FY 25-26, Otero Arts faced uncertainty because the Federal Government cut funds to the National Endowment of the Arts. Despite the threat of losing money that would have been available for grant funding through New Mexico Arts, our organization continued to thrive and grow. We are grateful for local sources like Thrive, the OC Electric Co-op, Creative West, and the Sacramento Foundation as well as the contributions of members and patrons. They have recognized the value of OA to our communities and stepped up to ensure Otero Arts can continue to build up its programs.

Here is a summary of some of the major events OA delivered this past year:



Monthly lecture programs by JRI



Mo. movies @ the Artspace.



Rebel Music Theater

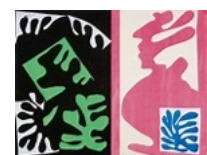
Monthly Art Exhibitions by local and visiting Artists:



Deb Wenzel



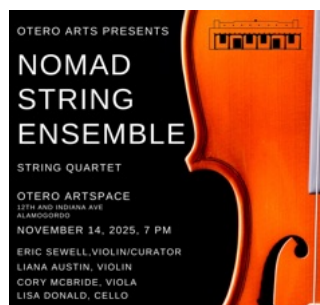
Abstract



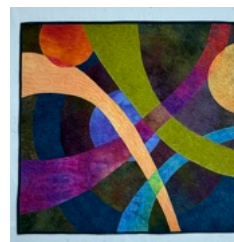
Matisse Cutouts



4th Annual Veteran's Showcase:
"Empowering Women Veterans"



Concerts



Abstract "Celestial Mechanics" by Lea Ferring



Sandpainting



Rock Art

Additionally, the organization continued to hold an annual Open House to kick off its Membership Drive and to hold monthly Meet and Greets for members and visitors. With your continued support in FY 26-27, we look forward to an even brighter future.



Otero Arts is so pleased to announce our latest author, Anne Hillerman, a well-known, respected author and fellow New Mexican, as our Reading Author for the July Reading event.

"Stories have been oxygen to me from the time I was old enough to climb onto a

welcoming lap", Hillerman says. Like her father, Tony Hillerman, one of America's best-loved mystery authors, Anne began as a journalist working at the Santa Fe Reporter and the Albuquerque Journal. She is the bestselling author of the Leaphorn, Chee & Manuelita (her expanded character to the series) mysteries she began writing after her father's death. The original series, featuring Navajo Tribal Police in Window Rock, AZ Leaphorn and Chee, was created by her father. She is also an executive producer of the *Dark Winds* AMC tv series.

She now lives in Santa Fe and Arizona and she has given us a great gift coming to Otero Arts on June 17 @the Artspace, 6 pm.

"The stories we tell ourselves shape our lives and our futures."
— *The Way of the Bear* by Anne Hillerman

Join Us at Otero Artspace

JUNE 28, 3-5PM

ICE CREAM
SOCIAL & SILENT
AUCTION

\$2.00 per person

\$5.00 for family

OTERO ARTSPACE
1118 INDIANA AVE. & 12 ST.

Albertsons Ice Cream
Caliches Toppings

For Tickets: oteroarts.org

Silent Auction:
Jewelry
Collectibles
Baked Desserts
S. F. Opera Tickets



JUNE 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 4: First Thursdays MEET AND GREET, 10 to 11:30 am. Join us for coffee, conversation and community. **ARTIST DEMO:** Maria Aragon will demonstrate "Mini Mural Painting."

ADULTS (14+) JOURNAL JAM on **SATURDAYS, June 6th through June 20 @ the Artspace: 2 to 4 pm.**
Please note: June 13th is from 3 to 5 pm.
Contact Shari @ 575-442-1676 to enroll.
Bring a journal if you have one; paper will be provided.

June 10: OA Board Meeting, 1:30 pm.
All members are welcome.

June 4: Belly dance classes **every Thursday begins @ 5:30.** Contact Claudia Powell, claudia@tularosa.net for details.



Free Art Workshops

ADULT BONUS WORKSHOP: ONE PAGE WONDER
paper Workshop, June 10th, 5 - 7 pm
Shari Adkisson

(One Page Wonder projects are creative ways to utilize a single sheet of paper to create various items, such as cards or crafts.)

June 13: All Ages Workshops:
Kids: 10-12 noon & Adults (16+): 1-3
Mini-Mural Painting by Maria Aragon
Contact mariaaragon64@gmail.com to reserve a spot or sign up via website: www.oteroarts.org

Funded by Thrive! of SoNM



June 16: 6 pm: JRI President David Greenwald will present a summary of research from two archaeological sites in the Jornada Mogollon region (Otero County Tularosa Canyon area and Lincoln County's Cree Meadows area) from different environmental settings. Both sites are part of ongoing investigations and provide new insights into previous perspectives allowing comparisons to be made with other cultural groups in the SW.



Otero Arts is pleased to have Pablo Vesey exhibiting his beautiful SW paintings for June. Open Reception is to be held June 5th, from 5 to 7 pm at Otero Artspace.

Pablo has been a professional artist for over 50 years. As a self-taught artist, he has tried many mediums but works mainly in acrylics. He was part of the art community in Taos, NM and was awarded 1st place in the annual Taos Art Invitational.

Since moving to Alamogordo, Pablo painted a series of large murals for the Classic Desert Aire Hotel on White Sands. He is currently designing a large mural for Alameda Park Zoo.
"I'm inspired by the beautiful New Mexican landscapes and especially the petroglyphs, just the ancient spirit of the land."

The Exhibition continues through the month of June every Thursday through Sunday afternoons from 1 to 4 pm, beginning Saturday, June 6th, ending June 28.



Shortly after OA was able to open the Artspace in the wake of Covid, it held its first fundraiser with an ice cream social and a silent auction. It was a great success and we have continued this popular event every year since. Recently, due to federal cutbacks in support of non-profit organizations like Otero Arts, our annual fundraising is even more important. We now must rely on more private and corporate funding sources to help us continue to serve our communities with quality multi-faceted arts programming.

The 2026 Otero Arts Ice Cream Social and Silent Auction is just around the corner on June 28th from 3-5 pm at the Artspace. Please plan on attending—it's great fun and the ice cream is delicious! It's a great family event and a pleasant space to visit with new and old friends.

If you would like to donate an item or two to the auction, please contact Pennie Espiritu at pennie@lespirit-design.com.

If you are willing to volunteer for an hour or two, please contact Pennie at above email address. Looking forward to seeing you!

Join Us at Otero Artspace

JUNE 28, 3-5PM

ICE CREAM
SOCIAL & SILENT
AUCTION

\$2.00 per person
\$5.00 for family

JUNE 28, 3-5PM

MOVIES @ the ARTSPACE



"Frida: the Making of an Icon"

Frida Kahlo is arguably the world's favorite female artist. Come celebrate her worldwide popularity on Wed., June 17, 7:30 pm @ the Artspace.
This is a free event, but donations are appreciated!

"I never paint dreams or nightmares. I paint my own reality." - Frida Kahlo

Don't forget to keep up with us by checking the website: oteroartsinc.org or FB: Otero Arts



JULY 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 2: First Thursdays MEET AND GREETs, 10 to 11:30 am. Join us for coffee, conversation and community.

ARTIST DEMO: Pennie Espiritu will demonstrate "String Art".

If you are an artist or creative maker of things and would like to be a featured presenter for our monthly Meet and Greet, please contact Ann Beacht at rbeacht@aol.com. The M and G's are the first Thursday of every month from 10-11:30 and presentations usually begin around 10:30 and last about 20 minutes. We would ask you to bring a few examples of the work you would be speaking about.

July 2: Belly dance classes every Thursday begins @ 5:30, contact Claudia Powell: claudia@tularosa.net. (email for details.)



Free Art Workshops

All Ages Workshop for July is to be held on Sat., July 11th and class will be on String Art, to be taught by Pennie Espiritu.

Kids 10 - 12 noon & Adults (16+) 1 - 3



Contact mariaaragon64@gmail.com to reserve a spot or sign up via website: www.oteroarts.org

Funded by Thrive! of SoNM

July 14: OA Board Meeting (2nd Tues) 1:30 at the Artspace. All members welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENT TO MEMBERS: Put it on your calendar for the OA Annual Meeting set for August 12. Please plan to participate in election of officers, yearly reports and a chance to input your ideas for the coming year! Please contact us if you would like to serve on the Board; we are always looking for new perspectives!

REMINDER: July 17, 6 pm. Reading by Anne Hillerman. See first page for particulars. Join us!

In July, Otero Arts will host an exhibition of small works open to paintings in oil, acrylic, pastel, gauche, as well as photography, ceramics and sculpture. Original Artwork is no larger than 12" x 12".

Open Reception is to be held on First Fridays, July 3rd, from 5 to 7 pm at Otero Artspace. The Artspace will be open from 1 to 4 pm every Thursdays to Sunday beginning July 5. Enjoy the 4th; the Gallery will be closed for the July 4th holiday.



Photograph, "Muse", by A.Rao

"Cranes at Dawn" by Jean Templeton



"The Little People", collage by Maria Aragon



Otero Arts in partnership with Jornada Research Institute (JRI) presents monthly lectures by JRI Associates on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. At this time, the July program has not been determined, but the lecture will begin on July 21, at 6 pm.

These lectures are very well attended and are just one example of Otero Arts mission "...to enrich the lives of our community through art and culture and to foster a spirit of mutual support and cooperation."



Otero Artspace
Indiana Ave. & 12th St.

Our historic, beautifully restored building is available to rent for private and public events. Go to oteroarts.org or call 575-446-3880 for rates and to apply. (Right now, there are several groups using the Artspace for monthly meetings: a writers group meets every Monday night, twice a month, a poetry group meets, and belly dance classes meet every Thursday evening.) Please contact us for reservations.



MEMBERSHIP/LOCAL PARTNERS

MEMBERSHIP...THE LIFE BLOOD OF OTERO ARTS

All of the programs presented to the community only happen through the work of member volunteers. Thanks to the following new member for joining us in April We now have 154 members to date:

WELCOME our new member: Evelyn Duran.

Come be a part of this vital project!



Ann Beacht is currently showing her work at the Veterans' Service Organization (VSO) located at the corner of 10th Street and Indiana Ave. This exhibition will be up through July. If you would like to display your work at this venue, contact Janet Amtmann at janet.amtmann@gmail.com.

The Veterans Service Office provides essential support for veterans such as: help with benefits, healthcare services and compensation. 411 E. 10th, Alamogordo.

OA has started a store online where you can order all sorts of items to show your support. The items can be ordered online and sent directly to you.



A portion of the sales will go to OA to support programming.

CLOUDCROFT

New Mexico

In Zenith Park:

BEERFEST: June 13 - 14,

CHRISTMAS IN JULY: July 11 & 12

Otero Arts Board of Directors:

Maria Aragon, President, aragon64@yahoo.com

Janet Amtmann, VP, janet.amtmann@gmail.com

Sue Preslar, preslarusue@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Pennie Espiritu, pennie@lespirit-design.com

Rochelle Williams, rwsantafe@hotmail.com

Chris Jones, cjones@oteroarts.org

Kim Melton Kimberlyreneemelton@gmail.com

Sandra Purrington, spurrington@aol.com

Lucy Berglund, mamalucy2022@outlook.com

Hello and welcome to OAI's newsletter. As you can see, we're keeping busy with our shows and all sorts of bonus events.

We are continuing our film series with the free showing of the documentary:

"Exhibition on Screen - Frida Kahlo."

Pablo Vesey is returning to the arts space for a second show in June.

In July, we're holding a Small Works art show.

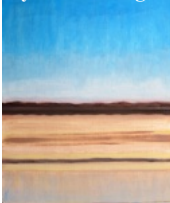
Anne Hillerman will be at our building on July 17th for a reading.

And of course, June 28th is our annual fundraiser: Ice Cream Social and Silent Auction.

In August, a mere two months away, we hold our General Meeting and Election of Board Members. We could always use more board members to help steer and run this organization. Please consider entering your name for the board elections. Contact us if you have any questions about what all is involved.

Looking forward to seeing you all there. Mari Aragon, OAI Board President

by Maria Aragon



CLOUDCROFT ART WORKSHOPS

Summer 2026

June 8-12 David Barranti - Drawing

Drawing: The Keys to Confidence in Your Art

June 15-19 Ken Hosmer - Watercolor

Creative Color - Loose and Vibrant

June 23-26 Hannah Dean - Acrylic & Pencil

Painting Portraits in Living Color

July 14-17 Mike Mahon - Soft Pastel

Loose and Luminous: Soft Pastel Beyond the Photo

July 20-24 Suzy 'Pal' Powell - Watercolor & Ink

Watercolor & Ink Journey - A Creative Sketchbook Workshop

July 28-31 Lorenzo Chavez - Oil & Pastel

Fundamentals of Landscape Painting

August 4-7 Allison Jones Hunt - Acrylic

Permission to Play: Intuitive Painting for Personal Expression

www.cloudcroftart.com

LOCAL EVENTS:

ALAMOGORDO MAINSTREET

*****FIRST FRIDAYS*****

What's happening? Through October, 1st Fridays is Downtown Night in Alamogordo on New York Avenue, 900 block! All merchants open from 4 to 8 pm, with special sales and music provided by KHII on June (5th) and on First Friday in July (3rd), the street is closed at 4 pm for a street dance, beer garden/food trucks Early 4th party with DJ!



Worthy of note: In May, a ribbon cutting ceremony welcomed a special gift to the community by the Leonard and Jane Sheffield Family. Siblings John, Larry and Janet who unveiled a historic timepiece to New York Ave: a historic street clock located on the same site where Sheffield broke ground for the Montgomery Ward building in 1971.

(If you would like to know more about this gift, go to the May 6th article at alamogordotownnews.org.)

SHADY PINES CHAMBER PLAYERS

SEASON 14 (2026)

FAIRY GARDEN STROLLS

at Shady Pines (200 Fox facing Wren)

2-5 p.m. on designated days (or by appointment):

June 26-27, July 3-5,

July 17-18, Aug 7-9,

Aug 21-22, Sept 4-7

Sat, June 20, 3 p.m.

SPCP CELLO BAND

Cloudcroft HS Commons

Featuring our mob of prodigal cellists

Sat, Aug 1, 7 p.m.

TIGER ALLEY

Austin's swingy, bluesy, country sensation

Shady Pines' Bertha Stage

200 Fox (facing Wren) in Cloudcroft

Contact Susannah Cox @ 1-361-557-1960 for more info.



1118 Indiana Ave @ 12th & Indiana,
Alamogordo, NM

Mail: PO Box 2252, 88311
575-446-3880

oteroartsinc@gmail.com

www.oteroarts.org

FB: Otero Arts Inc

The mission of Otero Arts, Inc. is to enrich the lives of the people of our community through art and culture and to foster a spirit of mutual support and cooperation.

Otero Arts is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Dept. of Cultural Affairs and by the National Endowment for the Arts. Youth Workshops are funded by the Devasthali Family Foundation with assistance from the Community Foundation of Southern NM. Thrive of Southern NM also supports and funds Otero Arts programs.

nma
new mexico arts
public support for the arts



Otero County Electric
Cooperative, Inc.

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT for the ARTS
arts.gov



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO

Creative
West