



# OTERO ARTS NEWS

APRIL/MAY 2026 \* WWW.OTEROARTS.ORG \* FB: OTERO ARTS INC

## 4th ANNUAL STUDENT ART EXHIBITION SET FOR APRIL AT OTERO ARTS

The first Student Art Exhibition in 2022 was the idea of OA member Liliane Pilot who wanted to give teachers a venue where their students' artwork could be displayed in a gallery-like setting. Each year since then the Student Exhibit has grown beyond our wildest expectations. Last year almost 600 attended the Opening Reception.

This year the Student Exhibit has been divided into two segments. *First two weeks (4/1 - 4/12) will be for artwork from K through 6th grade with an Opening Reception on April 1 from 4-6 pm. The second exhibit will be for artwork from 7th grade through 12th grade plus NMSU art classes. The second Opening Reception for this group is on April 15th from 4-6pm.*

**Special Hours for the April exhibit ONLY: 1- 5 pm Wednesdays through Sundays from April 1st- 23rd.**



One of the many families at the Opening Reception for the Student Art Show last year.

## OTERO ARTS CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES WITH Lone Piñon String Band

Lone Piñon is a New Mexican string band whose music celebrates the integrity of Northern NM's cultural roots. With fiddles, upright bass, accordion, guitar and bilingual vocals, they play a wide spectrum of the traditional music that is at home in NM. Over the past decade Lone Piñon has played extensively throughout the Southwest, recorded five live studio albums and represented NM traditions at the Library of Congress and in festivals across the mainland and in Hawaii.

Otero Arts is proud to present Lone Piñon in concert on May 8th at the Artspace (12th & Indiana), at 7 pm. Tickets are \$25. Go to [oteroarts.org](http://oteroarts.org) for tickets.



## 2026 VETERAN ARTS SHOWCASE

**EXHIBITS: Veteran Women Arts and Portraits of Military Women**

Gallery Hours Thurs-Sunday 1-4pm ~ May 2-30

**MAY 1 @ 5PM OPENING CEREMONY & RECEPTION**

Alamogordo HS Air Force ROTC Color Guard ~ Guest Speaker/Author: Eva Nevarez St. John

**6:30PM 4SUICIDES Looking for a Place to Happen, Act III: MST**

**MAY 15-17, 2026**

## WOMEN VETERANS EMPOWERED AND THRIVING

Featured Veteran Artists/Co-Presenters:

**JENNY PACANOWSKI, Founder and CORINNA BROWN, Vice President**



**MAY 15 @ 5PM WVET Empowerment Workshop for Women Veterans/Active Duty (Pre-registration required)**

**MAY 16 @ 4PM WVET Empowerment Workshop for Civilians and Caretakers**

**MAY 17 @ 11:30AM BRUNCH and Empowerment Workshop: A Guide to Releasing the Story with Breath and Intention (Civilians & Veterans)**

**@ 1-4PM WVET HOSTS OPEN MIC for Civilian & Veteran Performers/Speakers**

**MAY 22 @6:30PM 4SUICIDES Looking for a Place to Happen, Act III: MST**

An original, audience interactive play about military suicide risk and prevention.

**MAY 30 @ 4PM DRUM CIRCLE AND CLOSING CEREMONY**

Military-connected or Civilian, all ages welcome. Use our instruments or bring your own.

**OTERO ARTSPACE** 12th and Indiana, Alamogordo NM

Showcase Chair: **Lori Arella** [drloria@gmail.com](mailto:drloria@gmail.com) 845-797-3642

Made possible by grants from New Mexico Arts and The Sacramento Mountains Foundation



# APRIL 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

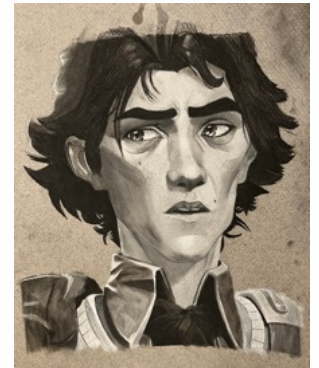
April's Art Exhibition presents Student Art Display. Due to popular participation, this year the Exhibition will be presented in two parts, with the first group (Grades 1st through 6th grade) Exhibition Opening Reception set for April 1st (WEDNESDAY) from 4 to 6 pm. The Exhibition for the grade schoolers runs from 4/1 - 4/12.

Student Art Exhibit's Opening Reception for 7th through 12th grades plus NMSU students will be 4-6 pm on Wednesday, April 15th. Exhibition continues through April 23rd. Otero Artspace gallery is open every Wednesdays through Sundays from 1-5 pm. (only for April)

## GRADE SCHOOL



## HIGH SCHOOL



**April 1 MEET AND GREET, 10 to 11:30.** Join us for coffee, conversation and community. **ARTIST DEMO:** Rosemary Daffern from Rebel Music Theater (RMT) will present the demo.

**April 2:** Belly dance classes every Thursday begin @ 5:30, contact Claudia for more details: [claudia@tularosa.net](mailto:claudia@tularosa.net).

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

OA presents **CHARMAYNE SAMUELSON** as our latest Author in our Reading series on April 17, 6 pm @ the Artspace

Charmayne Samuelson is an author of 12 books, spanning several genres of fiction and non-fiction. Her most recent book has won an astounding 8 awards. The bilingual Award-Winning **MATA ORTIZ POETRY OF THE CLAY** photography art book features 25 Mata Ortiz potters and their life stories, as well as her original poetry which illuminates the stunning Mata Ortiz pottery.



The JRI April 21st lecture will be presented by Ron Barber, JRI Associate. He will be speaking about an unusual phenomenon found in association with many rock art sites: rocks that ring specific tones. These rare basalt or granite rocks have a structure that generates an acoustic ringing sound when struck. Join us on **Tues., April 21 at 6 pm at the Artspace** to learn about this fascinating archeological wonder of our surscundings.

**April 18 through May 23rd are the dates for this year's Journal Jam. See next page for details!**

## Free Art Workshops

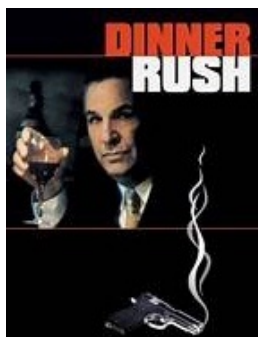
**SATURDAY, APRIL 11**  
Gelli Print Process Classes  
(Kids) 10 - noon, (Adults) 1 - 3 pm



Contact [mariaaragon64@gmail.com](mailto:mariaaragon64@gmail.com) to reserve a spot or sign up via website: [www.oteroarts.org](http://www.oteroarts.org)  
Funded by Thrive! of SoNM

## MOVIES at the ARTSPACE

Join us for the viewing of "Dinner Rush", starring Danny Aiello as a part-time bookie who discovers his restaurant has become a haven for colorful characters AND that he must fend off a hostile takeover from a pair of gangsters. Come enjoy a convoluted, zany character movie **Sunday afternoon (2-4 pm) on April 26.** Free Admission, but donations are always appreciated!



The May Exhibition is the annual Veteran Arts Showcase. This year's theme is "Empowering Women Veterans." First Friday Reception is set for May 1 @ the Artspace begins 5 pm; Guest Speaker is Author, Veteran Eva Nevarez St. John. The gallery is open weekly free to the public every Thursday through Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 pm.

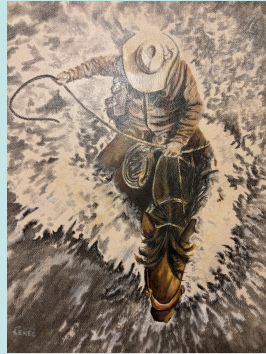


"Eagle", by Cynthia Roberson, AF RN vet, also participating in *Portraits of Military Women*.

Artist: Renee Follum, Tularosa, Army Veteran.

"Crossing the River" >

"Rick and Curley"



"Rooster", by Leah Nelson, Army Vet and participating in *Portraits of Military Women*.



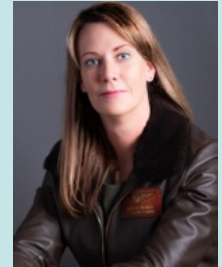
In addition to original artwork from Women Vets, the showing will also include a unique display by photographer Kim Melton called *Portraits of Military Women*, featuring women vets who have served as far back as the Vietnam Era. American women have served, including combat roles, in every war since the Revolution. Currently 18% of active service members are women, and at least 1300 female vets live in Otero County.



Eva Nevarez St. John



Carolyn Peeler



Jacquelyne Nichols

**May 7: MEET AND GREET, 10 to 11:30.** Join us for coffee, and community.

**May 7:** Belly dance classes every Thursday begin @ 5:30, contact Claudia Powell: [claudia@tularosa.net](mailto:claudia@tularosa.net). (email for

**May 12: OA Board Meeting (2nd Tues) 1:30** at the Artspace. All members are welcome.

**May 1st & May 22nd: 4SUICIDES LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO HAPPEN - Act III\***

An interactive play, written and directed by Pablo Jasso, US Army, AF Vet and OA member, 6:30 pm, free admission @ the Artspace. (part of "Empowering Women Veterans" Showcase.)



**Don't forget: Monday Nights! All Write writers group meets every Monday @ 6pm. Contact [angeladlavere@gmail.com](mailto:angeladlavere@gmail.com) to join.**

## Free Art Workshops

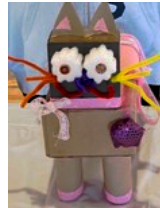
**SATURDAY, May 9th Classes**

Kids: Cardboard Critters (10 to noon)

Adults: Abstract Painting - (Watercolors/Tempura Paints, 1-3 pm)



Abstract Painting



Contact [mariaaragon64@gmail.com](mailto:mariaaragon64@gmail.com) to reserve a spot or sign up via [website](http://www.oteroarts.org):

[www.oteroarts.org](http://www.oteroarts.org)

Funded by Thrive! of Southern New Mexico

Our beautiful facility, The Artspace, is available for rent for your group's meetings, events, etc. Call 575-446-3880 for more information and reservations.

Don't forget to keep up with us by checking the website: [oteroartsinc.org](http://oteroartsinc.org) or FB: Otero Arts



**ADULTS (14+) JOURNAL JAM on SATURDAYS, May 23rd through June 27 @ the Artspace: 2 to 4 pm.**

Please note: May 23rd is from 1 to 3 pm and 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.



At this time, the subject of the May 19th JRI lecture has not been set. Keep an eye out for the flyer. The Lecture will begin at 6 pm at the Artspace. We can promise a interesting discussion about our archeological surroundings!



# MEMBERSHIP/LOCAL PARTNERS

## MEMBERSHIP...THE LIFE BLOOD OF OTERO ARTS

**Members:** the lifeblood of Otero Arts. Please consider joining us or renewing your current membership. All of the programs presented to the community only happens through the work of member volunteers. Thanks to the following new and renewal members joining us in January, February and March:

### WELCOME to our new members:

Shelley Dowhanik  
Bryant aka Choo Choo Fannin and "Ace."  
Diana Green Grant Hicok  
Angela LaVere Jerry and Jane Swanson  
Michael and Radona Wood  
Carol and Doc Wright

### and THANK YOU to members renewing:

Ann Bagby Eve Bessier  
Pennie Espiritu Florence Dean  
Michael & Jen Gruger Kristina Henneke  
Josette and Tommie Herrell  
Alan Higgins Delia Holloway  
Jane Huang Helgi Osterreich  
Julie Hyatt Robson  
Donna and Jeff Swanson  
Stephanie Sena

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.

### Otero Arts Board of Directors:

Maria Aragon, President,  
mariaaragon64@yahoo.com  
Janet Amtmann, VP, janet.amtmann@gmail.com  
Sue Preslar, preslaruae@yahoo.com  
Treasurer  
Pennie Espiritu, pennie@lespirit-design.com,  
Secretary  
Rochelle Williams, rwsantafe@hotmail.com  
Chris Jones, cjones@oteroarts.org  
Kim Melton, Kimberlyreneemelton@gmail.com  
Sandra Purrington  
sspurrington@aol.com  
Lucy Berglund  
mamalucy2022@outlook.com

Welcome to our bimonthly newsletter. Our schedule is going to be packed in April and May!

April is our annual Student Art Show, our busiest and most popular one.

ATTENTION: Because of last year's amazing number of submissions, we've had to divide it into two rotations and added an extra hour:

The K-6th will be up only from Apr 1st-12th. 7th up through college will be up Apr 15th-26th. The openings will be on Wed. nights 1st and 15th 5-7PM. The rest of the days are 1-5PM, Wed - Sundays.

If you have any questions, email us. May is our annual Veteran Arts Showcase, in which we will feature their art and hold various events to benefit Veterans. It is also a highly popular exhibition, so come and check it out.

Thank you for your support.  
M. Aragon, President

by Maria Aragon



## LOCAL EVENTS:



April 23: Quarteto Nuevo Concert, 7 pm.

New Mexico's Finest Wineries  
Tularosa Vineyards  
Noisy Water Winery  
Sheehan Winery  
Chavez Brothers Vineyard  
Rio Grande Winery

Rotary Club of Tularosa

**Save the Date**  
April 18 and 19, 2026  
Doors open 12 Noon  
Encino at 3rd Street  
Tularosa, NM

**\$15**  
Tickets



## 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](http://www.cloudcroftart.com)

Summer's coming! go to the website to register for summer workshops

THRIVE OF SO. NM has scheduled a 5K Colorfest Fun Run in Alamogordo for April 26. Call 575-437-8400 for details and registration.  
[runsignup.com/Race/NM/Alamogordo](http://runsignup.com/Race/NM/Alamogordo)



2026 MAYFAIR  
JURIED ART SHOW

SATURDAY, MAY 23  
FROM 10AM-5PM  
SUNDAY, MAY 24  
FROM 10AM-4PM

ZENITH PARK  
BEHIND THE CHAMBER

Advertising for Mayfair was paid for in part by the Cloudcroft Lodgers Tax Program



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www.oteroarts.org  
FB: Otero Arts Inc

The mission of Otero Arts, Inc. is to enrich the lives 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. Thrive of Southern NM funds the All Ages Art Workshops; Creative West funds musical performances and OCEC funds literary programs.

