



Students work on mosaic collages at the Pendleton Center for the Arts in 2015.

Exploring the arts

Housed in what was originally a Carnegie Library, the Pendleton Center for the Arts provides art and art education to the citizens of Pendleton and northeast Oregon. With monthly exhibits, live music, a gift shop showcasing regional arts and crafts and education, the Arts Center is a centerpiece of culture in Eastern Oregon.

The nonprofit behind it all is the Arts Council of Pendleton, which after a 2-year fundraising campaign, a massive restoration of the old library and the generous support of the city and community, opened the center in 2001. The East Oregonian Gallery houses exhibitions in various mediums by local and regional artists, as well as professional artists from outside the region. Each spring the Open Regional Exhibit allows amateur and professional artists from the area the chance to showcase their work. Cash prizes are awarded in several categories. In addition to the main gallery, local emerging artist's work is on exhibition in a smaller downstairs gallery. There are a total of 11 admission-free exhibits per year.

The craft sales gallery gives regional artists and craftspeople a venue to sell their handmade wares. From hand-made glassware to pottery, jewelry, leather goods, books and paintings, the gallery offers something for everyone. Each winter, before the holidays, the main gallery and sales gallery merge to form the Art of the Gift exhibit, which offers one of the best places to buy unique and handmade gifts for the holiday season.

Arts education is at the core of the Art Center's mission. Free drop-in and tuition classes taught by local artists are offered

throughout the year. Classes range from painting and drawing to stained glass, ceramics and leatherworking, as well as fun and crafty classes for kids. Every Saturday morning the "Free for All!" class for children age 12 and under gives kids and their parents the chance to get crafty with a free class. The large on-site ceramics and painting studios offer space for professional and dabbling artists alike.

Since its inception in 2005, Art Rocks Teens (or Rock Camp) has become one of the Arts Center's signature annual events. Roughly 100 teens attend each year and are instructed by professional musicians from around the Northwest on how to form a rock band. Teens with musical ability are taught songwriting, music lessons, concert promotion and digital recording. At the end of the week the teens' newly formed bands perform a free rock concert on Pendleton's Main Street.

The First Draft Writer's Series is held on the third Thursday of every month. Renowned literary artists from around the Northwest read from their works and the event is followed by an open mic session that gives anyone the chance to read their original work. Every third Friday of the month is Folk Night with contra and square dancing, live musicians and a caller. In addition, a number of live musical performances are held throughout the year.

The Arts Center is located at 214 N. Main Street just across the Umatilla River from downtown Pendleton. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Go to: www.pendletonarts.org or call 541-278-9201 for information.

— Ian Shadle

Crow's Shadow Institute of the Arts

- 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday
- 48004 St. Andrews Road, Pendleton

Located on the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Crow's Shadow provides classes and Artist in Residency opportunities for artists interested in printmaking. Their gallery exhibits artists' work and offers prints for sale.

Betty Feves Memorial Gallery

- 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Thursday
- 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton

Located in Pioneer Hall on the Blue Mountain Community College Campus, the gallery features work by local artists as well as students and staff.

Pendleton Art And Frame

- 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. M-T-TH-F, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday
- 36 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton

In addition to offering professional picture and painting framing, the work of local artists is on display and for sale.

Kay C's Art And Collectibles

- 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
- 167 E. Main St., Hermiston

An antique shop that also features the work of watercolor artist Mary K. Corp. Watercolor painting classes and workshops are also available taught by Mary K. Corp.

Clay in Motion

- 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday
- 85301 Highway 11, Milton-Freewater

A ceramics studio that produces unique, mugs, plates and bowls on a large scale. The adjacent Art in Motion features handmade ceramic works like hand turned vases, and lamps.

Valley Bronze Gallery and Foundry

- 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday
- 18 S. Main St., Joseph

Since 1982 Valley Bronze in Joseph has been casting metal statues and sculptures. Their showroom displays the artwork of sculptors who cast their work in the foundry as well as paintings and photographs from local artists.

Joseph Center For Arts and Culture

- Noon to 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday
- 403 N. Main St., Joseph

Joseph's art center featuring a gallery with works by local artists, art classes, music, movies, and more.

Art Center East

- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
- 1006 Penn Ave., La Grande

A hub for art and culture in Eastern Oregon, Art Center East offers a wide range of classes for kids and adults, as well as gallery exhibits and artist-in-residence programs.

Crossroads Carnegie Art Center

- 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday
- 2020 Auburn Ave., Baker City

Baker City's Art Center provides the community with art exhibits, classes, and workshops. Check out their yearly Salt Lick Art Auction, in which locals donate salt blocks found in rancher's pastures.