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CLASSES

All of the art centers keep a current list of class offerings on their websites, as well as updates on social media and emailed newsletters.

The offerings vary from county to county.

Dolge said popular classes at ACE include watercolor, fused glass and guitar.

At Crossroads, workshops such as knitting, sewing and dance are filling up quickly.

Stewart said Josephy's classes of ceramics and paintings "always fill up."

At Painted Sky Center for the Arts in Canyon City, a big focus is providing weekly offerings for youth in an afterschool program. Each day has a different focus: painting, architecture, graphic novels, art science and moviemaking.

"The kids have a lot of fun



Pendleton Center for the Arts/Contributed image
Pendleton Center for the Arts offers a time for art projects on Saturdays.

scripting, filming, acting, adjusting Legos, and editing the movies," said Ryan McKnab, youth program supervisor.

He said adult classes are proving popular, too.

"Since the summer, our course attendance has increased — we offer more courses and the members who attend

are finding enjoyment," he said. "And they talk their friends into coming with them the next time."

ART AND TOURISM

In addition to serving local communities with art classes and shows, these centers rely on tourism traffic.

And that's been down over the last two years.



Crossroads Carnegie Art Center/Contributed image
Cathy Treadway, left, led a class on barn quilt painting in January at Crossroads Carnegie Art Center in Baker City. She will offer another session on March 5.

These centers are participating in a study to collect data on the economic impact of arts in the community.

Liora Sponko, senior program manager for the Oregon Arts

Commission, refers to each center as an "art council."

"They're providing such important services to their communities," Sponko said. "They are really hubs, and are so essential."

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