



Welcome to the April 2024 Newsletter

You are invited to a lively and fun fund-raising event on April 21st. Buy your tickets, tell your friends and let's do this. The information follows.



A Tournament to benefit WHAM. Swing fore the Arts on April 21st, 2024.

WHAM is a 501c3 Not-for-Profit committed to support and promote Art Awareness and participation in the West Valley of Metro Phoenix. WHAM's programs for Veterans, Kids, Teens & Adults include painting, drawing, pottery, clay art, mixed media and more!

Join us at TOPGOLF Glendale, 6101N 99th Ave, Glendale, AZ for fun, food and much more. Please call Connie Whitlock or WHAM at 623-640-5229 to find out how you too can help spread the good news about WHAM and help with WHAM's biggest fundraiser.

Visit our website for more information at www.wham-art.org.

April in the Gallery

Recycled Art from the Heart



The 'Recycled Art' themed exhibit is here for the ninth year in a row. Now that the City of Surprise is back to recycling, bring your friends to see how some things are just too good to let go of. In fact, they are good enough to hang on the walls of your castle. See what creativity can do when given a challenge. The reception where you can meet some of the artists is on April 13 from 2-4 p.m. at the gallery. Bring a friend; we'll supply the chocolate.

It's So Fun to See How Recycled Items Became Art from the Heart

Exhibition dates: April 3 thru May 18, 2024

Reception & Awards Presentation: April 13th 2pm to 5pm

WEST VALLEY YOUTH POET LAUREATE Celebration & Induction

• Friday April 19. •

Please support these young people
and enjoy the show.

Friday April 19 at 6:15 the doors open for a very special event and we would love for you to join us as WHAM inducts the second ever West Valley Youth Poet Laureate. Nathaniel George, the current West Valley Youth Poet Laureate will be performing some of his works as well as the winner, and five runners up young poets between the ages of 14-18. If you were planning to come and perform, or just be in the audience, please do. There will be time for you as well and we want to fill the room with spoken words. Join us for this heartfelt community experience. You will be supporting young writers, supporting the Literary Arts and getting out of the house. The \$5 entrance fee pays for the refreshments.

Do You Know a young poet?

There is still a bit more time if you know a teen who is a POET. If so, the submission deadline has been extended to April 19th. Let them know they are eligible to become the next West Valley Youth Poet Laureate if they submit a sample of their works. The awards include - First Place \$250, Second Place \$100 and Third Place \$50. There will also be honorable mentions. Applications for submission are processed through the WHAM website under www.wham-art.org under the Literary Arts Header. If you have any questions or issues with the application please contact Maggie Gautier.

MAGGIE.GAUTIER@WHAM-ART.ORG
773-852-9873.

Join us for this heartfelt community experience. You will be glad you came.



Springtime brings – “THE BIRDS AND THE BEES”

Spring brings with it the promise of new life, new experiences and a riot of glorious colors to delight our eyes. In celebration of this special time of year, WHAM is holding an exhibit of fine art, dedicated to artists interpretation of nature and the miraculous events brought about when the birds and the bees get busy tending to nature's gifts to the earth.

Deadline to enter: May 7th

Notifications of Acceptance: May 14th

Show dates: May 21st to June 29th

Artists Reception: May 25th 4 to 6pm

APRIL CLASSES AT A GLANCE

For information on our classes visit wham-art.org/classes

Master Art Program Monet

April 2nd & 13th
10:00am-11:30m



Prickly Pear Cactus Glass Art

April 3rd
10:00am - 2:30pm

Rainbow Bouquet Friday Night Paint Night

April 5th
6:00-8:00pm





**Master Art Program
Cezanne**

**April 16th
10:00-11:30am**

**WHAM Kids Saturday
Arts & Crafts
Cupcake Paper Flowers**

**???
1:30pm-2:30pm**



**Open Mic Night at WHAM is
Every 3rd Friday of the Month
6:30-8:00pm - April 19 is a
special event and all are
invited**

Friday april 19th at 6:15 the doors open for the Ceremony to select the West Valley Youth Poet Laureate. The applicants will be the featured poets and the stage will also be open to members of the community.

Please join us for this lively, fun and heartfelt community experience. You will be glad you did and the \$5. Dollar entrance fee pays for the treats that are served.

TeenWHAM Art Club

Clay Box

April 17th

4:30pm-6:30pm



Finding the Artist Within

April 18th

10:00am-10:30am

**Beginners Fused Glass
Pocket Vase**

April 20th

1:00pm-4:30pm





Spring Cactus

April 18th
6:00pm-8:00pm

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Vets Program "A Path to Healing"

Surprise Vets
April 8th
Peoria Vets
April 25th



There's a chance you don't know about this important and impactful outreach program facilitated by WHAM. Here's the news.

"Self-Care Through Art" Support Offered to Sex Trafficked Girls in Special Program

WHAM Art Center has been providing 'Self-Care Through Art' for the Sanctuary Program at West Valley StreetlightUSA, for the past 3 years, monthly, year-round, offering respite through hands-on art activities, crafts, art lessons, clay/ceramic classes and group art projects on



site. The girls come from throughout the West Valley, and their addresses are confidential. For trafficking survivors, art is an effective, engaging, non-verbal treatment to support adolescent girls ages 13-17 at risk of, and victimized by, commercial sex trafficking. The classes are taught by professional WHAM art teachers vetted by StreetlightUSA. This program has been funded by individuals and small business donations.

StreetlightUSA transitions adolescent girls victimized by or at risk of being exploited by commercial sex trafficking, from trauma to triumph through crisis-

intervention and stabilization 24/7. Sanctuary Residential Program provides counseling and therapy through trauma-informed-care in-patient services in an emotionally and physically safe environment to teen girls suffering significantly due to sexual abuse.

The funding was running out for WHAM to continue teaching at StreetlightUSA Shelter in Glendale and the classes were in jeopardy of ending. Some funding for this program 'Self-Care Through Art' came from out of the blue when Glendale's Councilman Jamie Aldama stepped up to give WHAM's art program at StreetlightUSA a \$1,500 donation to keep this worthwhile endeavor alive.

Glendale's Councilman Jamie Aldama is serving his third term as a councilmember and will be campaigning for election to be the next Glendale Mayor. Councilmember Aldama is former chair of the Government Services Committee and is a past Vice-Chairman for the Glendale Planning and Zoning Commission, past Vice-Chairman of the Glendale Parks and Recreation Commission, and a former member of the Mayor's Water and Sewer Task Force. Councilmember Aldama currently chairs the Glendale Audit Committee.

"I am so pleased to be involved with WHAM Art Association", said Glendale City Councilman Jamie Aldama of the Ocotillo District. "Sex Trafficking is a major issue in our society and knowing that WHAM gives these young women's shelter and an outlet away from it all is truly remarkable."

WHAM Art Center located in Surprise, Arizona is the West Valley's One Stop Art Center, just as Glendale One is the one stop for service. WHAM turned 17 this year! What started as a small art center with no staff and a few members, is, today, THE West Valley Community art center with over 300 artist members, a team of 14 staff and serving over 6,000 people annually through the door at the 8,500 sq.ft fully-equipped art center, with thousands more served through public events produced by WHAM Art Center.

WHAM Art Center is committed to provide art experience to ALL including several underserved populations like Veterans, Special Needs individuals, Teens At-Risk, Seniors, Human Trafficked Girls, and Economically challenged parents with children who desperately need art education, as well as all the traditional art ages and groups.

If you would like to contribute to WHAM's program "Self-Care through Art" it would go a long way toward serving the wonderful young women, we work with. Please go to our website www.wham-art.org to donate or send your donation into WHAM Art Center, 16560 N. Dysart Rd., Surprise, AZ 85378, Attn: Self-Care through Art.

WHAM Art Association (WHAM) is a community oriented 501 (c) (3) organization that is bringing the ARTS to people of all ages, race, abilities, and economic status in many of the West Valley Cities. WHAM's mission is to provide innovative, multidisciplinary, arts-inclusive programming, exhibits, and projects to the diverse communities we serve. As an organization, we are interested in enhancing economic development and artistic collaboration for our members, the community, and other organizations.

WHAM Art Association is committed to support and promote art awareness and participation in the West Valley through exhibits, art walks, public art, festivals, art education and instructional art classes.

Connie Whitlock
Executive Director
623-584-8311
connie.whitlock@wham-art.org

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO MEMBER ART EXCHANGE

- WHAM Members, Please note -- we are making changes to the Member Art Exchange Schedule for the remainder of 2024. The next exchange will be held on May 5th and 6th from 11am to 2pm . There will not be an exchange during the summer months. Exchanges will begin again on Sept 8th and 9th from 11am to 2pm.
- The beautiful Member Art throughout the building is enjoyed by all of the visitors to our art center. Besides the three-dimensional art available, there are paintings of all sizes. Also, the gift shop offers a wide variety of one-of-a kind gifts.
- A special treat is in store for all of us because, thanks to Linda Stahl and her volunteers, our hallways and gallery will be visited by hundreds of paper birds gracefully fluttering above our heads. Truly a cheerful delight to be enjoyed by all.

Want to become a WHAM member? Here are the amazing benefits!

- **Discount on Art Classes**
- **Classroom Rental Discount (art instruction/class use)**
- **Art Clubs & Special Events (art collaboration)**
- **Member Meetings Quarterly**
- **Ability to hang your artwork at no cost to you unless it sells then you pay 25% fee**
- **Usage of WHAM building during open hours with approval**
- **Access to an Artist community to share ideas**

- **Ability to sell artwork in the Gift Shop at no cost to you unless it sells, then you donate 25% back to WHAM**
- **Ability to Enter into WHAM Exhibits, Events and Art Fairs**
- **Opportunities to give back to the community with your volunteer hours for classes and events!**
- **More fun than a barrel of monkeys!**

IT'S TIME TO GET INVOLVED IN THE ARTS WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY



WHAM Art Center | 16560 N Dysart Rd | Surprise, AZ 85378
623.584.8311 | WWW.WHAM-ART.ORG WHAMARTASSOCIATION@WHAM-ART.ORG

WHAM is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization providing art education for the local community with the intent of enhancing artistic talents.

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