



What's Happen'N Art Movement

Welcome to the October 2024 Newsletter

Current Gallery Exhibit  
October 2 - October 29

**Mentor & Protégé**  
*Ron Souza & Penny Bragg*

**WHAM Gallery**  
Surprise, Arizona  
October 2nd thru October 29th.  
Live Painting Demonstrations  
Gallery Hours - 10am to 4pm Daily  
Closed Sundays and Mondays

**Reception**  
Saturday - October 5th  
4pm to 7pm  
Everyone's Invited

Get Your Calendars Out -  
There's some events you won't want to miss!

**For Members Only**

WHAM Monthly Madness is for our





members only. On Saturday, October 5th from 10:30M to 12:30pm we will be working on a decoupage vase. You must sign up at the WHAM front desk in advance. There will be a charge of \$5 per person, everything that you need will be supplied and design choices are almost unlimited. We are limited to 12 people in the classroom. Don't wait, seats are going fast! Sign up today.



### Members Meeting - THANK YOU AND IT WAS SO GREAT TO SEE SO MANY OF YOU

Thank you to everyone who attended the September Membership Meeting. We appreciate seeing all of you and exchanging thoughts and ideas. The next WHAM Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10th from 5:30 to 7:30pm. Come and join us for some fun and to celebrate our unique art place.

Glendale Community Center  
Presents YOU!

# OPEN MIC NIGHT

Advanced  
Sign up  
Optional



3RD  
THURSDAY  
OF EVERY  
MONTH!

Begins October 17th!

Starts at  
**6:00 PM**  
...  
**FREE!**

Glendale  
Community Center  
5401 W. Ocotillo Road

For more information  
call 623.930.4700

**Glendale**  
PARKS AND RECREATION





The Open Mic Night is Now in Both Surprise and Glendale Presented by WHAM. Remember the third Friday of every month, the Open Mic is open at WHAM and is waiting for you to come back or come by for the first time. The third Thursday in Glendale starts Oct. 17. Hope to see you there.

M.C. Maggie Gautier, Literary Arts Manager at WHAM.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO COX COMMUNICATIONS - A GRANT FOR THE TEEN'S PROGRAMS AT WHAM. WE TRULY APPRECIATE IT.**



Connie Whitlock and Lindsey at the Event

## Speaking of Teens - We have Some Great News

Teen Art Night will start on Wednesday Oct. 23rd at the Main Library in Peoria thanks to the generous support and the collaboration with Jennifer Crawford and WHAM's Teen Art Team Member Ashley Dooley. The classes, free of charge, is in its third year and will be every fourth Wednesday of the month for eight consecutive weeks (not December) ending in June 25, 2025. Here's the flyer that's available at WHAM and the Peoria Library. Feel free to take some to bring to your school, library, home, and any place you think teens would be able to find out about this amazing opportunity.

## OCTOBER CLASSES AT A GLANCE

Upcoming Classes You Want to Make Sure You Let Your Family and Friends Know are Available. There's even more information on [www.WHAM-art-org](http://www.WHAM-art-org)





Presents:

Free Art Classes at Main Peoria Library  
Ages 12-17  
Every 4th Wednesday, Excluding December



8463 W Monroe St Peoria, AZ  
85345

- 4:30pm - 6:30pm
- No Sign Up Necessary, Just Walk In
- Welcome to attend one or all of the classes
- Limit Class Size of 15



## Classes



**October 23rd** : Printmaking



**November 27th**: Native American History Month - Dream Catchers



**January 22nd**: Winter Wonderland Acrylic Painting



**February 26th**: Black History Month - Kimmy Kantrell Inspired Abstract Expressionist Face Paper Sculptures



**March 26th**: Paper Quilled Frames



**April 23rd**: Recycled CD Mosaics



**May 28th**: Monet Inspired Oil Pastel Resist Watercolor Lilies



**June 25th**: String Art





# The Magic of Mata Ortiz Pottery

Live Demonstrations and Sales  
with Renowned Potters from Mexico

November 9-10 at WHAM Art Center



## Saturday, November 9th

Only \$10.00 donation to WHAM  
per person for demonstration sessions

### MORNING SESSION: 9 AM-12:00 PM

- **Kickstart the Craft:** Watch as the potters use a Puki to shape the base of each pot.
- **Masterful Coiling:** See the magic happen as they expertly coil and form the pots.
- **Drying and Burnishing:** Learn the secrets behind that perfect, polished finish.

### LUNCH BREAK: 12:00

- **Bring your own lunch:** Stay and enjoy the artistic atmosphere.

### AFTERNOON SESSION: 1 PM-3:00PM

- **Art in the Details:** Discover the intricate techniques of surface decoration.
- **Outdoor Firing:** Watch as pots are fired using pail and cottonwood kindling.
- **The Big Reveal:** Witness the final product emerge from the flames!

## Sunday, November 10th

POTTERY SHOWCASE AND SALES:  
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

- **Browse and Buy:** Enjoy a stunning collection of pottery, including rare black-on-black reduction fired pieces and vivid oxidation works. Enhance or begin your collection with one-of-a-kind art straight from Mexico!

**Raffles and Door Prizes!**  
**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY**  
Including a chance to win a  
Mata Ortiz piece of Pottery

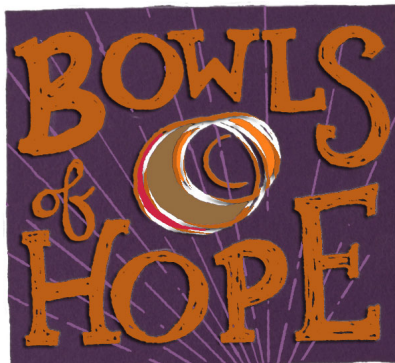
WHAM-ART.ORG  
623.584.8311

16560 N Dysart Rd  
Surprise, AZ 85378

WHAMartassociation  
WHAMartassoc WHAM.art



## Don't Get Bowled Over - The Bowls of Hope is Around the Corner



It's never too early to remind everyone that the annual **Bowls of Hope** will be held at WHAM on Saturday, December 7th from 9am to 3pm. As most of you know, this is the way that WHAM gives back to local charities by donating the proceeds from the sale of the handmade bowls to several needy groups. So mark your calendar and plan to help us support this worthy endeavor.

## A BIG THANK YOU AND A WARM WELCOME

We Have Good News about a New Team Member as we all say a big thank you to Mike Brunson for his dedication and vision for the ever-evolving Clay Department at WHAM.





Thank you, Mike, and now we'd like to introduce the new Clay Team Leader, Jeff Heeg. So come by, welcome Jeff, and get into some mud.

Mike Brunson will still be around getting his

hands dirty and making great art.

Jeff brings over thirty years of knowledge and experience in clay. A graduate from Northern Kentucky University with a BFA in ceramics, sculpture and drawing. Jeff honed many of his skills as artist in residence for Reitz Ranch related to atmospheric firing, loading, firing, building and maintaining many types of kilns. There is much more to Jeff's story. Stay tuned for a meet and greet for all our clay members soon. We look forward to the continued growth and excitement of the clay department. Welcome aboard Jeff!

## WHAM is in the News and it's all because of YOU!



WHAM was started by clay artist Connie Whitlock.

### Where Art Meets Impact

WHAM sparks artistic innovation in the West Valley

#### Origin

WHAM — WHAT's Happen'n Art Movement — started in 2006. Over the years, it has become known as the West Valley's primary art center, providing a diverse range of art activities, from painting and pottery to poetry, to supplement the art departments of all West Valley cities.

WHAM has more than 300 members, two-thirds of which are arts educators. "Our artists teach many mediums to the community, giving them a way to learn art techniques and a better quality of life," said WHAM founder and executive director Connie Whitlock.

But WHAM isn't just an arts group. "We are a fluid organization that changes to meet our current cultural and historical needs. WHAM believes that art is for ALL, no matter your age, gender, economic status, race or beliefs," Whitlock said.

#### Mission

WHAM connects people through the arts by providing multidisciplinary, arts-inclusive programming, exhibits and projects to the diverse communities it serves.

#### ORGANIZATION

WHAM

#### ANNUAL BUDGET

\$310,000

#### LEADERSHIP

Connie Whitlock

Founder and executive director





No matter age or ability, WHAM offers classes to support the community with many different mediums.

### Most Surprising Thing About the Organization

Striving to be inclusive, not exclusive, WHAM not only teaches traditional art classes to adults and children but also provides a variety of outreach programs to underserved populations. "One of the surprising things about WHAM is we touch so many people and do so much on such a small budget," Whitlock said.

WHAM provides free art classes and lunch three times a month to veterans in Surprise, Peoria and Goodyear. Its classes for children and teens are signature programs as well.

WHAM's adaptive programs are popular with those who have disabilities, and classes for crime victims and victims of sex trafficking offer a safe space for healing and expression. WHAM has also developed a literary arts department that hosts an Open Mic Poetry Night once a month, inviting the public of all ages to read their own or other poetry.

### Program Highlight

WHAM is one of the few art centers where the public can come to learn and work in clay. "Several professional potters teach and keep our fully equipped clay studio in excellent condition," Whitlock said.

Thanks to their efforts, WHAM has been making handmade clay bowls for 10 years and selling them during the holidays. Profits from the yearly Bowls of Hope event go to seven West Valley charities.

WHAM also has a WHAM on WHEELS trailer filled with art supplies that it takes to city events to offer art experiences to children.

62 | FRONTDOORS MAGAZINE

### Recent Challenges

Funding for programs is an ongoing challenge, with significant cuts in State funding coming next year. "As a nonprofit, we struggle to pay for all that is necessary to provide the arts," Whitlock said.

### Future

WHAM is currently constrained by space and needs more for its classes and to serve the community at large. A building campaign will be underway this fall to help the organization grow and provide a future of more significant outreach and impact.

"I'm looking to the future with more extensive facilities to continue growing and providing art to our West Valley communities," Whitlock said.

To learn more, visit [wham-art.org](http://wham-art.org).



WHAM provides a friendly place to share the creativity that abounds in our local communities.

## 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](http://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.

Copyright © 2024 WHAM, Inc. All rights reserved.

WHAM | 16560 N. Dysart Rd | Surprise, AZ 85378 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Our Privacy Policy](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!