

OPEN STUDIOS TOUR

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
September 11, 2010

Second Saturday
in September



Welcome to the 2010 Open Studios Tour, a fundraiser to support public art in Helena, Montana— the second Saturday in September.

AROUND DOWNTOWN HELENA

- 1) **Bonnie Lambert – jewelry**
524 Clarke St., Helena
bonnie@livemodern.com
442-3363

Bonnie Lambert has been making jewelry for about 8 years. She has a BA degree in English, an MFA in Photography, and has been making art since college. After owning a graphic

design and advertising business for 23 years, she retired and now spends a lot more time on jewelry making. Bonnie's other interests include travel, gardening, knitting, hiking. She explores and reads widely in art, crafts, design, architecture, fashion, politics, contemporary literature and more.

Artist's Statement: I'll use anything I can put a string through. When in doubt, decorate.



- 2) **Ken Saunders – Saunders Jewelry**
27 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena
449-2022



Ken Saunders designs and manufactures wearable works of art with gold, silver and precious gemstones in a variety of styles from classic to contemporary. After attending a two year jewelry program in Paris, Texas, Ken then apprenticed at Wheeler Jewelry in Kalispell for five years. He founded Saunders Jewelry & Design in partnership in 1987. He has created and sold an enormous number of original designs and commissioned pieces over twenty three years, winning numerous awards for design and craftsmanship.

Artist's Statement: When creating jewelry for commissions, it is important to listen to the desires of each customer and help transform their ideas into a technically functional and aesthetically pleasing piece of jewelry. I use the ancient art of lost wax casting, carving each unique piece of jewelry by hand. I also fabricate in precious metals, sometimes hand-engraving, recreating timeless, vintage elements from the past. Sometimes my art is whimsical, and sometimes dramatic, but always wearable and durable. I enjoy the technical aspects of jewelry making and mechanical problem solving.

3) Upper Missouri Artists Gallery
7 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena
sangove@bresnan.net
457-8240

Established in 1996 and at our present location for 10 years. Artist members of UMA are: Kathryn Fehlig, Sally Angove, Lou Archambault, Linda Roberts, Lyle Schwabauer, Russell Ratcliff, and Paul Graham. Artist members create bronze sculpture, rock mosaics, stained glass, watercolor paintings, pastel paintings, oil paintings, drawings and art photography, featuring mostly original art with some limited reproductions of work by member artists.



Artistic Statement: This artists-owned gallery is managed by members who are local artists all living in the Helena area and working to staff the gallery. Many members create some of their art at the gallery while fulfilling their days of duty. Membership is juried, striving to maintain high quality. Displays are changed monthly with member artists featured various months of the year.



4) Signs Now – graphic design
323 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena
signsnowhelena@gmail.com
422-1065

Signs Now was formed at the end of 2009 as a partnership between *Trevor E. Parrish*, former Production Manager of a commercial printer who has been in the graphics industry for

over 15 years, and *Archie J. Broadbent*, Graphic Designer, Photographer and Filmmaker. Archie has received numerous awards including two Addy awards for his commercial photography work. Signs Now produces everything from complete brand identities to vehicle graphics, stickers, banners, magnets and pretty much anything.

Artistic Statement: “Those who find ugly meanings in beautiful things are corrupt without being charming. This is a fault. Those who find beautiful meanings in beautiful things are the cultivated. For these there is hope. They are the elect to whom beautiful things mean only Beauty. There is no such thing as a moral or an immoral book. Books are well written, or badly written. That is all.”

From the preface to “The Portrait of Dorian Gray” by Oscar Wilde

5) Holter Museum
12 W. Lawrence, Helena
www.holtermuseum.org
442- 6400

The “*Earth, Wood, Fire, & Ice*” series currently showing at the Holter Museum of Art celebrates the natural beauty of Montana: Eye-catching photographs from “*Glacier: Losing a Legacy*” compare historic photos of glaciers in Glacier National Park with contemporary images.

“*Outside the Box: The Art of Wood,*” a stunning combination of international, national and regional wood turners, sculptors and studio furniture makers.

“*Montana Landscape: The Eye of the Beholder,*” a sweeping collection of contemporary painters with a broad range of styles and perspectives.

Barry Hood’s “*Flow*” features exquisite poured molten glass, sand castings, and etchings echo natural images, forms and forces to celebrate simplicity and purity, vast spaces, and the natural flow of life.

Artistic Statement: The mission of the Holter Museum of Art is to nurture creativity, community, and arts for all. The Holter serves Montana and neighboring states with a quality visual arts exhibition program that includes all media; brings national and international exhibitions into the region; provides a much-needed venue for local and regional artists; and collects,



preserves, and interprets significant contemporary Northwest art. The Holter is committed to promoting participation by diverse audiences through outreach, innovative educational programming, and collaboration with other organizations. Increasing and promoting a strong cultural awareness to the broadest possible audience is a guiding factor to the Holter's operations.

6) **Helena Printmakers Guild - at the Holter Museum** **422-4053**

The Helena Printmakers Guild was founded in 2009 by professional artists and printmaking enthusiasts from the Helena area. The group works in a wide range of printmaking media, and many members combine techniques and media. The Guild is affiliated with the Holter Museum of Art which supports the group through print making classes and access to its printmaking equipment and studio space. Printmaking Guild members will be demonstrating various techniques such as etching, monotype and relief prints on the Holter's press.

Artistic Statement: The Printmakers Guild is dedicated to providing an environment for exchanging ideas on printmaking processes and techniques, the aesthetics of the art and the creative process. Printmaking, the transfer of an image from a primary source to another, has a unique artistic quality and is constantly evolving. The Guild is dedicated to education and encourages the open exchange of ideas and knowledge in a warm, collaborative and creative environment.



7) **AL Swanson**
artistically functional furniture
810 Front Street, Helena

DIRECTIONS: located in the rear alley
of the building - behind Pauls Office

Products

aswanson@mt.net

443-3342



A.L. Swanson was born in Portland, Maine in 1970, and grew up on a small farm surrounded with trees waiting to be explored...

After studying business at the University of Maine and agronomy at Rutgers University, Al decided to hone his hidden talent for woodworking further. He apprenticed under several of New England's elite cabinetmakers before launching a successful business of his own. However, with part of his family relocating and the lure of wide open spaces, Al moved to Helena in 2000. It didn't take long for the community to welcome a fresh creative style - "Shaker With a Twist" A unique approach to a revered culture – this was home. Due to the desire for people to experience his works three dimensionally, Al opened the A.L. Swanson Gallery in downtown Helena in 2004. The gallery showcases hand-made furniture alongside the works of many artists' works from across the nation.

Artist's Statement: I love wood. I admire what it was and I am excited about what it can become. I create because I am creative and I am touched by touching others. Knowing that my pieces will enhance a home and my tutelage will touch lives, is very special to me. My signature accompanies each piece, yet the marks left by my hands will be noticed forever. At day's end, the sense of accomplishment is obvious and the feeling, visceral. I love what I do.

8) **Dowling Sandholm Architecture -**
architecture and master planning
55 West 14th St., Helena
mdowling@dowlingsandholm.com
457-5470

Dowling Sandholm Architects was formed in 2006 as a merger between Dowling Architecture of Helena, MT and Sandholm Architects of Bozeman. Dowling Architecture was established in 2003 as an outgrowth of its predecessor firm DT Architecture. Founding principal Mike Dowling is committed to appropriate, regional design solutions and the highest level of service throughout the architectural delivery process.

Mike Dowling returned to Montana from Baltimore, Maryland where he spent five years designing and managing commercial and institutional buildings as an associate with RTKL Associates, Inc., one of the largest architectural and planning firms in the country.

Jeff Sandholm established his firm in 1999 after gaining extensive technical and design experience on both private and public projects around the region. Jeff has proven to be a leader in his community and profession where he is involved with many non-profit organizations and professional groups. In 2000, Sandholm Architects was proud to receive the Governors award for Design excellence as well as a local award for historic preservation.



Artistic Statement: Dowling Sandholm Architects is committed to excellent design, quality work, and repeat clients. Our design philosophy is grounded in the idea of collaboration and integration. We engage all participants in learning about a place through its history, its people and its connections to envision a place that defines its own character. Our ability to solve problems, coordinate and organize the project team, and provide appropriate design has been the cornerstone of delivering successful projects.

CENTRAL HELENA

- 9) **Sandy Shull – glass beads, earrings**
412 5th Ave., Helena
sjshull@mt.net
442-0200



Sandy Shull designs and makes glass beads with a propane torch, and then create jewelry with those one-of-a-kind beads. A native Montanan who's been around art most of her life, she's primarily been on the admirer and manager side of the art world until recently, when she discovered the art of lampwork glass and has been hooked on it ever since. She is currently a co-owner of Birds & Beasleys, although she has always had a creative hobby like woodworking or knitting.

Artist's Statement: Glass and fire have always fascinated me, and making lampwork beads is a way to combine them. I love the end surprise of glass - you think you know what you've created, but you don't exactly know the end results until the glass has cooled and turned to its final color. I have always considered myself a craftsman more than an artist because I enjoy the production of functional products.

- 10) **Tim Holmes – sculpture/painting/film-making**
446 North Hoback, Helena
www.timholmesstudio.com
442-4233



Tim Holmes is the first American artist ever invited to exhibit solo at the world's largest art museum, the Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Russia, where his sculptures remain on permanent exhibit. He has created sculpture for some of the world's peacemaking organizations from the United Nations to the Chinese dissident students of Tiananmen Square. Archbishop

Desmond Tutu, President Jimmy Carter, President Vaclav Havel, and Coretta Scott King are among Holmes' best-known collectors. Holmes began sculpting in welded metal at age 11. His work primarily focuses on the human form, on the gesture as expression of greater human themes: the struggle for freedom, horror at inner and outer evils, the ferocity of hopelessness, the tenderness of love. Each artwork tells a story in muscle and metaphor, in gesture and meaning at once earthly and deeply spiritual. His more recent works in film address his fascination with the sacred body illuminated with scriptures in a kind of sculptural poetry.

Artist's Statement: I believe that art can transform us in ways impossible through any other human activity. In my work I attempt to access— through the metaphors of outer forms— the inner material beneath politics and personality that imbues everyday life with passionate richness. On that level we are all family, a truth of which the outer life leaves us forgetful, but of which art always reminds us. In the presence of a good work of art we experience a strange alchemy that can transform the confusing and painful into the beautiful and meaningful, reminding our souls through a silent, intimate exchange, that we are not – after all – alone. I've always used many media and have focused recently on film as a means of addressing what I see as a critical problem facing the world on the scale of global warming but that remains largely invisible: the devaluation of the body by global capitalism.

11) Dave Carlson – wood-working

716 E. Broadway, Helena

dcarlson@bresnan.net

457-1785

Dave Carlson's woodworking is mostly custom-designed and built for each customer. He works with customers on their specific designs, preparing drawings and estimates for them. During

Dave's 32-year career as a civil engineer and land surveyor, woodworking was a hobby offering a break from the number-crunching and paper-shuffling of engineering. Since retiring from engineering 13 years ago, he has embraced woodworking full time as a custom, fine furniture-maker. He also designs and builds one-of-a-kind furniture and accessories, and presently has work displayed at the Holter Museum of Art.



Artist's Statement: My furniture is based on thoughtful design and unpretentious elegance. I firmly believe in design with the customer in the case of custom furniture. I also believe that form follows function and that in certain pieces of furniture - such as seating – that it is imperative. Many of my customers find it rewarding and very personal to participate in the design of their furniture. It is, after all, their furniture for their home and it should suit their tastes and their needs.

12) George McCauley – pottery
926 5th Ave., Helena
www.georgemccauley.com
449-3087

George McCauley, a Greek/American potter, has had 23 solo shows and has been included in 171 exhibitions. He has taught and conducted workshops internationally, and his pottery and sculpture are included in international collections in 11 countries. He was the first non-Asian artist to be shown and included in the permanent collection of the Ajo Museum of Asian Art in Seoul, South Korea. Additionally his work has been included in film (most notably the National Endowment for the Arts film “The Big Bang”) and television. In 2007 he was invited as a guest of the Chinese government to lecture and exhibit in conjunction with the International Teapot Exhibition in Zhugiagio. After returning from China, he began work on his film “Archie C. Bray Jr.: Life at the Brickyard,” which he completed in 2008. In 2009 he was chosen as one of nine ceramic artists from around the world to participate in the Kohila Woodfire Symposium in Estonia.



Artist's Statement: The sources and influences for my work are complex and varied. I grew up in a Greek-American home steeped in the mystical traditions of Greece, paralleled by life in the deep South. My first art course came during my freshman year in undergraduate school in 1967, and my life took a most important turn when a class in ceramics set me on a path from which I have yet to deviate. Most important, ritual, mysticism, the folk arts, my heritage as a Greek, and experiences from my travels have played an increasingly prominent role in my work. Although I am primarily a ceramic artist I work in other materials as well usually wood and metal, and typically I combine these in some fashion. Without regard to media or object, my work is a personal narrative, an expression of my feelings.

- 13) Andrea Atwood – fabric art, oil painting**
Atwood Accounting Services
907 E. 6th Ave., Helena
www.atwoodarts.com
443-4907



Andrea A. Atwood, of Helena High School, attended the University of Montana to study art and costuming. She worked in the U of M Drama Department as a costumer. She became a preschool teacher, taught art and painted wall murals. “Atwood Arts” is her full time business and she is a part time bookkeeper for her husband’s accounting firm. She takes on commission artwork ranging from banners, flags, unique clothing, signs, murals, oil paintings, portraits and fiber arts. Andrea’s leaf paintings and fiber art may be viewed at Atwood Accounting Services, the Historical Society Museum Store and St. Paul’s United Methodist Church.

Artist’s Statement: I create art because simple everyday items like fabric, leaves, canvas, jewels or glass show me that they aspire to become something else - something of worth and beauty. I am only the craftsman who works out the details of their transformation.

EAST

- 14) Clay Arts Guild – ceramic pieces of all shapes, sizes, and uses**
3025 Bozeman Avenue, Helena
www.helenaclayartsguild.com
449-6080

In 1999, a small group ceramic artists was tired of taking classes at the Archie Bray and decided to start their own work space. From that original group of seven artists the *Clay Arts Guild* was founded. Today the Guild is a 501c(3) non-profit organization with a membership of 50 practicing clay artists (and one attention-demanding cat). Artists have 24/7 access to the Guild. We are governed by an all-volunteer eight-member board which meets once a month. Each May an annual membership meeting is held for major business decisions, and to elect the Board of Trustees – terms expire every two years.

Artistic Statement: We are a group of ceramic artists, who share the joy of playing with mud. Our masterpieces go through seven steps from start to finish.

Ball of clay (weight is based on what the artist(s) wants, anywhere from 1 to 20 pounds of clay).

The artist will throw or hand build
Trimming of the piece within a day or two

Let dry uncovered for up to a week
(piece needs to be dry or it will explode in the electric kiln)

Piece is bisqued (Electric Kiln is fired to cone 04)

Piece is glazed (We make our glazes at the Guild and have an numerous ready to use)

Piece is now ready for final firing (Gas Kiln is fired to cone 10 (2300 degrees))



15) Linda Parker – fiber art: quilts, handbags, wall quilts
215 W. Main, East Helena
www.montanaquilts.com
449-3694



Fiber artist *Linda Parker* of Montana Quilts has been a quilter since 1976. She is the author of *Montana Star Quilts* and designer of quilt patterns. Linda spoke at the Smithsonian's Common Threads Symposium in 1999. "Lady's Circle Patchwork Quilts" in 1993 featured Linda's book and collection of Native American Indian star quilts. In September of 2003 she had a one woman show at the Myrna Loy Theatre in Helena. Linda

was one of 25 folk artists chosen for the National Folk Festival in Butte in 2008. The fire quilts were featured in the 'Eudora Welty' winter 2008 newsletter.

Artist's Statement: The creative process for me involves paying attention to the world around me, science, nature and emotion. When I am stuck I make myself use colors I would ordinarily never touch. When I am engrossed in a project I am the thread, the thread is me, and what ever happens in the process becomes a finished piece of work. Most recently I have been using rescued fabric - fabric which has never been used, not recycled.

SOUTH

16) **Bob and Judi Bennett, Margot Wright – pyrography on gourds** **197 Saddle Mountain Dr., MT City**

Directions: I-15 south to Montana City exit; turn left (east) going over I-15; turn right at first street (Johns Street) past I-15 by Papa Ray's Casino/Pizza; stay on Johns St. which turns into McClellan Creek Rd for 1.7 miles; turn right at second set of mailboxes (Saddle Mountain Drive); stay on Saddle Mountain Drive past set of mailboxes (about 1 mile), and continue to about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile past end of pavement to last house; follow the road to the right, go through log arch to the building on the right.

Secretspirit@bresnan.net
422-5072



Bob and Judi Bennett became fascinated with gourds in 1992 while doing pottery and other forms of art. The gourds soon became their main focus and passion in a short year. When they started out, there wasn't much information about gourd art or where to get them; they were always placed in the "other" category when they entered competition and art shows. The Bennetts have since assisted gourds to a whole new level, and were the original inland empire co-ordinators for the California Gourd Society. They have won numerous awards, given classes, demonstrations and been highlighted in our local newspaper.

Bob and Judi have served as Palmdale Visuale Arts Directors, served on the board of the Lancaster Art Museum, Docents at the Lancaster Indian Museum, and as Ambassadors of both the Palmdale and Lancaster Chambers of Commerce.

Artist's Statement: It is with intent to blend the earthly and spiritual qualities of the gourd with our art. It is our desire to invoke, through the creative process, originality and intrinsic value to make our art timeless. Gourds are a warm art medium, unique, and sometimes a difficult canvas. The gourd is intriguing.

WEST

- 17) **Eric Van Eimeren – functional pottery**
1621 University St., Helena
www.vepottery.com
443-4051

Born and raised in Huntington Beach, California, *Eric Van Eimeren* received his undergraduate degree in ceramic art from San Diego State University in 1988. After earning an MFA in Ceramic Art from Alfred University in 1990, Eric moved to Helena, Montana to become a resident artist at the Archie Bray foundation. At the end of his residency in 1993, he set up a



pottery studio, and has enjoyed living and working in Helena ever since. His work is in numerous museum collections including the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, and the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Artist's Statement: I enjoy finding innovative solutions to the centuries old problems regarding functional ceramics. I am inspired by the fact that despite thousands of years of pottery making, we can still leave our studios today having created something new. The idea of form following function still rings true, however; I believe that function can, at times, be persuaded to follow sculptural form, thus creating an interesting dialogue between utility and sculpture.

- 18) **Jim Howard – watercolor, pen and ink, pencil**
2800 Park Ave., Helena
DIRECTIONS: South on Granite St. (by Kessler School), turn right at Floweree, 3rd house on right
jhoward@bresnan.net
422-0494

Jim Howard's love of the out-of-doors is evident in his watercolor paintings. His work reflects the areas in which he has lived, including Minnesota,

Wyoming, and now Montana. Jim attended the American Academy of Art in Chicago. Jim has exhibited his work at the Lewis and Clark County Library and at Helena Art Walks, and is a member of the Helena Art Center.

He has taught watercolor and drawing classes in Helena. His art was chosen as the official art of the 2010 Helena Race to the Sky. Jim and his wife, Joyce make their home in Helena, where



Jim also serves as Associate Pastor of the Helena Alliance Church. They have four grown children.

Artist's Statement: I believe that fundamental to all the visual arts is good drawing. In my watercolor paintings I seek to lay the groundwork by pencil renderings in which I work out composition, perspective, value, line. Drawing of the human figure is, I believe, fundamental to all drawing, so I keep practicing this in order to continue to develop skills in drawing.

19) Archie Bray Foundation – ceramics
2915 Country Club Ave., Helena
www.archiebray.org
443-3502

The Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts is located near the foothills of the Rocky Mountains in Helena, Montana, on the grounds of what was once Western Clay Manufacturing Co. brick manufacturing company. Founder Archie Bray, an avid patron of the arts, envisioned an art center and built the Pottery in the spring of 1951, the first step in his dream to “make available for all who are seriously interested in the ceramic arts, a fine place to work.” Rudy Autio and Peter Voulkos were the first resident managers of the Bray. The volume and quality of their work drew attention to the new program and attracted many talented and ambitious potters. A landmark workshop in 1952, with potters Shoji Hamada and Bernard Leach, and philosopher Soetsu

Yanagi, had a profound influence on both Autio and Voulkos. Neither had seen clay treated so loosely and freely. It was an approach which changed their whole attitude towards clay.



Since its inception, the Bray has drawn more than 200 ceramic artists from around the world to work, including such well-known ceramists as Tre Arenz, Val Cushing, John and Andrea Gill, Wayne Higby, Clary Illian, Jun Kaneko, Eva Kwong, Jim and Nan McKinnell, Ron Meyers, Robert Sperry, Chris Staley, Akio Takamori, and Arnie Zimmerman. The Bray currently has 11 resident artists and 10 summer residents.

Artistic Statement: The Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts is a public, nonprofit, educational institution. Its primary mission is to provide an environment that stimulates creative work in ceramics.

NORTH HELENA VALLEY

20) Robin Maynard - acrylics, jewelry

714 Sierra Road West, Helena

DIRECTIONS: House is behind 718 Sierra Rd.; just east of McHugh Drive

expedite.maynard@yahoo.com

458-6142



Robin Maynard was born in Helena, MT in 1950, and graduated Helena High School in 1968. She has no formal art training. As a member of The Art Center in Helena, she shows at the Fireside Coffee House along with other members and has an ongoing show at the Staggering Ox in the Lundy Center.

Robin uses a variety of subjects and styles, vivid colors and sharp detail to express the enthusiasm and reverence she feels for her subject matter. Favorite subjects include flowers, trees, horses and birds. She mostly paints realism with acrylics, although sometimes she uses oils. For variety, she also does beadwork and makes the occasional rag doll.

Artist's Statement: I am compelled by two goals when I paint. The first is to capture an image, moment or idea that moves me greatly, so that I may examine it carefully, minutely, lovingly, to be completely absorbed in the details of this thing which I undertake to observe. My desire is to "keep this wonderful thing forever."

The other reason I have for painting is for you, the viewer, to feel the excitement and awe that I did when compelled to create the image before you. Most often, intense color and high contrast will most effectively give the image an impact, approximating what I felt when it became very clear that this moment must be committed to canvas.

The Helena Public Art Committee (HPAC) was established in 1998 as a volunteer advisory committee to the Helena City Commission promoting public art works in the Helena community, and informs residents and visitors about the many pieces available to the public for their enjoyment.

CURRENT HPAC PROJECTS:

- ❖ Chalk Up Helena! in July
- ❖ Open Studios Tour – second Saturday in September
- ❖ Downtown Art Walks – spring and fall
- ❖ HPAC's Guide to the Arts in Helena, Montana

PREVIOUS PUBLIC ART PROJECTS:

- 2000 - Inventoried and assessed the condition of all the city-owned public art
- 2003 - Repaired The Prospectors and Bullwacker sculptures
- 2005 - Refurbished the Womens Mural
- 2006 - Installed "All of the Above, None of the Above" behind the Library
- 2007 - Repaired marble George Washington sculpture and reinstalled it inside the County Courthouse
- 2008 - Confederate Fountain in Hill Park was repaired
- 2010 - Installed "Take It Easy" in the Butte and Sanders traffic circle
New mural in Memorial Park Bandshell

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR SUPPORTING THE HPAC'S 2010 OPEN STUDIOS TOUR:

Action Print
Bob & Judi Bennett
Montana Quilts
Robin Maynard
On Broadway
Lucca's

SEPTEMBER 11TH OPEN STUDIO'S TOUR PRIZE DRAWING LOCATIONS:

- 2:30 - Robin Maynard, 714 Sierra Road - "Yellow Iris" Painting
- 3:00 - Linda Parker, 215 W. Main, E. Helena - \$50 Gift Certificate
- 3:30 - Bob and Judi Bennett, 197 Saddle Mountain Dr., MT City - Painted Gourd
- 4:00 - Jim Howard, 2800 Park Ave. - Lucca's & On Broadway Gift Certificates

www.helenapublicarts.com
447-8491