

# Blowing Rock Art & History Museum

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side community-building impulses that are present in creative enclaves everywhere.

For further information check our NC

Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/295-9099 or visit ([www.blowing-rockmuseum.org](http://www.blowing-rockmuseum.org)).

## Blowing Rock Art and History Museum in Blowing Rock, NC, Features Works from Gardena High School

The Blowing Rock Art and History Museum (BRAHM) in Blowing Rock, NC, will present *GIFTED: Collecting the Art of California at Gardena High School, 1919-1956*, on view in the Fort & Atwell Galleries, from June 20 through Dec. 30, 2023.

*GIFTED: Collecting the Art of California at Gardena High School: 1919-1956* was developed for the hundredth anniversary of the Gardena High School Art Collection (GHSAC) in 2019 and illustrates the unlikely history of a communal approach to collection-building and a microcosm of California's modern art history. BRAHM is pleased to announce that it will be hosting this exhibition in the summer of 2023. This will be the first occasion that the Gardena Collection has been exhibited on the East Coast and further cements the Museum's role as an important site for interpreting early American Modern painting, including Impressionism, figurative, landscape and genre painting. Accompanying the exhibit is a catalog of over 200 pages with color plates of the entire collection and interpretive analyses of its historical background and artistic significance.

A century ago, an exceptionally focussed art collection was born out of the recommendation of a school principal. He urged the senior class of Gardena High School to gift the school with an original landscape painting by artist Ralph Davison Miller. Thus began an unprecedented annual tradition:

For nearly 40 years, each senior class selected, purchased and donated works of art to the school, ultimately amassing an exceptional permanent collection of paintings. Each gift was carefully selected and purchased from an artist of note, often reflecting historical content from that year. The high level of sophistication demonstrated by the students' choices was the result of the aesthetic discourse and collaboration



William Wendt, "Along the Arroyo Seco", 1912, Oil on canvas, 40 x 50 inches. Gift of Class of Summer 1924, Collection of Gardena High School Student Body. Image courtesy of the Gardena High School Art Collection, LLC.

nurtured by the school.

Today, the Gardena High School Art Collection is widely acknowledged as one of the nation's outstanding collections of early 20th century California art, with works by some of the state's most celebrated artists. Through more than 40 paintings, *GIFTED* traces the history of Southern California art in the early 20th century, when plein-air painting and the Arts and Crafts movement were flourishing, and chronicles the school's ambitious efforts within the wider cultural scene of Los Angeles at that time.

*GIFTED: Collecting the Art of California at Gardena High School, 1919-1956* is organized by the GHS Art Collection, Inc. in association with the Gardena High School Student Body and curated by Susan M. Anderson. BRAHM's presentation of this exhibition is generously supported by the Miriam & Robert Hayes Charitable Foundation. Additional funding was provided by *Our State Magazine*.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/295-9099 or visit ([www.blowingrockmuseum.org](http://www.blowingrockmuseum.org)).

## Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, Features Works by Members of Trade Alley Arts

Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, is presenting *Inspirations*, a group show by members of Trade Alley Arts, on view through June 30, 2023.

Trade Alley Arts says "We create art for the Community and a Community for the artists. The purpose of Trade Alley Arts is to support a vibrant community for the artists, to provide opportunity for exhibitions and sales of fine art under a juried system, to enhance professional development of artists and to benefit the Community at large."

The Caldwell Arts Council is located on College Avenue SW in Lenoir, NC.

Since 1976, the Caldwell Arts Council has presented and promoted high quality arts programming in Caldwell County North Carolina. Located in a historic former home in downtown Lenoir, the Caldwell Arts Council offers five beautiful galleries that serve as exhibition spaces for local and regional artists. Exhibits usually change monthly and range from contemporary and traditional paintings to fine craft, sculpture, and photography.

We offer many other programs including, Caldwell JAM (Junior Appalachian Musicians), Artist in Schools, Foothills Veterans in Art, the Senior Citizen Dulcimer Program, and more. As part of Caldwell County's heARTbeat, we actively strive to improve the quality of life of our residents and hope that you will



Work by Karin Koval join us by donating today. Simply click the icon at the top of this page.

Our annual Sculpture Celebration offers the public a unique opportunity to view hundreds of sculptures created by artisans from across the United States, who compete for recognition and cash awards. This event occurs on the Saturday after Labor Day in the beautiful Broyhill Walking Park.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit ([caldwellarts.com](http://caldwellarts.com)).

**Starworks**

Shop online or in person!  
School House Gallery open Mon - Sat, 9a - 5p  
100 Russell Dr. Star, NC - 910.428.9001  
[www.starworksnc.org](http://www.starworksnc.org)

## Seagrove Potters' Wood Fire Studio Tour Takes Place in Seagrove, NC - June 4 & 5, 2023

Save the date! June 3rd & 4th, 2023, from 10am-5pm (check with individual potteries) for the Seagrove Wood Fire Studio Tour! Over a dozen studios will be featuring a great variety of new work for this special event. Look for a tour guide/map of participating potters. The event is held at each retail studio location.

Visit studios, meet potters, and expand your pottery collection. Online shopping will be available with some studios, as well.

This new event is a self-guided tour of individual pottery galleries, studios, and workshops in the Handmade Pottery Capital of the USA.



Works from Matthew Kelly Pottery and Hitomi Shibata) and Triangle Studio (Kate Waltman).

The Seagrove area is a tight-knit community of potters. They fire some or all of their work in wood fire kilns.

Some of the potters can trace their family history back hundreds of years to farmers who used the local clay to craft wares from clay. Some learned the craft by apprenticing with local potters. Others have been drawn to the community after studying in faraway places like Estonia and Japan; or at Alfred College in New York and the High Mowing School in New Hampshire; or closer-by at East Carolina University and NC State University. They continue to learn from and support one another as artists.

Keep up to date with our event web page at ([discoverseagrove.com/events/seagrove-wood-fire-studio-tour-june-3-4-2023/](http://discoverseagrove.com/events/seagrove-wood-fire-studio-tour-june-3-4-2023/)).



Works from David Stuemple Pottery

Participating potteries include: Ben Owen Pottery, Blue Hen Pottery (Anne Partna), Chad Brown Pottery, Crystal King Pottery, David Stuemple Pottery, Donna Craven Pottery, From the Ground Up (Michael and Levi Mahan), Johnston & Gentithes (Fred Johnston & Carol Gentithes), Jugtown (Vernon, Pam, Travis, and Bayle Owens), Matthew Kelly Pottery, Michele Hastings & Jeff Brown Pottery, Old Gap Pottery (Phil Pollet), Studio Touya (Takuro

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be June 24th for the July 2023 issue and July 24 for the August 2023 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now.

And where do you send that info? E-mail to ([info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)).