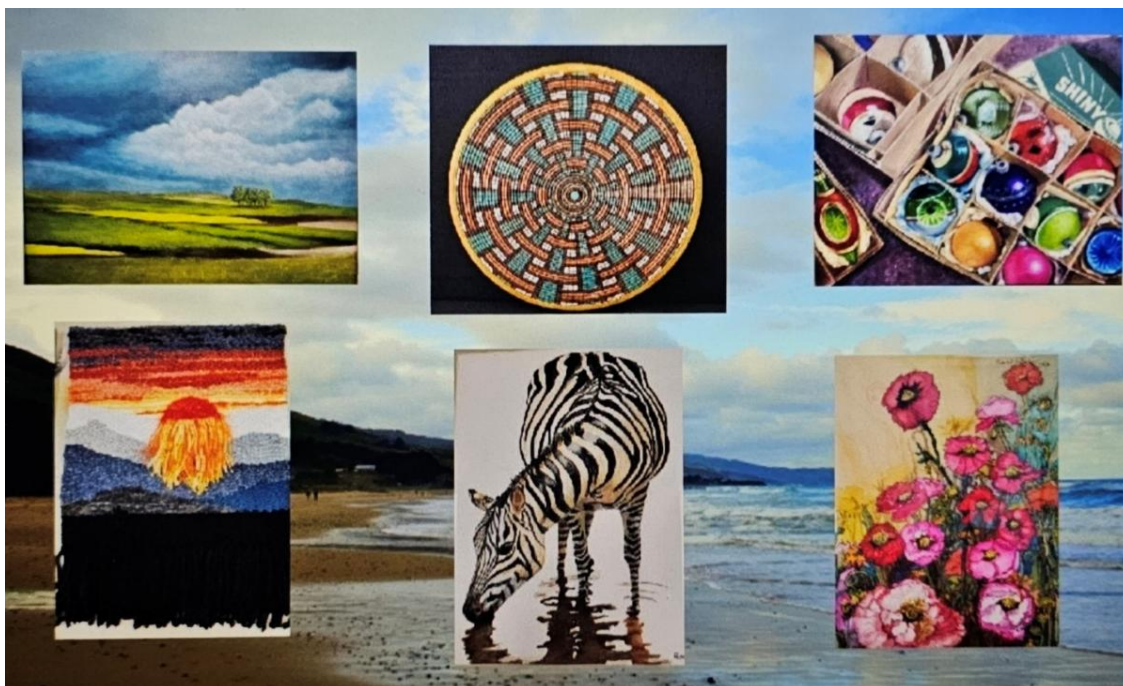




## October 2025 Newsletter

The Phoenix Artist Guild is a premier group of artists who promote fellowship and artistic excellence for its members. Their exhibits are always a delight for everyone.



Artists Reception Saturday, October 4th  
4pm to 6pm

**Connie Whitlock Gets A Legend Award  
Come In And See What She's Building**



September 16, 2025 the Surprise Interfaith & Golden Rule Community held their third Annual Community Legend Awards at the Dysart Schools District Office. This year Connie Whitlock was honored at the 2025 recipient of the Individual Legend.

Connie is the Founder and Executive Director of the WHAM Art Association, which has been providing art programs to the West Valley for 19 years. WHAM resides in an 8500 square ft. building housing a professional Art Gallery, 16 working artists' studios, classrooms, a full clay studio, and glass room to facilitate art education taught from the experienced instructors. WHAM, with its large membership of three hundred plus, gives back to the community in many ways bringing art to the parks in their WHAM on Wheels event trailer, providing outside art classes in Literary Arts to Visual Arts in 7 West Valley Cities. WHAM has a robust outreach department giving art to Veteran's, Teens, Special Needs, Dementia Patients, and recovered Sexually Trafficked Girls. WHAM has provided many clay and painted murals across the Valley as well as works with schools. WHAM believes ART is for ALL and is inclusive not exclusive.

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**OCTOBER CLASSES AT A GLANCE**  
for information on our classes  
visit [wham-art.org/classes](http://wham-art.org/classes)



**TeenWHAM**  
**Spooktacular Holiday projects!**

**Oct 1**  
**4:30-6:30 pm**



**Friday Night Paint Night**

**Oct 3**  
**6:00-8:00 pm**



**BEGINNING WHEEL THROWING –  
BOWLS**

**Oct 7, 14th, 21st, 28th and Nov 4th**  
**6:00-8:30 pm**

## **Stain Glass Workshop for Beginners**

**Oct 8th, 15th, & 22nd  
5:30-7:30 pm**

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### **Candle Workshop**

**Oct 11th  
1:00-4:00 pm**

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### **Vets Program "A Path to Healing"**

**Oct 13th  
10:00-2:00 pm**

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### **Introduction to Handbuilding Slab, Extruder**

**Oct 14th, 21st, 28th & Nov 4th  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

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### **Orientation to Urban Sketching Program by Wayne Magee-**

**Oct 14th  
1:00-3:00 pm**

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## **Pottery Wheel Basics**

**Oct 15th, 22nd, 29th and Nov 5th.**

**10 am-12:00 pm**

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## **TeenWHAM**

**Creating a picture with sand**

**Oct 15th**

**4:30-6:30 pm**

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## **Finding the Artist Within**

**Oct 16th**

**10:00-11:30 am**

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### **Handbuilding, Intermediate -Coiled Built Ceramics**

**Oct 18th, 25th, Nov 1st & 8th  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm**



### **Intermediate Wheel Throwing - The Lidded Vessel**

**October 18th, 25th, November 1st, 8th  
1:00-3:00 pm**



### **WHAM Kids - Saturday Arts & Crafts Halloween Spooky Spiderweb and Witch**

**Oct 18th  
1:00-2:30 pm**



### **Build your own Terrarium**

**Oct 21st  
12:00-3:00 pm**

## **WHAM GETS A VISIT!**

**From Secretary of State Fontes.**

Connecting to Arizona's Cultural Institutions brought him right to WHAM, the only Community Art Center in the West Valley. Arizona Secretary of State's Office, reached out to WHAM to set up a meeting with Secretary Adrian Fontes, who visited Surprise on Wednesday, September 10, 2025. As part of his visit, Secretary Fontes expressed interested in connecting with local museums and cultural institutions. He wanted to learn more about organizations' cultural work

in the area and to explore potential collaboration around the upcoming America 250 celebration. In the photo, right to left, Adrian Fontes, Arizona Secretary of State, Connie Whitlock, WHAM Executive Director, Diane Freeman, WHAM Operations Manager.



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## OFF SITE WHAM CLASSES

WHAM has recently partnered with the Peoria Arts and Culture Council to provide quality writing and art classes at two of the libraries in Peoria. WHAM Literary Arts manager, Maggie Gautier and WHAM Teen WHAM leader, Ashley Dooley, will be instructing these great opportunities for area residents.

Presented by WHAM Literary Arts



What's Happen'N Art Movement

## WHAT'S YOUR STORY? WRITING WORKSHOP

**Do you want to share your stories,  
poems, or lyrics?**

**Learn new writing skills and  
improve your storytelling techniques  
in this 10-week series.**

**Come to one session, or come to all!**

**Register at <https://signup.com/go/CctXAtn>**

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, 2 p.m-4 p.m.**

**Starting Oct 4 - Feb 21**

**Peoria Main Library, 8463 W Monroe St. Peoria, AZ**



**Made possible by Peoria Arts Council**







What's Happen'N Art Movement  
Presents:

Free Teen Art Classes at Main Peoria  
Library - 8463 W. Monroe Street, Ages 12-17  
Every 4th Wednesday, Except December

### Classes

4:30 - 6:30pm



**Oct 22nd:**  
Beaded Plants



**Feb 25th:**  
Collage



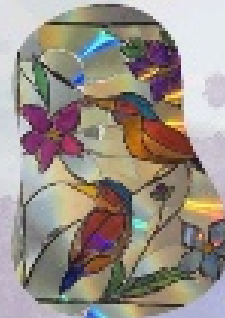
**Nov 26th:**  
Abstract Acrylic  
Painting



**Mar 25th:**  
Watercolor  
Pomegranates



**Dec 30th:**  
Paper Quilling Art



**Apr 22nd:**  
CD Mosaics



**Jan 28th:**  
Oil Pastel Drawing

- Welcome to attend one or all of the classes
- Limit Class Size of 15
- Sign Up on Library's Website

Provided By the Peoria Arts and Cultural Commission



**Free Teen Art Classes at Sunrise Mountain  
Library - 21 109 N 98<sup>th</sup> Ave., Peoria, AZ, Ages  
12-17  
Every 2nd Wednesday  
Classes**

**4:30 - 6:30pm**



**Oct 8th :**  
Beaded Plants



**Feb 11th:**  
Collage



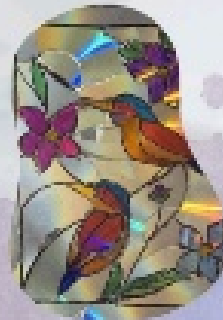
**Nov 12th:**  
Abstract Acrylic  
Painting



**Mar 11th:**  
Watercolor  
Pomegranates



**Dec 10th:**  
Paper Quilling Art



**Apr 8th**  
CD Mosaics



**Jan 14th:**  
Oil Pastel Drawing

- Welcome to attend one or all of the classes
- Limit Class Size of 15
- Sign Up on Library's Website

Provided By the Peoria Arts and Cultural Commission



JOIN US FOR

## STORIES, POEMS, & PERFORMING CLUB

A FUN SPACE TO SHARE YOUR CREATIVITY, EXPLORE YOUR VOICE, AND BRING WORDS TO LIFE THROUGH PERFORMANCE.

• AGES 6-14 • 3:45 PM -4:30 PM

OCT: 2ND, 16TH & 30TH, NOV: 6TH & 20<sup>TH</sup>, DEC: 11TH & 18<sup>TH</sup>,  
JAN: 15TH & 29TH FEB: 1ST,



### Team Leader of the Month

Meet Ashley Dooley

Ashley heads up the Teen WHAM program where she stays very busy developing art lessons for our up-and-coming teen artists. She has twice monthly classes with the teens as well as teaching teens for WHAM at several of the city of Peoria libraries.

Ashley's journey into the world of art spans a vast



academic background, including a fine arts degree from Glendale Community College, alongside a Design Studies & Studio Art degree from Arizona State University. Over the past few years, Ashley's work has been the focus of many

exhibits around the valley ranging from Art Intersection, West Valley Arts Council, WHAM Community Art Center, in tandem with multiple showcase displays in Avondale and Peoria City Hall. While traversing the world of art in Arizona, Ashley has received many awards and accolades for her contributions to the art community, one of which, is her pivotal role as the WHAM Teen Art

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**From all the teams at WHAM to all the WHAM members, thank you for your membership and your support. We'll be having a members meeting when it gets cooler and we'll be sure to let you know.**

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## **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!**

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



Newsletter Editor: Maggie Gautier, WHAM Literary Arts Manager  
Newsletter Designer: Jimmy Garcia



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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.

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

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