



WHAM Year-End Statement: Reflecting on Our Journey & Envisioning the Future

As we close out this year, we take a moment to reflect on the extraordinary journey of WHAM and the vibrant community that fuels our mission. What began as a vision—to create a welcoming space where creativity, connection, and community thrive—has grown into a dynamic arts center that now touches lives across our city.

This year, WHAM expanded its reach in meaningful ways. Our classes and workshops welcomed artists of all ages and abilities. New exhibitions highlighted local talent, fostering dialogue and appreciation for the arts. Community events brought neighbors together, creating opportunities for learning, healing, and self-expression. Our volunteers, members, instructors, and partners have been the heartbeat of this growth, giving generously of their time, creativity, and passion.

But the story of WHAM is still unfolding.

Looking ahead, the future is bright. We are entering a new chapter where WHAM will continue to grow as a model for arts-driven social change. With the foundation we've built, we are poised to expand our reach, strengthen our partnerships, and create even more opportunities for connection and pride through art. We are committed to broadening our programming, strengthening partnerships, and increasing accessibility so more people can experience the transformative power of the arts. We plan to invest in facility improvements, expand youth and senior programs, and create new opportunities for emerging artists.

With continued community support, WHAM will remain a place where creativity blossoms, friendships form, and the arts enrich the lives of all who walk through our doors.

I am confident that the coming year will bring fresh inspiration, bold projects, and meaningful moments that remind us why we do this work. **To keep this magic alive, we're asking for your support with a year-end donation. Your gift—of any size—helps us bring art, belonging, and inspiration to people who need it most.**

Thank you for being part of the WHAM family. Your belief in our mission makes everything possible. Together, we look forward to a new year filled with imagination, inspiration, and the continued growth of the arts in our community.

With gratitude and excitement,
- **Connie**

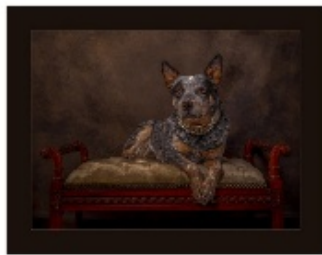
December 2025 Newsletter

The Gallery Is Bursting with Images of Arizona and
the Wild World Through the Eyes of the
Photographer's Camera ...See for yourself-join us
at the reception

See for yourself!



*Third Annual
Gallery Showcase
December 2-27, 2025*



The Arizona Professional Photographers Association is an organization for professional, aspiring, and serious amateur photographers to foster learning in a friendly and collaborative environment. We are committed to advancing photography as an art and profession. AZPPA is a non-profit affiliated state member of the Professional Photographers of America.

*Artist's Reception
Saturday, December 6, 2025
6 PM to 9 PM*

***Creating Art and Gifting Art is
Good for the Heart***

**Bowls of Hope Thanks to all to celebrated
with us.**



This was our twelfth year of giving back to the charitable organizations in the West Valley selling the one-of-a kind bowls. From all of our programs, to the amazing team who works so hard at bring art to the world, and to you, thank you for being part of the WHAM family. Your involvement means the world to me and to WHAM. Seasons Greetings for a Creative and Peaceful year ahead. I look forward to seeing you soon. Sincerely, Connie Whitlock.

DECEMBER CLASSES AT A GLANCE
for information on our classes
visit wham-art.org/classes



Mindful Art for Seniors & Caregivers

**Dec 2nd
10:00 am- 12:00 pm**



Watercolor Seasonal Cards

**Dec 3rd
10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Stain Glass Workshop for Beginners - 3 week workshop

**December 3rd, 10th, 17th
5:30-7:30 pm**



TeenWHAM Found Object Assemblage Art

**Dec 3d
4:30-6:30 pm**



**Vets Program " A Path to
Healing"
Peoria Vets
Dec 8th
10:00-2:00 pm**



**Tiny Treasure Box
Make and Take Christmas Gifts
and Decor**

**Dec 9th
6:00-8:00 pm**



**Christmas Tree Ornaments
Make and Take Christmas Gifts
and Decor**

**Dec 10th
9:00-11:00 am**



Woodland Animals, Pen & Ink

Dec. 10

4:30 pm-6:30 pm



Festive Cork Vase

Make and Take Christmas Gift

Dec 11

6:00-8:00 pm



Dog in Bright Colors, Soft Pastels

Dec 13

8:00 am- 12:00 pm



**Charming candle holder from a
wine glass
Make and Take Christmas Gift**

**Dec 13
2:00-5:00 pm**



**TeenWHAM
Ornament and the Sculpture**

**Dec 17th
4:30-6:30 pm**



Finding the Artist Within

**Dec 18th
10:00-11:30 am**

**WHAM Kids Saturday Arts &
Crafts
Clay Creatures**

**Dec 20th
1-2:30 pm**

Visit our Website for Classes

You still have time to enter your clay creations to be
juried for the upcoming clay exhibit.

CALL FOR
ARTISTS!

JAN 3 -
30, 2026



4TH ANNUAL

ALL THINGS CLAY

SUBMISSION
DEADLINE:
SUNDAY,
DECEMBER
14, 2025

LEARN HOW TO SUBMIT
IN THE DESCRIPTION
BELOW.

WHAM
What's Happen'in Art Movement



Gifts That Support WHAM and will bring a smile to the ones you love. Come to the WHAM gift shop and be Surprised.



Team Member of the Month

Meet Jimmy Garcia

We would like to thank Jimmy for his more than eight years of dedicated volunteer service to WHAM.

Jimmy Garcia was born in El Salvador in 1980 and came to Arizona as a young child after his family fled the civil war. With few toys growing up, he developed a strong imagination, something that now fuels his bold, contemporary mixed-media sculptures inspired by Steampunk, Dieselpunk, Cyberpunk and post-apocalyptic themes.



A self-taught artist, Jimmy works with up-cycled materials like copper, steel, aluminum, plaster and foam to explore the human condition, technology and robotics. His background in production art, graphic design and his current role at an auction house all influence his work, offering a constant stream of inspiration and materials. Many of his pieces incorporate creative lighting to heighten atmosphere and emotion.

Jimmy creates everything from his imagination in his Phoenix home studio, producing works that range from tabletop sculptures to large wall pieces collected for homes and offices. When he's not busy creating masterpieces, he's either dodging tumbleweeds on long motorcycle rides or attempting to convince his family that he's the favorite one.

**You Can Buy Your Tickets.
They could be a wonderful holiday gift.**

**WHAM Presents
Penny Orloff in Songs and Stories from a Not-Quite-Kosher Life.
January 10, 2026, 7:30 pm • 16560 N Dysart Rd, Surprise, AZ**

Tickets: \$25 at Eventbrite.com \$30 at the door.

Penny Orloff's latest solo show is back on the road, bursting with heirloom melodies, stories of her Jewish immigrant family, and tales from her zany life in Showbiz. Penny Orloff was a working actor/dancer in Los Angeles when a Juilliard scholarship took her to New York. She played featured roles on Broadway and sang more than 20 Principal Soprano roles for New York City Opera. In a career spanning more than 50 years, she starred in over 100 productions off Broadway, regionally, and internationally. Her first solo show, "Jewish Thighs on Broadway" (based on her best-selling novel of the same name, available at Amazon.com), toured the U.S. for a decade, including a successful off-Broadway run in 2005. Broadway World.

See more at the WHAM Website Under Literary Arts. You won't want to miss this.

Calling All Writers. Join Us. Here's the scoop.

WHAM's Authors Circle

Are you looking for a group of writers to help unlock your creativity and improve your writing? Whether you are a novice at the craft or an experienced author, join WHAM's Authors Circle! We meet each third Sunday from 2pm – 4pm at the WHAM Art Center, [16560 North Dysart Road](#) in Surprise, AZ.

The Authors Circle is organized as a critique group where a person can read any sort of genre of their own writing that is a work-in-progress. So, you are welcome whether you write fiction, nonfiction, poetry, memoir, children/middle grade/young adult. Bring two or three pages of your writing to share. After that, the group will offer gentle critiquing and positive feedback designed to help you improve your work. The group is also open to discussion of any writing-related matters such as online writing tools, manuscript preparation, query letters, publication venues, author/book events.

For more information, contact Chris Taylor at chris.taylor@wham-art.org or Lesa Stanford at lesa.stanford@wham-art.org



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

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



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

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