ANDRE THE GIANT
SEVEN FEET FOUR INCHES
FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY POUNDS
WITH BOBBY "THE BRAIN" HEenan
Calendar of Events

Jan 15: MLK Week Celebration at Lake Michigan College
January 22: KAC Winter Classes & Programs Begin
ART
February 9
PREVIEW PARTY: Shepard Fairey, Facing the Giant @ KAC
February 10
NEW EXHIBITIONS: Shepard Fairey, Facing the Giant: 3 Decades of Dissent in The Galleries @ KAC
A World Apart by Joe Matty in The Lab @ KAC
February 15
Coffee with the Curator @ KAC
March 30
NEW EXHIBITION: Outside In – Works on Collection and Memory by Jacob Lehmann in The Lab @ KAC
EDUCATION
Family Days & Family Nights. Free drop-in artmaking for all ages.
Jan 10: Family Night @ Benton Harbor Public Library
Jan 13: Family Day @ KAC
Feb 10: Family Day @ KAC
Feb 14: Family Night @ Benton Harbor Public Library
March 9: Family Day @ KAC
March 13: Family Night @ Benton Harbor Public Library
April 10: Family Night @ Benton Harbor Public Library
April 13: Family Day @ KAC
Community Student Art Exhibitions
March 14- April 7: Elementary Community Student Art Exhibition @ the Box
April 18-May 8: Middle School/High School Community Student Art Exhibition
April 2-5: Spring Break Camps
EVENTS
62nd Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff, presented by 1st Source Bank Wealth Advisory Services
July 13, 10 AM – 6 PM & 14, 10 AM – 5 PM
Dear Arts Family –
This past fall, I took a beginner level ceramics class at Krasl. Despite working in the arts and having an intellectual appreciation of ceramics, I have had only minor experience in the ceramics studio. Signing up for the class, I wondered if it would be embarrassing. But then I thought about how welcoming our instructors are and registered. I’m glad I did. In the studio, I enjoyed learning how to cup my hands when wedging clay; I liked that rolling a slab of clay felt like rolling dough, and I enjoyed discovering the unique uses of the myriad of tools. I even liked the feeling of cleaning up a project and preparing the studio for the next class. I have walked into Krasl’s clay studio for fifteen years, but this was the first time I used it.
Skill building, accomplishment, a sense of community, and personal renewal were a part of my class experience. As you think about the year ahead and the new things you would like for yourself and those closest to you, consider how a class or program at Krasl may fulfill your needs and wishes.
To learn about opportunities available now, delve into this newly designed newsletter and class brochure. Also, be sure to stop by the galleries to see the final days of our annual community members’ show. You may be inspired and meet future friends!

Tami Fauver
Executive Director and Chief Curator
In 1989, at the age of 19, Shepard Fairey created a sticker campaign featuring Andre the Giant for his “clique of art school and skateboard friends” at Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). The image of the 7’4” World Wrestling Federation (WWF) star caught the attention of more than just Fairey’s peers and grew to become a worldwide street art phenomenon.

Fairey saw the potential of a simple image to provoke, subvert, and delight; and he began a career in graphic design and guerilla marketing that has since made him one of the most recognizable street artists living today.

Shepard Fairey, Facing the Giant: 3 Decades of Dissent presents 30 silkscreen and mixed collage works that feature not only those early depictions of Andre the Giant (pictured here) but also subsequent work from the last 30 years that highlight Fairey’s use of art to push back against dominant systems of power.

This exhibition was organized by the Landau Traveling Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA in association with OBEY GIANT ART.

In the name of fun and observation.”

– SHEPARD FAIREY, 1990

Whether the reaction be positive or negative, the sticker’s existence is worthy as long as it causes people to consider the details and meanings of their surroundings.

1. In 1990, after recognizing the impact of his Obey Giant sticker campaign, Fairey published a personal manifesto, now on his website, obeygiant.com.
OUTSIDE IN – WORKS ON COLLECTION AND MEMORY BY JACOB LEHMANN
March 30 – May 12, 2024

“Swelling up from the mud of the Blue Ridge Mountains,” Jacob Lehmann is a multi-media artist from Clemson, SC. Trained as a painter, Lehmann’s Outside in expands his paintings into “sites” that also include sculpture and found objects, all representing the interior spaces in which memories are produced. For Lehmann, these artworks revisit personal memories bouncing between his parents’ suburban and his grandparents’ rural homes, playing video games and shucking corn, losing his grandmother, and growing up queer in Southern Appalachia. Like Matty’s photographs, Lehmann’s sites are “attempts at rebuilding what cannot be obtained, attempting to touch what cannot be reached. In this way, I am balancing grief and joy.”

FOR MANY OF US, THE DIGITAL WORLDS WE IMAGINATIVELY INHABIT FEEL REAL. – JOE MATTY

I am balancing grief and joy.”
~ JACOB LEHMANN

FEATURED ARTIST WORKSHOPS

Artist Workshops are 1 or 2-day courses that focus on specific techniques and topics that are not covered in our regular class schedule. Workshops are often taught by artists visiting from outside of Southwest Michigan.

WS.1: CONTEMPORARY QUILT MAKING
(2) WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 - 9 PM
MARCH 13 & 20
Tuition: $75/$65 Members Ages 13+

Expand upon the traditions of quilt making to incorporate contemporary materials and techniques with artist TJ Schwartz! Students will learn the basic process of quilting before they push the boundaries, exploring organic shapes, repurposed fabrics, and found objects. Students will walk away with a finished wall piece.

WS.2: INTRODUCTION TO DROP SPINDLE
SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 12:30 - 4 PM
Tuition: $75/$65 Members Ages 13+

Learn how to spin on both a top and bottom whorl drop spindle with artist Emily Wohlscheid! The characteristics, advantages, and origins of several spindles from around the world will be covered, and students will walk away with a basic working knowledge of drop spindles and how to create their own handspun yarn.

WS.3: CRAFTING SUCCESS: ART MARKETING AND BUSINESS 101
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 6 – 9 PM
Tuition: $40/$30 Ages 13+
Learn how to grow your brand as an artist and have an online presence that leads to real-world opportunities with Emily Wohlscheid! Wohlscheid will share pro tips about finding your niche market, applying to shows, and selling your art, all while staying true to your creative vision.

Join KAC’s new Culture Club in The Lab this spring. Movies, books, music - all selections guided by the current artist - will be the subject of lightly-directed conversation during these monthly social gatherings. Visit krasl.org/events for more details.

CLASSES –
TEEN/ADULT

NO CLASSES APRIL 1-5

8-week Teen & Adult Classes are open to ages 13+ unless otherwise noted. Scholarships available at krasl.org

A.C.1: INTRODUCTION TO CERAMICS
(8) WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 24 – MARCH 13
Tuition: $210/$190 Members
Clay: $30 Per Bag
Jennifer Zona

A.C.2: DAYTIME WHEEL THROWING
(8) THURSDAYS, 10 AM – 12:30 PM
JANUARY 25 – MARCH 14
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Clay: $30 Per Bag
Becky Wehmer

A.C.3: INTERMEDIATE WHEEL THROWING
(8) MONDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 22 – MARCH 11
Tuition: $210/$190 Members
Clay: $30 Per Bag
Noelle Ringer

A.C.5: ADVANCED WHEEL THROWING TECHNIQUES
(8) WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 24 – MARCH 13
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Clay: $30 Per Bag
Noelle Ringer

A.C.6: POTTERY WITH PETE
(8), 10 AM – 12:30 PM
JANUARY 22 – MARCH 11
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Clay: $30 Per Bag
Pete Nyce

A.J.1: ENAMELING ON TEXTURED METAL: HOT GLASS & COLD CONNECTIONS
(8) THURSDAYS, 1 – 4 PM
FEBRUARY 8 – MARCH 28
Tuition: $250/$230 Members,
Materials Fee: $45
Vicki Cook

A.P.1: WATERCOLOR FROM PHOTOGRAPHS
(8) WEDNESDAYS, 1 – 3:30 PM
JANUARY 24 – MARCH 13
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Materials list available online.
Kerry Binnington

A.A.1: HAND-FORGED COPPER FLOWERS
AGES 18+
(8) THURSDAYS, 6 – 8:30 PM
JANUARY 25 – MARCH 14
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
John DeLapa

A.R.1: NO-PRESS PRINTMAKING
THURSDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 25 & FEBRUARY 1: Relief Prints
FEBRUARY 8 & 15: Gelli Plates
FEBRUARY 22 & 29: Monotypes
MARCH 7 & 14: Collagrophy
Tuition: $210/$190
Ali Hansen

CLASSES –
YOUTH

NO CLASSES APRIL 1-5

Y.57.1: ART SAMPLER
5 – 7 YRS
(12) WEDNESDAYS, 1 – 3 PM
JANUARY 24 – APRIL 17
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
TJ Schwartz

Y.57.2: CLAY BUILDERS & SPINNERS
5 – 7 YRS
(12) WEDNESDAYS, 1 – 3 PM
JANUARY 25 – APRIL 15
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
Sherrie Styx

Y.57.3: PAINT & PRINT
5 – 7 YRS
(12) MONDAYS, 4:30 – 6:30 PM
JANUARY 22 – APRIL 15
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
Jessica Hightower

Y.812.1: MUD MAKERS
8 – 12 YRS
(12) MONDAYS, 1 – 3 PM
JANUARY 22 – APRIL 15
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
Jennifer Zona

Y.812.2: Drawing & Painting Animals
8 – 12 YRS
(12) WEDNESDAYS, 1 – 3 PM
JANUARY 22 – APRIL 15
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
Jessica Hightower

Y.812.3: Printmaking Experiments
8 – 12 YRS
(12) WEDNESDAYS, 4:30 – 6:30 PM
JANUARY 24 – APRIL 17
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
Ali Hansen

Y.812.4: Digital Illustration
8 – 12 YRS
(12) MONDAYS, 4:30 – 6:30 PM
JANUARY 22 – APRIL 15
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
Anushka Ganu

A.D.1: DRAWING FROM LIFE
(12) MONDAYS, 4 – 6 PM
JANUARY 22 – APRIL 15
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
Nathan Margoni

A.D.2: COLORED PENCIL REALISM: FLOWERS
(8) WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 24 – MARCH 13
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Materials Fee: $20
Miranda Heward

A.P.2: ACRYLIC PAINTING
(8) MONDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 22 – MARCH 11
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Materials Fee: $35
Carr Pierce

A.P.3: INTRODUCTION TO OIL PAINTING
(8) THURSDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 25 – MARCH 14
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Materials Fee: $35
Carr Pierce

A.P.4: ACRYLIC PORTRAIT PAINTING
(12) THURSDAYS, 4 – 6 PM
JANUARY 25 – APRIL 18
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
Jessica Hightower

A.P.5: INTRODUCTION TO BLACK & WHITE DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY
(8) MONDAYS, 4:30 – 6:30 PM
JANUARY 22 – MARCH 14
Bring your own DSLR Camera
Tuition: $180/$160 Members
Nick Collard

A.F.1: EMBROIDERY 101
(4) MONDAYS, 6 – 8:30 PM
JANUARY 22 – FEBRUARY 12
Tuition: $110/$100 Members
Sunnyong Seo

A.F.2: SASHIKO EMBROIDERY
(4) MONDAYS, 6 – 8:30 PM
FEBRUARY 19 – MARCH 11
Tuition: $110/$100 Members
Sunnyong Seo

A.D.3: DAYTIME WHEEL THROWING
(8) THURSDAYS, 10 AM – 12:30 PM
JANUARY 25 – MARCH 14
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Clay: $30 Per Bag
Jennifer Zona

A.D.4: COLORED PENCIL REALISM: FLOWERS
(8) WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 24 – MARCH 13
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Materials Fee: $20
Miranda Heward

A.P.6: ACRYLIC PORTRAIT PAINTING
(12) THURSDAYS, 4 – 6 PM
JANUARY 25 – APRIL 18
Tuition: $275/$245 Members
Jessica Hightower

A.P.7: INTRODUCTION TO WHEEL THROWING
(8) WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 24 – MARCH 13
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Clay: $30 Per Bag
Becky Wehmer

A.P.8: ADVANCED WHEEL THROWING TECHNIQUES
(8) WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 – 9 PM
JANUARY 24 – MARCH 13
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Clay: $30 Per Bag
Noelle Ringer

A.P.9: POTTERY WITH PETE
(8), 10 AM – 12:30 PM
JANUARY 22 – MARCH 11
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Clay: $30 Per Bag
Pete Nyce

A.P.10: WATERCOLOR FROM PHOTOGRAPHS
(8) WEDNESDAYS, 1 – 3:30 PM
JANUARY 24 – MARCH 13
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Materials list available online.
Kerry Binnington

A.P.11: HAND-FORGED COPPER FLOWERS
AGES 18+
(8) THURSDAYS, 6 – 8:30 PM
JANUARY 25 – MARCH 14
Tuition: $210/$190 Members,
Materials Fee: $30
John DeLapa
Often referred to as the “Homecoming for the Creative Kids”, these long-running exhibitions are a place to celebrate our communities’ young creatives. Being inquisitive, a problem solver, collaborative, and a critical thinker are some of the benefits young people experience when engaged in the arts. This exhibition is an opportunity to shine a light on these young artists. A call for art is sent to Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren Counties area schools (whether home, private, or public) and programs for exhibitions that take place in March through April every year. Exhibitions are presented at the Box Factory for the Arts.

STUDENT ART EXHIBITIONS

HOMECOMING FOR THE CREATIVE KIDS

Each year, Berrien RESA, The Box Factory for the Arts, and Krasl Art Center work together to present two amazing Community Student Art Exhibitions, one for Elementary students from March 14th - April 7th and Middle School and High School students from April 18th to May 5th.

FREE FAMILY PROGRAMS

FAMILY DAYS @ Krasl | SECOND SATURDAYS, STARTING JANUARY 13, 11 AM - 12:30 PM
Come to 707 Lake Boulevard and create something special. Projects have included Bubble Wands, Window Stars, Ski Slope Racing, and more!

FAMILY NIGHTS @ Benton Harbor Public Library | SECOND WEDNESDAYS STARTING JANUARY 10, 5 – 6:30 PM
Krasl partners with the BHPL to present free and fun art activities in the evening for families. Projects have included Button Making, Pumpkin Painting, Pinewood Racing, and more! Come to 213 E. Wall St., Benton Harbor and create something special.

SPRING BREAK CAMPS

Ages 5 - 14
APRIL 2, 3, 4 & 5
9 AM – 12 PM
Tuition: $55/$45 Members
Camp details will be posted at krasl.org on December 15

TEEN ARTS COUNCIL

HEY YOU! Did you know Krasl Art Center has a Teen Arts Council? TAC is a group for all young people, ages 14–19, interested in art making beyond what is offered at school and creating community in the process. Meetings include everything from art making, college prep, visiting artist workshops, field trips. Past projects have been things like light bulb painting, plushie making, portfolio review, screenprinting, and more! TAC is always growing and open to new members, see what we have planned on our Instagram page.

TAC Winter season is led by our TAC Co-Chairs. They meet on the first and third Wednesdays from 6 – 8 pm at Krasl Art Center starting on January 17! Email tac@krasl.org, or send us a dm on Instagram @kraslteens, to find out more.
PechaKucha

Eight years ago, when we first introduced PechaKucha St. Joseph/Benton Harbor (PK) to our community, we could never have imagined where we are today. Back then, Krasl collaborated with several local businesses to spark a creative movement in the community. PK has not only survived the pandemic but has also flourished, amassing a devoted following and gearing up for its 30th event in 2024.

PechaKucha is about exposing the hidden creativity in a city. The term is Japanese for “chit chat”, and it’s a presentation format that features 20 images, each displayed for 20 seconds. In essence, presenters have 400 seconds to narrate their stories, with visuals guiding the way. Astrid Klein and Mark Dytham of Tokyo’s Klein-Dytham Architecture (KDA) created PechaKucha in February 2003, aiming to encourage individuals to “talk less, show more.” They used this format to draw people to their experimental event space in Roppongi, Japan, and enable young designers to meet, showcase their work, and exchange ideas in just 6 minutes and 40 seconds. Since then, PechaKucha events have attracted three million people globally.

Locally, we’re fortunate to have two remarkable women, Lana DeFrancesco and Ronnika Williams, who bring their passion for creativity and storytelling to the planning team. Lana plays a crucial behind-the-scenes role, typically overseeing the presentations at each event. She has been with the planning team since its inception and has presented several times in the past eight years, including a memorable trip to a PK event in Japan. Ronnika joined the team shortly after PK was established in the community. She serves as the event hostess, ensuring a smooth flow from start to finish, and her nail polish is always on point.

Another key element of each PK event is the cartwheeling event emcee, Nathan Margoni, a member of the Krasl Art Center team. He adds a touch of excitement (and sometimes danger) to the traditional emcee role by tumbling on stage to get the crowd excited.

Jamie Balkin, Director of Events for Krasl, expressed her gratitude, saying, “We are incredibly thankful for Lana and Ronnika. Their dedication and talent are exceptional and highly valued.” “PechaKucha is a delightful event, a hidden gem in our community. It brings together people from all walks of life for an evening of enjoyment, camaraderie, stories, and creativity. It attracts a diverse range of ages, from the young to the middle-aged to the older generation, and everyone has a great time.”

Krasl Art Center staff and dedicated volunteers collaborate to bring this engaging event to the community. If you’re interested in getting involved in planning future events, email pechakuchasjbh@gmail.com.

As we look ahead to 2024, stay tuned for PK events in February, May, and September at various locations throughout the Benton Harbor/St. Joseph community. A very special PK takes place in May as we celebrate our 30th event.

Volunteer Appreciation Event: Celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Week by getting together with fellow Krasl Art Center volunteers for a movie and ice cream social. Be sure to check the website for a date and time for this special event recognizing the lifeblood of our organization—our VOLUNTEERS.

SAVE THE DATE!

MLK Celebration Week
January 15th - 20th 2024
Celebration Expo Breakfast and Resource Fair at Lake Michigan College

ABOVE: Laura Winkle at the 2023 MLK Celebration Expo Breakfast and Resource Fair at Lake Michigan College; RIGHT: Martin Luther King Jr. Day activity “KEEP MOVING FORWARD”
Krasl Art Center Membership

Your membership to Krasl Art Center is a reflection of the value you have for the cultural vibrancy of southwest Michigan communities. Join like-minded folks who share your appreciation for access to creative expression, dynamic exhibitions, and engaging arts programs.

Your contribution of an Annual Membership fee helps make all of this possible, while connecting you with other people, like you, who care.

FAN: $45.00
Individual member enjoys the following:
• Complimentary access to Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff Block Party (1)
• Member access to early and discounted studio experiences
• Mailed newsletter and invitation to exhibition openings
• 10% Discount on select merchandise in The Shop (excludes consignment and discounted items)

FRIEND of LOTUS: $65.00
Members of the household enjoy the following:
• All benefits listed above
• Complimentary access to Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff Block Party (2)

PATRON: $150.00
Members of the household enjoy the following:
• All benefits listed above
• Two (2) membership cards
• Member benefits to thousands of museums nationwide through NARM (National Association of Reciprocal Museums)

COLLECTOR: $250.00
Members of the household enjoy the following:
• All benefits listed above
• VIP experience during Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff (actual benefit may vary from one year to the next)

BEACON GOLD: $500.00
Members of the household enjoy the following:
• All benefits listed above
• Gift of one artist print or handmade artwork

DIRECTOR’S CIRCLE: $1,000.00
Members of the household enjoy the following:
• All benefits listed above
• Invitation to a private gallery tour with the Executive Director

Granor Farm Community Dinner
Join us Friday, April 26, for a very special community dinner supporting Krasl Art Center. Granor Farm is a certified organic farm located in Three Oaks, Michigan, that was founded in 2006. This event corresponds with Art Attack weekend in Harbor Country – an annual showcase of the arts and creativity in our region.

Tickets start at $250 and include a tax-deductible donation to Krasl Art Center, dinner, beverage pairings, gratuity, taxes + fees. Event details: granorfarm.com/whats-on

Join now!
Thank you to all who donate! Your support allows us to inspire meaningful change and strengthen community through the visual arts. We cannot do this work without you.
INSPIRE MEANINGFUL CHANGE AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY THROUGH THE VISUAL ARTS.

HE[ART] SUPPLIES

Everything you need to share love and creativity this winter: artist-made gifts, toys and games that foster creativity, and unique art supplies all in The Shop at KAC.

NEW TO THE SHOP: BEAM PAINTS!

Among Beam of Beam Paints was raised by artist parents and taught from a young age how to harvest hematite pigment in the LaCloche mountain range near their home in M’Chigeeng First Nation on Manitoulin Island. Beam draws on this early education in Indigenous pigment to create high-quality paints with plastic free packaging.