



Utah Division of
Arts & Museums



2024
ANNUAL REPORT



Utah Division of
Arts & Museums

MISSION

UA&M enhances Utah's quality of life. We champion opportunities to experience culture by investing in arts and museums, offering professional development, facilitating connections, and providing direct services.

VISION

UA&M inspires and connects people and communities through Utah's arts and museums, encouraging a vibrant and culturally engaged state.



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

VICTORIA PANELLA BOURNS

This year saw wonderful achievements at Utah Arts & Museums. Our 2024-2028 strategic plan was ratified by both our boards. We acknowledge our responsibility to the people of Utah and remain committed to preserving, promoting, and bolstering our state's cultural treasures.

Significantly, UA&M received \$350,000 over three years from the National Endowment for the Humanities' Preservation and Access Education and Training grant program. These funds help us administer the Utah Collections Preservation Program. We initiated a traditional music series and "Thrill of the

Chase: Folk Stories to Fright and Delight" at the Chase Home Museum. Individual artists had the opportunity to attend professional development workshops on taxes for artists on topics such as taxes and how to create a business plan. We installed a beautiful display at the Utah State Capitol showcasing Utah's Leading Lady of the Arts, Alice Merrill Horne.

To top it off, both Utah Gov. Spencer J. Cox and the Utah State Legislature highlighted the 125th anniversary of the Utah Division of Arts & Museums, the first state arts agency in the nation.

UA&M: PRIORITY SUCCESSES

UA&M's 125th Anniversary

On March 9, 1899, the agency that became the Utah Division of Arts & Museums was founded. UA&M is proud of our 125 year track record supporting creative individuals and cultural organizations across Utah. Celebratory activities include commissioning a new work by Utah artist Ben Steele and a 125th anniversary exhibition opening in December 2024 at the Utah Valley University Museum of Art.



Rural Outreach

UA&M increased its rural outreach through several programs:

Poetry Out Loud — a national arts education program that helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life. This year, the expanded program included competitions in Daggett, San Juan and Uintah counties, as well as the Navajo Nation.

The UA&M Collections Preservation Team expanded to include members from St. George, Cedar City, and Price. With training in preventive conservation and collections preservation, they join a network of collections stewards who can provide professional expertise to museums in communities across the state.

Utah Poet Laureate Lisa Bickmore conducted readings

and workshops in rural San Juan County in April and May, funded by a Poet Laureate Fellowship from The Academy of American Poets.

UA&M partnered with Excellence in the Community to provide free concerts and pre-concert outreach events in six counties and for the Ute Tribe in Fort Duchesne.

Arts Express, a two-day professional development conference for K-6 teachers served rural teachers from Duchesne, Uintah, Daggett, Grand, Piute, Juab, San Juan, and Box Elder counties. Artists and teachers from rural counties also presented or performed.

The Arts Education Program continues its partnership with Multicultural Affairs, Utah Juvenile Justice and Youth Services, and Ogden Contemporary Arts. The program serves Farmington Bay Juvenile Detention Center and offers a mural experience with a UA&M teaching artist, Tracy Williams.

UA&M: PRIORITY SUCCESSES

Collections: Acquisitions and Public Art

Since its founding, the division has been acquiring works of art. This year, 95 artworks including paintings, works of folk art, sculpture, works on paper, and transferred items from the Utah State Parks collections were added to the State of Utah Alice Merrill Horne Art Collection.

The division also oversees the state's public art program, facilitating the process of selecting site-specific artworks for state buildings. This year, nine public art projects were launched, with 13 others in process.

The program received two awards in this year's international CODAwards. The CODAwards: Collaboration of Design + Art recognizes outstanding projects that integrate commissioned art into interior, architectural, or public spaces. The installation "Above the Ploughman's Highest Line" by Benjamin Ball at Davis Technical College won the Education category. "Between the Currents" by Bill Washabaugh, a kinetic installation at Weber State University, received a Merit Award in the Education category. These artworks were selected out of 411 entries from 24 countries.

UA&M General Operating Support Grant Funding

UA&M continues to provide critical support to the State's arts and cultural organizations through the general operating support grant program, generously funded by the State of Utah and the National Endowment for the Arts. This year UA&M collaborated with the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity to provide grants ranging from \$1,200 to \$250,000 each to 217 organizations in 26 counties. The State's \$6 million investment was leveraged in total organizational budgets of more than \$341 million in direct spending (not including economic contribution multipliers for associated spending). These grants provide operational funding that is critical to the health and sustainability of our state's vibrant cultural treasures.

This year, three public art projects were completed:

- **Bridgerland Technical College Health Sciences Building:**

"Healix" by Shane Allbritton and Peter Bernick-Allbritton

- **Box Elder Public Safety Building:**

"Migration of Souls" by Karl Hale

- **Box Elder Public Safety Building:**

"the sum of its (p)arts" by Tooza Design



"I personally cannot express the depth of my appreciation to each of you! Our entire community is truly blessed and grateful for what you helped us accomplish. You showed me how partnerships can make dreams and ideas a reality."

— Peggy White,
Daggett County, Excellence in the Community concert recipient

STAFF

Victoria Panella Bourns, *director*

Natalie Petersen, *deputy director*

Program Managers

Alyssa Hickman Grove, *communications and literary arts*

Jason Bowcutt, *community programs and performing arts*

Jean Tokuda Irwin, *arts education*

Emily Johnson, *museum field services*

Karen Krieger, *collections [retired in May 2024]*

Laurel Cannon Alder, *grants*

Staff

Courtney Miller, *registrar*

Joy Davidson, *visual arts assistant**

Julie Edholm, *collections assistant**

Justin Ivie, *arts education coordinator*

Elisha Condie, *arts education assistant*

Elizabeth Setterberg, *folk arts assistant**

Em Cebrowski, *program support specialist*

Emilie Starr, *administrative assistant*

Fletcher Booth, *traveling exhibitions coordinator*

Hannah Barrett, *public art coordinator*

Ian Hallagan, *folk arts coordinator*

Jenna Ehlinger, *Chase Home Museum administrator and ADA coordinator*

Lansia Wann, *marketing specialist*

Marie Desrochers, *preservation outreach coordinator[#]*

Racquel Cornali, *grants and data coordinator*

Reilly Jensen, *museum field services coordinator*

Peter Hay, *visual arts coordinator*

Tracy Hansford, *community programs coordinator*

*part-time #grant-funded

BOARDS

Utah Arts Advisory Board Members

Heidi Prokop, *chair, Salt Lake City, Zions Bank, at-large*

Kelly Stowell, *vice-chair, Kanab, Center for Education, Business, and the arts, at-large*

Caitlin Gochnour, *immediate past chair, Ogden, at-large*

Amy Jorgensen, *Ephraim, Granary Art Center, visual arts*

Jeni Wilson, *Layton, at-large*

John Ballard, *Salt Lake City, theater*

Juan Carlos Claudio, *Salt Lake City, Weber State University, dance*

Krista Sorenson, *Salt Lake City, Sorenson Impact Foundation Board, at-large*

Lisa Arnett, *Salt Lake City, Prescott Muir Architects, architecture/design arts*

Larry Cesspooch, *Roosevelt, Through Native Eyes Productions, media arts*

Leroy Transfield, *Orem, sculptor, sculpture*

Natalie Young, *Cedar City, Sugar House Review, literary arts*

Samuel Tsugawa, *Provo, music*

Sudha Kargi, *Sandy, Kargi Kala Kendra, folk arts*

Utah Museums Advisory Board Members

Sharon Johnson, *chair, Smithfield, Cache County Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum*

Diana Call, *vice-chair, St. George, St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site*

Derrek Hanson, *Salt Lake City, museum professional*

Forrest Rodgers, *Moab, museum professional*

Janet Smoak, *Green River, museum professional*

Jessica Kinsey, *Cedar City, Southern Utah Museum of Art*

Laura St. Onge, *Alpine, museum professional*

Nichol Bourdeaux, *Salt Lake City, Utah Transit Authority, at-large*

Robb Alexander, *Roy, Aerospace Heritage Foundation of Utah, at-large*

Susan Adams, *Layton, at-large*

