

Love is in the Air

Chocolates, Flowers or Art?

In just a few weeks, Valentine’s Day—the second most celebrated holiday after Christmas—will have you scurrying off to find the perfect *Hallmark* card for you special love. And, on this day, the need to declare your love to the one who is (or will be) by your side, day in and day out, through all the ups and downs is a powerful thing one cannot escape.

A beautiful card carries the message of our thoughts showing we really care, but sometimes a card isn’t quite enough. What is enough . . . chocolates that put them into a diabetic shock? Or, wilting flowers placed in a non-descript vase limp and dead within two days? If you are sincere about your feelings and know your loved one is an art enthusiast, Art has to be the answer. It’s likely they won’t miss the extra calories from the chocolates or feel deprived because you didn’t blow \$125 (or more) on long-stem roses that are doomed to die in a few days.

Giving a meaningful piece of art, whether big or small, will be received as a treasured gift, lasting as long as your love. If flowers are a must, add a trophy piece of unique art glass to be enjoyed for years to come. Your loved one will enjoy the glass every day and show off future bouquets of roses in a hand blown vase versus a mass-produced supermarket vase. If your Valentine is a die-hard chocoholic, present those little sugar-boosters with a hand-blown glass plate swirling in colors she loves besides chocolate brown. We have dozens of ideas for you and you can stay within your budget. Hunter-Wolff Gallery will help you create the gift that shouts, “I love you” on the most important day of the year and for so many years to come!

Who’s Who – Blazing Glassblower

Meet **Donna Gordon** (right photo) from Arvada, CO, who loves what she does so much she teaches want-to-be blowers when she’s not pressed to deliver new work to her multiple galleries. Since 1999 she has been perfecting her technique and keeps three furnaces fired up most of the year in her 4,000 square foot studio. Her elegant glass work keeps patrons coming back to add to their collection. Donna’s designs fit with any style from cowboys to contemporary and can be hung on the wall, displayed on a pedestal or used as an accent centerpiece and range from \$30 to several thousand.



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Glassblower Donna Gordon



Old Colorado City 2009 ArtWalk to Hit the Sidewalks in April

Old Colorado City
ArtWalk Cares
... feeding the hungry
with *Westside CARES*

You Can Help! First Friday ArtWalk in Old Colorado City is excited to announce it will be working hard to help fill the pantry shelves at Westside CARES beginning in April. With a donation of one non-perishable food item dropped off on ArtWalk night at any participating gallery, customers will receive a complimentary "thank you" gift from the gallery. Join us in our quest to feed the hungry on ArtWalk night, starting April 3.

Color is my day-long obsession, joy and torment.

—Claude Monet

Ask Kelli . . .

Q: How can I get a portrait oil painting of my granddaughter?

A: Whether it is your granddaughter or something else you are fond of such as your home, pet or favorite landscape, Hunter-Wolff Gallery will arrange with the artist of choice to commission artwork according to your size specifications. A number of artists in our gallery work one-on-one with our clients, through the gallery, to deliver commissioned work. Commissioned work requires an initial consultation and a 50% non-refundable deposit. Mollie Plummer, for instance, specializes in portraiture and has delivered hundreds over her career. More than half of our artists have experience in creating custom artwork.

Q: I want to take oil painting lessons but the last time I had a brush in my hand was 20 years ago. Do I need to take a test?

A: No tests required! Kathryn McMahon teaches oil and acrylic painting and because of her small classes she can provide one-on-one attention to each student regardless of level. If you are a beginner or advanced student, you are welcomed. By the way, these are very therapeutic classes!

Q: Is a pastel painting really a chalk drawing?

A: No. Pastel is an art medium in the form of a stick, consisting of pure powdered pigment and a binder. The pigments used in pastels are the same as those used to produce all colored art media, including oil paints; the binder is of a neutral hue and low saturation. When protected with glass (or in some cases a fixative), pastel is the most permanent of all media, because it never cracks, darkens or yellows.

Kelli

Send your questions to
AskKelli@gmail.com

Color Trends: Color Me Purple!

Whether you're searching for an original painting or other *objets d'art*, shop by color to find the complimentary piece for your décor. Looking to wake up your walls? Want to set the tone for quiet sophistication? All it takes is a few original pieces chosen in hues that speak to you. In our search for color cues, we asked Lee Roth Interior Design what's hot in this year.

If you follow color trends, soothing blues, soft sandy taupes, and warm gray are winners for starters. Combining rich chocolate browns and warm golds teamed with pearled ivories to create an elegant color scheme will be the envy of your friends. But if livelier colors are more in tune with your personality, select shades of purple from the lightest lilac to jewel-toned royal purples to create an up-to-date statement and dramatic change.

While pale hues, such as lavender and lilac, have been favorites in home decorating for years, nouveau purples pack a punch. Look for indigo, plum, violet, grape, iris, aubergine. These posh purples are dripping with raspberry and blackberry, blushed with touches of fuchsia, and sometimes hints of Shiraz, pomegranate and kumquat. Yummy. Purple is the ultimate statement color. "Deep plums send a message of grandeur and opulence," said Lee, owner of Lee Roth Interior Designs. "It's a great mood color and works like adding a lively spice to a bland recipe."

Gray is projected to be highly popular on walls and furnishings in 2009 and beyond. Select from the all-out grays with under-tones of no other color, grays with silver and blue undertones, or from the shades of sophisticated, green-cast smoky grays. A back-drop of gray is an attractive alternative, especially on big projects involving repainting large areas. It can be an equalizer for something splashier in your design scheme. If gray feels too dreary because you live in one of the rainy pockets of the country, use your judgment. It helps to accent with white or off-white trim to keep the room bright and fresh. In Colorado, however, where 300 days of sunshine is typical, it's a popular choice versus off-white to make artwork show well.

Confused about the color coordination of your project? Lee Roth, our interior design consultant, is available to schedule an hour of free color consultation. Call now to get started. Regardless of trends, follow your own taste and favorite colors. We look at trends as a guide to bring a fresh, new look to your life and home. We believe your home and office should be an expression of you and that's why we offer a wide range of color options and styles in our art collections. Color palettes in home décor are always changing, like a kaleidoscope that never stops moving. Fortunately, Hunter-Wolff Gallery will help you keep up with the newest trends and with fine art that lasts a lifetime.





Donna Gordon

Donna blows glass by dipping a blowpipe into a pot of molten glass which is inside a high-temperature furnace blazing at about 2100°F. Glass is then **gathered** onto the blowpipe when pipe and glass are removed from the furnace. The glass is carefully shaped and air blown into the pipe expanding the ball of molten glass into a thick bubble. Additional glass is then gathered onto the bubble and colors can be added.

The bubble of hot glass is then **blown and worked**, forming it by using practically anything that will not be too badly burned by the hot glass: wet sticks or folded wet newspaper, wooden or metal molds, pliers, scissors, wire, and so forth.

During the shaping process the piece must be returned to the gloryhole (furnace) frequently to keep it soft enough to work. Once the desired size and shape are achieved, the piece is transferred from the blow pipe to an iron rod called a punty. This permits the part of the glass that was in contact with the blowpipe to be finished. It can be trimmed, stretched, or opened up to form the mouth of a vessel. When the piece has the desired look, it is carefully broken off the punty and placed into a temperature-controlled oven called an annealer, where it is slowly cooled down to room temperature. Depending upon the thickness of the glass this cool down may take from 12 to 48 hours. It takes a great deal of skill and patience to create blown glass.

Top Awards & Recognition



★**Donna Gordon**, glass blower, has been invited to participate in the Lakewood Cultural Arts Center's exhibit "LIGHT". Show runs from January 12 to April 5, 2009, in the Center's Mezzanine Gallery. We have all been mesmerized by light, refracted through a piece of glass, sending colors in rainbow patterns or giving the work of art illumination. View the works by Donna and other exhibiting glass artists and appreciate how they explore, capture, and release the possibilities of light. *Congratulations Donna!*

★**Sculptor Ruth Burink** was awarded a project to sculpt a marble dove for the new intensive care wing at Mercy Hospital, Canton, OH. Locally, Ruth's sculptures are at the entrance to Penrose-St. Francis Hospital, Penrose-St. Francis North, critical care at the new Memorial Hospital North in Colorado Springs, and the new maternity wing of St. Joseph Hospital, Denver. In addition to a number of pieces for sale at Hunter-Wolff Gallery, several large marble sculptures are exhibited on loan in Pueblo, Grand Junction, Breckenridge, Montrose, Northglenn, and Carbondale, CO and in Sioux Falls, SD. This busy sculptor is also working on commissioned pieces for patrons—get your order in now!

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

Attention Patrons: If you purchased original paintings from Hunter-Wolff Gallery during 2008 and did not receive a Certificate of Authenticity for the work you purchased, please let us know immediately via email or by calling and we will send you your signed COA for your permanent records.



Show Dates

February 2009
14 – Love is in the Air
All Artists' Exhibit 2-6 pm

What's the Meaning of This?

Donna Gordon cannot blow glass without her **blowhose or blowpipe**. This critical piece of equipment is what she blows air through to shape the glass. The **blowhose** will have a mouthpiece at one end and a swivel at the other. The swivel is a device that allows the rotation of glass that will be blown. The swivel is connected to the glass by latex or rubber tubing or a stopper/tubing assembly. The **blowhose** is usually about six feet long and 3/16" ID.

What Can Parents Do to Get Kids Involved in Art?

Hunter-Wolff Gallery

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Find us on the Web:
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Ten Simple Actions To Get More Art in Kids' Lives

1. **Enjoy** visual arts together. Draw and color with your child at home.
2. **Encourage** your child to participate in art events, like visiting a gallery or museum with you.
3. **Explore** your school or local library and read "books about artists" together.
4. **Check** your local newspaper to find out about attending local art events like museum exhibits, ArtWalk, art festivals and other art demonstrations.
5. **Tell** your child's teacher, principal, and school leadership that the arts are vital to your child's success and an important part of a quality education. Find out if your school has resources for arts education, including qualified teachers and materials. If not, offer to help.
6. **Contact** your local arts organizations to inquire about the arts education programs they offer either during school hours or after school. Volunteer to donate time, supplies, or help with their advocacy efforts and connect these services to your child's school.
7. **Attend** a school board meeting and voice your support for the arts to show you care and make sure the arts are adequately funded as part of the core curriculum in the school budget.
8. **Explore** your child's dream to paint, draw, sing, dance, act—and encourage them to become the best they can be through the arts.
9. **Be** an arts supporter! Contact your elected officials—lawmakers and school board members—to ask them for more arts education funding from the local, state, and federal levels.
10. **Sign up** to be included on Hunter-Wolff Gallery's email list to be notified about featured exhibits, ArtWalk, classes and other activities offered throughout the year. **Bring your children!**

ART Classes

Art lessons on location are available weekly now. Resident Artist Kathryn A. McMahon instructs oil and acrylic painting classes for three hours Wednesday mornings from 9-12. Register by calling 719.520.9494.



Child Portrait by Mollie Plummer



Pastel by Jean Houghton



Oil by Kathryn McMahon



Portrait in oil by K.A. McMahon



Miniature Pastel by Emily M. Kline

Fine Art . . . Treasures for a Lifetime!

Add your email to our mailing list and don't miss monthly announcements and news releases. Newsletters and articles are maintained at www.hunterwolffgallery.com. Call Sharon Wolff, Gallery Owner, at 719.520.9494 for additional information, artist biographies, current collection details, and event schedules.