

Take the road less traveled

River GALLERY

from Folk Art to Fine Art



November — December 2023

Located on the historic Independence riverfront, River Gallery has been a destination for art lovers since 1998. A partnership of 13 artists, our focus has always been to provide a venue for the incredible number of talented Oregon artists we have encountered.

River Gallery celebrates 25 Years!

Have you been downtown in Independence lately? This little town is changing and growing! In addition to River Gallery there is a new hotel, and many restaurants and shops. Let's not forget the Trolley running between Monmouth and Independence. Hop on in Monmouth and get off right across the street from River Gallery. And it is free. Fun and Free.

River Gallery celebrated its 25th anniversary in October this year. In 1999 the gallery was formed by several artists who had the vision of creating a gallery in Independence. Many people said it wouldn't work in a little town like Independence. But guess what? We are still here! There have been ups, downs and all arounds — but we are still here! Half of the founding artists are still active in the gallery. Over the years others have joined as partners and new artists. At this time we have more than 70 participating artists as partners, associates and contract artists.

Be sure to stop by the gallery to view our display of art created by these Oregon artists! River Gallery can assist you in finding special and unique gifts for your loved ones.

Window Show

This season our window display will tempt you with some gift ideas. Pop into River Gallery to view a diverse variety of artistic and whimsical gift options.



Gerry Brehm

Miniature Show

Gallery Partners and Associate Artists will enhance our gallery walls with miniature art which are 12"x12" or smaller. There will be small ceramics, glass and wall art to meet your desires. Great gift ideas! Come in to view our display of art created by these Oregon artists!

Becki Hesedahl



Louie Gyzin



Carol Chapel



River Gallery will host an open house on Sunday, December 3rd, 2023 from 1:00pm — 5:00pm.

River Gallery, 184 S. Main Street, Independence, Oregon 97351 — 503-838-6171
Current gallery hours — Thursday through Sunday, 11noon — 4pm. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/River-Gallery and Instagram at www.instagram.com/rivergalleryart/



Focus on Partners



When *Carol Chapel* was in kindergarten in Tulsa, Oklahoma the item that caught her eye and she wanted to “play” with the most was one of those easels with the roll paper at the top and big jars of tempera paint in a tray below. The only problem was that she had to share it with all the other 5 year olds. A year or so later, moving with her parents from Tulsa to Wichita, she left that easel behind.

Throughout school however, the art classes were always the most attractive.

After high remained college. At she was a With her minor she studied with David Bernard. She was a member of Bottega Gallery.

*Children know things.
And predict the future if
we will listen.*

school she in Wichita for Wichita State painting major. in printmaking

To pay for college she worked at the Wichita Art Museum.

As is the case with most 20 somethings the larger world called. Mexico. California. Back to Kansas. Back to California.

Still holding that vision of painting, she hovered around anything that even vaguely leaned toward art. She worked in a commercial print shop acquiring skills that would later serve her well. She did free-lance illustration and copy writing. She worked for the Forest Service; earning money to support her need to paint. Through marriage and divorce and another move, this time to Oregon, the easel was calling.

Then when there was a child to support, and wanting to be home when the school bus came, she started Watermark Signs where she painted signs and did general advertising. The tag line was “Where Fine Art and Advertising Collide”. When her son was fully grown and she no longer needed to be regulated by the school bus schedule she converted the sign shop into a painting studio and moved an etching press in to share the space with an easel.

She still lives there in rural Western Oregon, now with her husband, Harry Lehman, their two dogs, a flock of sheep, a garden and fruit trees. That 10 acres is her muse.

She can walk right out the door and be at the easel all to herself. The kindergarten dream come true!

Her work is currently in The Art About Agriculture Touring exhibit and at River Gallery where she is a partner.

She has exhibited at:
Newport Visual Arts Center, Newport, Oregon
Guardino’s Gallery, Portland, Oregon
Corvallis Arts Center, Corvallis

Sunday Drawing at the Gallery

Sunday Drawing at the Gallery will continue on *November 19*, (the 3rd Sunday of each month) from 1:00-2:00 pm.

Bring your pencil or pen or crayon and paper or sketch book and enthusiasm and join in!

Hope to see you there.



Closure in January 2024

River Gallery will be closed January 7– 17 for our annual refresh and maintenance.

Happy Holidays

La Sells Stuart Center, Oregon State University

Her work is in the permanent collections of
Oregon State University
Oregon Historical Society
Western Oregon University

Spring Creek Project, Shot Pouch, OSU Corvallis

Her paintings, hand-pulled prints and drawings are at
River Gallery in Independence and at her studio by appointment.

See her work at www.carolchapel.com

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