



210 N Santa Fe Avenue | Pueblo, CO 81003  
sangredecristoarts.org | 719-295-7200

**FOR RELEASE: January 10, 2012**  
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**ONLINE PRESS KIT:**  
[http://www.sdcc-arts.org/exhibit\\_presskits.html](http://www.sdcc-arts.org/exhibit_presskits.html)

## Artists eye the environment in winter exhibit

*Opening Reception Feb. 10 for EnvironMental at Arts Center*

(PUEBLO, Colo.—January 10, 2012) Some artists focus on the beauty of landscape. Some use reclaimed and recycled materials. Others contemplate the intersection of humans and the environment in the larger scope of the world around them.

All are represented in *EnvironMental*, the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center's Winter/Spring 2012 exhibition in the Helen T. White Galleries, in which the intersection of art and the environment is explored through a variety of media, techniques and perspectives. The exhibition offers a complimentary display of environmental art to the concurrent exhibit *Recycled Fairytales* in the Buell Children's Museum (opening Jan. 7), creating a natural pathway for parents to expand their child's awareness of ways recycling can take on aesthetic form and purposeful meaning.

*EnvironMental* will be installed in stages beginning Jan. 21 with the White Gallery. A free opening reception will be held Friday, Feb. 10 from 5-7 p.m. during which all of the galleries will be opened to the public. Following the reception, the exhibition may be viewed during regular gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### *EnvironMental*

White Gallery | January 21 through May 12, 2012

Each of the Southern Colorado artists in this unique exhibit are mental about the environment, using their ingenuity to come up with new and innovative approaches to man's interaction with his surroundings. The artists manipulate, contemplate and conserve the environment through their artistic vision, medium choices and techniques. Film, installation, painting, sculpture and mixed media are used in radical and contemporary ways to explore how art fits into the larger environmental picture. Featured artists include: Brendt Berger, Maria Cocchiarelli, Peggy Zehring, Renee Alpert & Douglas Kahn, Matt Barton, Valerie Brodar, Dave Roberts, and arts center potter-in-residence Shane Jarrett.

### *Aaron Williams: Metal Sculpture*

Hoag Gallery | January 28 through April 21, 2012

This CSU-Pueblo arts graduate views other people's scrap metal not as junk, but as a piece of art yet to be born. Utilizing the centuries-old technique of blacksmithing along with modern connivances to cut, bend, and shape metal to his will, Aaron Williams draws forth into this realm pure imagination made solid. He states: "Just like the Phoenix, many of my pieces of art are reborn from fire."

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CELEBRATING  
40 YEARS



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All Williams' work reclaim, reuse and recycle discarded metals. His vision is staggering both in its artistic scope and its application, and he is steadily proving to be a talented emerging artist with a unique and compelling vision. He received the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center award for his sculpture at the 2010 Colorado State Fair.

### ***Legendary Landscapes: Gene Kloss***

King Gallery | February 4 through April 21, 2012

Gene Kloss (1903-1996), painter and printmaker, was born Alice Geneva Glasier in Oakland, California. She studied at the University of California at Berkeley, graduating with honors in art in 1924, and the California School of Fine Arts in San Francisco. With the encouragement of her professor, Perham Nahl, she began etching in 1927. In 1925 she married poet and composer Phillips Kloss.

During her lifetime, Kloss etched more than 627 copper plates, with editions ranging from five to 250. Believing subject matter dictated technique, she adeptly employed a variety of techniques including: etching, drypoint, aquatint, mezzotint, roulette, soft ground and many experimental approaches, often on the same plate. Her work can be seen in the permanent collections of the National Academy of Design, the Library of Congress, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of New Mexico, the San Francisco Art Museum, the Smithsonian Institution and the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, the latter of which houses the largest and most comprehensive collection of her works in the world. Select pieces from this collection are on exhibit from the permanent collection of the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center through April 21, 2012.

### ***Kristin Knight***

Regional Gallery | February 11 through May 5, 2012

Kristin Knight is driven by an incredible passion for equine, expressing their beauty and grace through collage. Her pieces are often noted for their unique style, compositions and technique. Knight incorporates an innovative style developed through years of experience in the interior design industry, combined with her study at Kendall College of Design. With the use of recycled, century-old book pages, rice paper, metallic powders, gold, copper and silver leaf, she creates a mosaic like quality that builds dimension and movement. A final, thin layer of resin varnish protects each piece and renders them excellent for a wide range of interior applications.

### ***River of Words***

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Galleries | February 11 through May 5, 2012

*River of Words* is the largest international youth poetry and art competition in the world. It was founded to give new life to the teaching of art and poetry through watershed exploration. The organization has grown to include training for teachers, park rangers, youth leaders and other educators around the world to incorporate nature and the arts into their work with children and teens.

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Approximately 30 selections from the national art and poetry contest are exhibited in the 2nd and 3rd Level Galleries. Children who want to participate in the project are invited to view the exhibit, then visit the Buell Children's Museum and take part in the Picture Pocket Poem Project and/or add to Pueblo artist Dorothy Mendoza's *River of Words* installation.

### **About the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center**

The cultural hub of Southern Colorado, the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center gives visitors the tools to think and act creatively through a three building complex including seven galleries offering the best in historic and contemporary art by artists of local, regional and national renown. In addition the Arts Center offers the Buell Children's Museum, recognized as the second-best for art by Child magazine, a 500-seat theater featuring a variety of performing arts programs, both local and national, and two gift shops. Over 100 fine arts, dance and leisure classes are available every quarter providing something unique to everyone from children to adults of all skill levels.

Admission to the Arts Center is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children and military. Admission includes the Buell Children's Museum. Members of the Arts Center receive free admission. Galleries and Buell Children's Museum are open Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m.-4p.m.; closed Mondays. Box office open Monday-Friday, 9a.m.-5p.m. and Saturday, 9a.m.-4p.m. For more information, please call 719-295-7200; stop by the Arts Center located at 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., just off of I-25, exit 98b, or visit online at [www.sangredecristoarts.org](http://www.sangredecristoarts.org).

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