



# TUCSON MUSEUM of ART

## CONTEMPORARY ART SOCIETY

Newsletter | Winter 2025



TUCSON MUSEUM of ART  
AND HISTORIC BLOCK

## Message from the CAS President

Happy New Year!

As some of you know, I am brought in to help install the larger shows at the museum. Working with Rachel Adler and Dave Brown is a pleasure whenever I am involved. They are supreme professionals. This past month, we took down *Ya Hecho* and installed *On the Edge*. Two really excellent shows. Taking down *Ya Hecho* was probably more challenging than installing it. While hanging *On the Edge* I had the pleasure of meeting members of the Quinn family and their curator. One of the perks of hanging art.

The Contemporary Art Society has had a great year and we are all excited about 2026! Thanks to the members of CAS, we were able to underwrite the *On the Edge* exhibit and the upcoming AZ Biennial which will open in May. This helps get the museum on a more solid financial footing which will allow more access to grants and resources needed to have even more diverse and renowned shows making the Tucson Museum of Art nationally recognized as the premier institution we all know it is.

Another exciting development is the addition of Meg Jackson Fox to the TMA team. She is the new museum liaison with CAS and is a very smart and generous person to work with. I am really looking forward to seeing her impact on the museum.

Coming up is the Patrons and Benefactors event at Cristine and Ed Hansens' amazing house, followed a month later by the visit to Dana and Peter Smith's house showcasing Dana's unique and quirky art. Dana will also be doing a live demonstration. In March we will have a CAS artists show with artists having their art hung in a large beautiful space as well as all being for sale.

Again, thank you all for your continued support!



Marvin Shaver, *Transform your Business USA*  
Sculpture, 40 W x 32 H x 2 D in.



Marvin Shaver, CAS President

## Upcoming Travel



**January 10 2026  
Day Trip to Phoenix**



**May 4-9 2026  
Buenos Aires**

### CAS TRAVEL UPDATES

**Phoenix Day Trip, Saturday, January 10, 2026** -- The itinerary for the next Phoenix day trip has been finalized. It will include a curator-led tour of the Eric Fischl exhibition at the Phoenix Art Museum, a special private collection, an artist studio and foundry, and two private galleries. The Phoenix trip is now full. If you would like to be added to a waiting list, please contact Isai Pacheco at the museum at 520-616-2699.

**Buenos Aires, May 2026** -- Buenos Aires, May 2026 -- The first (May 4-9) trip to Buenos Aires is fully subscribed, but there are still places available on the second (May 13-18) trip, as well as on the add-on trips to Montevideo, Uruguay, and to an Argentine estancia. A flyer with more information and a link to register are attached to this newsletter.

## Upcoming Travel



**Reserve now!!!**

**May 13-18, 2026**

# Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Join the Contemporary Art Society for another great art trip!**

### **Trip Highlights**

- Fly to Buenos Aires on your own. Be sure to extend your stay if you want to visit venues not included in the group trip. We are also offering 2 add-on side trips. See separate flyer for information.
- Check in to the 5-Star Meliá Recoleta Plaza Hotel, located in the upscale Recoleta neighborhood, known for lavish former palaces, posh boutiques, and the historic Recoleta Cemetery. Once the residence of Eva Perón, the hotel is now also home to a private jazz club.
- Visit the best of Buenos Aires's art museums, including private tours of the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, the Museo de Arte Moderno, the Museo de Arte Latinoamericano, and the Fundación Proa.
- Experience a variety of private galleries and art spaces, such as Jorge Mara La Ruche, Ruth Benzacar, Constitución, Sendros, and Barro.
- Explore the iconic **San Telmo** barrio, including lunch at the **San Telmo Market**, and visit several area galleries, such as **Nora Fisch** and **Calvaresi**.
- Enjoy time in a local **artist's studio** and major **private collections**.
- Savor daily lunches and dinners with the group at **fine restaurants**, including **Fervor**, **La Biela**, **Casa Cavia**, and **Sottovoce**.
- Spend a festive **tango** evening at **El Cabaret at Faena Hotel**, inspired by the city's 1920s tango clubs and designed by Philippe Starck.
- Learn from our knowledgeable **JC Connelly** guides.

*See the art world of Buenos Aires as never before!*

**Reservations are limited to current CAS members on a first come-first served basis.**

The cost is \$4,450 per person (single supplement \$550). The package includes: 5 nights' accommodations; 5 breakfasts; 4 lunches; 3 dinners; all related events. (The cost does not include airfare.)

### **Registration Instructions - CAS Trip to Buenos Aires, May 13-18, 2026**

Please use the hyperlink below to reserve online and pay your deposit with a credit card for the trip. The total cost is \$4,450 per person (double occupancy; single supplement \$550), and the **deposit is \$1,000 per person** and is included in the cost of the trip (\$500 is non-refundable). Balance due TBA.

You will need to sign in to your museum account in order to make a reservation for the trip. If you do not already have an account, be sure to set it up with a user name (email address) and password before you attempt to make a reservation. When you click the Reservation link below or copy it and paste in your browser, you will see the button to Register a new account at the top right corner of the screen.

<https://tinyurl.com/CASArgentina2026>

Questions? Contact Pam Parry: [pamparry@gmail.com](mailto:pamparry@gmail.com); 520-404-4679 (cell); 520-749-4424 (landline). Technical assistance or to register by phone, contact Isai Pacheco: [ipacheco@tucsonmuseumofart.org](mailto:ipacheco@tucsonmuseumofart.org); 520-616-2699

# Upcoming CAS Events

## Patrons and Benefactors Event

Home of Collectors Cristine and Ed Hansen | January 18, 2026 | 3:30-5:30pm

Ed and Cristine Hansen have graciously opened their house and collection to CAS for the 2026 Patrons and Benefactors event. This is the tenth house Cristine has built, and she has built it specifically to showcase the art Cristine and Ed have collected throughout the years, both locally in Tucson and on their many travels (including CAS art trips!). The house, a work of art in itself, features gallery-sized halls, expansive spaces, and sweeping views; which dramatically display the pieces in the Hansen's collection. Join us for a discussion of the work and the art of the Hansen's collection; enjoy the paintings, sculptures, and photography by a long list of artists. This event expresses our thanks to our patrons and benefactors who play such an important role in supporting CAS and the TMA.



# Upcoming CAS Events

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## Studio Visit

**Dana and Peter Smith's house |  
February 22, 2026 | 3:30-5:30pm**

Dana Smith resides in Tucson, Arizona, and finds inspiration for her sculptures and paintings from her years of residing in the rugged Tucson Mountains. Whether observing the night sky or finding delight in the exotic creatures that live under rocks or in her pond, her work reflects her love of the natural world.



## Upcoming CAS Events

**Phoenix Day Trip - Saturday, January 10, 8:00am-7:30pm** - an assortment of visits selected from artist studios, collectors' homes, galleries and museums.

**CAS Patrons and Benefactors Party - Sunday, January 18, 3:30-5:30pm** - at the extraordinary new home of collectors Cristine and Ed Hansen. The house is a work of art in itself, specifically designed by Cristine as a space to showcase the Hansen's extensive art collection, which ranges from well-known Tucson to international artists. This very special event, for CAS Patrons and Benefactors only, will include a curated discussion of the Hansen's collection.

**CAS Studio Visit to Dana Smith's Home - Sunday, February 22, 3:30-5:30pm** - CAS visit to "The Blue Agave," where gigantic clay insects roam the grounds of the art-filled home and studio of artist Dana Smith and her husband Peter. Dana will discuss her work, both painting and sculpture, and give a hands-on studio demonstration of how she creates those imposing desert creatures in clay.

**CAS Artists Exhibit & Sale - March 15 2026** - will be held at a cutting-edge event space on S. 6th Ave. Circle the Date! CAS is selling artists' creations and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the TMA. More details soon.

**Day Trip to visit Scottsdale Art Week presented by Ferrari - Sunday, March 22 -**  
more details later.

**TMA Exhibition Tour and CAS Annual Meeting - Sunday, April 19, 3:30-5:30 pm** - at the Tucson Museum of Art. Senior Curator Christine Brinza will discuss the *On The Edge* show and offer a final opportunity to experience the exhibit in greater depth before it leaves.

## Save the Date: Tucson Museum of Art's Gala

Tucson Museum of Art | April 11, 2026  
| 5:00pm-9:00pm

Click this link to buy tickets & become a sponsor: <https://12194a.blackbaudhosting.com/12194a/TMA-GALA-2026>

Click this link to propose an auction item:  
<https://www.tucsonmuseumofart.org/gala-auction-form/>



## CAS Artist's Exhibition

**HELLO TO ALL INTERESTED  
IN THE CAS ARTISTS'  
EXHIBITION!**

Again, this year it will be in March.

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

**March 22, 2026,  
3:30-5:30pm**

The exhibit was almost the same time last year. I appreciated that so many CAS members pitched in to make it a smashing success. I'll need lots of volunteers again this year, so please consider signing up to volunteer when we start rolling again.

I don't have specifics on size restrictions, but I hope to have many more details next month.

Best,  
Christina  
520-260-7720



Christina McNearney

## Past CAS Events

### PATRONS & BENEFACTORS PALICE HAPPY HOUR



Thank you to Christine Brindza for her tour of the Palice Collection and its history, and to the team at the TMA for coordinating the logistics of sunset reception with light bites on the beautiful rooftop terrace.



## Past CAS Events

### LIGHT/SPACE GALLERY VISIT

Beverly Fisher welcomed us to her gallery featuring a presentation by artist Robert Brady. Our thanks to Terry Etherton, Mark Bahti and the other galleries/shops that are part of the growing Convent Ave community in Barrio Viejo for opening specially for CAS as well.



## Past CAS Events

### BISBEE BUS TRIP

Bisbee Bus Trip to Artemizia Foundation, where Sloane Bouchever graciously treated CAS to a special reception, including a charcuterie brunch, with a presentation by the artist duo Moran/Brown, on view in the gallery within the museum itself. Afterwards, CAS members enjoyed boarding the streets of Bisbee before toasting the trip on the bus back to Tucson.



Isaac Pelaso, *Pinche Payaso*, 2023,  
Oil, oil stick, acrylic, aerosol on  
wood, 40 x 30 in.



Moran/Brown, *Blue Stalactite*,  
75" h x 34" w x 2" d, layered  
aluminum on aluminum  
framework.

# Past CAS Events

## CAS HOLIDAY PARTY

At this years' CAS Holiday Party, hosts Phil Lichtenhan and Hollis Hemmingway generously opened their home, courtyard and studio to us for this festive, art and music filled event. Thank you, Phil & Hollis!



## Welcome to the CAS Board



**JANNY TAYLOR** - Born into a nomadic childhood, my early years were a constant dance of relocation, each move dictated by my mother's insatiable quest for fresh color schemes and floor plans. Every three years, like clockwork, we moved. While I initially resisted this transient lifestyle, I've come to recognize these moves as an opportunity to reimagine our lives through the lens of a new floor plan and color palette. Consequently, all my memories are meticulously color-coded and filed away by house number, a vivid tapestry of hues and spaces that have painted the canvas of my identity.

Given this colorful beginning, it's no wonder that I jumped at the chance to study art at Parsons School of Design followed by the Art Students League (NYC). I had a plan. But life had its own ideas.

Instead of diving into a full-time art career, I ended up at the intersection of business and politics working for CBS Television and later at a boutique agency advising everyone from the mayor of New York City to the president of Kazakhstan to daily calls to The White House. The perks were plentiful and the experience undeniably fascinating, but I found myself yearning for something more profound—a space to authentically be myself.

Like many opportunities, mine emerged out of a crisis. I had been grappling with obesity for years and, in a moment of inspired desperation (I'd reached a new low), I transformed myself into the universe's first weight-loss artist: Our Lady of Weight Loss. My first book, "Our Lady of Weight Loss: Miraculous and Motivational Musings from the Patron Saint of Permanent Fat Removal," went to auction; four publishing companies bidding on her, Penguin the winner. O, The Oprah Magazine called me "a kooky kind of genius" and the New York Times described my work as "earnest and humorous." In bookstores and auditoriums across the country, I talked to thousands of people about their weight loss journeys, illustrating ways in which people could channel their obsession with food into something creative, which led me to coaching.

I studied widely—from New York University to the Milton H. Erickson Society of Hypnosis and Psychotherapy (NYC)—and merged my artistic sensibility with therapeutic practice. I designed and taught programs at America's leading wellness centers and built a flourishing private practice, sharing insights and strategies for personal transformation and resilience. Still, I stayed rooted in art. In 2005, I co-founded the Harlem Open Artist Studio Tour, a 2-day event, which showcased nearly 100 artists and attracted over 2,000 visitors who were ferried by shuttle bus from one venue to the next; from the south (110th Street) to the north (Washington Heights), from the east (East River) to the west (Hudson River).

The next and current chapter of my life began here in Tucson in 2010, during a serendipitous visit to the Andrew Weil Wellness Conference. As lifelong New Yorkers, my husband and I had never been to Arizona, but we instantly forged an acute connection with the Sonoran Desert and, within a few weeks, we moved. Today, in addition to being a full-time artist weaving tapestries from the threads of my journey reflecting themes of transformation, discovery, and creative authenticity, I am also the Director of Steinfeld Gallery and a proud member of the CAS Board.

[www.JannyTaylor.com](http://www.JannyTaylor.com)

Instagram.com/JannyTaylorCreates

## TMA Exhibitions at a Glance

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### Current Exhibition:

**December 13, 2025 – May 10, 2026**

### **ON THE EDGE: LOS ANGELES ART FROM THE JOAN AND JACK QUINN FAMILY COLLECTION**

Will be on view in the Glasser Galleries as well as the Green Gallery



### Fall 2025-Fall 2026:

### **THE WEST MULTIPLIED: CONTINUUMS OF CULTURE, COMMUNITY, AND MATERIAL / EL OESTE MULTIPLICADO: CONTINUIDADES DE CULTURA, COMUNIDAD Y MATERIALIDAD**

On view in the Mary Jo Brown Gallery



### Next Year:

**May 22, 2026 – September 27, 2026**

### **ARIZONA BIENNIAL 2026**

Will be on view in the James J. and Louise R. Glasser and Earl Kai Chann Galleries

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**Top:** Peter Alexander, *Escondido*, 1985, oil and wax medium on paper mounted.

**Middle:** Theodore Beatty, *Checking the Crop*, 2024, gouache and ink. Collection of the Tucson Museum of Art. Museum Purchase. Funds provided by Roger and Ann Looyenga. 2024.34

**Bottom:** Installation photography of Arizona Biennial 2024.

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# Membership

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We hope you're already enjoying your CAS Membership for this season. Here are some frequently asked questions with answers as these exciting events approach:

**Q: Can Individual, Dual & Venue Gallery members upgrade their membership level to Patron or Benefactor prior to the January CAS party?**

A: YES – you will only owe the difference between your current membership and your new Membership. Just call the TMA Membership Representative, Isai Pacheco (520-616-2699), who will be glad to help you accomplish that.

**Q: Can Individual members bring a +1 to our events?**

A: No, Individual memberships are for 1 person with no guest privileges. Individual members who would like to invite someone are encouraged to upgrade to one of our 2-person memberships [Dual, Patron or Benefactor]. That allows a +1 for each event. Being able to attend a CAS party, bus trip or other monthly event would be a nice way to thank a friend or family member --- and you could bring a different +1 every month. Isai Pacheco (520-616-2699) will be glad to help you accomplish that too!

**Q: My friend has a Patron level membership for the museum. Can they attend the January Patron & Benefactor Party?**

A: Sorry, CAS event attendees must be Patron or Benefactor members in our Contemporary Art Society. But it's never too late to join! They can have any level of membership in the museum.

See you soon.

Bonnie L Bradford  
CAS Membership Chair



## Welcome to our newest CAS Members!

Holley Bakich\*

Janet Comin & Charles Richter

Colleen Conlin\* & Ian Crombie\*

Erin & Michael Cukor

Virginia Desmond\*

Meg Jackson Fox\*\*

Paul Gold & Greer Warren

Jane Hamilton Fine Art Gallery & Jane  
Hamilton

Sheila Henry

Curtis Kiwak\* & Susan Warren

Renee Michele\*

Mathieu Nozieres\* & Nogi San\*

Gary Olsen\* & Tamara Wilson

Susan Robertson\*

Brenda Schweder\*

Colleen Strenning

(\*denotes an artist)

(\*\*denotes a TMA curator)

Are you missing out on important email notices? CAS board members send out periodic emails with info about events, travel, and other CAS offerings. Please check your email spam/junk folder if you think you may have missed something.

# Hospitality

Greetings to all from Hospitality as we start the new year! The first part of the 25/26 season has been busy, and included two special events: a kick-off party at the TMA for Patrons & Benefactors, and a special “CAS Creates” cocktail party for fifty, which was auctioned at the TMA Gala last spring. Nora Cusick was the generous winning bidder; who bought it for her Nov birthday and all her Nov/Dec birthday friends. See photos below.

Profuse thanks to everyone who made these events possible and memorable —with cheer! Among them, stalwart helpers/bakers/cooks/clean-uppers Moira Geoffrion, Louise Glasser, Marilyn Joyce, Christina McNearney, Jeanne & Mike Pickering, Jane Campbell, Marvin Shaver, Monique Mynlieff, Shirley Wagner, Ozlem Ozgur, William George, Cristine Hansen, Paul Injetty, Akasia Oberly,— and a big welcome to our newest, as well as youngest, helper, Zora Geoffrion!

One more note of thanks, this one to Rameen Ahmed. Rameen, a special spirit who has always made set-up brighter, is stepping down from the board. You'd recognize her filing your glass, offering options behind the beverage table with Pam Parry, adding a garnish to Prosecco. You probably didn't see her before the event started: buying wine & water, lugging the table cooler, ice, napkins, cups... then later packing everything up and taking it back to her car and storage. Even though Rameen did all this while overseeing beverages, she always found time to check in with me about food, come up with fun signature drink ideas, embellish presentations, offer to pick up any last minute item needed on the way to set up, and be a wonderful presence. It's CAS members like Rameen who make this group a joy to collaborate with, a sense that we're always here to support and have fun helping each other. Thank you, Rameen! We will miss setting up with you so much, and count on you not to stray far away into the crowd at general gatherings—we might still need you behind the table!!!



Cita  
520-404-1551  
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## CAS BOARD 2025–2026

Janny Taylor  
Meg Jackson Fox  
David Andres  
Bonnie Bradford  
Candice Davis, Secretary  
William George  
Louise Glasser  
Heidi King  
Christina McNearney  
Pam Parry  
Jeanne Pickering, Treasurer  
Cita Scott  
Carrie Seid, Vice President  
Marvin Shaver, President  
David Wohl

## CAS MISSION

Established in 1999, the mission of the Contemporary Art Society (CAS) is to foster a greater community awareness of the role contemporary art plays in the region's cultural identity.

Objectives include furthering the goals of the Tucson Museum of Art by actively acquiring contemporary art for the permanent collection, supporting exhibitions of contemporary art at the museum, and sponsoring lectures by contemporary artists, curators, and critics.

In addition, CAS organizes studio visits, tours, workshops, and events that promote the study, discussion, and appreciation of contemporary art.

## From the Editor

I am again so happy to be part of CAS and to be able to contribute to the TMA, I am really excited about the upcoming events at CAS this winter season. Thank you to our CAS hosts and artists who have shared their work and beautiful homes with us so graciously. Huge thanks to everyone on the CAS Board who work to bring such interesting events and provide this platform to share the work of collectors and artists here in Southern Arizona. I am wishing you all a warm and cozy new year filled with love, friends and abundance.

Akasia Oberly (She/Her)  
[akasiao@gmail.com](mailto:akasiao@gmail.com)  
CAS Newsletter Editor



Cover images: Isaac Pelaso, *Pinche Payaso*, 2023, Oil, oil stick, acrylic, aerosol on wood, 40 x 30 in, Moran/Brown, *Blue Stalactite*, 75" h x 34" w x 2" d, layered aluminum on aluminum framework, Peter Alexander, *Escondido*, 1985, oil and wax medium on paper mounted. Collage by Janny Taylor. Beatty, *Checking the Crop*, 2024, gouache and ink. Collection of the Tucson Museum of Art. Museum Purchase. Funds provided by Roger and Ann Looyenga. 2024.34

**TMA**  
**100**  
1924-2024