



Newsletter

Issue: January 2026

January Member Meeting

Our first 2026 quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13th at 5:00 p.m. at the library. A light dinner will be available, we will have executive board nominations, and robust conversation. The 2026 quarterly meeting schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, January 13th at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 14th at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 14th at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 13th at 5:00 p.m.



Membership Dues

*It's time to pay your Annual
Membership Dues to RCA*

Due date: Member Meeting on Tuesday 1/13/25

Period: January ~ December 2026

Amount: \$30 for one person; \$40 for two persons in the same household; \$50 for three or more persons in the same household.

Your dues help pay for art shows including room rental, food, tables, entertainment, ticket and flyer printing, newspaper advertisements, education, guest speakers, class and event promotions, insurance, and office supplies. Getting your payment in quickly really helps your art organization stay on its feet. Thank you so much for paying on time!

The membership form is on page 11 of this newsletter.

**Message from the RCA
Board President**

Season's Greetings!

Merry Christmas

Happy Hanukkah

Happy New Year

My wish for you is to celebrate family and friends. Hold them close. Hug them tight. Give them one more kiss. Listen again to the same story about a funny happening and laugh just as hard as you did the first time.

Don't Hurry...Please...relish and treasure every single moment of this time.



Be HAPPY...



Minette Hart Richardson

Newsletter Correction

IMPORTANT

Please read



There was an incorrect notice in the December newsletter regarding nominations and voting for the RCA Board of Directors. What it should have said is that we have ten seats available on the board and currently we have two members at large openings (i.e., 'members at large' have full voting rights and responsibilities, often stepping in to provide general oversight, expertise, and support on various initiatives as needed, without holding a specific title).

At the January meeting we will take nominations and vote on anyone interested in filling these two positions. Anyone nominated will need to accept or reject that nomination. If accepted, that person will be asked to stand and tell the membership why they would like to be on the RCA Board. Then we will have paper ballots for voting due to privacy concerns. The ballots will be counted by one board member on one general member. The top two with 51% or more of the votes will be elected. We will announce the outcome at the end of the January meeting.

Board membership requires attendance at monthly board meetings, quarterly member meetings, and special meetings, as needed. It also requires project participation, committee work, chairing assigned projects such as the annual art show, school events, and more. Board members are expected to set up and break down at all RCA events. During the week there is often email, phone, and text communications that need a response in 24 hours or less.



Dear Artists and Art Aficionados:

In order to facilitate members networking, and to promote art and artists, and energetically organize activities, your RCA Board requests that you kindly fill out this questionnaire. Thank you for returning this form by January 11th to our Secretary, Vicki Peil, at vicki@thepeils.com

**Your Name:****Email:****Phone Number:****To build RCA's capacity, and the positive effect art has on our community, I would like to:**

- Have RCA to promote my personal artwork and projects on social media
- Have my own personal page on RCA's website (free to members)
- Participate in mural painting
- Paint an elk for Elks on Parade (statues to be placed around Payson)
- Attend RCA quarterly meetings at the library (there will be food)
- Attend Artist Talks
- Teach an RCA art class
- Attend RCA art classes
- Donate to our building fund
- Share RCA and The Western Heritage and Film Festival Facebook posts
- Take art, film and theatre classes at the college (the teachers are RCA members!)
- Attend RCA Poetry nights at Noley's (five times a year)
- Flyer for RCA events, classes, shows
- Attend art, music and theatre shows at the schools and GCC
- Go to at least 4 movies a year at the Sawmill Theatres (bring friends and make a night of it!)

I like to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Do graphic design	<input type="checkbox"/> Ceramics
<input type="checkbox"/> Photograph	<input type="checkbox"/> Write
<input type="checkbox"/> Work with school age students	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpt
<input type="checkbox"/> Do Plein Air artwork	<input type="checkbox"/> Sew
<input type="checkbox"/> Cook	<input type="checkbox"/> Paint
<input type="checkbox"/> Help set up shows	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend art shows	<input type="checkbox"/> Woodwork
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit museums	<input type="checkbox"/> Leatherwork
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend concerts, plays	<input type="checkbox"/> Metalwork
<input type="checkbox"/> Act	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden
<input type="checkbox"/> Sing	<input type="checkbox"/> Interior Design
<input type="checkbox"/> Dance	<input type="checkbox"/> Face paint
<input type="checkbox"/> Play music	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

ENROLL NOW!

It's TRUE! Four RCA artists have created a Theatre and Cinema Department at Gila Community College! Help us launch into this long-awaited opportunity to have community theatre right here in Rim Country. With the foundation being built this spring, we will be able to go right into play and film production at GCC in the fall of this year. *All we need are students, so it's important to enroll now.* Classes start on January 12th. Please hurry to the college, sign up, and spread the word. All classes have transferable credits. Here's the lineup:



- *The Art of Storytelling* with Kathy Bertram: 2:30 - 5 pm Friday, 2 credits
- *Film Appreciation* with Elizabeth Fowler: Tuesday 10:30 -11:20 am and Thursday 9:30-11:10 am, 2 credits
- *Introduction to Cinema* with Rick Aydelott: Tuesday 5:00 - 6:15 pm and Friday 8:00 - 9:15 am, 3 credits
- *Introduction to Theatre* with Jim Clark: Thursday 4:30 - 6:00 pm and Friday 1:00 – 2:30 pm, 3 credits
- *Creative Theatre Workshop II* with Elizabeth Fowler: Friday 9:30 am -12 pm, 2 credits

In Kathy's course, students will present tales in various narrative styles, forms, and genres, learning the rich history of storytelling and its use in preserving history, cultures, and sharing current events.

In Elizabeth's *Creative Theatre II* class, students will build acting skills through improvisation, monologue, and scene work, building towards play production. In *Film Appreciation* students will enjoy the art of film, exploring techniques, genres and themes. Films discussed Tuesdays will be viewed on Thursdays, sometimes at the Sawmill Theatres on the big screen! Popcorn, anyone?

Jim's *Introduction to Theatre* course will foster a deep appreciation of this dynamic art form through the study of plays, varied theatrical practices, the roles of different stage artists, and the significance of diverse dramatic forms and genres.

In Rick's *Introduction to Cinema* students will explore the evolution of film as an art form and a global industry, examining major movements, technological innovations, and key figures that have shaped the medium. Through clips and readings, films from a variety of genres, styles, and national traditions will be analyzed to understand how cinema reflects and influences society. This course is a must for those wanting to get behind the camera.



New Years' Traditions from Around the World

1. Spain: Twelve Grapes

When midnight rolls around, Spaniards will eat one grape for each time the clock chimes in hopes of guaranteeing good luck for the following year. "It may sound pretty straightforward," says Seven Corners blogger [Grace Lower](#), "but my Spanish friends assure me that the challenge is tougher than it seems." Failure to complete the task supposedly puts you at risk for bad fortune, so the Spanish do their best to improve odds. Staying true to the superstition, you want Aledo grapes, grown in Alicante in a way that makes their skin particularly fine and easy to eat.



2. Germany: Marzipan Pigs

Sticking with the lucky food theme, Germans will gift marzipan pigs to friends and family as a way of wishing them good luck. It's a bit like giving someone a four-leaf clover, and you might even find some of the confectionary Glücksschwein with a lucky clover incorporated in the design. Don't know how lucky they really are, but they certainly are cute!

3. Denmark: Broken Plates

Broken glass isn't normally a welcome sight, but in Denmark, it's celebrated. Every New Year's Eve, Danes will travel to their friends' homes and throw their old, chipped dishes at the front door. As strange as it seems, a stoop covered in plate fragments suggests that the homeowners are quite popular among their friends. Another popular New Year's tradition in Denmark is jumping off furniture. It's a quite literal interpretation of jumping into the new year.

4. Japan: Ringing Bells

Buddhist temples play a key role in (ahem) ringing in the new year. Just before midnight, temples across [Japan](#) will ring their bells 108 times to represent 108 human sins. Each ring of the bell is seen as a way to rid Japan of the bad experiences, deeds, and luck from the previous year. The most popular bell-ringing event takes place in Tokyo, where the "Watched Night" bell is rung 107 times on December 31, and once past midnight.

5. Philippines: Noisemakers

New Year's Eve isn't a quiet holiday, but Filipinos take it to a new level. And they have sound logic behind their noisy celebrations. When the clock strikes 12, Filipinos celebrate the New Year as loudly as they can — clanging pots and pans, revving their car engines, dragging tin cans through the streets, and blowing whistles. The racket created is thought to scare away evil spirits. The Philippines is also one of the few countries we've found with a New Year's tradition for kids. It's said that if the youngster jumps as high as they can as the clock strikes midnight, it will help them grow tall.



6. Netherlands: New Year's Dives

On New Year's Day, after an evening of warm and cozy bonfires, the Dutch will dive into lakes, canals, and even the North Sea for a frigid dip. Why? Because someone in the 1960s thought it sounded fun. No one claims the polar plunge will make you healthier or bring you wealth or help you find the love of your life in the new year. It's just something to do in this cold-loving country.

7. Mexico: Walking in Circles

This is one of our favorites. If your [New Year's resolution is to travel more](#), do like the Mexicans and Colombians and grab your suitcase and walk in a circle. Whether it's a spin around the house or a stroll around the block, this practice is said to guarantee a year of exciting adventures. This trip is the ultimate in [packing light](#). Your suitcase can be empty.

8. Brazil: Colorful Underwear

In Brazil, New Year's partygoers often don new, colorful underwear in hopes of good fortune. Each color is said to attract a different type of luck for the year ahead. Green underwear symbolizes good health, while yellow represents financial prosperity. White underwear is for peace, red is said to attract passion, and pink underwear is thought to bring romance. Purple underwear symbolizes intellectual and spiritual inspiration. Brazilians aren't the only ones to put faith in their undergarments. Italy and Spain also wear red underwear in hopes of good luck in the new year.

Six Important New Year's Resolutions for Artists

1. Set One, Big, Long-Term Goal

Artist's resolutions tend to be focused on long-term goals. Maybe it's making that one large painting, selling some of your work, or entering your paintings in a competition, but this long-term big goal will require attention and lots of work. These bigger resolutions may not even be accomplished within a year and may look more like a 3-5 year plan. But start to consider and plan some things you want to accomplish as an artist.



2. Set Some Smaller, Immediate Goals

Those long-term goals can get a bit tiring, so make sure to break them down into actionable tasks that you can work on month-to-month, checking points off your list. If your goal is to sell a painting, maybe you start to grow your website or social media following in order to build followers and exposure.

3. Schedule Time to Paint



If scheduling time for your art is not a reliable habit that you've developed already, this is the time to do it! Most research shows that if you keep something up, consistently, for two months, that action will become a second nature habit. Scheduling time to create art on a consistent basis is crucial for artists. Start a calendar and plan out your to-do list. Set deadlines and schedule time to actually sit down and work. Once you schedule that time, treat it as precious and don't let anything eat into it. Schedules can be tweaked because life happens, but make sure to place an importance on this time for yourself.

4. Join a Community of Artists

Setting up New Year's resolutions for artists and sticking to them can be achieved much easier when surrounding yourself with like-minded people. A community is essential for artists! Without it, you will miss opportunities to grow, change, and improve as an artist. Peers can help you to feel supported, encouraged, and can hold you accountable for meeting those deadlines that you've set! While artist communities should not be your only source of learning, they can be an amazing way to stay encouraged and focused on your work! Consider starting your own group of similar artists such as painter, ceramics, photography, etc. Have fun and bring food!

5. See More Art!

So many artists aren't feeding their creativity by actually viewing art in person. Another great New Year's resolution for artists is going to museums, gallery shows, art openings, or private studios to build creativity and inspiration. Exposing yourself to artwork creates experiences for yourself that can be used to formulate new ideas and new expressions for your own work. A piece of art impacts every viewer in a different way, so the more artwork you study and expose yourself to, the more creativity will grow.

6. Share Your Work

It's easy and comfortable to hide our work. We know that in a year or even less we will have grown so much and our work will have changed so much. But if you get into the habit of hiding your work until it's perfect you will never show your work. The process can be scary as no one likes negative feedback. This is your journey of learning. You can start with having a private account with a few trusted friends. Get into the habit of posting and when you feel more comfortable, you can make your account public.



There are many benefits from sharing your work, whether it is on social media, in a show, or even just with a teacher. You might get critiqued, and in fact, it's best of you do! Artists grow when they hear honest feedback on how to make their work better. Making art isn't about making something perfect every time, but rather it's about finishing that piece, learning from your mistakes, and going on to create something that you could have never imagined you were capable of. Let your work be seen! Otherwise, you'll never grow to your potential.

Film Biographies Game

How many of the following film titles in the first column can you match to the real life person portrayed in the film in the second column, and in the third column identify the actor who played the real life person.

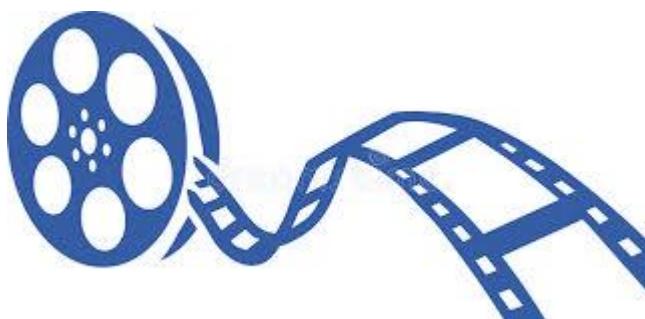
Example:

Raging Bull

Jake La Motta

Robert De Niro

Film Name	The Person Movie was About	Actor Who Played the Real Person
1. Raging Bull	A. Johnny Cash	a. Jamie Foxx
2. Braveheart	B. Diane Fossey	b. Diana Ross
3. The Ten Commandments	C. Michelangelo	c. David Carradine
4. The Spirit of St. Louis	D. Billie Holiday	d. Robert De Niro
5. Lust for Life	E. William Wallace	e. Kirk Douglas
6. The Pride of the Yankees	F. Lou Gehrig	f. Gary Oldman
7. The Agony & the Ecstasy	G. George M. Cohan	g. Sigourney Weaver
8. Mommie Dearest	H. Moses	h. Angela Bassett
9. Immortal Beloved	I. Tina Turner	i. Joaquin Phoenix
10. Ray	J. Vincent van Gogh	j. Mel Gibson
11. Gorillas in the Mist	K. Joan Crawford	k. Charlton Heston
12. Good Night, and Good Luck	L. Ludwig van Beethoven	l. James Stewart
13. Yankee Doodle Dandy	M. Charles A. Lindbergh	m. Gary Cooper
14. What's Love Got to Do With It	N. Jake LaMotta	n. Faye Dunaway
15. Walk the Line	O. Edward R. Murrow	o. David Strathairn
16. Lady Sings the Blues	P. Woody Guthrie	p. James Cagney
17. Bound for Glory	Q. Ray Charles	q. Charlton Heston



RCA Calendar of Events for January 2026

RCA Meetings & Events			
Event	Location	Dates & Times	Notes
RCA Board Meeting	Casino Restaurant	Jan 6 th 3:30 - 6:00 pm	
RCA Member Meeting	Payson Library	Jan 13 th 5:00 pm	Pay your membership dues ❤️
Payson Community Events			
Event	Location	Dates & Times	Notes
Ice Skating	Green Valley Park	Dec 14 th – Jan 11 th Mon-Fri: 5:00-9:00 pm	\$10 for 50 Minutes
Humane Society Pet Event	Noley's	Friday, Jan 23 rd 1:00-3:00 pm	Join us at Noley's for Kids Club and see some adoptable dogs
Live Music The Carpino's	Noley's	Friday, January 23 rd 5:00-7:00 pm	
Live Music Sol DeVille	Noley's	Friday, January 30 th 5:00-7:00 pm	
Arizona Events			
Event	Location	Dates & Times	Notes
2026 Art in Frontier Town	Cave Creek, AZ Frontier Town 6245 E Cave Creek Rd	Friday – Sunday January 9 th to 11 th 10:00 – 5:00	Professional artists displaying and selling their original Works
2026 Sedona Winter Arts and Crafts Show	Sedona Vista Village 6657 AZ-179 Sedona, AZ	Friday – Sunday January 16 th to 18 th 9:00 – 5:00	Local and Native American artists who will showcase and sell their fine artwork
2026 Phoenix Vintage Expo	Phoenix Convention Center 100 N. 3 rd St. Phoenix, AZ	Saturday January 24 th 10:00 – 5:00	You will find vintage and retro-inspired clothing, accessories, home goods, jewelry, vinyl records & more

UPCOMING
EVENTS!

RCA Class Schedule as of January 2026

Register for Classes with Dorothy Perry at:
(719) 480-9981 ~ or ~ 500dperry@gmail.com

Pay for classes at www.rimcountryartists.org in the 'Current Classes' tab.
We accept PayPal, MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express.
No checks or cash for classes in 2026 ~ PayPal or Credit Card only.

#	Instructor, Class & Fee	Date and Time	Location	Description of the Class
1	Roxanne Kane 'Valentine's' \$35	Saturday, 1/31/2026 1:00 – 4:00 pm	Noley's	You'll learn how to make fabric felted Valentines Ornaments.
2	Kathleen Kelly 'Valentine's' \$65	Saturday 2/7/2026 1:00 – 4:00 pm	Noley's	Discover the process of stained glass in making a Valentine's original
3	Elizabeth Fowler 'Spring' \$48	Saturday 3/21/2026 1:00 – 4:00 pm	PYCS 800 W Main St Building B	You will create your own Acrylic Painting with a Spring theme.
4	Roxanne Kane 'Easter' \$35	Saturday, 3/28/2026 1:00 – 4:00 pm	Noley's	Learn how to make fabric fiber Easter Egg ornaments.
5	Dorothy Perry 'Multimedia Mosaics' \$60	Saturday, 4/25/26 10:00 – 2:00	Perry's Place	Design a multimedia mosaic with polished gemstones, copper wire shards, dried flowers, twigs, & accent pieces.



Film Biographies Answers

Film Name	The Person Movie was About	Actor Who Played the Real Person
1. Raging Bull	A. Johnny Cash	a. Jamie Foxx
2. Braveheart	B. Dian Fossey	b. Diana Ross
3. The Ten Commandments	C. Michelangelo	c. David Carradine
4. The Spirit of St. Louis	D. Billie Holiday	d. Robert De Niro
5. Lust for Life	E. William Wallace	e. Kirk Douglas
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17. Bound for Glory	Q. Ray Charles	q. Charlton Heston





Today's Date: _____

Rim Country Artists (RCA) Membership Form

Membership term is one year: January 1 to December 31

All forms of art interests are welcome.

Please mail this form and a check, payable to RCA for \$30 per person, \$40 if adding one household member, or \$50 for 3 or more household members, to:

RCA, PO Box 173, Payson AZ 85547

~ or ~

Pay for classes at www.rimcountryartists.org

We accept PayPal, MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express.

Amount \$ _____ Check # _____ Cash _____ Card _____

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Contact Phone _____

Email _____

Your Art Passions _____

How would you like to get involved? *

**IDEAS: Monthly or Yearly Sponsorship, Program Presentations, Fine Art Shows, Workshops, Children's Art, Publicity, Membership, Fundraising, Social Events, Refreshments, Pop-Up Art Shows, Public Art, Theatre, Poetry, Literary Art, Dance, Music . . .*

