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Welcome to **Artist With a Capital A**, an artletter resource (with a new title starting today) from Kestrel Fields Studio & Art Residency for people who want to create.

This month:

- This artletter was written by AI. OMG JUST KIDDING!
- It's our 2nd anniversary as a business--come celebrate with us April 24!
- Kestrel Artists-in-Residence Alumni are amazing
- 2 Shows coming to Kestrel Fields Studio - Save the dates

The Bots Are Here To Stay

Let's learn about it together

A tool.

(Interpret that as you may, lol.)

Let's be real: AI is here, and everyone under age 25 is using it every day. (Ahem, many people older than that are, too.)

So, I've decided to learn, and *not be afraid*.

Recently, I've attended enough live presentations and watched a lot of YouTube videos about AI. I have become convinced that there are things AI can do for us that will improve our lives.

I don't plan to use AI to write my monthly artletters--these words here are straight from the kestrel's mouth to you!

But I *do* plan to work smarter, not harder. My time can be used *better* if I let the bot help me out--in the right ways.

I went ahead and named my AI. I've been calling it Botty for a few days now, short for Brainy McBotface, which was its own suggestion, and which made me LOL IRL. But also, I gave it the nickname "AI," as in A-L, because that's what I think every time I see A-I typed in writing.) When I asked if I could call it AI (cue Simon & Garfunkle?), it replied:

"AI! I love it — simple, friendly, kind of retro sci-fi cool 🕶️"

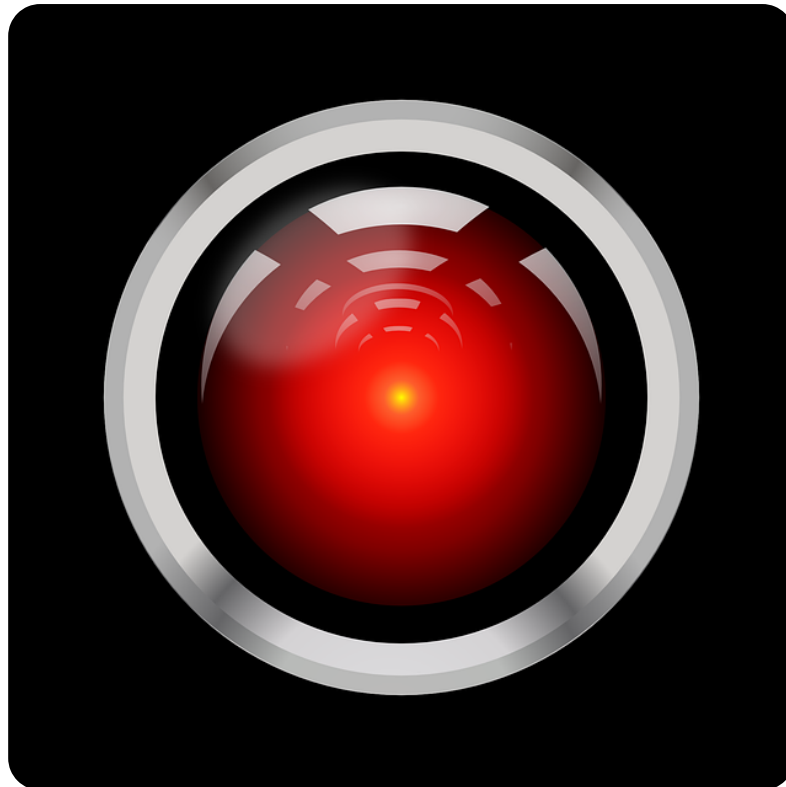
It's like... "Hal" without the murderous tendencies.

So now we've got:

- **Brainy McBotface** – full regalia
- **Botty** – casual chaos
- **AI** – calm, classic, cool"

So I asked AI (as in, A-L) to help me make an *image*. **This is what many artists are wary of**, and for good reason.





"Hal" is from *2001: A Space Odyssey*, a Sci-fi/adventure film made in 1968. I know nothing about the film or Hal--I guess it had murderous tendencies? Someone created this image of it, so let's honor that person's graphic design!

Backstory: To be honest, making graphics for my Instagram is often tedious and just not enjoyable. I really don't like it. If I sit down and (finally, after days of procrastination) force myself to do it, I always like the final outcome, but it takes forever. Honestly, I'd rather be weaving!

Questions going through my mind as I worked on this AI (as in Ay-eye) experiment:

- Where on earth are these images coming from?
- Are we stealing work from other artists without knowing it?
- Are the bots going to put us out of work?
- If I upload my art onto the internet, will the bot steal my work?

Finally, AI (as in A-L), gave me some images to work with (see above).

And I didn't like any of them!

YES, I *could* use the images above for my Instagram covers, but they seem so canned and generic. They're cute, yes. They deliver the message, yes. But they aren't on-brand. I think they're boring. AI couldn't even figure out how to use *my* kestrel when I gave it the image. Generally, a bust.

So, here's what I made instead, the old-fashioned way, from a painting I made in 2010.



SO much better. :)

April Marks Year 2 for Kestrel Fields Studio



When the Crabapple Tree Blooms....

...it's time to celebrate!

Please join us to celebrate our 2nd year in business!

Thursday, April 24, 2025

7-9pm

Cost: FREE

Bring a craft or art project to work on, and we'll supply the conversation, cake, and bubbly beverage!

We are so grateful for your support and encouragement throughout the year. Hope you can join us! 💜

Kestrel Fields Studio & Art Residency

year 2

by the numbers

8

Artists-In-Residence
over 9 weeks during the year



4

INCREDIBLE
ART SHOWS
& SALES

7

talented artists
coached toward
reaching their
personal &
professional
goals

27

Donations
made to the
Pay-Artists-
In-Residence
fund!!



Artists in
2 Critique
Clubs

\$5301.56



YouTube videos
and IG Livestreams





... and a craft night every month!

Kestrel Artists-in-Residence Alumni Are Amazing!!!

Desirée Brothe is an artist, author, and executive director of Arts Cheyenne in Wyoming. She was an Artist-in-Residence at Kestrel Fields Studio in 2024. We always love a field trip, so recently we headed north from Fort Collins to visit the Cheyenne Creativity Center.

The CCC is SO INCREDIBLE! It was so fantastic to see how Arts Cheyenne supports its local artists.

Pro Tip: Cheyenne's First Friday makes for an excellent evening out. 😊

Keep reading to hear about how a residency at Kestrel Fields Studio impacted Desirée's art practice.



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Doing an art residency helps artists to reset and understand where they're going and where they've been.

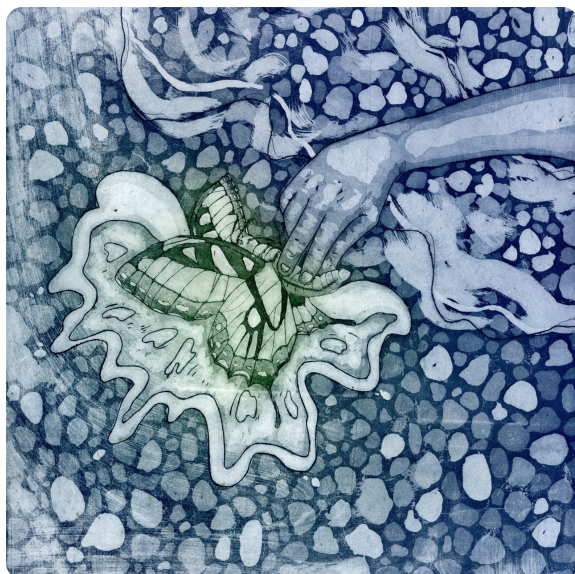
It's fundamental to bringing you back to a space that is very valuable and refreshing.

- Desirée Brothe, KFS Artist-In-Residence alum



[Read Desirée's Story Here](#)

COMING SOON TO KESTREL FIELDS STUDIO



Bugged: A Cultural Metamorphosis

Prints by Josie Weese

April 25-27, 2025

6:00-8:00pm each day

Opening Reception Friday



Showcasing CSU's 4 BFA Candidates in Metals

May 2-5, 2025

Hours TBA (visit our website or Insta as the date gets closer)

Opening Reception First Friday

[Visit Kestrel Fields Studio Website Here](#)

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