

VISIT CARSON CITY NV

Arts and Culture

CTA BOARD MEETING PRESENTATION

October 12, 2026 | Eric Brooks

September 2026

- Silver State Art Festival Recap
- DRIVEN at Burning Man
- Murals & Music Recap
- National Mural Awards – Mural Friendly City
- Mark Twain Days
- New Exhibition in Satellite Gallery



Silver State Art Festival Recap



- From September 11–13, the Silver State Art Festival brought creativity and community to life. More than 40 artists displayed their work and connected directly with visitors beyond traditional gallery settings.
- Participating Artists: 12 painters, 3 photographers, 8 individual gourd artists, 2 gourd groups, 2 ceramicists, 2 jewelry artists, 1 woodworker, and 1 metal artist.
- This year's festival welcomed an estimated 1,200–1,500 visitors over the three-day weekend. Attendees came from a wide range of communities, including Carson City, Carson Valley, Washoe, Virginia City, Silver City, South and North Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Reno, Sparks, Roseville, Sacramento, Los Altos, and San Francisco.
- Raffle - Since 2016, over $77,000 raised for nonprofit organizations. This year alone, the raffle and silent auction raised approximately $10,000.
- "A heartfelt thank-you to our dedicated sponsors, Visit Carson City, the NAA Gallery, Kim Hunter Steed as well as to every artist and volunteer whose contributions made this event possible." Kristy Dial

DRIVEN – A Monument to Connection – Burning Man

- DRIVEN – The 69’ Monument to Connection made its way, in four pieces, to be displayed at the 2026 Burning Man.
- The sculpture was a huge success and had continuous interaction with participants.
- People from around the world climbed and took pictures on the monumental railroad spike.
- The sculpture will be raised for installation at the Nevada State Railroad Museum. Depending on geotechnical results, weather and foundation construction, this could be complete by the end of 2026.




(c) Ryan Salm Photography


(c) Ryan Saim Photography


(c) Ryan Salm Photography

The 4th and Final Murals & Music Festival



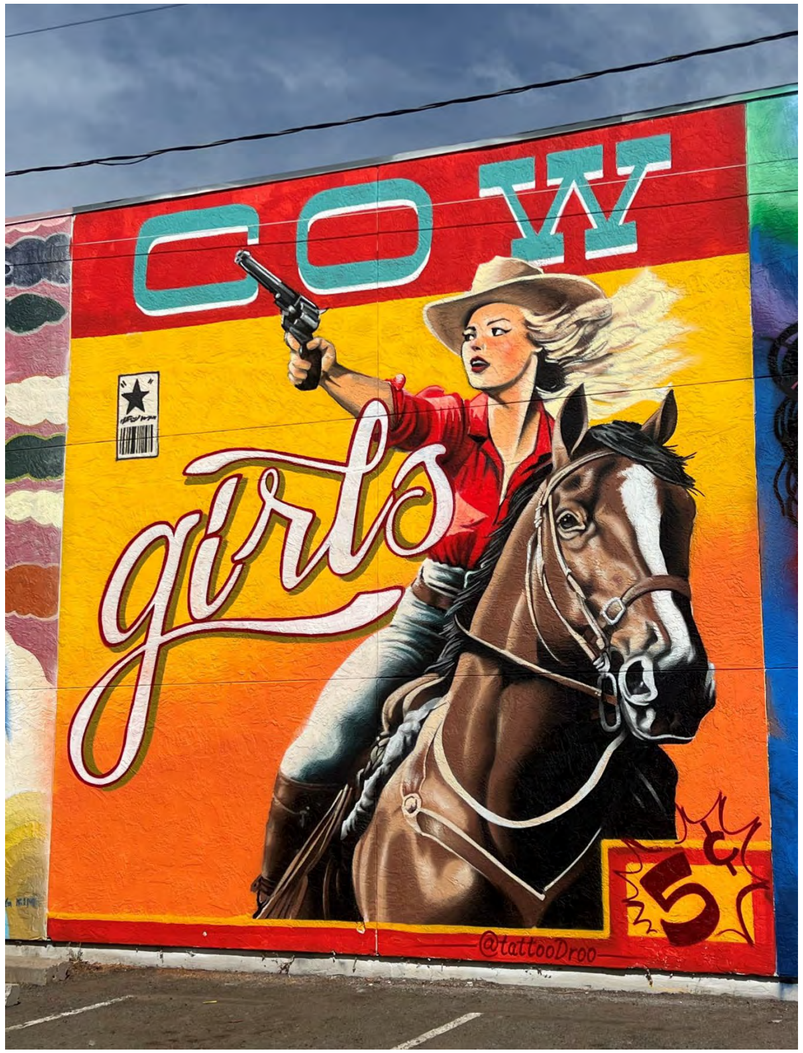
The final festival was a huge success. With generous support from local businesses and individual donors, the event was able to pay over $50,000 to artists.

This year's event generated over $200,000 of value to the Carson City Public Art Collection.

These events build community pride, beautify buildings, and create sustainable tourism infrastructure.


"WHERE THE WEST BEGINS"
Carson-City


BATTLE BORN
NEVADA


COW
girls
@tattooDroo


ODYSSEY

National Mural Awards – Mural Friendly City Submission

Visit Carson City applied to the National Mural Awards for recognition as a Mural Friendly City.

Mural Friendly Cities is an annual recognition program designed to raise awareness of the value of public art, set foundational standards for communities of all sizes, and celebrate communities that understand the importance murals play in story telling and community building.



Mark Twain Days Literary Festival - Oct. 13-17

- **Opening Night Poetry** - Kick off the Mark Twain Days Literary Festival with Spoken Views Collective and Poet Laureate Emeritus Jesse James Ziegler (Tuesday)

- **Picon Punch Off** - An evening of tasting the best Picon punches around along with a Basque buffet, and authentic music. (Wednesday)

- **Twain Train** - All aboard for an unforgettable journey through Nevada history, scenery, and storytelling. (Friday)

- **Vendor Fair & Author Talks** - Bring the whole family for a day of adventure including author talks, poetry readings, live music, rare and exotic books, vendors, kid's activities, and more. (Saturday)



MASH-UP – BAC Satellite Gallery



Each artist was asked to envision a fusion of at least two distinct printmaking processes. Inspired by the tactile nature of hand-pulled techniques, they choose to incorporate multiple techniques and incorporate the style and influence of at least 2 artists besides themselves. Each print is more than just a visual experience; it is a narrative that intertwines diverse influences, personal expression, and the rich tradition of printmaking, culminating in a meaningful exploration of art's potential to connect and inspire. Through December 30.

THANK YOU



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