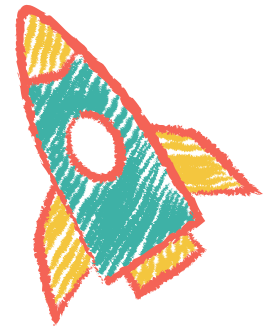


# AGENDA AND KEYNOTE

## AGENDA

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 8:00 am - 9:00 am   | Check-In, Refreshments |
| 9:00 am - 9:15 am   | Welcome                |
| 9:15 am - 9:45 am   | Keynote                |
| 10:00 am - 11:00 am | Session I              |
| 11:00 am - 11:45 am | Lunch                  |
| 11:45 am - 12:45 pm | Session II             |
| 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm   | Session III            |
| 2:00 pm - 2:30 pm   | Book Fair              |



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

### **Shawn McCann** **Street Painter/Muralist/Art** **Consultant**

As an artist, Shawn McCann is one who loves to explore the relationship of art, space, and interaction. Having graduated from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design with a BFA, Shawn has grown into a multi-media, multi-disciplinary artist whose work explores color, texture, form, and content. This approach has led to the many areas in which Shawn's work has encompassed including; street painting, murals, fine art, children's books, installation art, temporary and permanent art and commercial illustration.

He has been featured at numerous street painting festivals throughout the U.S. and overseas and has worked on projects such as Exhibition sized pieces and corporate clients. His work has won numerous awards, been a NEA grant recipient, and is held in private and public collections, and has also been featured twice at the LA Times Festival of Books as a featured illustrator. Shawn was one of the few American artists chosen to participate in the Dubai Canvas, one of the most prestigious street art festivals in the world and currently organizes 9 street art festivals throughout the Midwest. In 2023 Shawn opened up Canvas Convergence Art Gallery to showcase the 3D interactive element of his and his team's work. [www.shawnmccann.com](http://www.shawnmccann.com)



# MEET YOUR PRESENTERS



## **Bobbie Alsgaard-Lien**

I am a retired art instructor from Minnesota West Community College. I continue to be involved with young people through substitute teaching and workshops [www.agnesnora.com](http://www.agnesnora.com)

## **Sarah Benarek**

I am the artist and owner of Blue Barn Traveling Art Studio! I have a Master's degree in art therapy and counseling. I enjoy working with people of all ages to provide space, materials, and time to explore their creativity and be amazed at what they can create!

[www.facebook.com/bluebarnartstudio](https://www.facebook.com/bluebarnartstudio)

## **Megan Busman**

I'm Megan Busman and I have been an elementary art teacher for 3 years. I love to explore new types of art and share those experiences!

## **Ms.Chevious (a.k.a. Melanie Cable)**

Ms.Chevious (a.k.a. Melanie Cable) is a full-time artist that specializes in whimsical and odd art on many mediums, including watercolor, chalk, acrylic, and photography. She tours the Midwest in the summer and is rarely seen in the winter months, like Bigfoot.

[www.facebook.com/Ms.CheviousMurals](https://www.facebook.com/Ms.CheviousMurals)

## **Jennifer Christensen**

Mrs. Christensen has been helping kids create amazing art since 2013! She's an elementary art teacher at RTR who loves fun, creative projects. She lives in Marshall with her husband and two young children. When she's not making art, she enjoys family time, audiobooks, and finding cool treasures while thrifting.

## **Cera Cordova**

Cera is an emerging artist out of Southwest Minnesota. She has a variety of creative avenues she likes to explore. Videography is her passion, but also likes to take a more hands on approach by creating physical objects. Paper mache is her current passion. She looks forward to meeting students who are interested in art and all the different types of ways we are able to create.

## **Brandy Fenenga**

Brandy is a former teacher of high school chemistry and physics who now spends her time creating artwork, pysanky eggs, sewing dog collars and painting windows.

## **Ed Fornberg**

I currently teach art at WWG school in Walnut Grove and Homeschool art classes in Westbrook. I love being creative, spending time with my grandkids and working on cars and trucks. I have taught for 47 years, and I still love it.

## **Janel Guertin**

I'm Janel, born and raised in Granite Falls, and I LOVE animals! I have four cats, a dog, and a hedgehog who inspire me every day. I love celebrating the beauty of animals by painting fun, silly cartoon versions of them!

## **Bradley Hall**

I'm a watercolor artist and printmaker from Granite Falls. My home and studio were once the town library and senior center in a building originally built as a church in 1889. I create art using watercolor, linoleum block printing, and a combination of both. My work is shown throughout the Midwest, and I love sharing these creative techniques with young artists!

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

## **Clayton Hubert**

Clayton Hubert is the K-12 art teacher at Red Rock Central School in Lambertton. He inspires students to express their creativity and explore new artistic paths. In his free time, Mr. Hubert makes sculptures by melting iron and pouring it into sand molds. He enjoys working with fire and metal to create exciting works of art!



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[www.swwc.org/ya](http://www.swwc.org/ya)



# MEET YOUR PRESENTERS CONT.

## Tamara Isfeld

Hi! I'm Tamara Isfeld, a local artist and art teacher from Granite Falls. I love creating art inspired by nature, culture, and community. I'm excited to share ideas, create art, and have fun with you!

## Zachary Jahn

I am an Abstract and Surrealist painter and illustrator who works in acrylic, ink, watercolor and beyond. I am also a CTE, a careers and technical skills teacher, in Montevideo. I enjoy foraging, time spent outdoors, RPGs and cooking.

<https://alchemicalabstractionz.com>

## Sierra Kallio

Kallio describes her work as "whatever I want to do". They use recyclable materials to create films, sculptures, books, and surfaces for oil painting. Elevating disregarded materials is the focus of their work and transforming them into liminal spaces and uncanny paper creations. They currently work at the YES! House, where they host youth programming, eco events, and help run the gallery space! <https://kalli112.wixsite.com/sierrakallioco>

## Oak Kelsey

I am a visual artist and musician from Marshall, Minnesota. I paint with acrylic and watercolor and incorporate collage and stencils. I also do graphic design, chalk art and make zines. I write music, perform with bands and I play frequently at area open mics.

## Kennar Louwagie

My name is Kennar Louwagie, I was the former art teacher at Minneota school and have since been at home with my daughter. I love art, always have and have always loved being a part of this art convention seeing students learn, have fun, and excel!

## Shawn McCann

see keynote page.

## The Zoo Man

As an author, storyteller, historian, and The Zoo Man, I have been blessed to meet thousands of people across Minnesota and beyond. Whether I'm holding a snake at a county fair, speaking at a library, leading a history tour, or signing books, I love sharing stories that educate, inspire, and bring people together.

## SammyJo Miller

SammyJo Miller is a Minnesota artist, educator, and author who creates engaging, hands-on art experiences for libraries, schools, and community organizations. Through SJMiller Arts, she encourages creativity, curiosity, and confidence by helping participants of all ages explore new techniques, develop artistic skills, and discover the joy of making art. [www.sjmillersarts.com](http://www.sjmillersarts.com)

## Adam Preuss

I am a self-taught artist who specializes in abstract portraits and mural works from Granite Falls and am a member of the Upper Sioux Community. I love to travel, paint pictures, and try new cooking recipes. I also own and operate Falls Cafe & Canoe in Granite Falls. I grew up collecting comic books and sports cards so in my free time I used to like to make new logos for sports teams or invent new comic book characters.

## Thalia Reis

Hello! I am Thalia Reis a K-12 art teacher at Minneota Public schools and an adjunct at SMSU! I grew up in Marshall and love doing anything outdoors, reading and creating art!

## Scott Rolfs

Scott Rolfs received his BFA in Illustration from the School of Associate Arts. He has worked for design studios creating kid friendly character art for package designs, graphic novels, children's publications and freelance clients. He especially enjoys working on his own graphic novel and coloring books. Scott also presents drawing classes for young aspiring artists on character creation and draws caricatures at events. He also enjoys drawing monsters and hot rods. [www.scottrolfs.crevado.com](http://www.scottrolfs.crevado.com)

## Melanie Schmidt

Melanie has spent the past 25 years helping children find their spark through enrichment camps and creative activities. The majority of her career has been with Mankato Area Public Schools in the Community Education Department.

## Kady Simpson

Kady Simpson is an artist who has learned a lot of different techniques for creating. She is now working on combining all her ideas into art. Born and raised in Marshall, she enjoys spending time with her family and pets Cookie & Tommy!

## John Sterner

John has been involved in art in so many aspects. He has taught art for many years...from first graders through university students. John has also taught workshops, small groups, community programs and university connected presentations. He makes personal and public art. He works in many mediums such as sculpting in bronze, iron and fabricated steel, making graphic art on the computer and paper, and he loves to paint.

## Jim Swartz

Jim Swartz is a retired SMSU Art Professor, where he taught pottery, sculpture, jewelry, and later also digital photo over the 33 years. He is a YAC regular and has given many other pottery, sculpture and metal casting workshops for students and adults over the years. Jim specializes in welding, metal casting, iron pours and digital photography for his creative work.