



MEDIA BACKGROUND

Center for the Arts Crested Butte: Uniting Colorado's Upper East River Valley to enriching and enhancing community participation in the arts.

In 1987, Center for the Arts Crested Butte was founded with the goal to enrich and expand community participation in the arts. For 20 years, the Center for the Arts has presented an array of artists, cultural and culinary events, and the opportunity for Crested Butte residents and visitors to experience arts and culture year-round.

The Center's dynamic visual and performing arts events provide cultural experience and inspiration for more than 20,000 people annually. Visitors young and old enjoy a year-round schedule of live music, dance and theater performances as well as art exhibits, speakers and much more. This year, the Center is celebrating "20 Years of Applause" with more of the dynamic arts and cultural events that draw thousands of people to Crested Butte each year.

20 Years of Applause

The Center is proud to present a diverse array of artists, from local favorites to top national artisans and entertainers, and welcomes visitors from throughout Colorado and across the country. As the premier visual and performing arts venue in the region, the Center for the Arts hosts events on an outdoor stage set against the backdrop of beautiful Crested Butte Mountain, in an expansive, 215-seat indoor auditorium, and at the Piper Gallery, a popular in-house gallery for local and regional exhibitions.

Each winter, the Center presents its Winter Season series featuring local favorites and top national performers in music and dance. The performances, which take place in the Center's indoor auditorium, provide an opportunity for the Crested Butte community to get out of the cold and enjoy performances from artists such as The Hazel Miller Band, the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Sacred Music Sacred Dance and Claire Jolivet & Friends.

During the summer season, the Center presents its ever-popular Alpenglow concert series, a free weekly concert series featuring a variety of local and regional bands playing music ranging from bluegrass to blues. For those interested in Crested Butte's culinary arts, Center for the Arts features Tour de Forks, the Center's annual fundraiser showcasing nearly 20 of the top restaurants throughout Colorado's Upper East River Valley.

To provide the Crested Butte community with an even more diverse offering of arts and cultural events, the Center for the Arts partners with various community organizations. Together, the Center for the Arts and its community partners present events from music festivals to film showcases for thousands of people every year.

20 Years of Living the Arts

More than a venue for arts and cultural events, the Center for the Arts also provides opportunities for people to experience and live the arts. The Center is home to The Piper Gallery, a self-service gallery where many local and regional artists share and display their work. Visitors have the opportunity to explore these exhibits and take-in some of the region's best work in photography, pottery, oil pastels and more.

The Center's Creativity Salons let people explore their creative side and expand their horizons through small-group sessions led by local artists. Classes run from September through November and explore subjects including pottery, pastels, watercolor and collage. For the serious art enthusiast, the Center offers specialized workshops taught by visiting artists.

20 Years of Supporting the Arts

Since 1987, Center for the Arts Crested Butte has been a leader in providing dynamic events and fostering the arts and cultural community in Colorado's Upper East River Valley. To continue this tradition of excellence and bring an even more dynamic repertoire of cultural events to the area, the Center relies on donations from individuals and corporations throughout our community, and donated time and services from a loyal network of community volunteers who come together to make each event a success.

For more information about Center for the Arts, visit www.crestedbuttearts.org.