

ART IN KAYENTA FESTIVAL

A COMMUNITY DEDICATED TO THE ARTS AND GROWING TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF CULTURAL WELLNESS AND OPPORTUNITY

By Melynda Thorpe Burt

The Kayenta community located in Ivins, Utah, is lifting its curtain this year to reveal new and expanded plans for enhancing arts and cultural entertainment in Southern Utah.

In May, the community broke ground on a new Kayenta Center for the Arts Building to be located at the community's center, Coyote Gulch Art Village. The new center will showcase theatrical and musical performances in a 9,400-square-foot facility constructed to accommodate both stadium seating and theater-in-the-round.

With a scheduled completion date of August 1, 2014, the new center will be the only independently-owned arts center of its kind in Southern Utah.

"We believe that arts are a major component of our cultural heritage, a statement of our present condition, and a vision for our future," said Judith Kapuscinski, chair of Kayenta Arts Foundation.

In October, again welcoming flocks of art-lovers, the Kayenta community will once again hold its annual Art In Kayenta Festival. A favorite arts gathering in Southern Utah, the festival is scheduled to run Oct. 11-13 at the Coyote Gulch Art Village and will feature renowned artists from throughout the southwest region.

Featured will be the works of more than fifty juried artists representing genres including ceramics, wood, painting, photography, jewelry and textiles. Artists will showcase and sell their works in booths throughout the three day event to the tune of live music and street entertainment. Also, a festival favorite, the live Quick Draw competition will take place Saturday, Oct. 11 from 2 to 5 p.m.

In ninety minutes, Quick Draw artists will exhibit their skills and personal creative process under pressure to produce original works of art. Beginning with a blank canvas at 2 p.m., artists will paint shoulder-to-shoulder in a roped-off, tented area as spectators circle, cheer, photograph and witness the artistic process unfold. Fourteen artists have been selected to work against the clock after which the finished pieces will be bid on and sold at a live auction at 4 p.m.

Quick Draw artists scheduled to participate this year are: Edward Hlavka (sculpture), Spike Ress (watercolor), Kate Starling (oil), Jeff

Ham (acrylic), Ginny Norcott (acrylic), Aimee Bohnam (oil), Shauna McCullough, Janet Tenneson-McCarty (acrylic), Bonnie Conrad (oil), L'Deane Trueblood (sculpture), Sara Straw (oil), Michelle Deaderick (painter), Sang Choi (painter), Russell Black (watercolor).

Additionally, a silent auction will take place during the festival to help raise funds for the Kayenta Arts Foundation.

"I am delighted to see our community taking steps forward in embracing the arts and the vision of our community as a diverse and uniquely interesting place," said Matt Marten, Kayenta developer.

"Formation of the Kayenta Arts Foundation is a huge leap forward in our community's commitment to the arts, entertainment and culture. By embracing the arts, we bring another dimension to the economic viability of Ivins City, and to the level of artistic integrity and value of the entire region."

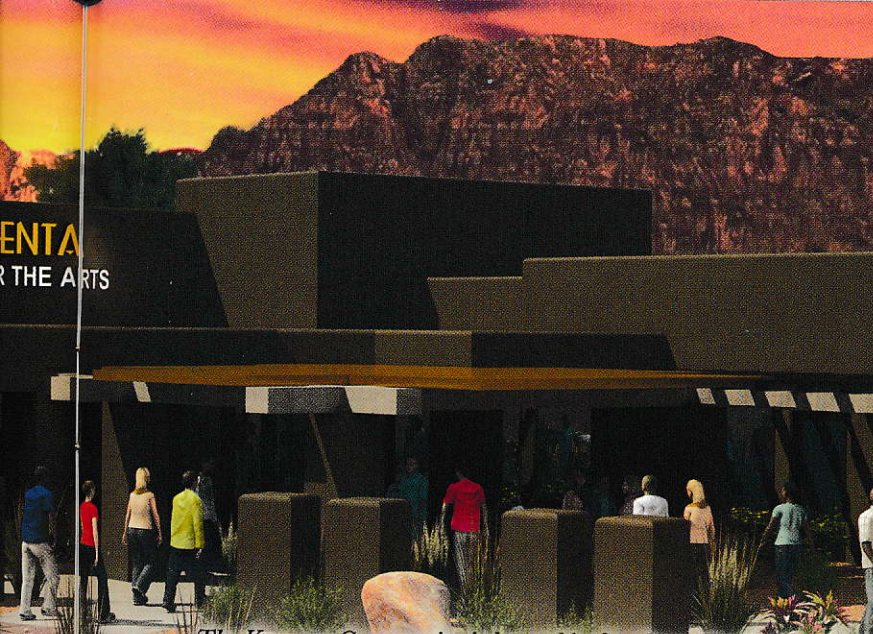
According to Kayenta Center for the Arts co-artistic directors Kent Harrison Hayes and Garry Peter Morris, the vision of building a theatrical destination in Kayenta is simply stated. "We want to be the premier venue in the greater Southern Utah area for awareness, appreciation, education and enjoyment of diverse artistic endeavors."

Along with the Art In Kayenta Festival this fall, and the popular springtime Kayenta Street Painting Festival, the new Center for the Arts offers to complement an already developing rich and pleasurable menu for arts entertainment in a community dedicated to artistic expression.

In October, the Art In Kayenta Festival will feature live entertainment and performances throughout the event, and food vendors will be on site to accommodate festival patrons.

Proceeds for the three-day festival will benefit Kayenta Arts Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to creating an environment that fosters diverse artistic endeavors for educational and enrichment purposes.

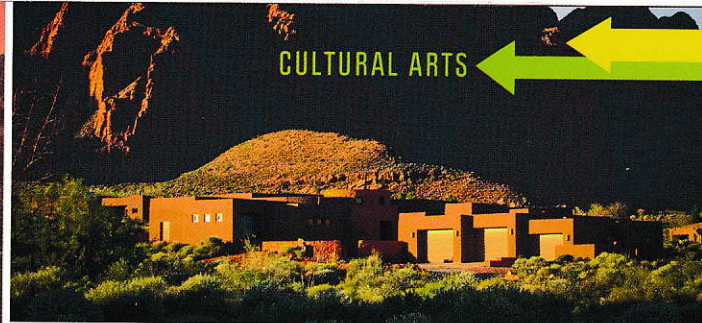
For more information, or for an artist participant application, contact Tami Hlavka (435) 237-2051, or visit www.kayentaartsfoundation.org.



The Kayenta Community is located in Southern Utah's red rock country near Snow Canyon. The 2,000-acre master planned community offers a tranquil enclave surrounded by protected lands and is located 7 miles west of St. George, Utah.

Now in its 14th year, the community's favorite arts festival returns Oct. 11-13. Art In Kayenta will again feature a variety of professional artists and a favorite event of the festival, the "Quick Draw" competition.

A unique departure from the norm, Kayenta is focused on moderate land use, moderate-sustainable growth, and an appreciation for its natural and magnificent outdoor setting. Nearby, residents find adventure in the Southwest's abundance of places to explore.



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