



THE SCRIBE

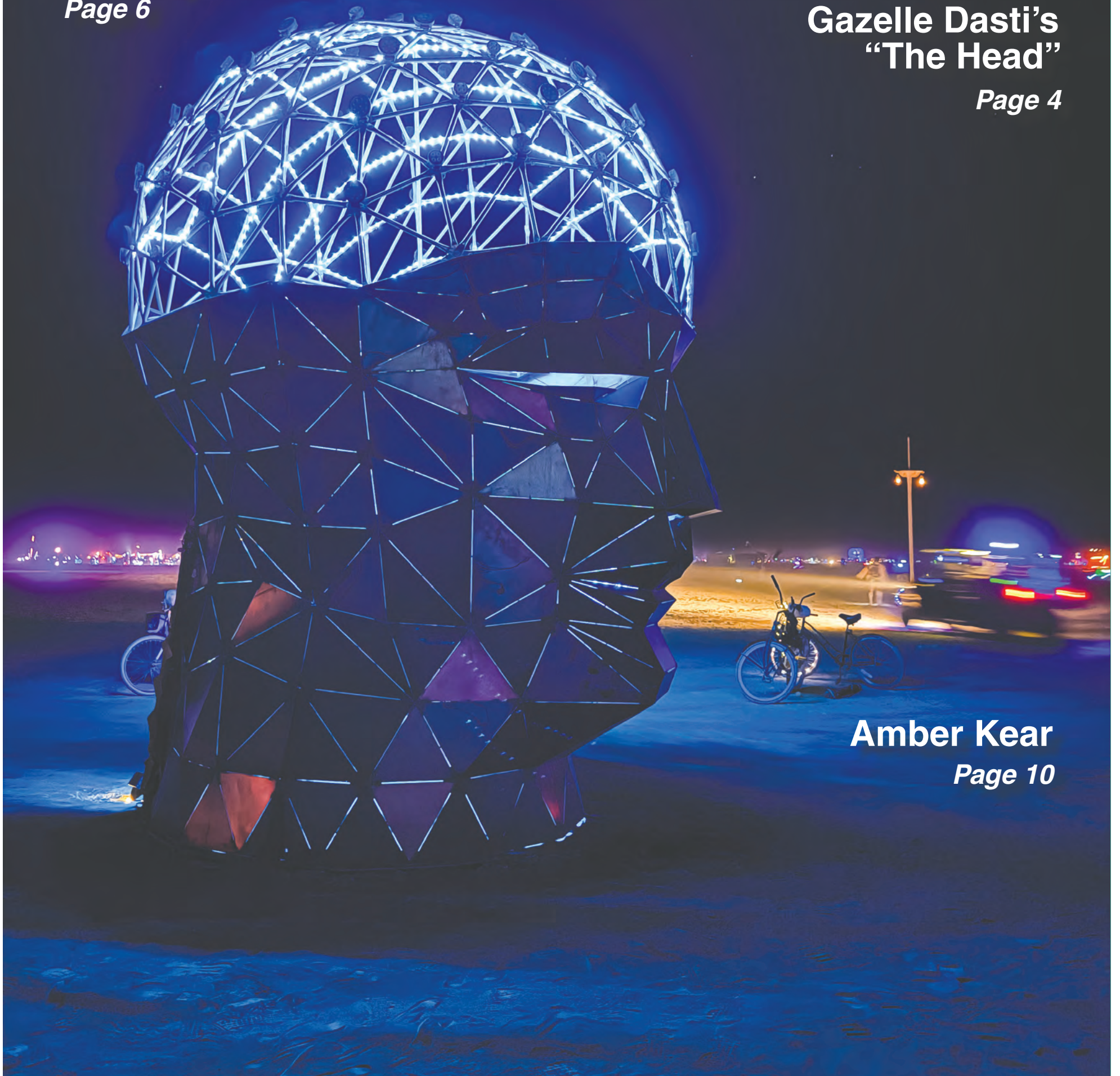


Inside Source Gallery

Page 6

Gazelle Dasti's "The Head"

Page 4



Amber Kear

Page 10

THE SCRIBE

Letter From the Editor

In this issue of *The Scribe*, I wanted to formally (re)introduce myself to new readers so you can see who is steering the ship. Each issue, Dylan and I work to balance features and arts news within 16 pages. This isn't easy when you consider Ohio's size and the challenge of fitting comprehensive coverage into one publication. *The Scribe* operates outside of traditional connections and is entirely volunteer and independent.

We're addressing gaps in Ohio's arts coverage through The Brief and The Bulletin. The Brief contains many recent Ohio arts news headlines, while The Bulletin presents a selection of arts opportunities across the state.

This issue brings back submitted comics and poetry, and we're looking to incorporate more creative writing and long-form arts content. Future issues will include in-depth arts research, following the trail of unwritten stories and historical connections in Ohio.

Please enjoy and send any feedback to us!



Jeffrey Darah
President and Editor



House of Lief - houseoflief.com

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The Scribe® is a monthly arts publication that is created and published under the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Apollo Press.

It is the **first** Ohio-wide visually-designed arts newspaper! Stocked in locations without paywalls for our readers, *The Scribe*® makes Ohio art visible and accessible to the public.

SUPPORT THE SCRIBE!

Help showcase Ohio art! Consider donating or sponsoring this publication!

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READ ONLINE AT THE-SCRIBE.ORG

Freelance Writers Wanted!

The Scribe® is looking for experienced arts journalists to cover visual arts, creative communities, and cultural development across Ohio. We're interested in writers who can dig deeper than event coverage, who understand the difference between journalism and promotion, and who can make arts infrastructure and creative practice accessible to general readers.

\$100/one-page article
(~350 words)
\$170/two-page article
(~600 words)

We cover community impact, local history, art education, civic arts systems, wellness through creativity, and cultural perspectives. If you have clips that demonstrate reporting skills and a commitment to balanced, source-driven journalism, we want to hear from you.

Send pitches and writing samples to contact@apollo-press.com
Read our full guidelines at the-scribe.org/freelance



Poetry Corner

I went to write my book today, but the template wouldn't open.
My hotspot was not strong enough to download what I needed to start.
My deadline is in 4 days!
Tomorrow I'll go to the library.
At least they have strong Wi-Fi and won't make me want to throw my laptop.
I went to write my book today and now I'm sitting here looking at a blank screen.
Looking at my last book in the series, I know this one will be even better, but the template wouldn't open and I want to throw my laptop. I guess I'll try again tomorrow.
I've already written my book, in Cliff notes and small post and notes that I have stuck on my door, I just have to put it in manuscript form and add the storyboarding.
I want to write my book today, but I guess I'll write a poem.
I'm being cock blocked by technology, but at least these words are free-flowing.

~ Jodie Summers

THE BULLETIN

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the-scribe.org/bulletin

Premium Call For Exhibition

Towpath Trail Lantern Parade

Canalway Partners

Due: January 3, 2026

- Large lantern parade, March 7 2026
- \$1,000 stipend, recycled materials required theme
- 10+ feet tall, under 6 feet wide
- Must attend parade

the-scribe.org/b/lantern2026

Premium Residency

Boston Mills Artfest 2026

Boston Mills Ski Resort

Due: January 8, 2026

- \$50 application fee
- June and July weekend shows
- \$1M liability insurance required
- \$7,500 in awards each weekend

the-scribe.org/b/bostonmills2026

Put Your Call in 200 Locations Across Ohio!

Share your **call for artists, gallery event, or community art opportunity** with a statewide audience!

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For the full list of artist opportunities:

the-scribe.org/bulletin

Standard Listing – FREE

- Includes title, date, contact, +2 details
- Clean, simple layout
- Quick calls, classes, or grants

Premium Listing – \$45

- Includes standard listing plus:
- **Social media post**
- Max Visibility: major/juried events
- Included in print + digital editions

Other

Residency Call

Grant

Exhibition Call

Limited space available in print edition:
send calls to: contact@apollo-press.com

Owens Community College Sculpture Walk

- Owens Community College
- Due: January 10, 2026
- Outdoor sculpture loan
- One year display
- \$1,500 honorarium, artist installs/removes work
- the-scribe.org/b/owens2026

BorderLight Theatre Festival Call

- Due: January 16, 2026
- \$30 fee required
- Production fee \$100-\$300 after acceptance
- 60% ticket revenue goes to artist
- the-scribe.org/b/borderlight

YSU Kilcawley Public Art Commission RFQ

- Due: January 16, 2026
- \$87,000 commission, Youngstown State University center
- Ohio and national artists eligible
- Nine images past work, resume required
- Semifinalists create proposals
- the-scribe.org/b/ysu2026

Bryn Du Art Show 2026

- Granville mansion
- Due: January 15, 2026
- Juried show March 6-28
- \$35 fee
- Three works max
- the-scribe.org/b/bryndu2026

Echo Artists Residence Program

- Artists 21+, all career stages
- Honorarium, production budget, lodging, equipment access
- the-scribe.org/b/echo2026

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Gazelle Dasti: The Artist Behind Burning Man's Holographic Head

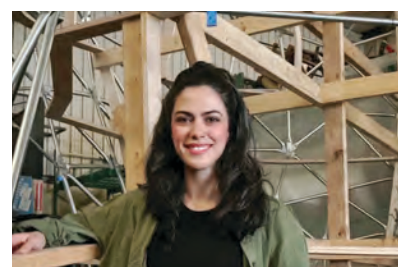


Journey to America on Ethereum

Gazelle Dasti's migration to America was funded by pixels and code. During the cryptocurrency boom, when Ethereum traded around \$4,500, the Iranian-born artist sold 400 hand-painted digital self-portraits on the NFT platform Foundation. Each piece explored mental disorders like Bipolar, OCD, and Schizophrenia, personified through her own image after studying psychology textbooks. Her first piece sold within 24 hours. The collection's success gave her enough money to secure a student visa and leave Tehran behind.

Before becoming a professional artist, Gazelle was an avid rock climber who preferred mountains to city life. That changed when she pursued a second master's degree at Bowling Green State University. Her first-semester project, a 3D hair simulation with geometric patterns spinning in a simulated environment, baffled her professors. They gave her freedom to pursue her own path.

Gazelle describes herself as an "electro-acoustic composer" who uses TouchDesigner, a node-based visual programming language. Unlike standard 3D modeling, the software lets her manipulate millions of particles in real-time through GPU particle systems. She taught herself the program, generating live visuals rather than pre-rendered videos.



QUICK SCROLL

Iranian artist funded her American migration by selling 400 NFT self-portraits, now creates massive audio-reactive sculptures for Burning Man.

gazelledasti.com

[@gazelledasti](https://www.instagram.com/gazelledasti)

“The Head” and What Runs The Brain

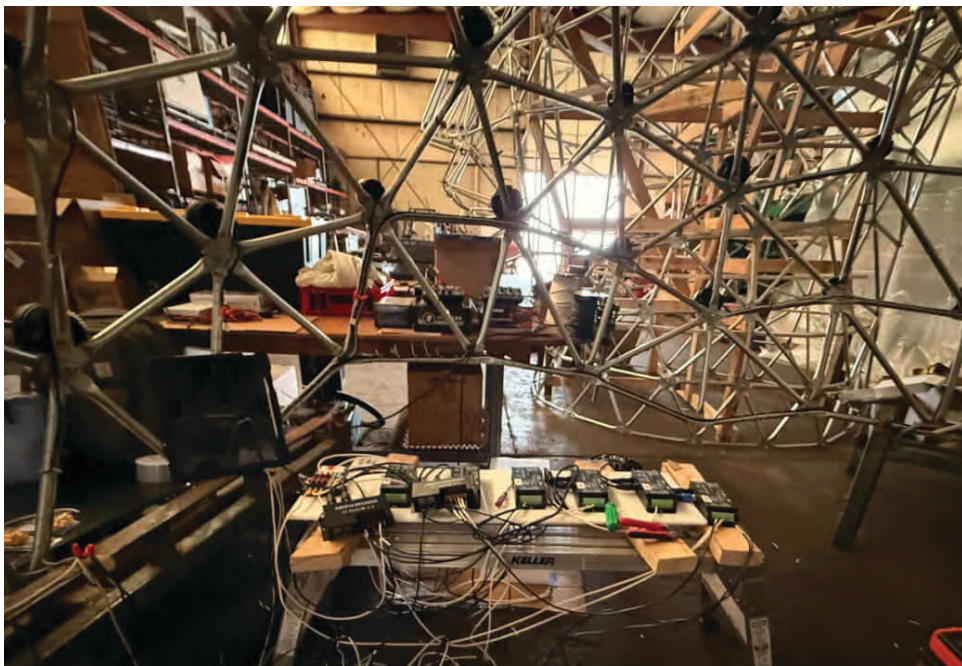
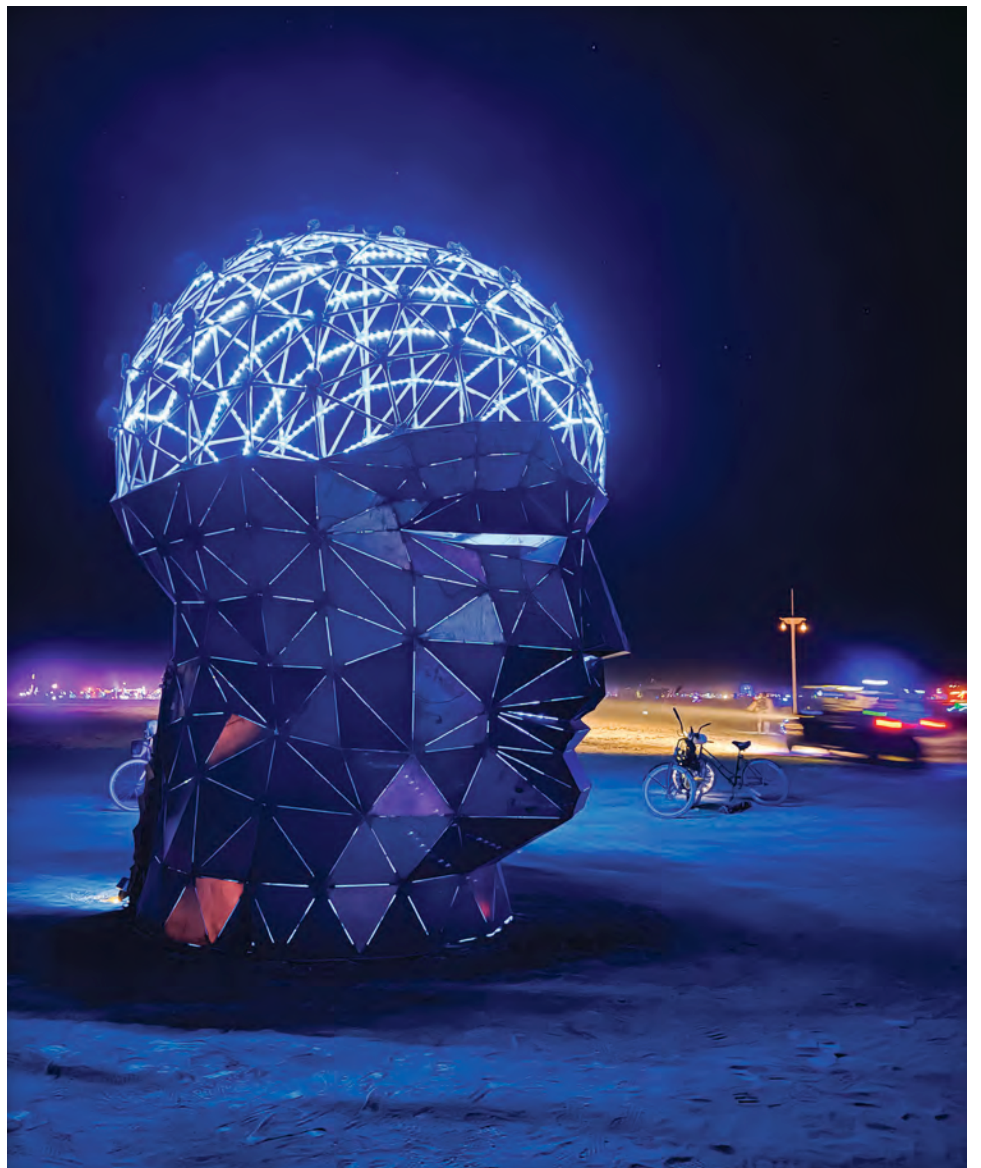
Her signature work, “The Head,” started as a 10-foot MFA thesis project before scaling up dramatically for Burning Man, where it sat atop a 25-foot tower. The sculpture uses aluminum screen mesh sewn together, chosen because light passes through it to create a holographic, ghost-like effect. The piece survived dust storms and 90 mph winds.

“...light passes through it to create a holographic, ghost-like effect.”

Gazelle composes her own music, blending electronic synthesizers with organic sounds, specifically the didgeridoo played by her brother. The visuals react to this music in real-time. To ensure the piece commanded attention in the desert darkness, she designed a custom control panel for a “crown” of 100 Xenon off-road lights, programmed to flash and dance with the music. The installation drew crowds of 11,000 to 15,000 people daily.

Gazelle credits QSI, a Toledo fabrication shop, as essential to her success. The company’s president, Tom Zitzelberger, solved a critical engineering problem when she couldn’t figure out how to mount the sculpture’s crown at a 45-degree angle.

For five years, QSI had also offered free welding and fabrication courses to local art students. Gazelle now works there as an Artist Engineer and Project Manager. In addition, her Burning Man success led to invitations to Oakland’s Burning Man Decompression and Cleveland’s Ingenuity festival.





The Creative Source of a Community



A Vision Takes Shape

Source Gallery has lived many different lives. The historic 1837 building began as a church, later evolving into a clock repair shop. But gallery owner Mark Hamilton has made sure this life leaves a lasting impact on the local community.

Set just off the main road in Lisbon, Ohio, Source Gallery has been a labor of love from the beginning. The idea began with some uncertainty but in 2020 it quickly came into focus.

After the COVID-19 pandemic triggered an early retirement from his corporate job, Hamilton put all he had into the gallery. Meeting local artists was priority number one. *"I really wanted this to be like a destination art gallery. I wasn't going to sell online,"* Hamilton explained.

Building a Creative Community

Many of those artists believed in his vision and offered their work, quickly filling the space with a variety of local creations. Pieces in the gallery now range from pottery and paintings to photographs and hand-bound journals. Hamilton, however, has remained the thread tying everything in the gallery together. *"I think it's a subtle line that you walk. It's all about the artists, but it's also about me staging and putting things together,"* Hamilton said. *"So you don't necessarily know it's me and the art stands out."*

Hamilton's background in custom framing has also kept the gallery afloat. Over the years he said he's noticed shops specializing in framing disappear, as people opt for speed over style. He is one of just a few custom framers left in the area.

"I really wanted this to be like a destination art gallery."



A Hidden Gem in Small-Town Ohio

Passersby who happen upon Source Gallery are often surprised by what they find, Hamilton added. The gallery has offered local artists an outlet to share their work close to home.

"It's brought a surprising destination where people can see and experience local artists that they never knew were here. It's always fun because people just stumble in," he said.

Hamilton often gets asked why he set up shop in a small village like Lisbon.

"I want a place like this to be in Lisbon and I am fortunate enough that I could make it happen," he said. *"It's kind of been a dream come true for me."*

Reaching the Next Generation

Even as he works to maintain his own dream gallery, Hamilton has joined forces with other key artists and business owners in the area to reach the youth through art. He began the Lisbon Arts Initiative nonprofit in an effort to expand artistic outreach and creative engagement in his community as well as others nearby.

In connection with the Ohio Arts Council, the arts initiative received a grant to put on their first children's workshop back in June. The council was "really eager to bring funding into an Appalachian community and help support the arts," Hamilton said.

The workshop, run out of a local church, offered kids a day-long immersive arts experience that included dance, improv, music and visual arts. Four local artists contributed their time and 20 kids participated in the event.





SESHAT'S CALENDAR

Art Events for January

View our online calendar at the-scribe.org/calendar

Want your event highlighted here and online?
Get featured for only \$75! ★ - Sponsored Events
Send us your event info: contact@apollo-press.com

TOLEDO

Radiance and Reverie
Jan 18, Museum Hours
@Toledo Museum of Art

Are You Ready For It?
January 9, 7PM
@Valentine Theatre

Candlelight: Queen & The Beatles Tribute
January 23 6:30PM
@The Summit

Creative Expressions Art Gala
January 29, 7PM
@River Gallery Studio

COLUMBUS

Back to the Future: The Musical
January 6 - 11, Hours vary
@Ohio Theatre

Les Misérables
January 27 - Feb 1, Hours vary
@Ohio Theatre

Wonderball 2026
January 31, 8PM - Midnight
@Columbus Museum of Art

Diana Krall
January 31, 8PM
@Palace Theatre

CLEVELAND

Stereophonic
January 6 - 25, Hours vary
@Playhouse Square

Mozart's Jupiter Symphony
January 8 - 9, 7:30PM
@Severance Music Center

Oberlin Opera Theater
January 24 - 25, 2PM
@Cleveland Museum of Art

Martha Graham Dance Company
January 31, 7:30PM
@Playhouse Square

PRESS RELEASE

2025 TCAAC “Winter Wishes” Holiday Anthology Winner

The Tipp City Area Arts Council announced the winners of its 2025 “Winter Wishes” Holiday Anthology competition. This annual event celebrates literary work from writers of all ages in Tipp City, Ohio and the surrounding communities. An awards reception took place on December 7th during the Tippecanoe Community Band’s annual holiday concert, where all winning authors were honored for their exceptional pieces.

Each winner received a bookmark and a copy of the Winter Wishes anthology published by TCAAC. The full anthology is available to the public at the Tipp City Public Library, and all TCAAC-published anthologies can also be purchased through Amazon.

The poetry winners were organized by skill level. In the Intermediate Division, Chelsea Heck won for “A Snowman” and Clark McGinnis for “Winter Wishes.” Hannah Morgan and Lucas McGinnis took top spots in the Middle School Division with “Christmas Wishes” and “Winter Wishes” respectively. Three high school poets were recognized:



Loralei MacCartney for “A Winter’s Wish,” Serenity George for “Love,” and Ibtisam Eljawad for “The Weight of Winter.” The Adult Division saw wins from Heather Lamm, Reese Morgan with “A Bridge Between Two Seasons.”

Stories and essays were also recognized across all four divisions. Notable intermediate winners included Zoe Morgan, Aisha Nair, Clark McGinnis, and Addy Hughes. Middle school winners were Silas Downing, Lucas McGinnis, Hannah Morgan, while high school winners included Finn Hinkelman, Sarah Milnickel, Libby Crabtree, and Aubrey Ernst. Adult division essay winners were Ronald Landau, Judith Vargo, Adam Southers, and Mike Nygren

The Art of Masking

Creating Sensory Worlds

Masks can be a way to hide yourself from the world and a place beyond imagine. Alice did it in Wonderland, Willy Wonka in his Chocolate Factory, and Lauren Pearce did it in her exhibited work *Wake Me Where I Lay*.

Documenting her “process of unmasking” after receiving her autism diagnosis, her exhibit ran at Framed Gallery from September 27 to November 22, 2025. She created fantastical scenes for the viewer to get a sense of their inner world. The viewer is immersed both by the sight of the figurative paintings and the sound of the personalized playlist through headphones. The touch of sand in the physical sandbox further adds to the sensory stimulation.

Pearce created safe spaces for viewers with the use of the sensory mediums like touch and sound, as well as by making her show accessible through a virtual exhibition online to view at home.

A Journey Through Masks

This exhibit is a well-executed journey of Pearce’s reckoning with her unmasking after receiving her autism diagnosis and her overall continued journey of life. There was much care in every part of the exhibit, from the documentation of process, the scale of the work, and the positioning of the different experiential zones. An interesting contrast is seen in the tight process control of her figurative pieces versus her dreamy abstracted pieces.

Pearce seemingly built a “choose your own adventure” exhibit of her journey for viewers to walk through and create their own connections between the different pieces. Concluding on her work, Pearce remarks, “*Wake Me Where I Lay is both a plea and a surrender. It marks a turning point in my journey, a point of stillness, rootedness, and awakening to the truth of who I am when the masks fall away.*”





The Theater That Refused to Die

From Spotlight to Silence

Originally constructed in 1895 for the relatively large sum of \$210,000 dollars of the time, Toledo's Valentine Theatre was a popular staple of local performing arts, including opera and early film, as well as a host of major events. Beyond regional appeal, international stars like Harry Houdini and Sarah Bernhardt also made appearances here.

Unique not just in performance, the theatre featured an innovative cantilevered balcony, electric lighting, and decorative scagliola columns and murals. To prove the safety of the state-of-the-art balcony, which used invisible supports to give the audience an unobstructed view, designer Edward Oscar Fallis famously sat beneath it during the opening performance.

Yet, the early success was not to last. Post WW2, the large suburban movement, as well as the increase in TV and cheaper movie options, significantly reduced the audience of the Valentine Theatre. In addition, earlier modernization attempts removed much of the original Victorian decorations, appealing to modern trends, but stripping of the unique character of the theatre.

By 1974, Toledo's Valentine Theatre was shut down as a result of the lack of financial sustainability. Unfortunately, it would remain in the dark for decades, and not before facing an imminent threat.



Rescue from the Rubble

In 1983, a city task force investigated the Valentine Theatre, but concluded it was beyond repair, with a final recommendation to demolish the building. This decision came in the wake of the demolition of the historic Paramount Theatre, whose 1965 loss amplified preservation concerns.

Advocates of the Valentine Theatre rallied under the banner 'Friends of the Valentine', leading community protests, exhibitions and tours of the theatre, as well as public testimony and media coverage, all in a desperate attempt to save the Valentine.

Yet, while the Toledo City Council thankfully decided to postpone the demolition, the financial situation did not meaningfully improve, leading to additional deterioration over the 1980's and early 90's.

Restoration and Return

While the Valentine Theatre was originally closed in 1974, it was not until around 1996 that an ambitious restoration attempt was underway. To rebuild the theatre, a massive \$28 million was gathered by the Ohio Cultural Facilities commission, as well as other private foundations.

The restoration project rebuilt the stage house and fly system, restored and uncovered the murals and other original decorations, and refurbished nearly a thousand of the seats. This long, multi-million dollar effort finally resulted in the 1999 reopening and sold-out Toledo Opera performance.

In modern times, the Valentine Theatre building serves as part of the Valentine Theatre Complex, benefiting over 50 local arts and cultural organizations, like the Toledo Symphony and Ballet.

Once nearly reduced to rubble, the full-scale revival of the theatre stands as a testament to civic and cultural perseverance, having even been studied by the National Trust of Historic Preservation as a model of community-based revival for historical structures.



Valentine Theatre in Downtown Toledo.
Photo by Smithr1981, licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons.



How Visual Clarity Shapes Understanding in Art



“Without clarity, a viewer struggles to understand the full meaning behind what they see.”



The Hidden Role of Clarity

There is a hidden problem which can undermine the effort an artist puts into their art, and that is the lack of clarity behind a piece. Without clarity, a viewer struggles to understand the full meaning behind what they see. Psychologist Rudolf Arnheim, author of *Art and Visual Perception*, explains that our eyes and brain actively seek to organize what we perceive.

Therefore, Arnheim’s theory explains that good art works in line with how the brain seeks to organize visual information on a functional level. Not to be confused with differences in artistic style, structurally vague art worsens the ability of the audience to engage with it by making it harder to intuitively grasp the meaning behind the art.

Why Clarity Breaks Down

Art historian E.H. Gombrich, whose work sought to explain how images are understood on a cultural level, explained that interpretation of imagery relies on a shared visual language. A lack of visual hierarchy or excessive visual noise, for example, disrupts the viewer’s interpretation of what they see.

More specifically, an image without a defined “point of entry” can leave the viewer’s eye continuously searching. Symbolism that may exist without a sense of relationship fails to function as a full “language” within the art. Even abstract art relies on its own underlying rules of “selective ambiguity”, with some elements acting as anchors that balance and guide the uncertain ones.

Clarity as a Deliberate Choice

Arnheim argued that strong art aligns with how the mind naturally assigns themes of balance or tension. Gombrich emphasized the ability of artists to create work in alignment with culturally shared elements, like scale or contrast, which allows the work to be transmitted like a language.

For artists, this means that deliberate steps are taken to support the viewer’s perception. Edward Hopper, a realist painter of the twentieth century, often employed controlled lighting, restraint in detail, as well as guiding architectural lines. These are choices made which do not overly simplify, but instead allow the viewer to experience the meaning through intuitive ease, rather than effort spent deciphering the image.

THE BRIEF

Recent Arts News from Across Ohio

Updated Daily: the-scribe.org/brief

Zygote Gallery's Online Store Opens

Cleveland based nonprofit community printmaking studio Zygote Press has an online store for Zygote Gallery.



Toledo Museum of Art Announces Major Gallery Renovation

Starting December 15, 2025, The Great Gallery and several West Wing galleries will close for renovation. The museum continues to offer world-class exhibitions during the renovation period.



Playhouse Square Leads Ohio with Arts Programming for People with Parkinson's

The organization has received international recognition as one of 23 Dance for PD® Licensed Affiliate locations worldwide and the first in Ohio.



Freedom Center Reveals First Special Exhibit for 2026

The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center announced its inaugural special exhibition for 2026 with jubilation and excitement.



Butler Institute Celebrates National Heritage with New Donations from Mateo Blanco

The Butler Institute of American Art celebrated national heritage with two new donations: Presidential Flag and Yellow Flag by internationally acclaimed artist Mateo Blanco.



\$3 Million Transformative Arts Fund Spreads Art Across Cleveland

A \$3 million arts fund is distributing resources throughout Cleveland to support transformative art projects. The Sculpture Center participated with lead artist Jordan Wong.



Greater Columbus Arts Council Awards \$349,999 in Capital Expense Grants

The grant program, first launched in 2023, is designed to ensure sustainable arts and cultural organizations can construct and maintain capital assets vital to their mission.



Columbus Museum of Art Expands Curatorial and Collections Leadership

The museum announced the appointment of Anna Katherine Brodbeck to an expanded curatorial role.



Toledo Opera to host 'OPERAtunity Day' & 'Triviata Night'

Toledo Opera will celebrate its annual community fundraising day on November 20, culminating in Triviata Night at Toledo Spirits featuring operatic-themed trivia.



Heights Arts Announces Michelle R. Smith as the New Heights Poet Laureate

Michelle R. Smith named 12th Heights Poet Laureate, beginning two-year term in April 2025 representing Cleveland Heights and University Heights communities.



Dayton Art Institute Presents 'Engaged: Rings from around the World'

This exhibition showcases a diverse collection of rings spanning thousands of years, including significant pieces from the collection of museum founder Brainerd Thresher.



Playhouse Square in BLOOM for 35th Annual Jump Back Ball

Tickets are now available for the annual fundraiser event, which benefits Playhouse Square's education programs with a 'BLOOM' themed celebration.



Contemporary Arts Center Presents Journey of Healing Exhibition

'Journey of Healing: The Trauma-Informed Power of Art' from November 29, 2025 through January 4, 2026, featuring Greater Cincinnati artists bringing awareness to experiences of those seeking a world where no woman lives in fear of violence.



The Cleveland Orchestra Sustains Balanced Budget and Highlights 2024-25 Season Successes

The Cleveland Orchestra announced financial stability for the 2024-25 season while celebrating notable achievements and expanding its Board of Trustees.



Columbus Symphony Presents Educational Event for Aspiring Brass Players

The Columbus Symphony Orchestra hosted an educational event providing valuable experience for aspiring orchestral musicians.



Cleveland Museum of Natural History Named a Contender for USA TODAY's 10Best New Museums

The museum achieved its first-ever nomination for USA TODAY's 2026 10Best Readers' Choice Awards in the Best New Museum category.



Public Art in Cleveland's AsiaTown Featured at Mid-Autumn Festival

A once abandoned parking lot is now a gathering place in Cleveland's AsiaTown filled with public art.



Shucked - A New Musical Comedy

Tony Award-winning musical comedy Shucked plays Ohio Theatre April 7-12, 2026, with tickets starting at \$56.95 on sale Friday, October 24





Amber Kear Paints Community Into Every Wall



Early Signs of a Muralist

Amber grew up in Findlay, Ohio, specifically between Findlay and Pandora, about 20 minutes west of the city. She attended the University of Findlay briefly before transferring to the Art Institute of Pittsburgh after her first semester to pursue a more art-focused education, ultimately earning a Bachelor of Science in Graphic Design in 2009. She later returned to Ohio to earn an Associate's Degree in Psychology from Owens Community College, graduating as an Honors Program Scholar in 2024.

Amber knew from a young age she wanted to be an artist, despite not having artists in her family. A formative moment came when a distant aunt praised a Santa Claus drawing she made with markers, telling her she could be an artist someday. She's always been drawn to art as "the voice of the people" and found deep passion in how art serves communities and the environment.

Beyond her formal education, Amber has pursued training in community health and crisis intervention, including Adult Mental Health First Aid certification, QPR Suicide Prevention Training, and Project DAWN training.



QUICK SCROLL

Findlay-based muralist and graphic designer blending community service, mental health advocacy, and large-scale public art across Ohio.

www.hysteria.company [hysteriacompany](https://www.instagram.com/hysteriacompany)

A Foundation in Graphic Design

Amber spent nearly nine years (June 2010 to March 2019) working at Giant Eagle Market District stores in Pittsburgh, advancing from Graphic Artist to Visual Merchandising Team Leader. This role was formative in her career, as she worked with teams of in-house graphic artists creating hand-painted signage similar to what you'd see at Trader Joe's or Zingerman's.

The position offered significant creative freedom within brand guidelines, allowing her team to incorporate nostalgic references from the 1950s-1960s era. She managed teams across multiple Market District locations in Pittsburgh, Ohio, and Indianapolis. During grand openings, she participated in store walkthroughs to determine permanent artwork placement and mural locations to optimize customer experience. Her responsibilities included collaborating on display planning to communicate product messaging, guiding weekly and monthly display planning meetings, and organizing in-store events such as celebrity chef demonstrations and seasonal NFL "Chalk Talk" radio shows for WDVE.

Building Hysteria Company

Amber has been running Hysteria Company full-time since 2019, operating from Studio #12 at 400 1/2 South Main Street in Findlay. The business offers skilled contracting work including mural work, brand building, animal portraits, logo and layout designs, digital illustrations, commission paintings, and marketing/advertising. To maintain income consistency, she contracts with the University of Findlay as a scenic theatre painter starting in August 2023, teaching students new techniques in set painting and finishing set designs from directors.

Her artist mission statement reflects her philosophy: *"Through my artwork, nature, and community; I am able to be an active member and educate within environments and communities to cultivate safety, connection, and a true sense of belonging. The beauty of art is its power to create change and inspire hope in our lives."*

Amber emphasizes that she loves every mural not because of the artwork itself, but because of the impact it has on the people who commissioned it.



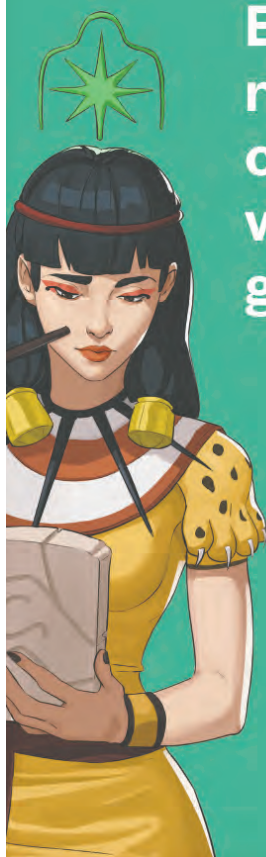
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Who is “The Head”?

Atum was one of the most important creator gods in ancient Egyptian mythology, particularly in the religious center of Heliopolis. According to Egyptian creation myths, Atum emerged from the primordial waters of chaos, called Nun, as the first divine being. He was believed to have created himself through his own will and power, earning him the title “the self-created one.” As the first god, Atum then created the next generation of deities by producing Shu (god of air) and Tefnut (goddess of moisture) from his own body, either through spitting, sneezing, or other bodily acts depending on the version of the myth. These two gods then gave birth to Geb (earth) and Nut (sky), continuing the divine family tree.

Atum was often depicted as a man wearing the double crown of Upper and Lower Egypt, symbolizing his role as a universal ruler.

He’s above all the other Ancient Egyptian Gods!



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