

**MINUTES**  
**Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC)**  
**Wednesday, January 27, 2021 GoTo Meeting**

**Commissioners Present:** Gary Ambrosier, Ron Cloyd, John Cooper, Sarah Dishong, Donna Fullerton, Matt Goss, Matt Janson, Kelley Raymond, and Diana Rooney

**Commissioners Absent:** Kristian Hartter

**Others Present:** Linda Skinner, Karen Kllanxhja, Lee Borden, Helen Lyon, and Lorie Gregor.  
Community members Matthew Blood-Smyth and Julia Coffey.

Chair Donna Fullerton called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. John Cooper moved to approve the minutes of the November 11th meeting. Ron Cloyd seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Final Presentations:** The following organizations gave their final presentations for their grant:  
Writers Forum – Linda Skinner, Culture Fest – Karen Kllanxhja, Art Camp – Lee Borden, Senior Theatre – Helen Lyon. Karen Kllanxhja had technical difficulties, so her final report was sent to the Commission.

**Commission Update:** Lorie Gregor reported that 3 positions are available due to the vacancies of Gary Ambrosier, Donna Fullerton, and Kristian Hartter. There are 3 applicants interested in the positions. Appointment is scheduled in February. Lorie will update as soon as they are filled. Donna Fullerton, chair will attend their appointment.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**February Grant Process Timeline:** Lorie Gregor presented the timeline for the 2021 grant process. All Commissioner's present confirmed their participation. Lorie will email Kristian Hartter as to his intent.

|    |         |                                  |
|----|---------|----------------------------------|
| 2  | 12:00pm | Link sent to Commission          |
| 15 | 10:00am | Grant questions due from GJCAC   |
| 17 | 3:00pm  | Grant answers delivered to GJCAC |
| 22 | 3:45pm  | Grant Presentations - Virtual    |
| 24 | 4:00pm  | Grant Decisions - Virtual        |

**Public Art Update:** Lorie Gregor reported that all art has been removed from City Hall & the Avalon Theatre until those facilities open to the public. A new exhibit was installed at the Grand Junction Convention Center on January 25 with the help of Gary & Sarah – thank you! Tiara Rado will be changed out on February 17. Bumped artists will be rescheduled in 2022.

**REPORTS**

**Presentation Evaluations:** The following Commissioners gave their grant evaluations(attached):  
Writers Forum – Sarah Dishong, Art Camp – Matt Janson, Senior Theatre – Gary Ambrosier

**Write On! Update – Gary Ambrosier**

Promotion is successful on social media, 27 shares so far.

The following Commissioners will read over the submissions:

3-5 grades: Sarah Dishong and Gary Ambrosier

6-8 grades: Ron Cloyd and John Cooper

9-12 grades: Kelley Raymond and Donna Fullerton

Monday, March 8 at 4:00pm winners will be decided, and Lorie Gregor will be notified on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

The reception will be virtual - date TBD. All Commissioners will work on prizes for 1-3<sup>rd</sup> places.

\*\*Gary Ambrosier and Donna Fullerton will remain active on this work group until completion

A special meeting of the GJCAC will be 3:34pm on February 22, 2021

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/195768093>

The next regular meeting of the GJCAC will be 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/195768093>

As there was no further business, Donna declared the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorie Gregor

GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE  
EVENT/PROJECT/PROGRAM EVALUATION

Organization: Western Colorado Writers Forum

Name of event: Writers Night

Your name: Sarah Dishong

Date(s) of event: Their grant encompassed a multitude of events

Date you attended: January 5, 2021

Number of people in attendance: approx. 12

Number of participants (artists): approx. 1

Describe the event: This event is part of the WCWF's monthly series, Writers' Night. This is one of many opportunities for local writers to come together for support, teaching sessions, advice from published authors or just a chance to write together. This group reaches many age groups, including several teen writing sessions. This group adapted to the challenges of COVID and brought their programs to audiences through virtual meetings.

What were the strengths of the event: I attended T.L. Christianson's presentation on the challenges of publishing your body of work. Ms. Christianson brought her own experiences to the conversation and gave the novice authors excellent advice and cautions as they consider publishing their own writings. The audience was engaged with her and asked excellent questions. It has been a pleasure watching this group continue with its support of the community and provide opportunities for budding authors.

What were the weaknesses of the event: None

What suggestions do you have to improve this event: None

Publicity: Was the GJCOAC logo used in: Check appropriate boxes (Please attach samples)

The Writer's Forum has a monthly newsletter and uses social media. The Commission has been acknowledged consistently throughout the year.

Posters

X Program/brochure

X GJCOAC listed as a donor/supporter

Received professional pictures from organization

Public Service Announcement mentions GJCAC

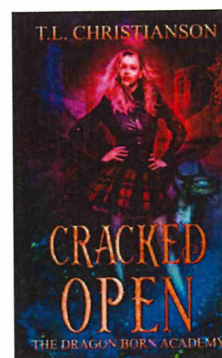
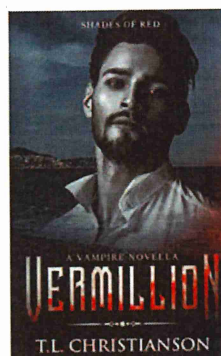
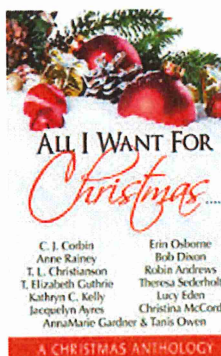
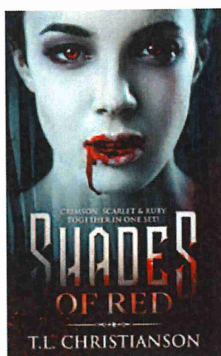
GJCAC link on organization's website

Is the organization's website linked to our website? No

X Organization worked with you before event

## ***Marketing Your Story: Avoiding the Pitfalls***

Come hear Grand Valley author T.L. Christianson's presentation on her current #1 novel on Amazon, her publication and marketing expertise, and her upcoming work. She will explore some basic aspects of the business that will translate across genres. She will also highlight some common pitfalls which could save time and money for other authors.



*T.L. Christianson is the author of the Shades of Red vampire series and the Dragon Born Academy series. If you like science, mystery, and a little romance then she's your gal! T.L.'s blend of real-world science and fantasy makes her novels come alive. As a Colorado native and graduate of the University of*

*Colorado in Boulder, T.L.'s an avid outdoorswoman. When she's not outside or working on her latest novel, you'll find her reading fantasy or sci-fi or listening to one of her favorite podcasts. Learn more about her books and sign up for her newsletter at [tlchristianson.com](http://tlchristianson.com)*

## **Writers Night - Jan. 5, 2020 - 6pm MST A ZOOM Meeting**

To register and receive log-on information, please go to  
[westerncoloradowriters.org](http://westerncoloradowriters.org).

Workshop is limited to 20 participants.



More information at  
[wcwritersforum@gmail.com](mailto:wcwritersforum@gmail.com)  
or  
[westerncoloradowriters.org](http://westerncoloradowriters.org)



## Current News & Views

Next open WCWF board meeting -  
Bring your input for 2020; RSVP please  
**December 10, 3:30 at CFI. See p.3.**

## Save the Date

SLAM "Why We Have Hope" coming  
on January 21 with Bobby Le Febvre, na-  
tionally known slam poet from Denver.  
Actions are underway to host this on  
line if live site is not available. If you are  
a poet, think about writing a slam of  
three minutes or less on the theme.

Event will be hosted as a facebook event  
by Caleb Fergancheck. Entries will be  
via videos from poets. For information  
see [www.westerncoloradowriters.org](http://www.westerncoloradowriters.org).

POETRY NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY in  
GJ is in hiatus again. Due to increase in  
COVID cases, the library is ceasing  
some operations. Go to [mcpld.org](http://mcpld.org) for  
more information.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FICTION WRITERS  
remains active on line. See their info for  
blogs, podcasts, on-line workshops and  
more at their web site: [rmfw.org](http://rmfw.org)

WCWF survives on dues and grants.  
Pay your dues, make a donation or  
find out what you can sponsor at  
[www.westerncoloradowriters.org](http://www.westerncoloradowriters.org).

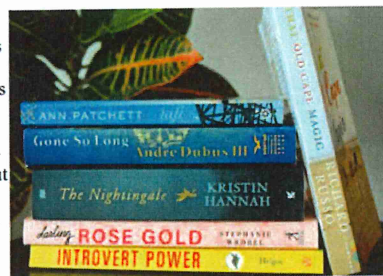
Send email, news and contributions  
to [virg@leafmedia.com](mailto:virg@leafmedia.com)

## "Keep Reading" says local author Colleen Story

What a wonderful time to catch up on our reading!

Familiar WCWF workshop leader Colleen Story offers  
us her suggestions just in time. Colleen is a native of  
Palisade and returns regularly to visit. Her workshops  
over the last few years have encouraged us to pro-  
mote, promote, promote. And she is great example  
with her monthly blog. Here she recommends her fa-  
vorite fiction and nonfiction books of 2020. Check out  
her site for comments and brief synopses.

<http://writingandwellness.com/2020/11/30/my-top-8-books-for-2020-5-novels-and-3-nonfiction/>



## December Writers Night Unfortunately Cancelled Writers Don't Read this December

It's always a joy to know what everyone is writing - and to hear them read it!  
But COVID's resurgence in Mesa county and all over the country has severely limited our  
ability to gather safely. We miss this delightful opportunity and hope to bring you an  
exciting menu of Writers Nights in the near future.

Our continued thanks to the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture for  
their financial support and their interest and investment in this community.



## Prompt and Circumstance • In hiatus until 2021

Due to Thanksgiving and Christmas so near to the last Thursday this event will  
not be held in November or December. Have a wonderful Holiday Season.

Info at [westerncoloradowriters.org](http://westerncoloradowriters.org)

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture  
Event/Project/Program Evaluation

**Organization:** The Art Center

**Name of Program:** Holiday Break Day Camps

**Date of Event:** Dec 21-23, Jan 4-5, 2020

**Attendance Date:** Dec 22

**Number of attendees:** 11

**Number of Participants:** NA

**Describe Event:** Young children ages 5-13 are invited to learn various art techniques from different local artists. The kids spend time learning about the technique before trying it on their own. Depending on the day, a few different local artists are able to come in and demonstrate their skills. The kids are able to interact with each other as well as the instructor.

**Strengths of Event:** It was great that the Art Center was still able to host this event. I think finding safe ways to get kids outside and interacting with each other is more important than ever.

I really like the care taken to keep the kids and staff safe. Rachel admitted that she says late to wipe down all the tools and tables the kids are using. The participation was cut off at 12 to maximize social distancing. Tables were set up in the auditorium and kids were only sitting at the ends (2 kids per table).

The diversity of art exposure is impressive. I like how they really try to bring in different artists to showcase the diversity of the word "art." Just in the day I was visiting, the kids made potpourri sachets, made chalk drawings, and I think Racheal was going to teach alcohol ink.

It's always difficult to know how the kids are affected, but they all seemed to be having fun and they were all participating.

**Weaknesses of Event:** It was sad to see the attendance so low. Lee told me that attendance was less than half of normal. Normal holiday classes are typically 20-30 kids. His feeling was that half of parents are scared of COVID exposure and the other half are against wearing masks.

Rachel admitted to me that she feels a lot of parents view the camps as cheap babysitting. While we need to give some slack to the Art Center for dealing with pandemic rules, I felt the engagement can be even greater. On some level, the kids

were just given prompts and set loose and that often just feels like busy work set to pass the time.

This pandemic has very much tested the limits of adaptation and I feel they were essentially trying to run a camp without any modifications aside from meeting safety regulations.

**Suggestions for Improvement:** This pandemic has been a true test of who can adapt to drastic change. I feel this was a prime opportunity for the Art Center to take a leap into digital art.

While I do feel it's important to give the kids a chance to socialize outside of their homes, they didn't need to run these camps in-person at all. Digital art such as graphic design, photo editing, and even web development have practical applications as well as easy adaptability for teaching online.

In this age of webinars and zoom meetings, I feel the Art Center missed out on a chance to reach a broader audience (and possibly make more revenue) by going online.

**GJCOAC Logo usage:** There wasn't a lot of advertising to begin with. Most of the outreach was done with an email to people already on their mailing list. Our logo was used on the brochure and placed on their website page with the camps. The flier was also posted on their Facebook page.



## Give the gift of art!

### 2020-21 Holiday Youth Programs



#### School's Out Day Camp

Ages 5-13  
8:30am-4:30pm, Nov 30; Jan 18-19; Feb 15, Mar 11-12; May 14  
Tuition per day per child: \$25 member / \$30 non-member  
All materials provided



#### Fall Break Day Camps

Ages 5-13  
8:30am-4:30pm, November 23-25  
Tuition per day per child: \$25 member / \$30 non-member  
All materials provided  
*Don't forget to bring a snack, a lunch, and a water bottle!*



#### Holiday Break Day Camps

Ages 5-13  
8:30am-4:30pm, Dec 21-23, 28-31; Jan 4-5  
Tuition per day per child: \$25 member / \$30 non-member  
All materials provided  
*Don't forget to bring a snack, a lunch, and a water bottle!*



1805 N 7th Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501  
970.243.7337 • [gjartcenter.org](http://gjartcenter.org)

School's Out Day Camp & Holiday  
Break Day Camp sponsored by:  
**Grand Junction**  
COMMUNITY FOR  
ARTS & CULTURE

- |                                                          |                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| • Posters                                                | I for one did not see any                          |
| • Program/brochure                                       | The Video listed the events                        |
| • Received professional pictures from organization       | I did not receive on, however, the office may have |
| • Public Service Announcement mentions GJCAC             | Not sure about this                                |
| • GJ CAC link on organizations website                   | Yes, it is there.                                  |
| • Is the organization website linked on our website      | Yes                                                |
| • Organization worked with you before/during/after event | Worked with Lorie more than me, which is ok.       |