



Robert Henri  
Museum and  
Art Gallery

Museum Address:  
218 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cozad, Nebraska 69130

Gallery Address:  
207 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cozad, Nebraska 69130

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Peter Osborne  
Executive Director

## MUSEUM AND GALLERY OPEN FOR 2026 SEASON

The Robert Henri Museum and Art Gallery is pleased to announce that it will begin its regular summer season hours on Friday, May 1, 2026. To kick off the season, the museum and gallery is pleased to announce that it will be hosting its annual program for artists until November 1. The artists, who are coming from all over the country, and will be exhibiting, are:

### **Jenifer Sauter**

*Artist of the Month – May 1 - May 30, 2026*

### **Karrie Steely**

*Artist in Residence – June 10 - June 24, 2026*

### **Impact Nebraska Artists – Waters of Life**

*Artist of the Month – July 1 - July 31, 2026*

### **Beth Jasnoch and Jeri Schultheiss**

*Artist of the Month – August 1 - August 29, 2026*

### **Jude Valentine**

*Artist in Residence – September 15 to September 30*

### **Leslie McAllister**

*Artist of the Month – October 1 - October 31, 2026*

The museum's first artist this summer will be Jenifer Berge Sauter. She is a Nebraska based artist known for her contemporary paintings in acrylic, pastel and oil. Berge Sauter's early years began on a hog farm in Lisco, Nebraska where she learned how much she loved animals and being outside in the trees and drawing.

She followed her pattern of working outdoors in gardens and nurseries as an adult which influenced the color, movement and rhythm in her paintings of her rural home. Berge Sauter is disciplined and worked with artist Lanny Fiegenschuh early on and continues to make connections and take in knowledge to refine her work practice. Her work is in business and private collections across the country and her paintings have been included in group and solo shows including Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and Wisconsin.

Jenifer has also continued her participation with the Panhandle Humane Society of Scottsbluff with a pet portrait fundraiser that she started in 1999. She has completed over 1000 portraits and has continuously donated fifty percent of proceeds to this worthy cause.

Berge Sauter works at her home studio in Gering and enjoys spending time with family, friends, pets, gardening and plein air painting. Sauter's artist statement is as follows:

*Working with my hands has always been a thing for me. Painting and working with plants and the repetition of both seem to be essential to my life and art. Living in a rural place most of my life has shaped my work where the animals, plants, people and experiences that form in this strange landscape become paintings that are my friends. Temperature might be most important to me as it's the key to the mood of a piece. Controlling temperature with glazes just might be my favorite right now. There are so many things I need to paint, I will never be done and this makes me happy.*

The museum's Artist Program, now in its twenty-fourth year, was established to encourage understanding and appreciation of the arts in central Nebraska and to promote the legacy of Robert Henri, one of America's greatest art instructors. He taught hundreds of students over his long career including Edward Hopper, Rockwell Kent, Marjorie Ryerson and Elizabeth Grandin.

As part of its ongoing lecture series the museum will be hosting a program called *Our Paintings and Robert Henri's Art Spirit*. The program will take place on Thursday, April 23, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the museum. The lecture will be given by the museum's director, Peter Osborne, and will explore the lessons given in Henri's seminal book with the museum's collection of paintings now on display. The program is open to the public and is free of charge.

The museum will also have five exhibits to see including *From Cozad to the State Prison: The Colorful Character of Miles Maryott*, *Robert Henri: From the 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian to International Fame*, *Painters of A New Century*, and *Passing on the Art Spirit*. Three of the exhibits look at the life and career of Robert Henri including his time in Nebraska.

A fifth, and newly opened show, *Painter, Teacher and Pioneer: A Journey Through the Life of Robert Henri* is the most extensive show to interpret the artist's life since the Sheldon Museum of Art undertook a major show in the 1990s. There are 45 sketches that are attributed to Henri or believed to be by him. There are 31 paintings and prints that Henri completed. In addition, there are seven works by his wives and several of by his students.

The Museum has embarked on a new chapter in its long and storied history. A newly built gallery (2025) takes the institution to an even higher level and makes it a national center for preserving and promoting the art and legacy of Robert Henri. The new gallery's display space is five thousand square feet and will allow the museum to expand its collection. The building includes state of the art climate control, fire protection, and security systems along with educational and exhibition space. It includes an outdoor patio area, gift shop, office and a serving kitchen. The former gallery was converted into a new library and archive building and is climate controlled with a sophisticated security system.

The \$3.5 million expansion has been paid for by grants, contributions and a very generous donation and matching commitment from patrons Larry and Tammy Paulsen of \$2 million. Larry and Tammy have made the display of much of the artwork and exhibitions in our gallery possible through donations and loans. Larry's mother, Shirley Paulsen, was one of the founders of our museum in the early 1980s.

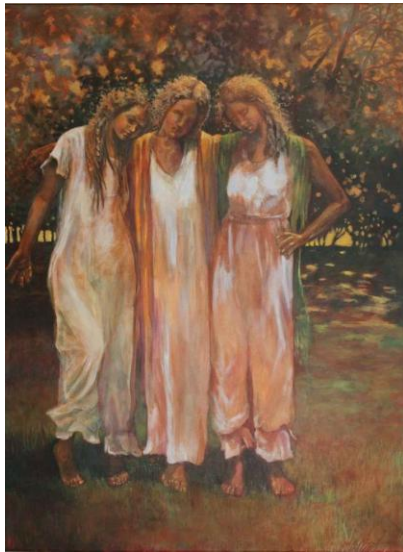
Donations can be made to the new gallery project by going to the museum's website or mailing them to the museum directly. They are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. We provide regular updates about the gallery and our programs on our Facebook page.

The Robert Henri Museum and Art Gallery is a national treasure that is the result of the work of many volunteers, board members and professional staff who have toiled for more than forty years. The effort to preserve Robert Henri's legacy in Cozad started with a small group of people who saw the opportunity to bring recognition to the town that was once home to the acclaimed artist and native son, Robert Henri (Robert Henry Cozad). This group, led by Shirley Paulsen, bought and restored the former Hendee Hotel, Henri's boyhood home. It officially opened to the public in 1986.

With local support and generous donations from Cozad and Henri family members, and donors from across the United States, the Robert Henri Museum and Art Gallery's collection continues to grow. The first Henri painting donated to the museum in 1988 was *Portrait of Queen Mariana*. In addition, there are works by several of his students including Marjorie Organ, Margery Ryerson, Ernest Fiene and his best friend John Sloan. In 2014, a climate-controlled art gallery was built to display the collection. Today, the new art gallery houses the largest display of Robert Henri works, or those attributed to him, in the United States.

The museum is located at 218 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Cozad, and the gallery sits directly behind it at 207 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street. (Visitors are required to come to the gallery first.) The complex will be open from May 1, 2026, to November 1, 2026, Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about the its programs call 308-784-4343 or visit the museum's web page at [www.roberthenrimuseum.org](http://www.roberthenrimuseum.org).

#### CAPTIONS FOR PHOTOGRAPHS



*Chautauqua* 36 x 48 in acrylic on canvas by Jenifer Berge Sauter,

Littlejon Private Collection is painting is the feeling of the heat of summer in the outdoor festival with your friends. Had so much fun you can only stare and stand with your pals as you start to dance again.



*Badlands* 24 x 30 in acrylic on canvas by  
Jenifer Berge Sauter

East of Hwy 385 on your way to Alliance at the "T" there is an incredible expanse of badlands. This painting is an acrylic on stretched canvas. It is framed with a simple box wood frame.



The Robert Henri Art Gallery



The Robert Henri Museum