

Bard Southwest Arts Weekend, Santa Fe, NM

September 26 – 28, 2025

Friday – Sunday

We look forward to having you join Bard alumni/ae and friends for a special weekend in “The City Different.”

*Hosted by the Bard College Alumni/ae Association, **Jane Brien '89**, Director of Bard College Alumni/ae Affairs, **Marella Consolini '82**, **James Rodewald '82** and **Sandy Zane '80**.*

Proposed program prepared August 19th, 2025: remains subject to change.



The license plates in New Mexico say “The Land of Enchantment,” and its capital, Santa Fe, is a star. Just ranked as the best US city in the 2025 *Travel + Leisure World’s Best Awards*, Santa Fe achieved the #1 position on the list of readers’ 15 favorite cities in the US. Santa Fe is steeped in the history of the American West, having long captured the imagination of artists and freethinkers, with its pueblo-style architecture and rugged landscapes. But a growing alternative arts scene is giving a newfound edge to the southwestern town, too.

[SITE Santa Fe](#), the contemporary art museum widely credited with catalyzing the Railyard District’s transformation 30 years ago, made headlines again this summer ([New York Times](#), [ArtForum](#), and [Art in America](#)) with *Once Within a Time*, a citywide exhibition of work by 71 regional, national and international artists. The city’s red-hot art scene is matched by its fiery cuisine, renowned for its smoky red and green chiles grown in the southern part of the state.

Over the course of the weekend, we will enjoy special access to museums, galleries, artist studios and private homes. And there will be time to shop! Leave room in your suitcase for the perfect turquoise necklace or pair of cowboy boots that may cross your path.

There is a \$75 donation required to join the weekend's general activities and an additional cost if you wish to join us for a group lunch at [The Museum Hill Café](#). (Pre-registration for lunch is required.)

IF YOU ARE FLYING: Arrive at either Albuquerque International Sunport (ABQ) or fly into Santa Fe (SAF). Car rentals are available at both airports. Many hotels also offer shuttle transfers to/from either airport to the hotel. Uber is available in Santa Fe. Albuquerque is a one-hour drive from Santa Fe.

Accommodations: There are many hotel options in Santa Fe. If you choose the Hotel Santa Fe, please mention that you are affiliated with the Zane Bennett Gallery when you reserve, and you will receive a discount off the rack rate. We also encourage you to explore the many online hotel aggregator websites, e.g. Hotels.com or Expedia.com.

Getting Around: In the event you don't have a car while in town, don't worry! We will help arrange car-shares from within our group. Uber is available, too. You won't be stranded!

September 26 **INDEPENDENT ARRIVALS**

Friday

PROGRAM BEGINS:

4:00 pm

Welcome Reception

form & concept

435 South Guadalupe Street, 1st floor

Sandy Zane '80 is the founder of form & concept and its sister collection, Zane Bennett Contemporary Art. Housed under the same roof in the Railyard Arts District, form & concept offers conversations among the converging disciplines of craft, design, and art; Zane Bennett exhibits modern and contemporary works on paper. The gallery is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year!

On view this evening will be "Language of Place," a group exhibition of indigenous artists, the work of multi-media artist Avi Farber as well as work by Debra Baxter MFA '08.

5:00 – 7:00 pm

"Last Friday" Art Walk in the Railyard Arts District

On the last Friday of every month, the eight galleries and two museums (SITE Santa Fe and Vldem Contemporary) in the Railyard District open their doors for special openings and events. Independent viewing until 7:00 pm. Venue details and locations will be provided.

7:00 – 8:00 pm

Cocktail Hour

As Above So Below

545 Camino de la Familia

If all that art has built up a thirst, reunite with everyone at a locally owned craft cocktail bar that offers specialty drinks made with their own distilled spirits such as gin, vodka and whisky. Beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages are also available.

Dinner

Independently—gather in groups or explore on your own.

Saturday

9:30 am

Private visit to the historic home and studio of Nicola López

(Address provided after trip registration)

A Santa Fe native, Nicola was a Bard Visiting Faculty Member in Studio Arts in 2006 and Faculty Member 2007-2013. She is an internationally exhibited artist known for her drawings, prints, installations and collages. Her work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, NY; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY; The Detroit Institute of Art, MI; The Cleveland Museum of Art, OH; and many more.

Nicola's home, the Donaciano Vigil House, dates from the late 18th century. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

12:00 pm

Group Lunch**Museum Hill Café**

Museum Hill, 710 Camino Lejo

Known as "The Gem on the Hill," serving fresh and delicious food for over a decade. Located on Museum Hill Plaza next door to the Folk Art Museum. The pre-set menu (entrée, dessert and drink) will include options for all dietary requirements. Alcohol not included.

Pre-registration required.

1:30 pm

Museum Visit**Museum of International Folk Art**

Museum Hill, 706 Camino Lejo

One of the few museums in the country dedicated to folk art from around the world, the permanent collection currently holds over 130,000 objects from more than 100 countries. Among the temporary exhibitions on view will be: "iNgqikithi yokuPhica/Weaving Meanings: Telephone Wire Art from South Africa" and "Appearances Deceive: Embroideries by Policarpio Valencia." Additionally, the Museum has partnered with SITE SANTA FE to host a remarkable, temporary installation by Taiwanese artist, Zhang Xu Zhan.



Gift Shop, Museum of International Folk Art

Marella Consolini '82, will give a brief introduction to the museum at the entrance, then you are free to wander and stay as long as you wish. Suggestions of highlights will be provided.

You may choose to stay on Museum Hill and explore [The Museum of Indian Arts and Culture](#) or the [Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian](#), or wander the spectacular [Santa Fe Botanical Garden](#).

OR Head back into town and enjoy the rest of the afternoon on your own, if you wish.

*You can visit the wonderful **El Mercado de Museo, an arts & culture market featuring over 60 vendors from near and far** (555 Camino de la Familia in the Railyard District, open Saturday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm and Sunday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm). Be sure to visit with **Steve Kalminson '67** who has an endlessly fascinating stall specializing in used books on the Southwest and Native American history, art and culture.*

*Also, lovely **Canyon Road** is just a few minutes away by car: a concentrated arts district, it's home to over 100 galleries and studios featuring Native American art and antiques, and Latino, regional, folk and contemporary art, jewelry, clothing, cafés and more (individual store hours vary).*

5:30 – 7:00 pm **Happy Hour and Santa Fe Alumni/ae Cities Party**
Nuckolls Brewing Company
1611 Alcala Street
All Santa Fe locals and friends are invited to attend our Cities Party. Join Bardians from around town and around the country in the authentic beer garden in the historic Nuckolls building in the heart of Santa Fe's Railyard district. The first drink is on Bard!

Dinner Independent—gather in groups or explore on your own.
A list of restaurant suggestions will be provided.

September 28 SANTA FE

Sunday

9:00 am **Coffee, Pastries & Breakfast Nibbles**
Al fresco in the garden of the home of Marella Consolini '82 and Jimmy Rodewald '82 (Address provided after trip registration)
Please join Jimmy, an editor in the Publications Department at Bard, and Marella, a semi-retired gallerist, independent curator, and former director of museums and other arts non-profits, at their 100-year-old adobe home, a 10-minute drive from the Plaza. Their art collection is comprised primarily of post-War works on paper: prints, drawings and photographs. Jimmy's mother, Norma, who attended Bard in the late '50s, lives across the lane and will join us to say hi. (And yes, his father, Clark Rodewald '59 was a Bard professor of literature.)

Would you like to arrive a day or two early? Or perhaps extend your trip and stay in the area longer? Please ask Jane Brien '89 for a list of suggested activities (alumni@bard.edu).

Note:

- **Some museums that you may visit that are not part of the group itinerary may charge admission.**
- **After registration, we will circulate a list of restaurants and other suggested activities.**

INDEPENDENT DEPARTURES

Thank you for joining us!