

Acadiana Center for the Arts Launches New Season of *Creative Acadiana* Professional Development Program



Participants and figure drawing model at Aca's Artist Round Up, Spring 2025

LAFAYETTE, LA - March 17, 2025 - Acadiana Center for the Arts (ACA) kicks off a new season of *Creative Acadiana*, supporting creative entrepreneurs across the region.

A dynamic lineup of workshops, networking events, and artist talks, the spring *Creative Acadiana* series comes on top of a busy spring of performances, exhibitions, and events at ACA.

The *Creative Acadiana* program features professional development workshops, a monthly *Artist Round Up* professional networking event, and talks from leading artists in the region like Lynda Frese.

This season includes expanded programming focused on guiding artists through the application process for the ArtSpark grant.



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Creative Acadiana is made possible through funding from the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area's Legacy Grant program. Additional support from LUS Fiber will help introduce an exciting, yet-to-be-announced segment of the program.

"Creative Acadiana provides artists in the region valuable opportunities for professional development," said Michael D. Soileau, Director of LUS Fiber. *"By organizing workshops, and networking events, we are fostering a more connected creative community and facilitating essential connections."*

One of the program's signature events, *Artist Round Up*, offers a relaxed, inclusive space for artists to connect while engaging in creative activities. The first *Round Up* of the season featured live models for casual figure drawing and saw over 50 participants. Other sessions will explore Polish paper-cutting with artist Sam Wróbel and UFO-themed zine making led by exhibiting artist Lynda Frese.

Participants from past seasons have praised *Creative Acadiana* for its impact:

"It's great to hear stories from local artists who have done what you're trying to do and learn how to navigate the process," shared a past workshop participant in an anonymous survey.

This season also includes information sessions designed to clarify submission processes for AcA's own programs. Notably, AcA's Performing Arts Director, Brandon Motz, will lead a session with past participants of the NXT Series, offering insight into what performing artists can expect when applying.

The full schedule of *Creative Acadiana* events is available at AcA's website (<https://acadianacenterforthearts.org/opportunities-for-artists/creative-acadiana/>). Stay tuned for an exciting new program announcement at this year's *State of the Arts* symposium on June 7.

About AcA

As the community leader in arts and culture, the Acadiana Center for the Arts (AcA) serves to bring elevating arts experiences to the people of Acadiana through many approaches including holding public concerts, presenting art exhibitions, providing grants to artists and cultural organizations, and bringing artists into schools across the region. AcA brings equitable access to the arts through year-round education and outreach activities and aims to build a more sustainable cultural ecosystem for future generations in Acadiana.