



Name
Jose Miranda

Affiliation
Ranch Manager Tybar Ranch

Years in Carbondale
10

Why I create in Carbondale

I love the beauty and the richness of the land in Carbondale and putting my fingers in the soil every-day-- connecting with the land. Carbondale is a special place under the shadow of Mt. Sopris. I also love raising my family here. It provides more opportunity for them than my homeland in Venezuela.

Learn more about the Carbondale Creative District at carbondalearts.com





Name

Amy Kimberly

Affiliation

Executive Director of
Carbondale Arts

Years in Carbondale

15

Why I create in Carbondale

Carbondale is my muse. my art is creating experiences for people and the magic of mother sopriss, along with the spirit of this community, inspires me to dig in deep! the wealth of energy, vibrancy and opportunity here keeps my mind alive!

Why I love this place

The people. We may not all agree but we all know how to have a great time together!

Little known fact about me

I am almost a diplomat in Swaziland, Africa!

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Name
Mark Fischer

Affiliation
Executive Chef and Owner of Phat Thai and Town. Restaurant

Years in Carbondale
19

Why I create in Carbondale

"It's the people (and, admittedly, the geography). I'm fortunate to be a part of a community of people whose approach to living is very intentional and mindful, but don't seem to take themselves too seriously while they go about it. From ranchers to athletes to farmers to families to artisans and beer makers, cheesemakers and distillers, Carbondale's possessed of a remarkable energy that makes living and working and playing here together so much more gratifying."

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Name

Merrill Johnson

Affiliation

Director and Founder of The Creative Spaces at Cedar Ridge: Workspaces and studios for Creative Entrepreneurs, artists and craftsman

Years in Carbondale

My whole life

Why I create in Carbondale

Carbondale is my heaven I am so blessed to call this place and community home.

Why I love this place

Mt Sopris and all its expressions of beauty love and magnificent splendor is shares.

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Name
Chris Erickson

Affiliation
Installation Artist

Years in Carbondale
12

Why I create in Carbondale

Carbondale is a small community with extraordinary might. The collective creativity is nurtured like a small, injured baby goat. Comfort from this nourishment is heartfelt and reciprocated by all. The community is blessed with an abundance of love and gratitude for the arts. This love and gratitude rains down upon the art makers and fills their bellies with a warmth and a desire to make more stuff. For this reason, I make it in Carbondale.

Why I love this place
The goats

Little known fact about me
I once auditioned for "The Shining" and was ollied by Mark Gonzales

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Name
Connie Baker

Affiliation
Co-Founder and Distiller at
Marble Distilling Company

Years in Carbondale
24

Why I create in Carbondale

Been here since '92. LOVE this town. No place on earth like it - tried everywhere. A welcoming community - Open, Honest, Caring.

Why I love this place

The eclectic mix of free thinking, creative, aspiring, accepting people who love our planet.

Little known fact about me

I'm a Jersey Girl.

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Name

Deborah Colley

Affiliation

Performer/Choreographer at CoMotion; Dance Educator at DanceLAB; Associate Director at Dance Initiative

Years in Carbondale

7

Why I create in Carbondale

When I moved here lack of dance arts in this thriving arts scene and engaged community motivated me to not just create dances in Carbondale... but to create a thriving dance scene! And we are on our way! I have had the opportunity to teach over 50 adults of all levels, set choreography on 20 dancers, and have performed in 11 locally produced works. The collective creative minds of Carbondale breed a special motivation to dig deep into one's own artistic passion and thrive!

Why I love this place

The creatives of Carbondale are open and willing to collaborate and try on strange ideas!

Little known fact about me

My favorite color is rainbow and I grew a unicorn tooth from the roof of my mouth when I was five.

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Name
Chase Engel

Affiliation
Head Brewmaster and CEO of
Roaring Fork Beer Company

Years in Carbondale
4

Why I create in Carbondale

I chose to create in Carbondale because I love all the people and energy that is in this town. There's a funky vibe here that isn't replicated anywhere in Colorado that I knew my business could add to and coexist with that made doing business here an easy and rewarding choice.

Why I love this place

When you walk down Main Street and see a horse tied up next to a bar, or in the spring when you see herds of cattle being moved down Main Street to their spring pasture. It reminds you that this is still a true western town full of people that work with their hands. The artisan culture here is just an extension of that.

Little known fact about me

before I was a brewer I was on my way to becoming an anthropology professor...I guess I got side tracked a little.

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Name
Sarah Villafranco

Affiliation
CEO of Osmia Organics

Years in Carbondale
10

Why I create in Carbondale

My heart landed in Carbondale the moment I first visited, about 20 years ago. Strange, as I was born and raised in Washington, DC, and lived there until I was 32. But, something about this place is truly magical--from the people to the land to the crystal blue skies to the dry, sage smell in the air. It's my perfect home.

Why I love this place

My brother and his family are here. Having lost our mom 9 years ago, I feel very lucky to be close to him, and to own businesses a few hundred yards from each other!

Little known fact about me

I was a cheerleader at Georgetown University for about 8 months in my freshman year. It makes me laugh-tinge whenever I think of it. I still have the uniform--it's handy on Halloween...

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Name
Olivia Pevec

Affiliation
Artist, Musician (Let Them Roar),
Writer, Blacksmith at The Roaring
Forge, Scavenger, Partner

Years in Carbondale
18

Why I create in Carbondale

Carbondale is my home. Everywhere I go in this town I find exciting people who want to make wild dreams come true. True collaboration, true volunteerism, and massive talent come together to form a rich melting pot that can't help but grow. And that Mountain, she just never stops giving.

Why I love this place

Vross country skiing in the streets of town. I like that I can walk out my front door and walk, ride, or ski straight into wilderness. There is a bear that visits my backyard and the deer are omnipresent. I can harvest wild food in my neighborhood, and even though the town is very small, I discover new things all the time.

Little known fact about me

When I was little, I wanted to change my name to Badger.

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