



## THE THIRD DECADE - 1994 -2003

Celebrating 50 Years of Art the Commonwheel Artist Co-op reflects on Its 3rd decade of growth, community, and vision.

The Commonwheel Artist Co-op, a beloved art gallery in the heart of Manitou Springs, celebrates its third decade, spanning from 1994 to 2003, as a transformative era marked by community growth, resilience, and forward-looking strategies. As Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs experienced unprecedented growth, Commonwheel embraced this opportunity to expand its reach, attract new artists, and strengthen its presence in the vibrant local arts scene.

Despite facing financial challenges, Commonwheel's dedicated artist-members seized this period as an opportunity to evaluate and improve the gallery's sustainability. A renewed focus on business planning and long-term success strategies was essential to securing the gallery's future. By establishing a foundation for steady financial health, Commonwheel ensured that it could continue to showcase high-quality, locally made art while fostering the creative spirit that defines Manitou Springs.

In this decade, Commonwheel evolved into more than just a gallery. It became a cultural cornerstone, drawing in visitors from across the region and nurturing a dynamic connection with the community. With the growth of Manitou Springs and Colorado Springs, Commonwheel welcomed an increasing number of artists, each bringing unique perspectives and diverse

artistic styles. The gallery's commitment to community outreach and engagement allowed it to create a meaningful platform for artists and art enthusiasts alike, solidifying its reputation as a premier local gallery.

As Commonwheel moves forward, the lessons learned from this pivotal decade serve as a testament to the power of collaboration, adaptability, and the enduring importance of supporting local artists. Commonwheel invites the community to celebrate this milestone and continue to be part of its journey in supporting and experiencing the transformative power of art.

Thank you for your continued support. The 4th and 5th decades will follow shortly.

Warmest Regards,

The Artists of The Commonwheel