



Fine Arts Center

COLORADO SPRINGS

Taylor Museum
Bemis School of Art
Performing Arts

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHISKEY FOR MY MEN A tasting returns for the first Thursday of July at the FAC

COLORADO SPRINGS (June 15, 2010) – The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center will be celebrating the Pikes Peak Western Heritage Days with a special tasting on July 1, which happens to be the first Thursday of the month. But unlike the First Thursday Tastings of years past, this event will not feature wine or jazz.

Whiskey for My Men, Beer for My Horses: A Whiskey and Beer Tasting will instead feature samples from culinary artisans Amuzé at the FAC, Bristol Brewing, Downslope Distilling and Pizzeria Rustica. With a special rooftop performance by the bluegrass band, **Grass It Up**, winner of the 2009 Gazette Best of the Springs award.

“The Fine Arts Center legacy is steeped in the western heritage of the Pikes Peak region,” said Sam Gappmayer, FAC CEO and President. “We’re happy to play a small role in celebrating our local traditions, like the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, the parades and barbecues. And so this special event, we’ve put together an exhibition ***The American West: Cowboys from the Collection***, which I think fits the theme nicely.”

The American West includes paintings by artists Charles M. Russell, George Phippen and others.

What to Expect

[Amuzé at the FAC](#), which opened on June 3, will be serving its award-winning New Mexican Red Chili Crème Brulée as well as various appetizers. Amuzé is a two-time winner of the Best Appetizer award at the Glass Slipper Ball (2007, 2010) and its crème brulée earned the 2009 Best Dessert honor.

[Bristol Brewing](#), Colorado Springs’ own hand-crafter of flavorful, one-of-a-kind ales, will be offering samples of Laughing Lab Scottish Ale, Compass IPA, Yellow Kite Summer Pils and others from their award-winning line of brews. Bristol swept gold, silver and bronze awards in the *Gazette’s* 2010 Best of the Springs for ‘Best Local Beers.’ “If you lead a horse to Bristol, you won’t have to *make* him drink,” said Bristol’s Laura Long.

[Downslope Distilling](#), co-founded by Bemis School of Art alumnus, Andy Causey, will be serving samples of their Double Diamond Whiskey, Pepper Vodka and Wine Barrel Aged Rum from their complete line of high-end spirits. Denver’s *5280 Magazine* says, “Try the pepper vodka—infused with a blend of dried red New Mexico chiles and Indonesian black pepper—in your Sunday morning Bloody Mary.”

[Pizzeria Rustica](#), winner of the *Gazette's* 2009 Best of the Springs 'Best New Restaurant' and 2010 'Best Pizza' awards, will be bringing the "Rusticator," a trailered wood-burning pizza oven, cooking up authentic Italian pizzas, like the Quattro Stagioni and Margherita pizzas, for patrons to sample.

[Grass It Up](#) will be playing the song, *Whiskey for My Men, Beer for My Horses* by Toby Keith and Willie Nelson, from the balcony overlooking the FAC Courtyard as well as original compositions from their upcoming CD.

Grass It Up is a five-piece band based in Colorado Springs, made up of David Jeffrey, Shannon T. Carr, Jon Bross, Danny Karpel and Ben Lewis. Steeped in traditional American music such as bluegrass, country and rock, they regularly dip their toes into their own original ballads and "grass up" pop tunes. The quintet's instrumentation includes guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle, backed by bass and piano.

- Tickets are \$15 for FAC Members; \$20 for non-members
- Available online at csfineartscenter.org; by calling 719.634.5583 or at the door.
- Guests sporting a big-ass belt buckle get \$5 bucks off!

Whiskey for My Men, Beer for My Horses is sponsored by Today's Best Country, Y96.9.

Fine Arts Center

The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, established in 1936, is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, performing arts theatre and arts education center. Built on the foundation of the prestigious Broadmoor Art Academy, the FAC carries the legacy of Colorado's arts and cultural heritage. One of 16 charter members of the American Association of Museums, the FAC offers the best in the world of visual arts via its permanent collection and travelling exhibitions, performing arts through the FAC Theatre Company, and arts education with the Bemis School of Art. The FAC building is considered an architectural landmark in the Rocky Mountain region, designed by John Gaw Meem, and is listed on the National Register for Historical Places. In 2007, the FAC unveiled a \$28.6 million renovation and expansion. For information, visit csfineartscenter.org.

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