

DISCOVERY GUIDE



# ARCHITECTURE



Fine Arts Center  
COLORADO SPRINGS



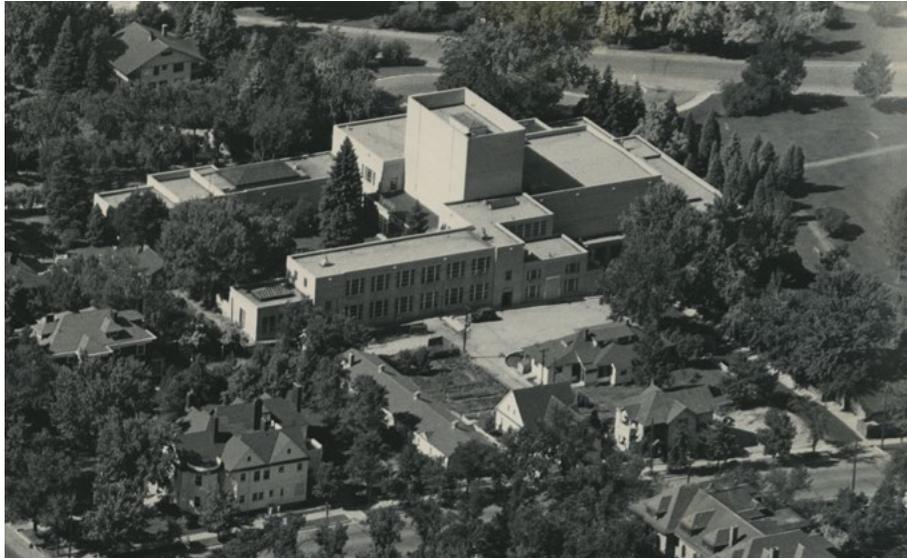
# ARCHITECT

## John Gaw Meem



- Born and raised in Pelotas, Brazil
- Moved to Santa Fe, N.M., in 1920 to recover from tuberculosis
- Married Alice Bemis Taylor's niece, Faith Bemis, in 1933
- Developed a Spanish pueblo style of architecture
- Designed FAC building which opened in 1936
- Won the prestigious Silver Medal at the Fifth Quadrennial Pan American Congress of Architecture for his innovative design of the Fine Arts Center.
- Architectural Forum, the leading journal of the day, commented on the FAC building: "Here is a building which is modern, monumental, and unlabored. Its simplicity reveals assurance, not sterility. Its character is local, but not the result of any attempt to fake a pueblo ... There is a freshness here, a kind of youthful vigor which defies analysis, but which is the building's greatest charm."

**1936:** A loaf of bread cost eight cents Olympic Games were held in Germany ... Alan Alda, Glen Campbell, Burt Reynolds and Mary Tyler Moore were born ... Franklin D. Roosevelt was President ... sunscreen and Zippo lighters were invented.



ARCHITECT

## Carlisle Guy

- From Colorado Springs
- Designed east wing addition built in 1970
- Designed gallery space, art storage, administrative office
- Also worked on Broadmoor International Center and Broadmoor South with Architect Edwin Francis

**1970:** Cost of a gallon of gas was 36 cents ... Barcodes, emails and floppy disks were invented ... TV shows of the 70's included – *Taxi, Happy Days, Laverne and Shirley* and *Dukes of Hazzard* ... Movie stars of the 70's – Paul Newman, Robert Redford, Clint Eastwood, John Wayne and Al Pacino ... President Richard Nixon resigned.

## David Owen Tryba

ARCHITECT



- Denver architect
- Born and raised in Colorado Springs
- Acted on the FAC's stage and learned to ride a bicycle in the Center's parking lot
- Designed a 48,000-square foot, two-story expansion in 2007
- Cost \$28.4 million dollars
- Wanted to retain the character of the original building
- Completed in 2007

**2007:** Cost of a gallon of gas \$3.38 ... Apple introduced the iPhone ... The final Harry Potter book is published ... Films - *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, Ratatouille, Ocean's Thirteen, Saw IV, The Simpsons Movie* ... Popular musicians – Beyonce, Carrie Underwood, Fergie, Avril Lavigne, Justin Timberlake and Maroon 5. Popular TV shows – *Cold Case, Deal or No Deal, Two and a Half Men, Grey's Anatomy* ... George W. Bush was president.

## Founders of the Fine Arts Center



Elizabeth Sage Hare  
Alice Bemis Taylor  
Julie Penrose  
Spent time together in Santa Fe meeting artists and collecting art.

# THE DESIGN OF THE BUILDING



- Opened in 1936, expanded in 1970, renovated and expanded in 2007
- In 1986, the year of the building's 50th anniversary, the FAC building is placed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Most prominent feature of the 2007 addition is a glass corridor
- Strongly rectangular
- Unites traditional Southwestern design with a style that is inherently modern
- Concrete – mixed with monument and Cripple Creek rhyolite. Poured 11 inches thick
- Aluminum doors and windows – combination of art deco and pueblo revival
- Art studio classrooms, exhibition galleries for special exhibitions and permanent collection, sculpture garden, 400-seat theatre, music room, library, lecture hall
- Light salmon-colored Terrazzo (marble chips set in mortar and polished) framed with strips of black and green Vermont marble – lobby and foyer floors
- Abstract Southwestern motifs in Art Deco style
- Portico – front entrance
- Loggia – balcony
- Pottery motifs in the form of cut-out ornaments over interior doors



# DETAILS NOT TO BE MISSED



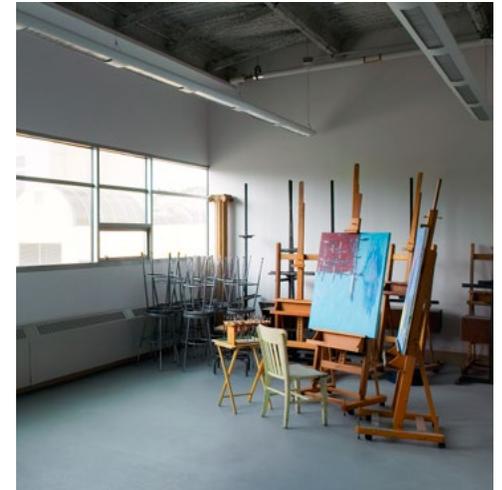
- a.&c. Theatre – German artist Arnold Rönnebeck designed cast bas-relief aluminum friezes over the theatre exit doors. Frontal and profile of kachina masks from Pueblo and Hopi Indian dancers.
- b. Theatre – Chandelier. Los Angeles designer chose a sunflower motif.
- d. Café 36 (Theatre lounge) – Pueblo cloud and rainbow symbol with curved pieces of frosted glass suggested clouds and polished aluminum rods form intersecting rainbows. Abstracted cloud motif above the lights. Ceiling grate has similar cloud motif.
- e. Music Room – Flower, cloud and rain lamp. Flower pod with rain coming down.
- f. Café 36 Balcony – Corn stalk motif on hanging lights. Symbolizes the fruitful bounty of the Southwest. Suspended from a version of the Zia symbol of the sun.



# BEMIS SCHOOL OF ART



- Located north of the Fine Arts Center building
- Built in 1968, designed by Dietz Lutk and John Wallace
- Uses concrete and basic aluminum details, following Meem's design elements from the FAC main building
- Brutalist in style (reinterpretation of Modernism) which developed in the 1950s
- Emphasizes the massive, exposed-concrete forms
- Carved wooden doors by artist Mary Chenoweth in honor of John Wesley Geary, Jr. 1930–1966



# FIND IT!

**Stylized chevrons** – Entrance foyer ventilation grill

**Sun or Zia pattern** – Café 36 balcony cast in the concrete

**Rhythmic pattern** – Café 36 balcony made of aluminum

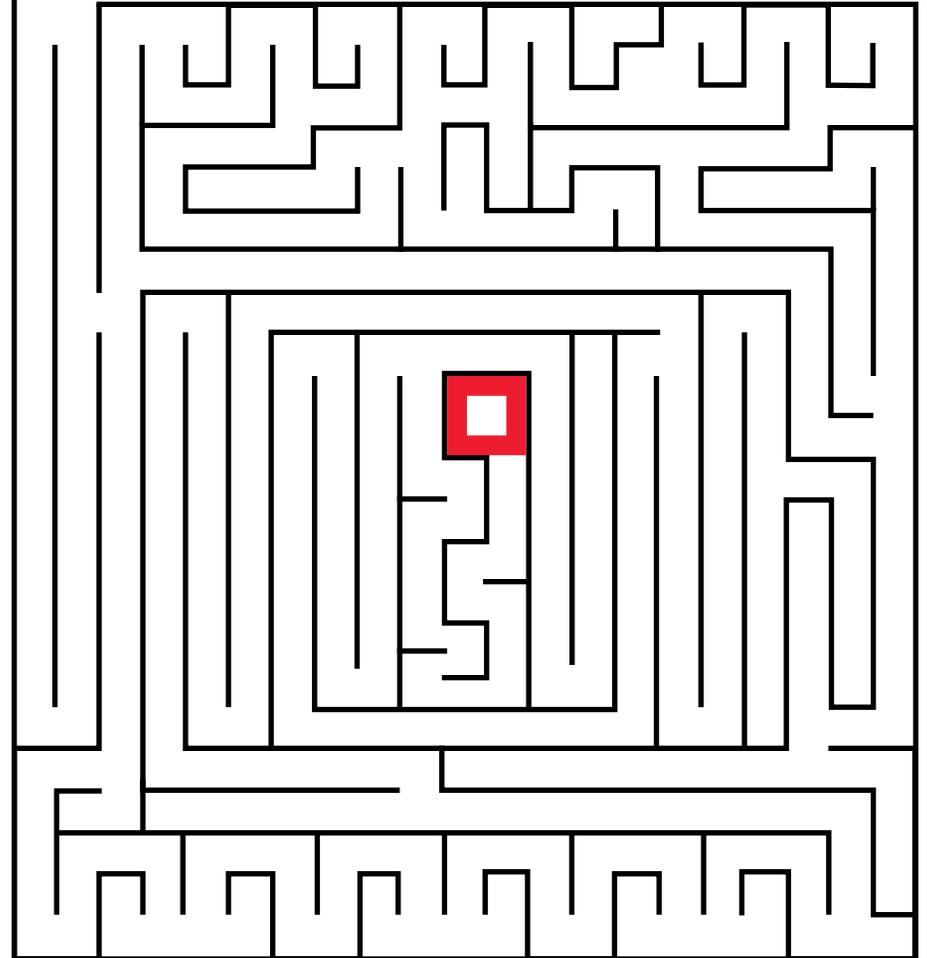
**Treble Clef and a five-line music bar** – Handrails to Music Room

**Musical Notes** – Music Room ventilation grill



# FIND YOUR WAY TO THE RED SQUARE

**Start**



# FIND IT!

Pottery motifs in the form of cut-out ornaments over interior doors.

See how many different symbols you can find!



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# NORTHERN NATIVE AMERICAN SYMBOLS



## **Bear Track**

Meaning:  
Good Omen



## **Big Mountain**

Meaning:  
Abundance



## **Butterfly**

Meaning:  
Everlasting  
Life



## **Cactus Flower**

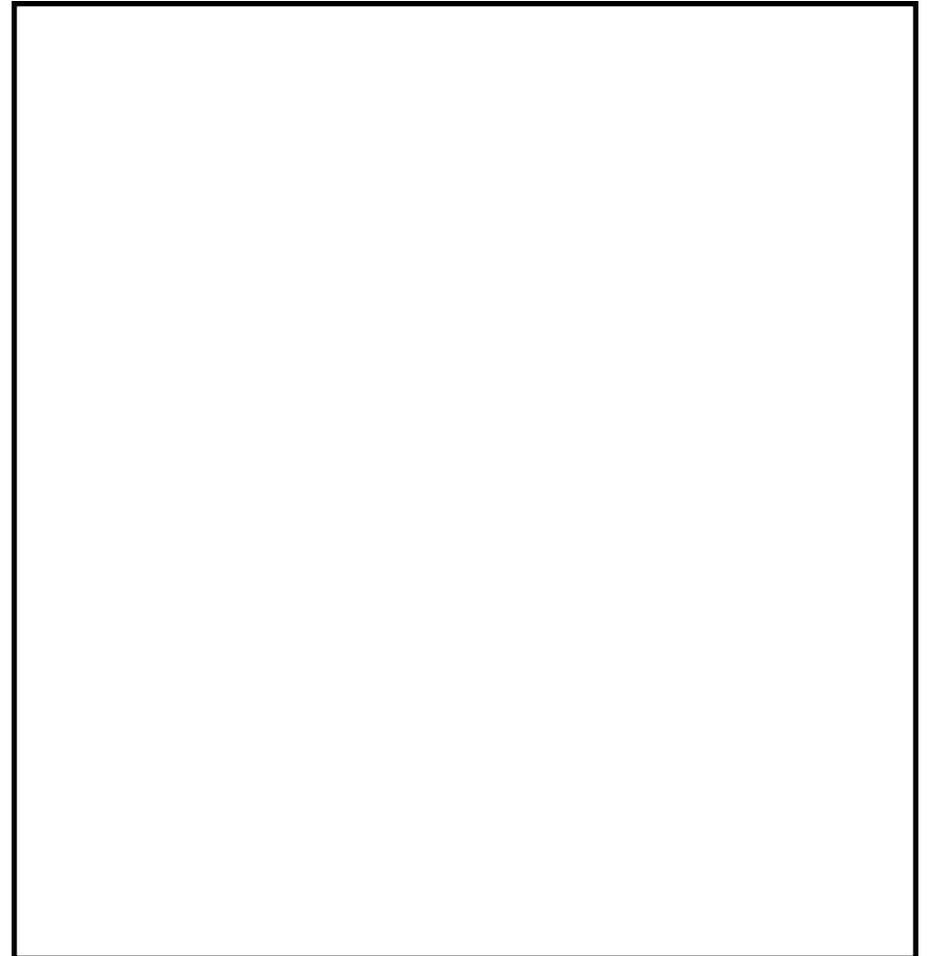
Meaning:  
Courtship



## **Crossed Arrows**

Meaning:  
Friendship

# DESIGN YOUR OWN SYMBOL



# DEFINITIONS

**Art Deco** - an eclectic artistic and design style that began in Paris in the 1920s.

The structure of Art Deco is based on mathematical geometric shapes such as trapezoidal, zigzagged, geometric, and jumbled shapes. Art Deco is characterized by use of materials such as aluminum, stainless steel, lacquer, Bakelite, Chrome, and inlaid wood.

**Pueblo Revival** - a regional architectural style which draws its inspiration from the Pueblos and Spanish missions in New Mexico. Pueblo style architecture imitates the appearance of traditional adobe construction - rounded corners, irregular parapets, and thick walls that are usually covered in stucco and painted in earth tones with flat roofs. Multi-story buildings usually use stepped walling similar to that seen at Taos Pueblo.

**Portico** - a porch leading to the entrance of a building, or extended as a colonnade, with a roof structure over a walkway, supported by columns or enclosed by walls.

**Loggia** - the name given to an architectural feature which is often a gallery or corridor at ground level, sometimes higher, on the facade of a building and open to the air on one side, where it is supported by columns or pierced openings in the wall.

**Terrazzo** - a composite material poured in place or precast, which is used for floor and wall treatments. It consists of marble, quartz, granite, glass or other suitable chips, and poured with a binder. Terrazzo is cured, ground and polished to a smooth surface. Terrazzo artisans create walkways, floors, patios and panels.

**Fresco** - any of several related mural painting types, executed on plaster on walls, ceilings or any other type of flat surface. The earliest known examples of frescoes date at around 1500 BC and are to be found on the island of Crete in Greece.

**Chevron** - an inverted V-shaped pattern. The chevron design is found in early examples of art including pottery and rock carvings.

**Motif** - an element of a pattern or theme. A motif may be repeated in a design or composition, often many times, in a work such as textiles or scrollwork.

# THINGS TO DO

## Museum

Visit the Fine Arts Center's Taylor Museum, founded in 1936 by Alice Bemis Taylor, Elizabeth Sage Hare and Julie Penrose. Home to the FAC Permanent Collection as well as temporary exhibition galleries. The FAC Collection features masterworks by such American artists as Richard Diebenkorn, Georgia O'Keeffe, Walt Kuhn, John Singer Sargent, Dale Chihuly, and artists connected to the Broadmoor Art Academy, as well as one of the strongest collections of Hispanic, Latin American and American Indian art in the nation. Special exhibitions have included the work of such artists as Andy Warhol, Fernando Botero, Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Jackson Pollock, Joan Miró, Pierre Auguste Renoir, and Edgar Degas.

Tour the museum with our school tour program or custom designed tours for adults. Drop-in tours available at 1:00 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday at the Fine Arts Center. Call 719.477.4345 to schedule a tour.

## Theatre

The Fine Arts Center's Performing Arts department oversees programming in the historic SaGāJi Theatre and Music Room, including film festivals, dance, music, lectures as well as the Fine Arts Center Theatre Company's annual season of Broadway musicals, comedies and dramas, like *Hairspray*, *The Full Monty*, *Fuddy Meers*, and *Crazy For You*. The department also offers summer theatre training programs for kids ages 5-18 including the Youth Repertory Theatre, the only professional training program for student actors and technicians in the Pikes Peak Region.

## Art School

The Bemis School of Art continues the 90-year tradition of arts education at the edge of Monument Valley Park. Built upon the foundation of the prestigious Broadmoor Art Academy, established in 1919, Bemis School of Art has inspired and instructed thousands of aspiring artists. Experienced artists and art instructors, large studios and limited class size create a motivational and supportive environment for Bemis classes. The school offers courses for all ages and skill levels, including drawing, watercolor, acrylic and oil painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, mosaics, jewelry making, art history, photography, and drama. New semesters begin each January, June and September; FAC members receive early registration privileges and \$15 off each class. Bemis also offers many outreach programs for at-risk youth, gifted and talented students, educators and school districts.

**Free online architecture games and downloads:**

[www.fupa.com/play/Adventure-free-games/stackopolis\\_v3.html](http://www.fupa.com/play/Adventure-free-games/stackopolis_v3.html)

[www.freeonlinepcgames.net/play-free-online/architecture-flash-games/](http://www.freeonlinepcgames.net/play-free-online/architecture-flash-games/)

**Other games, toys and books:**

Book: *Draw 50 Buildings and other Structures: the step-by-step way to draw castles, cathedrals, skyscrapers and bridges, and so much more...* by Lee J. Ames

*Young Architect* by Slinky Science

*3-D Home Kit: All You Need to Construct a Model of Your Own Home or Addition* by Adventure Publications



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