

CHRIS PETERSON

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Chris Peterson is an accomplished muralist, community arts practitioner, and organizational leader. With a career spanning the nonprofit, public, education, conservation and arts sectors, Chris has developed a multidisciplinary skillset as a community organizer and art activist. He holds a B.F.A. in Fine Art Painting from BYU & Kansas City Art Institute, and graduate studies at the University of Utah earned him an M.P.A. in the Nonprofit Management with emphasis in water policy and nonprofit management, and an M.S. in Environmental Humanities with emphasis on conflict resolution and leadership development.

His recent work includes large scale murals, custom studio paintings and community arts projects that highlight the modern human relationship to nature. His current passion project is the Celebrate Utah Wildlife project, in collaboration with Utah Wildlife Federation, which includes a 10,000 cash prize contest to crowdsource wildlife-inspired creative work, and plans to install 29 local wildlife murals across Utah as community engagement strategies around wildlife habitat connectivity, conservation science education and imagination-based artmaking.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Muralist, Studio Painter & Community Artist Gr8west Murals/Chris Peterson Studio LLC, Holladay UT	1997 – 2001 / 2009 - Present
Director, Sorenson Unity Center Department of Community & Economic Development Salt Lake City Corporation, Salt Lake City UT	2013 – 2016
Co-Founder/Co-Director Great West Institute, Salt Lake City UT	2008 – 2013
Director of Strategy & Outreach Arcadia Educational Partners, Salt Lake City UT	2010 – 2011
International Programs Director Trivani Foundation, Springville UT	2009 - 2010
Fly Fishing Guide All Seasons Adventures, Park City UT	2008 – 2013
Art Education Specialist Beverly Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning Program Dilworth Elementary, Salt Lake City UT	2008 – 2009
Program Director The Murie Center, Moose WY	2007 – 2008
Executive Director Glen Canyon Institute, Salt Lake City UT	2003 - 2005
Wild and Scenic Rivers Campaign Coordinator Utah Rivers Council, Salt Lake City UT	2003
Curator: Utah Environment: Opening a Dialogue Exhibit	2003

Art Access Gallery, Salt Lake City UT	
Development Intern	2001
Hawkwatch International, Salt Lake City UT	
Founder/Director	2001-2004
Great Basin Foundation, Salt Lake City UT	
Learning to Read Coordinator	1994
BYUSA Student Association, Brigham Young University, Provo UT	

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH Salt Lake City, UT

Master of Sciences in Environmental Humanities (2006 - 2008)

Concentration: Leadership Development & Conflict Resolution

Thesis Project: The Next Generation Project: Modern Environmentalism & Grassroots Leadership

Master of Public Administration (2002 – 2005)

Concentration: Environmental Policy & Nonprofit Management

Thesis: The Founding Period Recruitment Pattern: Effective Board Member Recruitment for Emerging Nonprofit Advocacy-Based Organizations

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY Provo, UT

Bachelor of Fine Arts (1993 - 2001) Concentration: Painting

KANSAS CITY ART INSTITUTE Kansas City, MO

Bachelor of Fine Arts transfer (2000) Concentration: Painting

SELECT HONORS, AWARDS, ETC.

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|---|---|
| • 2022/2023 Practitioner-in-Residence | Westminster Honors College |
| • 2015-2016 Board of Directors | Mestizo Institute of Culture and Arts |
| • 2015 Board of Advisors | University of Utah Neighborhood Partners |
| • 2015 Our Town Grantee | National Endowment for the Arts |
| • 2014 E-50 Forum of Enlightened Leaders | Community Foundation of Utah |
| • 2010 – 2015: Board Chair/Vice Chair | Utah Rivers Council |
| • 2011 Certified Change Leader | Utah Division of Arts and Museums |
| • 2009 International Expedition Guide Certification | CHOICE Humanitarian |
| • 2007 Tertulia Graduate Workshop Fellowship | College of Humanities, University of Utah |
| • 2007 Research Fellowship | American West Center, University of Utah |
| • 2006 Research Fellowship | American West Center, University of Utah |
| • 2006 Teaching Assistantship | College of Humanities, University of Utah |
| • 2004 Pi Alpha Alpha (MPA National Honor Society) | University of Utah |
| • 2004 Red Rock Institute Graduate | American West Center |
| • 2004 G. Homer Durham Scholarship | University of Utah |
| • 2003 Floyd O'Neil Scholarship & Dean's List | University of Utah |

- 2000 Merit Scholarship
- 2000 Dean's List

Kansas City Art Institute
Kansas City Art Institute

PRESENTATIONS & ARTICLES

Article. Utah STEM Magazine. 2022 "Are You Left-Brained or Right-Brained? Wrong!" Published by Utah STEM Action Center

Editor. 84104 Asset Map, 2014. published by Salt Lake City Corporation & University Neighborhood Partners

Article. Plateau Magazine. The Land and People of the Colorado Plateau. Summer, 2007 Volume 4 Number 1 Museum of Northern Arizona "St. George Utah" a vignette highlighting the proposed Lake Powell Pipeline p. 32

Article. New West: Mulholland's Dream in Utah's Dixie, The New West Online April 28, 2006

Presenter. "The Campaign to Restore Glen Canyon". Mountain Film Festival, Telluride, CO, May 2005.

Presenter. "Restoration Visualization Technology". River Network's National River Rally 2005. Keystone, CO, May 2005.

Presenter. "The Founding Period Recruitment Pattern: Effective Board Member Recruitment for Emerging Nonprofit Advocacy-Based Organizations". National Conference for the National Association of Schools of Public Policy and Administration. Indianapolis, Indiana, October 2004

EXHIBITIONS, MURALS, COMMISSIONS & COMMUNITY PROJECTS

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 "Recent Work", Sundance Art Center, Sundance, UT
- 2010 "Retrospective", Baxter's Gallery, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2009 "Wild Mind", Carolyn Tanner Irish Humanities Gallery, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2009 "Art for Kids Sake", Sorenson Unity Center Gallery, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2005 "Landscapes of the New West", Bit 'n' Spur Gallery, Springdale, UT
- 2002 "Human Nature", BFA Final Show, Brimhall Gallery, Provo, UT
- 1999 "The Grand Tour", Atrium Gallery, Salt Lake City, UT
- "Desert Paintings", Bit 'n' Spur Gallery, Springdale, UT
- "Spring: 1999", Don Brady Gallery, Salt Lake City, UT
- "Wild Country", Flat Rabbet Gallery, Park City, UT
- "Portraits", Brimhall Gallery, Provo, UT
- "Twelve Paintings", Sundance Rehearsal Hall, UT
- 1998 "Desert Landscapes in 4-D" Canal Jean Co. Gallery, New York City, NY

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 "2023 Artist Showcase" Celebration of Fine Art Online Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ

- 2019 "Decisions Downstream" [Museum of Natural History of Utah](#), Salt Lake City, UT
- 2015 "2nd Annual Alfred Lambourne Prize Group Show. [Eccles Gallery](#), SLCC, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2011 "Chain Letter", [Shoshona Wayne Gallery](#), Santa Monica, CA
- 2003 "Utah Environment: Opening a Dialogue" (Curator & Artist) [Art Access Gallery](#), Salt Lake City, UT
- 2001 "BFA Exhibition" [Harris Fine Arts Center](#), Provo, UT
 "BFA Senior Show" , [Gallery 303](#), Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
- 2000 "Works on Paper" [Gallery 303](#), Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
 "Winter Student Show" [Epperson House Gallery](#), Kansas City, MO
 "The Accreditor's Show", [Kansas City Art Institute](#), Kansas City, MO
 "Locals" [Sage Art Gallery](#), Springdale, UT
 "Spring Salon 2000", [Springville Art Museum](#), Springville, UT
- 1999 "Spring Salon 1999", [Springville Art Museum](#), Springville, UT
- 1998 "Spring Salon 1998", [Springville Art Museum](#), Springville, UT
 "Young Contemporaries", [Sundance Rehearsal Hall](#), Sundance , UT
 "Landscapes", [Flat Rabbet Gallery](#), Park City, UT
- 1997 "Desert Detritus", [Left Bank Gallery](#), Salt Lake City, UT
 "Winter Student Show", [B.F. Larsen Gallery](#), BYU, Provo, UT
 "Artist's Showcase", [Left Bank Gallery](#), Salt Lake City, UT

REPRESENTATION

- 2022 Celebration of Fine Art Online Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
- 2018-2020 Robert Kelly Home Gallery, Park City, UT
- 1998-2000 Flat Rabbet Gallery, Park City, UT
- 1997-1998 Left Bank Gallery, Salt Lake City, UT

MURALS & COMMISSIONS

- 2023 [You Are Here Westminster mural](#) (10'x4') commission by *Westminster Honors College*, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2022 [The Bonnie Wall mural](#) (120'x17') commission by *the Neighborhood Hive*, Salt Lake City, UT
[Sweet Hazel mural](#) (34'x15') commission by *Sweet Hazel Bakery*, Midvale, UT
[Mexican Peacock triptych](#) (90"x 48") private commission, UT
[Leatherback Turtle mural](#) (19'x10') commissioned by *Hip & Humble*, Fort Lauderdale Airport, FL
[Roctaco Restaurant exterior mural](#) (65'x20') commission by *Roctaco*, St. George, UT
[Roctaco Restaurant interior mural](#) (55'x10') commission by *Roctaco*, St. George, UT
[Ines Swiss Cow mural](#) (18'x6') private commission, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2021 [Titans of STEM mural](#) (105'x10') commission by *Utah STEM Action Center*, South SLC, UT
[Sugarhouse Peacocks](#) (100'x24') commission by the *Sugarhouse Community Council & Cameron Wellness Center*, Salt Lake City, UT
[Salmon River Fish Bus project](#) (3 full-sized school busses) commission by *Sawtooth Adventure Company*, Stanley, ID
[Anatomical Drawings mural](#) (55'x9) commission by *Registered Physical Therapists*, Sandy, UT
[Queen Ursa Mama Bear mural](#) (25'x14') commission by *Visit Salt Lake*, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2020 [Roctaco Restaurant interior mural](#) (65'x20') commission by *Roctaco*, Salt Lake City, UT
[Frogwater mural](#) (140'x17') commission by *South Salt Lake City Arts Council for Muralfest*, South SLC, UT

- Rock'n'Roll Brown Trout mural (18'x8') commission by *Fishheads Fly Shop*, Heber, UT
Fisher Brewing Patio mural (35'x13') group mural project led by Josh Sheurmann, with Dave Doman, Trent Call, Chuck Landvatter, Gailon Justus, Mike Murdock, Skyler Chubak, commission by Fisher Brewery, Salt Lake City, UT
 2019 Middle Provo River Map mural (20'x8) commission by *Fishheads Fly Shop*, Heber, UT
Edison & Broadway mural (100'x8') commission by *the BlocksSLC/Downtown Alliance*, Salt Lake City, UT
Olympus and Twin Peaks mural (20'x6') commission by *Central Wasatch Commission*, Salt Lake City, UT
 2018 Space Trout mural: Utopia Mural Project (65'x25') private commission, South SLC, UT
Wasatch Crown mural (96'x17') commission by *Medvantage*, South SLC, UT
 2018 Deathstar Griz & Trout Space mural: Utopia Mural Project (40'x9') private commission, South SLC, UT
 2017 Don't Miss Utopia mural: Utopia Mural Project (115'x13') private commission, South SLC, UT
SLC Bikeways mural (50'x15') commission by *Crank SLC*, Salt Lake City, UT
 2016 Last American Jaguar mural (45'x18') private commission, Salt Lake City, UT
Ferruginous Hawk mural (25'x10') private commission, Salt Lake City, UT
Black Jaguar mural, (24'x24') private commission, Salt Lake City, UT
 2014 Mamas Pistola mural (18'x9') commission by *Mama's Café*, Provo, UT
 2013 Golden Eagle mural, (90'x15') commission by *Hawkwatch International*, Salt Lake City, UT
Wolf Forest mural (15'x16') private commission, Salt Lake City, UT
 2012 You Are Here Westside mural at Sorenson Campus, commission by *Sorenson Unity Center*, Salt Lake City, UT
 2011 Rare Birds Exhibit custom signage, commission by *Tracy Aviary*, Salt Lake City, UT

COMMUNITY ARTS & CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION PROJECTS

- 2023 The Celebrate Utah Wildlife project-aka Utah Wildlife Walls: Designed grassroots arts, science and engagement initiative to celebrate Utah's wildlife, document our state's animal diversity and heritage, and install monumental murals in each of Utah's 29 counties. Also includes a \$10,000 cash prize wildlife-inspired contest, community engagement events with the installation of each mural, and a traveling exhibit to each county containing work generated during the contest. In collaboration with Brett Prettyman and in partnership with *Utah Wildlife Federation, Utah Stem Action Center, Museum of Natural History of Utah*
Westminster Honors Practitioner Residency: a place-making design collaboration with *Westminster Honors College* students, Salt Lake City, UT
 2022-2023 Cutout Trout Trail: a collaborative project involving local Girl Scouts, *Dilworth Elementary School* students, and Bonnie Ball attendees. Installed in *the Neighborhood Hive*, Salt Lake City, UT
The Bonnie Ball Street Festival: public engagement event with 400+ attendees to celebrate Bonneville cutthroat trout; pilot project for the Utah Wildlife Walls, in partnership with *Utah Wildlife Federation & Utah Division of Arts and Museums. Neighborhood Hive*, Salt Lake City, UT
 2019 Edison & Broadway Snowflakes: Community-engaged mural process (25'x8') as part of commission by *the BlocksSLC/Downtown Alliance*, Salt Lake City, UT
 2015 The Road Home Homeless Shelter Mural Project (450'x 8') (As project manager/collaborator/artist) Collaboration with NVS Crew, Pat Bagley, Sarah Kappos, *Salt Lake City Parks Department, the Road Home*, and local homeless community. Salt Lake City, UT
Sugarspace Mural Project (100'x6') (project manager/collaborator/artist) community collaboration

- with *Glendale Middle School* students, Huno Pelavacas, Angel, Luis Novoa and Miguel Arellano. *Sugar Space Artspace*, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2014 Grow West Garden Fest at Sorenson Unity: community event in partnership with *Wasatch Community Gardens* and in collaboration with Van Hoover.
- 7th Annual Community Fair & Get into the River Event at Sorenson Unity. Creative site activation event at Three Creeks Confluence in collaboration with Angela Romera in partnership with *Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation, Salt Lake City Parks and Public Lands Division*, and the *Jordan River Commission*.
- G-Fresh Youth Garden Program at Sorenson Unity. youth program combining entrepreneurial skills and managing an income garden with partners *Sustainable Startups* and *Green Urban Lunchbox*.
- Jordan River Youth Ambassadors at Sorenson Unity. Designed and implemented youth program for the creation of a youth-designed Jordan River recreation map, in collaboration with Van Hoover and Gilberto Rejon and in partnership with *Salt Lake City Division of Youth and Family Services*.
- Idea Factory Youth Entrepreneurship program at Sorenson Unity. Designed and implemented 12-week program in collaboration with Ian Shelledy and in partnership with *Sustainable Startups*, and *Salt Lake City Division of Youth and Family Services*.
- World Dance Project Youth Dance Program at Sorenson Unity Black Box Theater. Designed and oversaw youth dance program in partnership with Maliolole & Repertory Dance Theater.
- Harmony Hub community music studio at Sorenson Unity. Collaborated with the Hana Janatova and the *Mundi Project* to bring afterschool youth music programming to SLC's westside.
- 2014-2016 Our SLC: an NEA Our Town project designed and managed a program to activate key nodes of the West Salt Lake Master Plan through community arts projects (project architect/project manager), In partnership with *Salt Lake City Arts Council*. Salt Lake City, UT
- 2013 Raptor Mural Project: a wildlife education & community mural project (25'x6') with *Fairmont Boys and Girls Club* and *Hawkwatch International*, S-Line corridor @ 900 E., Salt Lake City, UT
- 2012 Westside Placemaking Process & mural(100'x30'): Facilitated community design process with Computer Clubhouse Afterschool Program at *Sorenson Unity Center*, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2011 Measure Up Live-sized Bird Cutouts for installation in *Tracy Aviary ArtPark*, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2010 Tracy Aviary Mural Fence Project: facilitated public participating in painting birds on a 140' construction fence at *Tracy Aviary*, with Sarah Kappos.
- Kravanh Children's Mural Project: facilitated mural project(10'x10') with students at *Kravanh Bright Future's Center*, Kravanh, Cambodia
- 2009 The State Street Mural Project: Designed and facilitated a community mural project at *Baxter's Cafe* with Tony Poulsen, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2009 Moab Teen Center Mural Project: facilitated youth collaborative mural(15'x9') in *Moab Community Center*, Moab, UT
- 2009 Ugandan Orphan's Mural Project: facilitated mural project (150'x10') *Asayo's Wish Orphanage*, Kaberamaido, Uganda
- 2008-2015 The ArtParks Project: Founder and practitioner of a grassroots community arts project focused upon art-based community engagement for kids and iterative grassroots urban park design with projects at Tracy Aviary, Wasatch Hollow Open Space, and Sorenson Unity Center, 9-Line Pump Track, Jordan Park Oxbow, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2006-2009 The Next Generation Project: Design and manage a story-telling based leadership development project of the *Murie Center* and *Great West Institute*, in collaboration with Brooke Williams, Terry Tempest Williams, and Laura Simms. Moose, WY
- 2003 "Utah Environment: Opening a Dialogue" Design & curate of group show including 25 Utah artists, Art Access Gallery, Salt Lake City,