

THE OPEN RANGE



ART RODEO

Putting an original spin on the art show, the Western Art Rodeo Association was founded as an organizing league of the world's premier art rodeo circuit. Freeing art from being confined to museums, the sport of art rodeo allows it to take the stage during competitions with live judging, cash prizes, and audience participation.

Artists from around the world submit their best in watercolor, oil painting, drawing, carving, sculpture, and photography to be evaluated on such criteria as creativity, skill, execution, and authenticity in front of a live audience. During the action-packed competition, the judges are given one minute to study each piece as it takes center stage, after which time they post its score. Keeping the event lively, an announcer introduces each artist and work then calls out the score, to which the crowd responds with cheers or boos.

Just as in the traditional rodeo circuit, winners of each art rodeo held throughout the year are awarded cash prizes, and their earnings determine the number of points for that event. At the season's end, contenders with the most accumulated points will qualify to compete for the world title at the National Finals Western Art Rodeo.

Get in on the action and experience the sport for yourself at the upcoming Fall Shootout, being held November 3–5 in Heber City, Utah, during the 17th annual Cowboy Poetry Gathering and Buckaroo Fair.

FYI: www.westernartrodeoassociation.com.

—Margaret Henderson