

Welcome



Fire It Up! Art Welding

with Connie B Burkhart and David Kadlec

G25070306

July 20-26, 2025

Get ready! Get set! Get fired up for your fun-filled class of creativity, sparks, and the enticing smell of burning metal.

WHAT WE PROVIDE & WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING ~ We have all the tools you need and we delight in helping you safely and efficiently cut, form, and work metal. For your supply needs the only item we ask you to bring is a pair of your own snug-fitting leather 'deerskin weight' wrist-length work gloves. This is important and helps with dexterity in most areas of your work. Check out gloves at a home improvement box store or online shopping option to help keep the cost down. We do provide large, heavy welding gloves for your bigger spark-throwing activities as well as your eye and ear protectors, aprons, Oxy/acetylene and MIG and stick welders, plasma cutters, power grinders, scrap metals, tools, and personal work stations.

Some folks like to bring their own metal treasures to incorporate in a project or share with the class, but it is not a necessity. We ALWAYS accept metal donations to our 'treasure pile' if you bring some scrap and want to leave something behind for the next 'welding bug bitten' victim that's great. Speaking of bugs, every year is different, but it's good to bring some bug repellent as swatting a mosquito while holding a lit torch does not usually turn out well for the insect, you, or the welder next to you. Also, remember that you will take home what you design and build, so it has to fit in the overhead bin, under the seat, in the bed of the truck, or on top of your vehicle. Create responsibly.

WHAT TO WEAR ~ For our class, dress in layers using a cotton long-sleeved cotton shirt to put over your T-shirt when needed, and always wear long pants and closed-toed leather shoes. Bring clothes you won't mind getting dirty or burning small holes in. Also helpful is a bandana to protect your hair and hold your goggles on your head when not in use. People always admire our outfits at every meal!

CLASSROOM LOCATION ~ We are excited to announce that our 2025 studio space for our sessions will be located in our new welding studio location behind the old barn on the camp-ground side of the ranch. We are thrilled about finally having this permanent space since losing our pole barn in the flash flood of 2015. We have been working hard preparing the new 'digs' and our first classes will be held there starting in July 2025. This amazing new space allows us to be as loud and obnoxious as only welders can be and it is located right next to the Service Corps building which will allow for some great interactions.

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SCHEDULE ~ When you arrive at Ghost Ranch on Sunday afternoon check in at the Welcome Center first. Dinner is from 5:30 - 6:30 and then we will gather at 6:45pm for general ranch orientation and first class meeting. We will not weld the day you arrive, but we will briefly discuss what to expect for the coming day when we 'Fire It Up!' We work from 9 a.m. to 5p.m. Monday through Thursday with a break from noon to 1:30pm for rest and lunch. Friday we work from 9 a.m. to just after lunch to finish up our pieces and clean up the workstations. After the area is cleaned on Friday afternoon, as a group we will transport and set up our creations for the after-dinner Friday Art Show. This show is an anticipated event for the culmination of the week's work. Please plan on taking your creations with you after the art show on Friday evening, that is unless you sell your piece to an admirer!

We anxiously await your arrival at the ranch and look forward to continuing the 'wretched welder' legacy! (We will share that story during class) Travel Safely and get ready for a great experience surrounded by the incredible inspiring beauty of Ghost Ranch.

Take Care, and please feel free to contact us with any additional information you may need regarding Fire it Up! Art Welding.

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