

# Welcome



## Creativity Connection and Joy: A Restorative Retreat For Service Members & Their Families G26020201

with Michelle Holdt  
February 12-February 15, 2026

Hello and Welcome to Creativity, Connection, and Joy ~

My name is Michelle Holdt and I can't wait to share this weekend retreat with you. I am an arts educator and artist from Albuquerque, NM and I'm known as a Love Advocate because I stand for LOVE in the world and have a giant AMOR sign on the roof of my carport and Love posters all over my house. You can read more about me at [www.creativecompassionate.com](http://www.creativecompassionate.com)

I teach book making, writing, collage, mindfulness, and restorative practices in Albuquerque and Santa and am so honored to be teaching at Ghost Ranch and I look forward to sharing some really engaging and fun experiences in these subjects with you during our time together. Get ready for a weekend full of varied experiences.

In terms of art supplies we will provide almost everything but if you could bring some fun paper scraps: Please collect random "fun paper" around your house, wrapping paper, magazines, newspapers, fun pattern paper, old notes and birthday cards, photos, receipts, kids artwork, really anything – but especially look for PATTERNS and COLORS and WORDS that catch your eye. Just gather a small pile/collection.... I will also bring LOTS of this paper to share, so if you don't have any at home no worries!!!

It will be COLD weather so please bring warm comfortable clothes. If you have any questions you may contact me.  
[mholdt@yahoo.com](mailto:mholdt@yahoo.com) or 415-420-8668

We'll have a fun unique weekend together and you will have down time to just hang with friends or family, too. Ghost Ranch is a place where magic happens and memories last a lifetime.....Thanks!

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Meals...

Breakfast 7:30 to 8:30 AM

Lunch 12:00 to 1:00 PM

Dinner 5:30 to 6:30 PM

Thursday Evening:

Check in begins 3:00 PM

Dinner in Dining Hall 5:30-6:30 PM

Ghost Ranch Orientation in Dining Hall 6:45

Welcome and Community Building 7:15-8:30 PM

Friday AM:

Opening Circle and Journal Making 8:45 AM to 11:45 AM

Friday Afternoon: Art Making 1:30-4:30

Friday Evening:

Writing Time 6:45-8:15 PM

Saturday AM:

Mindfulness and Making 8:45 AM to 11:45 AM

Saturday Afternoon: Art Making and Circle 1:30-4:30 PM

Possible Saturday Evening Activity Offered at Ghost Ranch (i.e. movie, outdoor activity, etc)

Sunday AM:

Pack out of rooms by 10 AM and then...Intention Setting and Closing 10-12