AVA’s Carter-Kelsey Building is named in recognition of its past as the H.W. Carter overall factory, as well as to honor the main benefactors who made possible the 2006-2007 renovation: Virginia and Preston Kelsey.
In addition to regularly scheduled classes, AVA offers a variety of low-cost community programs for a range of ages and abilities.

These enriching offerings are only partially funded through tuition or registration fees, so AVA relies on contributions from members and private foundations to raise the necessary funds to continue the creative and all-inclusive programming.
**Art Lab**, supported in part by a grant from the Highfield Foundation, is the imaginative program for adults with special needs.
ART STOP! is a free after school program that encourages youths in grades 5-8 to take inspiration from AVA’s ongoing exhibitions to create their own drawings, paintings and sculptures. ART STOP! is made possible thanks to a generous grant from the Couch Family Foundation.
CAOS (Community Arts Open Studio) is a favorite family drop-in program that takes place on most Saturdays throughout the school year. CAOS is supported in part by a grant from the Highfield Foundation.
CAOS for Toddlers (CAT) is a weekly program on Friday mornings for children aged 1-4 years old. CAT is made possible in part thanks to a grant from The Pauline Davenport Children’s Fund of the Vermont Community Foundation and the Highfield Foundation.
Arts for Kids is an art program where children with chronic medical conditions make art with medical students from the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College. **Art for Kids** is made possible thanks to support from The Brie Fund, in memory of Brieanna Weinstein.
AVA’s **Senior Art Class** is offered in partnership with the Grafton County Senior Citizens Center. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Couch Family Foundation.
During the summer, AVA offers a free, weekly plein air studio at the Lebanon Farmers Market.
AVA provides internships for dedicated and capable high school and college students. Interns gain skills within the art world while making an essential contribution to the work AVA does in the community. Interns help in multiple ways with AVA’s education, exhibition, and community arts programs.
AVA offers educational programs in a variety of media for a range of ages and abilities.

AVA’s classes, camps and workshops are held in the seven, beautiful, teaching studios.
AVA’s Teaching Studios Include:

The Children’s Studio, given by the Schleicher Family and The Children’s Loft, given by John and Gail Wasson

The Stone Carving Studio, given by Liz and Tom Kelsey in honor of Virginia Kelsey

The Digital Arts Media Lab, made possible by in-kind contributions from Mascoma Savings Bank, Defiance Electric & Crossover, Inc, and Woodstock Soapstone Company

The Johnson Sisters Lounge and Library, given by Linda Johnson Roesch and Rick Roesch

The South Studio

The North Studio

The Printmaking Studio, given in part by the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and Bill and Betsy Peabody
AVA’s galleries promote the visual arts through exhibitions that support and challenge New England artists.

The exhibitions also offer educational opportunities for artists and the local community.
Exhibition Spaces Include:

The Rebecca Lawrence Gallery Entry, given by Jane Kitchel and Peter McLaughlin

The Clifford B. West Gallery, given by Linda and Rick Roesch

The E.N. Wennberg Gallery, given by the Wennberg Family

The Elizabeth Rowland Mayor Gallery

The Johnson Sisters Lounge and Library, given by Linda Johnson Roesch and Rick Roesch

Kira’s Garden, given by Ben Schore, in memory of his wife, sculptor Kira Fournier Schore
AVA’s Carter-Kelsey building is home to 20 beautiful artist studios that feature high ceilings, hardwood floors, natural light and an enthusiastic community of resident artists – all in a LEED Gold certified “green” building.

Additional named spaces in the building include:

**The West Entrance**, given by Closey and Whit Dickey

**The East Entrance**, given by the Timken Foundation

**The Elevator**, given in part by New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and by the Lyme Foundation
In November 2008, AVA received LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification for the renovation of 11 Bank Street—at that time only the sixth building in New Hampshire with this designation.

AVA strives to use local products whenever possible and to provide an energy-efficient, safe and healthy environment for all who come into our building.
The official LEED Gold plaque can be seen by the main entrance to the Carter-Kelsey Building.
AVA offers a virtual tour of the LEED Gold-certified “green” building renovation as an iPhone app. The app features audio, animation and a walk-through of AVA’s Carter-Kelsey building, describing the eco-friendly aspects of the 2006-2007 renovation.
In January 2011, 100 LED lamps were installed in AVA’s gallery spaces. The 17 watt LED lamps have a lifetime of 45,000 hours versus the 2,500 hour lifetime of the 100 watt halogen lamps that they replaced. The lights were given by National Grid, Greg and Betsy Banks, Defiance Electric & Crossover, Inc, and Woodstock Soapstone Company.
AVA’s Green Roof, given by Gail and John Wasson.
The Historical Display Area, located in AVA’s spacious main lobby, features the exterior wall of an old warehouse that came to light during the renovation. The plaque was unveiled by two very special friends of AVA: Jose Braden (middle) and Eugene Dauphinais (right). The display area was named in honor of the Lane and Elizabeth C. Dwinell Charitable Trust.
In spring 2014, the floors in AVA’s galleries, lobby and Children’s Studio were refinished with a new kind of wood finish—PolyWhey—that meets high-performance as well as environmental standards.
AVA’s Donor Wall features 526 plaques, listing the names of all the individuals, businesses and foundations that made AVA’s $4.5 million capital campaign succeed, including the names of 188 artists who created artworks to benefit the campaign.
AVA’s plans for the future include a new building for 3-dimensional studies, to be constructed on our recently acquired property behind the parking lot on the north side of our Carter-Kelsey Building.

Construction of the new building will begin fall 2015; completion is scheduled for spring 2016. It will be constructed to meet LEED requirements.
In fall 2016, the current Stone Carving Studio will moved from AVA’s Carter-Kelsey Building to the new 3-D facility. The former Stone Carving Studio will then be transformed into an additional exhibition space for a Members Gallery; this gallery will expand opportunities for sales and promotion of works by the many talented artists who are members of our organization.

A $3.5 million capital campaign is underway to realize these plans. This campaign also includes initiatives that will make our facilities carbon neutral by 2017 (including the installation of solar panels). In addition, it will help eradicate the mortgage on the Carter-Kelsey Building and make possible the establishment of a reserve fund to position AVA for a vibrant future.
Painting of the *Yellow House* by Corky Wennberg. This painting will be auctioned off and we encourage the buyer(s) to donate it back to AVA so that it may be displayed in the new building for 3-dimensional studies, which will be constructed on the land where the Yellow House currently is located.
This property was acquired mortgage-free on September 16, 2013 thanks to generous donations from loyal AVA supporters.
Capital Campaign poster created for AVA by artist David Macaulay.
Join us in the opportunity to help AVA branch out and deepen its roots!