

Gail Sellers, Greg Lafave, Tammy Marie Peltier, & Barbara St Pierre

Window Exhibit – From Russell Field to Las Vegas

Each storefront window at the Mausert Block represents the journey of Susan Hakes. That journey, celebrating her 60+ year career in the dance business is part of a special event at the Adams Theater on October 7, 2023. She founded the Brookfield School of Dance in 1962, The Studio in 1972, and the Berkshire Dance Theater in 1982. She taught dance to more than 30,000 students ages 3 to 80 in Massachusetts, Vermont, New York, and now in Nevada.

The north storefront of a mannequin represents Susan's beginning with photos and history of **Russel Field**. The middle window "**Time in a Bottle**" production was produced in 1992. This window shows costume designs created for the Renaissance scene. The third window "**9-5**" was produced in 1997. This third window represents the travel scene. The costumes were designed and created for the "I go to Rio" scene.

Artists

Gail Kolis Sellers, is an Adams native. She Graduated from the Kansas City Art Institute and with her husband founded River Hill Pottery. She taught art for 30 years in an Ohio middle school working on curriculum and project development in the arts for both children and adults. In 2008 they moved back to the area and became involved with community art, starting Art About Town and painting crosswalks. Founder with others of Adams Arts Advisory Board and the Berkshire Mountains Faerie Festival, always working to support and bring arts to our community.

Greg Lafave is the owner of a privately owned "Collection of Greg Lafave", a large collection of women's and men's antique clothing. With props. and over 60 mannequins, the clothing ranging from the 1850's through the 1960's. He has been doing installations since 2018, most recently at the Berkshire Museum in North Adams MA. Greg's previous display work at the Park-McCullough House Museum in North Bennington showcased the Museum's clothing collection as well as a woman's suffrage garden party at the museum in 2021. He has also contributed to an installation done by Carl Sprague at the Mount in Lenox MA. Edith Wharton's "Fruit of the tree" a 1907 book about factory life in the Berkshires. Also an installation at the Norman Rockwell Museum in 2017 a "Glam Gala -Ephemeral Beauty", celebrating the writings of Al Parker and the American Women's Magazine 1940-1960

Tammy Marie Peltier Berkshire County native and resident of Adams. 35 years as a creative Hairstylist. With a love for Performance and Fine Arts. Imagination and creativity in beauty helped bring these windows to life.

Barbara St Pierre, a native of Adams. ACOA Director and Town meeting member for years. A lifelong friend of Susan Hakes. Barbara has three children who danced with Berkshire Dance Theatre where she began volunteering backstage with the costumes, dancers and amazing families. Barbara continued to volunteer with Berkshire Dance Theatre after her children moved on from dance.

The Russell Fields backdrop was by Bill Riley, and Russell Fields photographs by Robert Norcross.