

FAQ – Pay What You Can

2023 is Crossroads Carnegie Art Center celebrates its 60th anniversary serving rural Baker County Oregon. Through the aid of grants and our Hand to Heart Scholarship Fund, this year we are offering a new payment structure for Adults and Children “Pay What You Can!” This allows you to choose the amount you can afford pay when you buy a class.

When you pay there are three levels of payment for all classes:

- “Full-Tuition” (membership and non-membership),
- ” Half-Tuition” (membership and non-membership),
- “Pay What You Can!” where you type in the amount you can pay.

Why? Through this program we hope to discover what is the barrier for Baker County residents for not participating in our diverse set of classes. Is the cost of classes the major factor for low enrollment?

For years, we have had the Hand to Heart Scholarship Fund for children and adults. The process was simple, confidential, and low-key as to not cause embarrassment. Yet in the last couple of years the request for scholarships has been in decline. Again why?

Our classes are not expensive compared to art classes in other cities and areas and we try to keep our costs low. We believe our classes provide our students with immeasurable value: knowledge, confidence, skills, enjoyment and often a finished item.

Common Questions you might have:

What is the difference between member and nonmember rate? Members receive a 33% discount on the costs of classes. Your membership provides critical general operating support of Crossroads.

What about supply Fees or special equipment? Over the last few years, Crossroads now supplies some basic supplies for some of our classes for guests to try the class before making a financial commitment to supplies. Yet, art making does require supplies for some classes. Same for Ballet or Tap Shoes or Ballet leotard and tights. The Pay What You Can Model you **PAY** for your class supplies/equipment as those are yours to take home.

How Do I choose which level?

Pay What You Can allows you in the privacy of your own home to decide what your family and budget can afford even if at that moment you can't pay anything. Look at the value of the class, what you or your student will learn, make new friends and engage in a new experience.

Remember: Crossroads will still pay teachers at their normal rate of pay regardless of which level you choose. We also incur our usual expenses, which are rising through inflation, like all other expenses. The grants supporting this assure that Crossroads is financially stable for this year as we see the response to Pay What You Can.

Is there a **limit** to the number of times or how often can I use **Pay What You Can**? No! If you or student is enjoying classes, please pay at the level your budget allows.

Will I still have to fill out a Scholarship form? No, but you still need to fill out a Participation Form

Do I have to be a member to take advantage of this program? No. But in 2023 we are offering a Student Membership that is \$3.00 for the year and our Family Membership is only \$60 for a year. This pays the employees to manage the center and to set up your classes.

How long will this program last? This program will tentatively last through the end of the year.

What if I do not like to class? What happens if I miss a class? If you sign up for a class and after the first class decide that you do not like it, please contact the Crossroads staff at 541-523-5369. If you are ill or cannot attend a class, please contact the staff prior to the beginning of the class. If you do not attend, we will contact you to seek the reason for your absence. Remember many of our classes have Minimum and Maximum Enrollment levels. Your attendance may be the reason the class occurs or can limit the attendance of someone on the waiting list. So PLEASE regardless of what level you pay -contact Staff for any absence.

Do I get a reminder call? Crossroads calls or leave messages about your upcoming class.

What if a class fills up but I am still interested in taking it? Staff keeps a waiting list for classes. Please contact a staff member at 541-523-5369 to place your name on the list. We will follow up with you when we are able to schedule the class again.

So, will teachers still get paid? Yes, absolutely!

Are you still accepting contributions to the H2H fund? If we expend all grant funds this year for the program the Hand to Heart Scholarship fund stands ready to fill the need. If the Pay What You Can model is successful, our scholarship fund will help fund this tuition aid program. Please give generously when you can.

Can I enroll friends in a class or my kid's friends? Parents must enroll their children and complete the participation sheets.

How do I know about your classes? Crossroads mails our quarterly class schedule to **EVERY MAILBOX IN BAKER COUNTY**. It is then sent home to all K-6 or K-8 students in Baker 5J School District each quarter and we provide a Spanish Translated Version. We also place the flyer at numerous popular organizations such as the Library and the YMCA. All classes are posted on our website and our Facebook and Instagram page. We send class reminders to the Baker City Herald, and they list our classes in the Go Magazine weekly which can be picked up for free at numerous locations including Crossroads. You can stop at Crossroads and pickup a class schedule. New classes added after publication are posted on our Website, Facebook and Instagram pages.

How do I register for a class? Go to www.crossroads-arts.org and look for our classes. Find the class you like and add it to your cart. In the top right corner, you need to log on to your account or start an account with Crossroads. It is critical that you do all the steps. If you don't give a phone number or email address, we have no way of doing a reminder call. When you set up your account you can then move to the cart and when you can select which payment option you wish. If you are not "tech savvy" you can call or stop by Crossroads to register for classes including the Pay What You Can payment option.

I currently take classes under a Scholarship does that change? Yes slightly. You are now in control. Register for the class online or at the Art Center and if you were paying a portion of your scholarship continue to do so using the Pay What You Can option. If you receive a 100% Scholarship, please register online or in person so that we can track attendance and usage of this fund for grant purpose and to assure your teacher gets paid.

