William Henry Jackson - Starting as photographer for the U. S. Geological Survey and Union Pacific Railroad, he created one of the largest and most expansive western photographic collections in the world. He opened his own private photo gallery in 1879, and died Colorado's preeminent photographer.

Robert Adams - Photographer of the western landscape. Uses the images to express the relationship between man and the environment. Has received two John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowships, the McArthur Foundation's "genius" Grant, and has worked on the permanent collections of several museums including the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Eppie Archuleta - Leader of the resurgence of the Hispanic blanket weaving tradition in the San Luis Valley. Her craft arts have been recognized by the National Endowment for the Arts as they declared her a "national treasure". She contributed to a Smithsonian Institute permanent display, and received the National Heritage Fellowship.

Berke Breathed - Creator of the satirical comic strips Bloom County and Outlands.

George Elbert Burr - Celebrated etcher whose western themed work is in the permanent collections of many of the nation's largest museums.