

ARROWMONT

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND CRAFTS

Medium: Wood/Automata

Instructor: Tom Haney

Dates: May 31 – June 5, 2026

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This multi-media workshop invites students to explore the core principles of creating kinetic, figurative sculpture known as automata. Students will begin with foundational methods of creating mechanical movement and then move into various systems for propelling objects, including the use of cams and levers, pulleys and belts, weights, magnets, and even natural forces like wind and water. The class will focus heavily on hands-on experimentation, trial, and error, encouraging students to approach the process with an open, creative mind. Students will learn how to spark and develop ideas for movement, with the goal of producing a small, personal kinetic piece that can be taken home, regardless of whether it is fully finished. This intensive process is designed to push creative boundaries and introduce students to a variety of mechanical solutions for animating their figures.

WHAT TO BRING

- Highly recommended Book – (may have to be ordered with enough time before class for delivery.) <https://cabaret.co.uk/product/cabaret-mechanical-movement/>
- Carving knives. (if you have them.)
- X-Acto knife and blades. #11
- Small gouges, (if you have them) for carving.
- 3-4 2 oz. Premo Polymer clay, color – Ecrú
- 1 - Super Sculpey Beige, 1 lbs.
- Various acrylic paints. (optional) And small paint brushes.
- 1" paintbrush
- Pencils, fine markers
- Measuring devices – rulers - 12" or 15", etc
- Various hand tools. For small detailed work. Miniature tools.
- Straight edges, triangle, compass, other drawing tools.
- Sandpaper, various, 100 grit, 220 grit.
- Magnifiers, for close-up work. (if needed.) I find them invaluable.
- Small Pony clamps – 4".
- Files – various, for fine work on wood and brass.
- Round rasps – various, for wood.
- Various small tools – screwdrivers, pliers, awl, small hammer, etc.
- Flash drive (to protect and save data to and from Library computers)

Planning to purchase materials from the Supply Store for your workshop? Keep in mind that the Supply Store carries a limited selection and cannot guarantee that all materials listed by your instructor will be

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in stock. Please call **865-436-5860 Ext. 25** or email Celeste Rudd at crudd@arrowmont.org to reserve your selection prior to arrival.

MATERIALS FEES | **\$70.00-\$130.00**

Fees are assessed on an individual class basis and may vary from class to class depending on the amount of materials used and the number of students in the class, this keeps your out-of-pocket costs lower than a typical flat fee. Fees include all provided studio materials as assigned by the Instructor. Material fees are to be paid in the Supply Store no later than midday on the last day of workshop instruction.

Please be advised that the above course description and materials list has been written and approved by the instructor.

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Instructor Contact
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