

# Institute of Aesthetic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

*Blends Art and Science*

By Marty Coffin Evans

**Dr. Peter Schmid is both a surgeon and a sculptor. Whether he is working with clay or the human body, he deftly incorporates art and science to create an aesthetically pleasing piece. His sculptures grace the lobby area of his Institute of Aesthetic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (IAPRS), and they are, no doubt, appreciated by his patients.**



Dr. Peter M. Schmid

Dr. Schmid has been in practice for 23 years, and he specializes in a variety of surgeries, ranging from elective cosmetic procedures to surgeries of the head, neck, and skin. In every case, he acknowledges the impact of beauty. Patients may arrive at IAPRS with a preconceived notion of how they want or need their appearance to be changed. "If someone expects a certain look, we talk about it one-on-one and establish our relationship from the onset," says Dr. Schmid. "It's important to understand the patient's definition of beauty. You have to understand beauty to deliver it, regardless of gender, ethnicity, or age."

Dr. Schmid also notes the importance of considering patients' long-term needs before surgery. "I'm interested in their motivation, lifestyle changes, health, exercise, and exposure to the sun, along with ongoing aging," he continues. Patients are asked to bring in old photos of themselves. This provides perspective both for Dr. Schmid and for the patient. He aspires toward natural beauty, using nature as the template and tailoring procedures to fit his patients.

Patient Erin had known Dr. Schmid for years before she came to him professionally for a serious and life-changing surgery. She was very pleased with his integrity, professionalism, and artistry. "I have never had a treatment that produced such natural-looking results," she shares. "I am looking forward to future treatments at Dr. Schmid's office."

This Longmont native takes his emphasis on aesthetics, anatomy, and art beyond his practice by giving annual workshops and lectures and creating curriculum programs. In its fourth year, the 2016 "Sculpting for Surgeons" workshop is scheduled for October 11-16th in Las Vegas. This program provides hands-on training in the aesthetics of male and female anatomy for cosmetic surgeons and physicians. Workshop attendees also include dermatologists, ophthalmologists, ENTs, and others interested in the sculpture of the body.

Dr. Schmid is also lecturing in Arizona about face lifts, describing how surgery is taken from a 2D approach to a 3D approach. The emphasis with face lifts is to reposition or reshape the soft tissue to create a natural appearance. The volume replacement used here is known as sculptural fat restoration. In this approach, Dr. Schmid applies grafts of fat with stem cells, sculpting the tissue much as he would sculpt

with clay. Stem cells help the fat graft survive better.

Another dimension of his current work involves his active participation with the Colorado Learning Center of Human Anatomy. In conjunction with the Carroll-Lewellen Funeral Home, Dr. Schmid has opened a cadaver lab in Longmont. This provides clinicians with an opportunity to learn about anatomy from bodies that have been donated to science before the remains are cremated and returned to family members. A class for embalmers is also planned.

"This allows us to share information with others in the community, including physical therapists, athletes, trainers, massage therapists, or medical sub-specialists," he explains. "I'm working with Beverly Boyer, who is RMT and Chairman of CLCHA, to develop an artistic anatomy program for artists. This takes me into developing curriculum and lecture material."

IAPRS typically has 80 percent female patients and 20 percent male, but more men are seeking their services all the time. "Men come here to have a nose straightened, to have upper eye lid surgery to improve their vision, or to have the 'turkey gobbler' under the chin area removed," Dr. Schmid notes.

Jeff, who was diagnosed with sleep apnea and had a prescription for a CPAP machine, found his way to Dr. Schmid following a friend's referral. "The surgery involved removing my uvula and tonsils and fixing my deviated septum. Dr. Schmid did an awesome job on me. I never needed that CPAP machine again."

With a concurrent head and neck specialty, it is not uncommon for Dr. Schmid to surgically remove a growth and follow that surgery with a cosmetic procedure. "I have lots of cancer patients. Some come in following nose cancer, wanting to minimize the deformity or scarring," he notes.

"The versatility in my practice brings me lots of variety," Dr. Schmid concludes. "I enjoy visionary thinking in applying science to the artistic."

"Dr. Schmid is a true artist," raves patient Lisa. "I am a professional artist myself, so this was a huge factor in choosing Dr. Schmid. He is kind and gentle, extremely personable, and sensitive. I had a great result!"

The Institute of Aesthetic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery is located at 1305 Sumner Street, Suite 100, in Longmont. They can be reached by phone at 303-651-6846 or online at [theaestheticsurgeon.com](http://theaestheticsurgeon.com). **WE**