



# UN FILTERED

*Celebrating RAW  
Artists + Filmmakers*

Artwork by Chez Cronin

In today's world, many youth feel pressured to suppress their true selves to avoid judgment and conform to narrow societal standards. RAW is challenging this paradigm with our 2024 theme: UNFILTERED. This theme celebrates authenticity and empowers youth to proudly embrace their unique qualities, turning what might be deemed "cringe" into a badge of honor.



Block Party attendee interacting with Artists in Action's installation asking "Where are you your most authentic self?"



RAW filmmakers Sadie, Wade + Aniya on the red carpet at the 24th Annual Real to Reel Film Screening

## R2R Film Screening

The 24th Annual Real to Reel Film Screening was a smash hit, attracting over 200 young movie fans. Held at the Lynn Auditorium, the screening showcased a variety of short films made by the talented young filmmakers of Real to Reel (R2R). The event included Q&A sessions with the filmmakers, giving the audience a chance to learn more about how the films were made, the artists' inspiration, and the theme UNFILTERED. Overall, the screening highlighted young talent and brought the community together, leaving everyone excited for next year!

We are so proud of all of our filmmakers for making the event a smashing success. Special congratulations to our film school team, Julian Gabelus Jr., Sydney St. Ives, and Rauliz Paez Tamarez, and BIG THANKS to our Teen Leaders and volunteers for helping make the screening possible.

## Exhibit Opening + Block Party

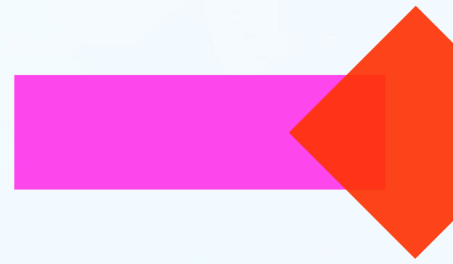
This year's Exhibit Opening + Block party was a major success! More than 1700 community members gathered to enjoy the amazing art created by RAW youth and celebrated the accomplishments of our Seniors. As the skies cleared, the party came alive with upbeat music, tasty food, and fun art activities. Kids and adults had a blast with cotton candy, bubbles, side walk chalk, and impromptu dance-offs. The fresh, rain-washed atmosphere added to the joy and excitement. The event was a great mix of talent, community spirit, and fun, leaving everyone excited for summer! Thanks to our 15 community partners for making the event so special.

Summer at RAW is that magical time when our studio spaces are buzzing with our summer groups. Young people bring reinvigorated energy into the building and dive deep into their art-making with passion! The day-long one week format allows youth to foster strong connections and focus their creativity which creates a powerful sense of community at RAW.



Local youth pose for a picture during the 2024 Exhibit Opening + Block Party

# unaBASHed



## Thanks for having a BASH with us!

On May 11, 2024, RAW held our annual Party with a Purpose, BASH! This year, we got unaBASHed in celebration of Bruce + Tricia Herring for their unwavering support of RAW. "UnaBASHed encapsulates the essence of our mission at Raw Art Works. It's about embracing authenticity, celebrating individuality, and championing the unapologetic spirit of artists who fearlessly express themselves through their work."

Thank you to all of our partners, donors, staff, community members, and alumni that came together to make this special event possible. If you didn't get a chance to join us this year, you can still Sponsor an Artist, or get your bash merch, including limited edition prints and T-Shirts at [rawartworks.org/bash](http://rawartworks.org/bash)



RAW Alum + Door 2 Door artist Bedelyn Dabel walks during the 2024 BASH parade

## Summer 2024 Programming

Summer 2024 boasts 28 programs running across 6 weeks. Our public art groups will be working on murals across the North Shore, including projects for the brand new Swampscott elementary school, the Salem pantry, and much more. Additionally, VanGo has a weekly summer residency at King's Lynne. RAW also received a grant from Save the Harbor/Save the Bay Foundation in partnership with the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation to support a VanGo art activation for RAW youth at Red Rock Park.

The Real to Reel film school will offer a range of new programming covering topics like "consent and working with clients", and "the history of the camera and photo developing", and will also feature a guest artist series.

With everything RAW has slated for the months ahead, we are projected to connect with more than 900 youth throughout the community. We are wishing everyone a creative, restful, and fun summer!



RAW Senior Nayeli and Project Launch Coordinator Norway pose during the Hoodie Celebration at Block Party

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OUR PROGRAMS ARE SUPPORTED IN PART BY GRANTS FROM:



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## RAW ART WORKS

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SPRING + SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2024

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