

Cleveland Institute of Art is one of the nation's leading accredited independent colleges of art and design. CIA's vision is to nurture the intellectual, artistic, and professional development of students and community members through rigorous visual arts and design education; with the vision to advance culture, community, and global quality of life

projectFIND is an Engaged Practices course offered at Cleveland Institute of Art. Over two semesters the students work with displaced communities of Cleveland and the organizations that serve these communities. Based on the relationships developed, the students propose and execute an art or design based community-engaged project. projectFIND was instructed by Anastasia Soboleva in the 2016-17 Academic Year.

OUR TEAM:

Melinda Zitinick

Melinda is a second-year sculpture student at CIA. Her goal is to become a socially engaged artist that works with the community. ProjectFIND really impacted her by allowing her to interact and collaborate with so many people and be able to learn out in the field.

Ross Brunetti

Ross is an Interior Architecture major at CIA. Growing up in the Rocky Mountains of Salt Lake City, Ross is an adventurous explorer at heart. Because of his love for the environment, he supports design and business practices. Ross also stands for social and environmental justice, firmly believing that small, kind actions can lead to big change.

Special Thanks to all the participants for their creative involvement, and in particular to the following individuals who have contributed extensively to the creation of the project: Guy-Vincent, Ramona Turnbull, Jane Finley, Dory, Lou, Barbara Chira and projectFIND instructor Anastasia Soboleva.

THANK YOU!



projectFIND @ Cleveland Institute of Art presents:

Open Doors CLE

by Melinda Zitinick & Ross Brunetti

May 20-21 | 1-5pm

Rooms to Let: CLE

Slavic Village

(across the street from 6501 Lansing Rd.)

May 27 | 11-5pm

Willard Park

Downtown Cleveland

(by the Free Stamp)

Open Doors CLE emerged as the result of projectFIND students researching the landscape of homelessness in Cleveland, attending the Homeless Congress, meeting with various organizations and ideating with the participants of the HeArt of the Streets art program.

The students realized that there is a deep disconnect between the homeless community and the stable housing community. Doors were chosen to represent this disconnect as well as to facilitate an awareness of homelessness in Cleveland. Each door embodies the community that utilizes the services of a particular organization in Cleveland.

Organizations and communities that have actively contributed to the development of Open Doors CLE:

Bishop William M. Cosgrove Center
Campus District
City of Cleveland
Cleveland Institute of Art
CWRU Labre Team
Frontline Services
HeArt of the Street
LAND Studio
Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside
Norma Herr Women's Shelter
Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless
Slavic Village, Rooms to Let CLE

The budget for the project has been provided by Cores + Connections and the Engaged Practices Hub at Cleveland Institute of Art.

Funding of Bishop William M. Cosgrove's HeArt of the Street by the Char and Chuck Fowler Family Foundation made their participation in Open Doors CLE possible.

The installation represents an interconnection of the organizations that serve the Homeless Community. It is a pathway to travel through and learn about various experiences, stories, and messages from the Homeless Community.

THE DOORS

The first door is for the stable housing community to write on what they know about homelessness, and about their own experience of poverty or being displaced. The next 5 doors represent five different organizations and the communities they serve. The last door is for the stable housing community to reflect on their experience of the installation.

Norma Herr Women's Shelter (Norma Herr)

Norma Herr shelter for women has experienced a turbulent time over the last years, the service providers work to improve the conditions at the shelter. The shelter provides meals, beds, and counseling services.

The women of the shelter carved tick marks into the door to show how many days they have been there. The door symbolizes the struggle of finding stable housing, and the perpetual dark hopelessness that grows with every day one spends at the shelter.

Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside (2100 Lakeside)

2100 Lakeside provides shelter and a bed to over 350 men every day, as well as many services including health assessment, case management, job training, and housing referrals.

The door is a spontaneous documentation of personal objects from the residents' pockets. The residents hammered the objects into the door, collaboratively representing their humanity and individuality.

HeArt of the Street (HeArt)

HeArt is an engaging art program that provides its participants with an opportunity to use art as a means of self-expression. The instructor Guy-Vincent strives to inspire and provoke students to be creative.

All program participants collaborated on the ideation and making of the HeArt door. The collaged found objects and paints symbolize the transition of an individual from the chaotic greyness of being homeless to the bright and organized state of stable housing.

Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH)

NEOCH is the primary resource for homeless advocacy in Northeast Ohio. One of the projects initiated by NEOCH is the Cleveland Street Chronicle, a newspaper that addresses issues of homelessness and poverty in the community.

The door is collaged on both sides with materials that were provided by NEOCH staff and Cleveland Street Chronicle writers. It also expresses the reality of homelessness in Cleveland through statistics, stories and photos. This highlights the role of NEOCH in

Bishop William M. Cosgrove Center (Cosgrove)

Cosgrove is day drop-in center that provides fundamental services for the homeless community such as hot meals, health screenings, assistance with personal documents, and much more. Cosgrove serves as a safe place for all members of the Cleveland community.

The Cosgrove door was drawn and written on by those who utilize the services at Cosgrove. The door was placed in common areas, and the Cosgrove community was encouraged to share their thoughts of what Cosgrove means to them, and what a door means to them.