“What I think art can do to change the world is that it can help people think about stuff and art can make people happy and art is something that I think anybody can do.”
— JD Green

Our commitment

Mission
Creativity Explored is a San Francisco nonprofit that partners with people with developmental disabilities to create an artistic, studio-based collective where the creative capacity of any person can flourish. We do this by placing the work, needs, culture, and experience of artists with developmental disabilities at the center of the community in a way that honors humanity, respects self-agency, and nurtures creative potential.

Vision
At Creativity Explored, we see a future society with an enlightened understanding of its relationship with neuro-diverse people—one that has evolved from one-way support to mutually-enriching growth. We see a society strengthened by an authentic appreciation of all people’s creative contributions.
“We all experience doing art in a different way. We just need to give everyone the chance to show what they can do.”
— Isaac Haney-Owens

Dear Friends,

After a year of incredible growth in 2019, the dedicated team at Creativity Explored entered 2020 with high hopes, bold ambitions, and a devotion to CE artists. Then, just as it did for many of our partners, peers and friends, COVID-19 turned our plans upside down.

One day, we were celebrating at the San Francisco Art Institute, enjoying a collaborative installation created by Ana Teresa Fernández with CE artists. A few days later, we were calling every CE artist — all 130 of them — to let them know our studios would be closed until further notice. Over the course of a few weeks, our team worked tirelessly to connect our community with the technology they’d need for remote learning, to deliver art supplies to homes, and to offer practical support to navigate these challenging times.

This year was also a year to raise our voices. Whether it was responding to racial injustice in solidarity with our artists, or advocating for people with disabilities as they navigated the pandemic, we increased our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Like you, we never dreamed a global pandemic would change our lives completely.

Through it all, the tenacity of CE artists and staff has been an inspiration.

Our ability to innovate during times of uncertainty is in our bones—it’s at the core of our organization’s structure.

When the Katzes first introduced our revolutionary model in the 1970s and ‘80s in response to the nationwide deinstitutionalization of people with disabilities, they too had to be flexible and responsive to change.

Just like our founders, our community knows we are not limited by our current circumstances.

We look boldly towards the future and ask ourselves: how can we be nimble and innovative enough to meet what will surely be a growing need for the life-changing services that we offer?

Thank you for joining us on this journey, sharing our story, liking our posts, purchasing CE artwork, donating to our programs, championing our work, and advocating for CE artists. I’m tremendously grateful for this community and incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together.

In gratitude,
Linda Johnson
Executive Director
Our year in review

“It’s all of us together. Us artists and the public. We all like art, and we’re learning new things, and we keep growing.”

—Gerald Wiggins

Jul 2019
CE Gallery Opening for Cityscape, a group exhibition curated by CE artist and paid intern Isaac Haney-Owens, mentored by CE Studio Manager E. Francis Kohler.

Aug 2019
As part of the Of Here From There | De Aquí Desde Allá project, Leticia Hernández-Linares leads poetry workshops with CE artists, in both English and Spanish, and Ana Teresa Fernandez leads two public clay sculpture-making workshops at CE’s Imaginate Saturdays.

Sep 2019
Gallery Opening for CE exhibition Fragments and Resistance featuring artists Joseph “Jay D” Green and John Iwaszewicz, curated by brothers Victor and Carlos Cartagena. The show focuses on artists’ experiences of navigating the distinctly American tensions of race, class, nationality, and identity.

Jan 2020
Creativity Explored participates simultaneously in UNTITLED, ART Fair in San Francisco and Outsider Art Fair in New York City.

Feb 2020
CE receives Gucci Changemakers grant for a fashion exhibition with Museum of Craft and Design.

Mar 2020
March 6: Of Here From There | De Aquí Desde Allá Opening Celebration.

Apr 2020
On April 16, CE is featured on KQED for quickly adapting our programming to shelter in place conditions.

Jun 2020
The Creativity Explored community focuses on how to create equity within our organization and at the intersection of race and disability justice during bi-weekly staff Book Club discussions, schedules three racial justice trainings, and establishes a Black artist cohort.

Mar 17: shelter in place mandate goes into effect. CE studio shuts down.
## Our exhibitions

### CE GALLERY
**JUL 18–SEP 5, 2019**

**Cityscape**
A group exhibition curated by CE artist and paid intern Isaac Haney-Owens, mentored by CE Studio Manager E. Francis Kohler.

![Cityscape exhibition image]

### CE GALLERY
**SEP 19–NOV 7, 2019**

**Fragments and Resistance**
A show focusing on artists’ experiences of navigating tensions of race, class, nationality, and identity.

![Fragments and Resistance exhibition image]

### LINKEDIN INCOMMON
**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPACE
OCT 15–FEB 29, 2020**

**See Me With My Own Eyes**
Artists with developmental disabilities envisioned themselves, their peers, and other famous artists in their own unique visual vocabularies.

![See Me With My Own Eyes exhibition image]

### CE GALLERY
**JUL 18–SEP 5, 2019**

**Cityscape**
A group exhibition curated by CE artist and paid intern Isaac Haney-Owens, mentored by CE Studio Manager E. Francis Kohler.

![Cityscape exhibition image]

### SANFRANCISCO
**JAN 17-19, 2020**

**UNTITLED, ART Fair**
Creativity Explored participates in UNTITLED, ART Fair in San Francisco.

![Untitiled Art Fair image]

### FORT MASON
**MARCH 6**

**Of Here from There | De Aquí Desde Allá**
Opening Celebration, March 6 2020.

![Fort Mason exhibition image]

### GALLERY CLOSED
**MARCH 17**

Despite the gallery closing we pivoted to host our shows online while keeping true to traditions and installing artworks in our physical space.

### CE GALLERY
**JAN 9–MAR 5, 2020**

**Thomas Pringle Ladies Man**
Gallery Opening for Thomas Pringle Ladies Man, a solo exhibition highlighting CE artist Thomas Pringle.

![Thomas Pringle Ladies Man exhibition image]

### LEGION SF GALLERY
**JAN 11–27, 2020**

**Many Faces**
Featuring CE artists and showcasing a selection of portraits of people, this exhibit aspires to give the viewer an “in” to the artists’ eyes, many of whom focus exclusively on human faces and bodies.

![Many Faces exhibition image]

### LINKEDIN INCOMMON
**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPACE
OCT 15–FEB 29, 2020**

**See Me With My Own Eyes**
Artists with developmental disabilities envisioned themselves, their peers, and other famous artists in their own unique visual vocabularies.

![See Me With My Own Eyes exhibition image]

### HYBRID
**APR 15–APR 29, 2020**

**What You Do**
Originally intended to be exhibited at the CE studio in March, CE premiers What You Do, an online exhibition curated by Dena Beard featuring digital animations and videos from CE’s history.

![What You Do exhibition image]

### HYBRID
**JUN 25–SEP 3, 2020**

**The park “a darling walk for the mind”**
Online “opening” of The park “a darling walk for the mind”, a group exhibition curated by Ajit Chauhan, displayed in the CE gallery and available for virtual viewing.

![The park “a darling walk for the mind” exhibition image]

### JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF SAN FRANCISCO
**SEP 26–FEB 17, 2020**

**Big Bellies**
Featuring the work of 18 CE artists, this expansive collection celebrating food sparks a larger conversation around cultural identity, family traditions, class, and nourishment.

![Big Bellies exhibition image]
Our remote programming at a glance
A virtual week in the life of a CE studio artist

**Monday**
Receives a call from their teaching artist to check in about overall well-being during shelter in place

**Tuesday**
Receives an art supply delivery

**Wednesday**
Joins the All Artist Community Meeting

**Thursday**
Attends an online artmaking class

**Friday**
Dances with their fellow CE artists on Zoom

**Saturday**
Leads an Imaginate Saturday workshop

**Sunday**
Stamps and sends a mail art project to their teaching artist

---

Our accomplishments

- **24** virtual workshops taught each week (and counting)
- **$115k** of royalties and stipends paid to CE artists
- **200+** custom art kits safely delivered to artists to continue their at-home practice
- **6 days** of community gatherings and art-making activities offered every week
- **$9k** in relief funding secured for CE artists
- **Dozens** of mail art projects launched
- **6 exhibitions hosted** (2 online + 4 in-person)
- **19** iPads donated for CE artists to connect online
Our year in numbers

Revenue
$2,396,005
Lifesaving support from the CARES Act not yet reflected in the totals.

Expenses
$2,783,518

GOVERNMENT
68%
$1,627,730

FUNDRAISING
10.2%
$283,509

MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION
8.0%
$222,223

EARNED INCOME
5.6%
$133,965

GRANTS
6.7%
$160,650

DONATED GOODS & SERVICES
1.5%
$37,072

PROGRAMS
81.8%
$2,277,786

INDIVIDUAL & CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS:
18.2%
$435,932

“The people here are like family. They’re like my second home.... I feel comfortable and safe. You got a lot of people that you talk with, you laugh with. You enjoy, it’s like you wish it never ends.”
— Guadalupe Ramos
Our year in acclaim

“We’re somebody in the community. We’re somebody nationally.”

— Vincent Jackson

Awards:

Featured in:

48hills
7x7
Architectural Digest
Disparate Minds
KQED
Localwise
Mission Local
NBC Bay Area
Raw Vision
San Francisco Bay Guardian
San Francisco Travel Association
San Francisco Chronicle
San Francisco Examiner
and more
Our resilient artists

Ada Chow
Ade Lewis
Albert Duong
Alexander Yeap
Alissa Bledsoe
Allura Fong

Daniel Green
Daniel Li
Delia Liu
Donald Gruneisen
Doris Yen
Elana M Cooper

Irene Rivas
Isaac Haney-Owens
Isaías Gomez
James Miles
James Nielsen
Jason Monzon
Jay Herndon
Jesus Hueno
Joanna Sanchez
John Iwaszewicz
John Patrick McKenzie
José Nuñez
Joseph Omoloye
Joseph “Jay D” Green
Josue Izquierdo
Ka Wai Shiu
Kaocrew “Yah” Kakabutra
Kate Thompson
Katherine Finn-Gamino
Kathy Wen
Kevin Chu

Emma Reyes
Eric Boysaw
Ernesto Sosa
Ethel Revita
Eunice Juarez
Gabriel Maduena
Gerald Wiggins
Gloria Aburto
Gregory Sams

Linda Davenport
Loren King
Mackenzie “Mack” Mesler
Marcus McClure
Maria Berrios
Maribel Guzman
Marilyn Wong
Max Wocher Marcus
Melody Lima
Michelle Gonzales
Ming Choi
Mirian Mungua
Miyuki Tsukurawa
Musette Perkins
Nathaniel Jeung

Quintin Rodriguez
Ricardo Estella
Richard Gustanov
Roland Record
Rory White
Samantha Mathews
Samed Djemiguer
Selene Perez
Stella Tse
Steven Liu
Taneya Lovelace
Thomas Pringle
Tonya Lewis
Trevor Cartmill-Endow
Ursula Matthews

“Get used to what you’re making, and make more of it.”
— Doris Yen

Amani Swalim
Ana María Vidalon
Andrew Bixler
Andrew Lee
Andrew Li
Andrew Wong
Angel Lara
Ann Yamasaki
Anne Slater
Anthony Reyes
Armando Sanchez
Calvin Snow
Camille Holvoet
Charles Stanberry
Charlie Barthelet
Cheryle Rutledge
Christina Fong
Claus Groeger
Clementina Rivera
Connie Chu

Daniel Green
Daniel Li
Delia Liu
Donald Gruneisen
Doris Yen
Elana M Cooper

Irene Rivas
Isaac Haney-Owens
Isaías Gomez
James Miles
James Nielsen
Jason Monzon
Jay Herndon
Jesus Hueno
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Tonya Lewis
Trevor Cartmill-Endow
Ursula Matthews

“They looked at my art and I told them I am the artist — that felt good”
— Loren King

Guadalupe Ramos
Gustavo Urbina
Hiroshi Onodera
Hung-Kei Shiu
Ian Adams

Kevin Cordoba
Kevin Roach
Kimberly Hutchings-Reyes
Kira L Chmelewski
Lakesha King
Lance Rivers
Laron Bickerstaff
Lien Nguyen

Kevin Cordoba
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Lance Rivers
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“Get used to what you’re making, and make more of it.”
— Doris Yen

Amani Swalim
Ana María Vidalon
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Andrew Lee
Andrew Li
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Angel Lara
Ann Yamasaki
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Vanessa Ruffin
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Yang “Buurin” Yu-Zhen
Yolanda Ramirez
Yukari Sakura
Zachary Adams

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Our tenacious staff

Gilles Combet  
Teaching Artist

Leeza Doreian  
Teaching Artist

Carole Fitzgerald  
CCSF-DGPS Arts Instructor

Karyn Freer  
Operations Manager

Andrew Gilson  
Teaching Artist

Megan Hover  
Development Director

Lacey Johnson  
Teaching Artist

Linda Johnson  
Executive Director

Eric Larson  
Assistant Studio Manager & Teaching Artist

Tom Leach  
Teaching Artist

Christina Lo  
Communications Associate

Aileen Louie  
Gallery Associate

Larry Morace  
Teaching Artist

Paul Moshammer  
Studio Director

Michael Napper  
Teaching Artist

Pilar Olabarria  
Teaching Artist & Service Coordinator

Victor Cartagena  
Teaching Artist

Alayna Cate  
Art & Business Development AmeriCorps VISTA Member

Suda Changkasiri  
Teaching Artist

Ajit Chauhan  
Teaching Artist

Ann Kappes  
Director of Art Partnerships

E. Francis Kohler  
Studio Manager, Services Coordinator, Teaching Artist

Michael Korcek  
Director of Marketing & Brand Partnerships

Judith LaRosa  
Teaching Artist

Cléa Massiani  
Curator & Exhibitions Coordinator

Joe McGovern  
Teaching Artist

Victor Molina  
Substitute Teaching Artist

Geralyn Montano  
Teaching Artist

Glenn Peckman  
Teaching Artist

Roshann Pressman  
Institutional Giving Coordinator

Enrique Quintero  
Teaching Artist

Patricia Rubio  
Teaching Artist

Liliana Torpey  
Development Associate

Horace Washington  
Teaching Artist

Jaime Wong  
Gallery Coordinator
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Gargi Talukder

Leah Tarlen

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Craig Vaughan

Cheryl Ward
Our devoted partners

Professional Art Services Partners:

- Art + Action
- BRIDGE Housing
- Carol Schwartz Funk
- Chinatown Community Development Center
- Cliff Consulting
- David Baker Architects
- Fjord
- Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
- Gray Area Foundation for the Arts
- Hotel G
- In/Visible Talks
- Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects
- Manic D Press
- Mercy Housing
- Open Editions
- Pacific Foundation Services
- Park Central Hotel
- Recchiuti Confections
- Sage Publishing
- Saida & Sullivan Design
- San Francisco Campus for Jewish Living
- SLATE Art
- Stellabean
- Sterling Graphics
- Swords to Plowshares
- Tartine Manufactory

The Google Artist in Residence program
- Twitter Able
- VIDA
- Yerba Buena Community Benefit District (YBCBD)

Kunsthaus Kannen,
- Museum für Outsider Art und zeitgenössische Kunst, Münster, Germany
- Legion Projects, Healdsburg
- Legion Projects, Healdsburg
- LinkedIn InCommon Space, San Francisco
- Make Studio, Baltimore
- Outsider Art Fair, New York City
- Parc 55, San Francisco
- Playspace Gallery at California College for the Arts, San Francisco
- Sage Studio, Austin
- San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco
- Studio Gallery, San Francisco
- Summertime Gallery, Brooklyn
- UNTITLED, ART Fair, San Francisco
- YBCA, San Francisco

Exhibition Partners:

- American Institute of Architects, San Francisco
- Arc Gallery, San Francisco
- Bay Area Video Coalition, San Francisco
- Bedford Gallery, Walnut Creek
- Cutting Ball Theater, San Francisco
- Jack Fischer Gallery, San Francisco
- Jewish Community Center, San Francisco
- Kunsthaus Kannen,
- Museum für Outsider Art und zeitgenössische Kunst, Münster, Germany
- Legion Projects, Healdsburg
- Legion Projects, Healdsburg
- LinkedIn InCommon Space, San Francisco
- Make Studio, Baltimore
- Outsider Art Fair, New York City
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- San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco
- Studio Gallery, San Francisco
- Summertime Gallery, Brooklyn
- UNTITLED, ART Fair, San Francisco
- YBCA, San Francisco

“I like working here because… I get a sense of community. I don’t have to be afraid here that people are going to say negative things about me or say that I’m weird.”

— Isaac Haney-Owens
Our mighty donors

$50,000+
Anonymous
Golden Gate Regional Center
Gucci Changemakers
Impact Fund
San Francisco Grants
for the Arts
The John & Gwen Smart
Family Foundation

$10,000-$49,999
California Arts Council
City and County of San
Francisco Office of Small
Business
The Cox-Vadakan Foundation
Megan Fletcher
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Gail McCabe
National Endowment for the
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Outside Lands Works
Violet World Foundation

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Ipek & Christopher Burnett
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Vermeulen
Barbara Clutter
Diana Cohn & Craig Merrilees
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Bryce Lee
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MaryAnn White in memory of Loretta Merat
Tamara White
Mike Wilsey in honor of Ruth Berson
Miranda Wong
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Carol Cenci
Braden Cerutti
Fay Chang
Deborah Charych
Peter Chase
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Peter & Peggy Cling
Karoline & Robert Collins
Andrea & Gilles Combet
The Conants in honor of my amazing parents who have always encouraged my own creativity
Gail & Paul Connolly
Kathy & Mark Corbalis
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Steven-Trstn de yng

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Carson Edmond
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Brown Estate
Deborah Fedorchuk
Kitty Finn
Stanley Fong
Judy Gilson
Arden Ginsberg
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Matthea Harvey
Betty Hesters
Glenn M Heywood III
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Janet Howard in honor of the Berry Family
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Pei Hsiang in memory of Curtis Hsiang & sister Cathlin Hsiang
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Loretta Litke
Janet M. Long
Joe Long & Paul Magnier
Michael Lownie in honor of
Melody Lima
Jennifer Lynch
Cassandra MacLeod
Patricia Maloney & Smitty
Weygant in honor of
Cléa Massiani
Marie Markovic & Jay Walsh
Nancy Matherly
Christopher Matthews
Carl May
Carolyn Means
Messing Family Charitable
Foundation
Derrick Meyer
Jessica Mihaly
Clara Miller
Michelle Morrison
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Janice Nieder
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James Nunemacher
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of Betty Sellars
Karen Park
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Deirdre & Matt Pharr
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Michele G. Praeger in memory
of Rick Praeger
Nancy Price
Jan Reicher
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James Neilson
BJ & Martha Rock
Elisa Roiz in memory of
Robert McClay
Amber Rominger
Susan & Steven Rosen
Marc Rosenfeld
John Ross
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Ruth Berson, CE Board
Member
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Nina Saizevich
Schwab Charitable Fund in
honor of Griffin Forshee
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sfclayworks
Martha Siegel & Adam Elsesser
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Ferran Torras
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Hyde Tucker
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Lde Vito
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Berenberg Family Fund
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Danielle Wright
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Otani
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Beth Zonderman

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ALMA
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Andrea Andrea
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Harlon Ballogg
Samarat Baul
Razika Benamira-Dod
Lincoln Bergman
Julie Berenson
Phyllis Biederman
Megan Bierman
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Will Bloomer
Ryan Bogdany
Hanka Boudreau
Elizabeth Brodersen
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Jessie Bunn
Tina Burton
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Linda Byrd
Mathias Caetano
Ari Canin
D. Marc Capobianco
Michelle Carpenter
Geri Cernach
Marilyn Chelini
Claire Chen
Frederick Chin
Jeff Chin
Tawna Chun
Art Colony
Mags & Steve Conant in honor
of Alden Conant
Melinda Cordasco
Angelica Coria
Lauren Coyne
Emily Crawford
Willa Crowell
Hugh D’Andrade
Georgi & David de la Torre
Susan DesBaillets
Lynne Dianne
Nadya Disend
Joel Dobris

Nicola Dones
Anne E. Duncan
Andrea Econ
Kelly Eileen
Shawn Elson
Denis Englebard
Jolene Enns
Christopher Ereneta
Jeannie Farren
Erin Finnegan
Carole Fitzgerald
Glenda Flaim
Victor Floyd in honor of
Sara O’Sullivan
Joan Foley & Earle Weiss
Gates Foundation
Samantha Fowler
Darren Fowler
Mike Francis
Anna Franziska
Danielle Freiman
Robert Friederich
John Fuholm
Tiago Romero Garcia
Michael Gavino
Liz Gazzano
Juliana Gerds
Gwendolyn Gibbish
Our future together

We are committed to supporting artists with developmental disabilities, and we can’t wait to share more success stories with you soon.

Here’s a sneak peek at some of our big plans:

Offer full-person services within a creative community to remove barriers to art-making

Promote artists with developmental disabilities as part of the established canon of contemporary art

Champion the Katzs’ vision to build a movement in which people with developmental disabilities influence society at large through creativity

Build an equitable, diverse and supportive artist-staff-board culture where community members can reach their fullest potential

Acquire or expand a facility to meet organizational needs and elevate CE’s status as an enduring community cornerstone

“When I make art, it makes me feel good because it’s just right.”

— Yolanda Ramirez
Join us!

SHOP Creativity Explored original art to support our artists and programs

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