Creativity Explored provides access to the human right of creative expression.

Located in the Mission District of San Francisco, Creativity Explored is a progressive nonprofit art studio and gallery partnering with developmentally disabled artists.

Creativity Explored was founded in 1983 on a belief that art is essential to life, by Florence and Elias Katz, an artist and a psychologist. Sparked by the nationwide deinstitutionalization of disabled people, the duo launched a movement in the Bay Area that continues to expand what it means to be a professional artist.

Over the years, Creativity Explored has facilitated the careers of hundreds of disabled artists in their chosen mediums, exhibiting their work in museums, galleries, and art fairs in over 14 countries. Collectively, artists have earned over $2 million from their work via art sales, licensing royalties, workshops and speaking opportunities.

Our life-changing programs continue to open doors of inclusion to center the personhood and creative vision of over 130 developmentally disabled artists. Creativity Explored leads the way in providing whole-person social services where the creative capacity of any person can flourish by centering the culture and lived experiences of disabled individuals in all we do. Most importantly, we are a source of community, empowerment, and dignity.
**Art Changes Lives**

Creative expression is a crucial form of communication for CE artists, many of whom translate their feelings, emotions, experiences and opinions into visual forms. Mentored and trained by a diverse team of Visual Arts Teaching Artists, everyone has an opportunity to discover their artistic calling with quality supplies and materials.

Ranging from traditional media like painting, drawing and print-making, to multimedia sculpture and ceramics, fiber arts, embroidery, and fashion, to digital art-making, animations and photography – our programs continue to expand, meeting the needs of our community and responding to the field of contemporary art.

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**Transforming the (Art) World**

At Creativity Explored, we see a future society with an enlightened understanding of its relationship with neurodiverse people—one that has evolved from one-way support to mutually-enriching growth.

Our robust arts and exhibitions program includes professional representation for every participant. CE facilitates art sales with individual collectors and businesses and coordinates external exhibitions and experiences for CE artists to influence society at large through their creativity. The Creativity Explored 16th Street gallery invites the public to enjoy five exhibitions annually, many of which are curated and created by artists themselves alongside art world influencers.

We are proud to collaborate with corporate, art world, and community partners to share the work and amplify the voices and stories of CE artists. Together with our artists and our family of partners, we envision a society strengthened by an authentic appreciation of all people’s creative contributions.
In the News

“Take-Home Kits, Virtual Studio Time a Lifeline for Artists with Disabilities”
by Sarah Hotchkiss, KQED, 16 April 2020

“Best of the Bay 2020: City Living winners, Best Nonprofit”
48 Hills, 23 October 2020

“Style Radar: Creativity Explored ‘fabulates’ the runway, Princess Deena at the de Young, Jay Jeffers’ ‘Bold’ new book”
by Tony Bravo, San Francisco Chronicle, 28 September 2018

“True selves: Two SF art exhibitions raise questions about authenticity”
by Charles Desmarais, San Francisco Chronicle, 10 June 2019

“A Unique Art Source for ASID Designers”
by David Hanson, SF Design, Spring 2011

Up and Coming

ONSITE EXHIBITION
The Mail Art Club
Creativity Explored Gallery
April 8 - June 11, 2022

OFFSITE EXHIBITION
The Art of Disability Culture
Ruth's Table
February 24 - May 20, 2022

ART CHANGES LIVES
Annual Auction and Fundraising
Gala San Francisco
2023 Date TBD
Strategic partners, Funders, Licensing/Art Services, Community Partners

CURRENT PARTNERS:
LinkedIn, Dropbox, Google, Twitter Able, Gucci Changemakers, Alvarez & Marsal Consultants, National Endowment for the Arts, International Interior Design Association, Golden Gate Regional Center, Herman Miller, Coordinated Resources Inc (CRI), David Baker Architects, KQED, Chinatown Community Development Center, The Kelsey, The New Company, Noise 13, Leveraging Equal Access Program (LEAP), The Pomeroy Center, Recchiuti Confections, Chronicle Books, SF Travel, San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development

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