



VANDERBILT KENNEDY CENTER  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

# appendix

History and Programming  
for People with Disabilities

By Crystal Finley



## Appendix

The first section of the appendix contains a directory of art resources for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, organized by state. For each state, the state affiliate of VSA is noted. The appendix also contains a list of national organizations that serve to advocate or provide resources for individuals with disabilities in terms of participation in the visual arts.

This list was developed, primarily, through Web searches. It is not comprehensive. If you are aware of relevant resources that might be included in this guide, please email [courtney.taylor@vumc.org](mailto:courtney.taylor@vumc.org).

For a history of visual arts programming for people with disabilities, please see *Access to the Visual Arts*



PHOTO BY NEIL BRAKE / VANDERBILT

## ALABAMA

### Studio by the Tracks

P.O. Box 101144  
 Irondale, Alabama 35210  
 (205) 951-3317  
[www.studiobythetracks.org](http://www.studiobythetracks.org)

- Description: Studio By The Tracks (SBTT) began in 1989, as a nonprofit organization to “provide supportive and nonjudgmental climate necessary to nurture creative abilities, enhance self-esteem, and explore alternative ways of coping with emotional and physical conflict”.
- Eligibility: Free art classes to “emotionally conflicted children” and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder or mental illness
- Staff: 6 staff members, in addition to Board of Directors and Junior Board of Directors
- Hours and Operations: In the afternoons, SBTT offers art classes to approximately thirty boys, ages 6-17, in residential treatment programs. There exists a day program for adults.
- Gallery: SBTT provides opportunities for our students to showcase and sell their artwork through our annual fundraisers and seasonal gallery shows. Sixty percent of the proceeds of each sale go directly to the artist.

### VSA Alabama (affiliate)

1915 4th Avenue South  
 Birmingham, Alabama 35233  
 (205) 307-6300  
[www.vsaalabama.org](http://www.vsaalabama.org)

- Executive Director: Patti Hendrix Lovoy  
 (205) 307-6300 ext. 16 | [patti@vsaalabama.org](mailto:patti@vsaalabama.org)
- Description: Statewide, 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving children and adults with disabilities and chronic illnesses through the arts (visual arts, drama, creative writing, drumming and rhythm, creative movement, music therapy, & art therapy programming).
- Staff: 5 total administrative staff (4 full time, 1 part time), Board of Directors, and 16 teaching artists
- Total served: 4,000 children and adults have been directly impacted by one of VSA Alabama’s 65 programs, exhibits or events (VSA Alabama Annual Report, 2010).
- Funding: Project 2010 Income- \$521,800 Foundation, corporate, and government grants in 2009 were given by: Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind Foundation, Alabama State Council on the Arts (and the National Endowment for the Arts), Alabama “Support the Arts” License Tag Grant, Birmingham Kiwanis Foundation, The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham, CVS Caremark (through VSA), HealthSouth, Independent Presbyterian Church Foundation, Joseph S. Bruno Foundation, Kresge Arts in Birmingham (through Cultural Alliance of Greater Birmingham), Robert R. Meyer Foundation, VSA (under an award from the U. S. Department of Education), Walker Area Community Foundation, and Wells Fargo Foundation

## ALASKA

### Hope Studios

650 W. International Airport Rd.  
Anchorage, AK 99518  
(907) 433-4799  
Email: [hopestudios@hopealaska.org](mailto:hopestudios@hopealaska.org)  
[www.hopealaska.org/hope\\_studios.asp](http://www.hopealaska.org/hope_studios.asp)

- Jennifer Moore  
(907) 433-4797 | [jmoore@hopealaska.org](mailto:jmoore@hopealaska.org)
- Description: The mission of Hope Studios is to provide artists the space and opportunity to create, while allowing them to explore their form of self-expression through different mediums. It is also Hope's mission to elevate the talents that develop through self-expression to becoming a viable part of the art community in Anchorage.
- Eligibility: The studio's creative team is made up of individuals with and without developmental disabilities.
- Staff: Hope Studios is sponsored by Hope Community Resources, Inc. Hope Community Resources is a non-profit organization that provides community supports throughout the State of Alaska to over 1,200 families and individuals who experience disabilities.
- Hours and Operations: 10 am to 4 pm; Monday through Friday
- Gallery: The studio also includes a gallery that sells art coming out of the studio, as well as work from other artists in the community.
- Note: Search for "Hope Studios Alaska" on Facebook for the most up to date information.
- Role of persons without disabilities: The artists that participate in the program are the creative drivers and conceptualize all that the studio produces. The collaborators simply become the creative engineers; assuring that the concept comes to life the way the artist wants it to.

### Out North Contemporary Art House

Former VSA State Affiliate  
3800 DeBarr Road  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
(907) 279-8099  
Email: [art@outnorth.org](mailto:art@outnorth.org)  
[www.outnorth.org](http://www.outnorth.org)

- Past VSA Affiliation: Began serving as Alaska's VSA arts affiliate since 2002, but is no longer listed as an affiliate (JFK Center for the Performing Arts, 2011).
- Description: Out North is a progressive multi-arts organization offering a vibrant mix of contemporary visual, performing, literary and media art, and engaging in arts activism, human rights, community development, and life-long education. Out North believes in providing arts and culture opportunities to everyone, particularly those marginalized because of identity or circumstance.
- Staff: 4 full time, and 13 board members.
- Total served: In 2005, VSA Arts reported around 1,000 served in its programs.
- Hours and Operations: 12 to 6 pm; Wednesday through Friday
- Funding: In 2005, Projected Total Income (including in-kind contributions) was \$714,252 (VSA Arts, 2003). In 2010, Projected Total VSA Income was \$148,491. Out North reports the following funders: Our Incredible Community, Rasmuson Foundation, Warhol Foundation, National Performance Network, Western States Arts Federation, National Endowment for the Arts, Alaska State Council on the Arts Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska Community Foundation, Anchorage Democrats, and Atwood Foundation.

## ARIZONA

### Arts for All, Inc

2520 N. Oracle Road, Tucson, AZ 85705

(520) 622-4100

Email: [adultservices@artsforallinc.org](mailto:adultservices@artsforallinc.org)

[www.artsforallinc.org/dayprogram.html](http://www.artsforallinc.org/dayprogram.html)

- Director of Human Services: Jasmine Berger
- (520) 622-4100, ext. 208
- Description: Arts for All is a non-profit organization that began in 1979 to provide an after-school program for children with and without disabilities to participate in the performing arts. The program currently has 9 programs merging human services and the Arts, one of which is an adult day program. Through the framework of visual and performing arts, adults with disabilities experience meaningful relationships and gain self-esteem in the day program. In the day program, art classes are offered and adults attend performances in the community.
- Eligibility: Adults with developmental disabilities participate in the day program.
- Staff: 4 full time staff, art instructors, and board of directors. The program also enlist Americorps volunteers and direct support providers.
- Hours and Operations: 8 am to 5 pm; Monday through Friday
- Sample Daily Schedule:
  - 8:00 Coffee/Social Time
  - 8:30 Jobs
  - 9:00 Drama/Ceramics
  - 10:00 Ceramics/Drama
  - 11:00 Money Management/Exercise
  - 12:00 Lunch
  - 1:00 Real Talk
  - 2:00 Life Awareness/Free Dance
  - 3:00 Depart
- Gallery: Gallery pieces are displayed online and in studio.

- Role of persons without disabilities: The program began in 1979 as an inclusive program, and still exemplifies that mission today. All nine programs attempt to provide art focus for youth with and without disabilities.

### ArtWorks

1509 E. Helen Street

Tucson, Arizona 85719

(520) 621-9427

<http://artworks.arizona.edu/>

- Director: Yumi Shirai, PhD
- Description: Directed by the UCEDD, ArtWorks is a day program and art studio providing instruction in the arts and life skills to adults with disabilities. Participants are exposed to a variety of media including drawing, painting, creative movement, music, ceramics, fiber arts and movie making. Program participants also practice life skills, such as personal hygiene and reading.
- Eligibility: Provides 25 adults, ages 21 to 74 with primarily intellectual disabilities and autism, an opportunity to develop their artistic potential while learning social skills, self-care and independence.
- Staff: The studio is an affiliate of the Sonoran UCEDD and the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the UA College of Medicine. ArtWorks staff includes professional artists who present instruction in ceramics, painting, drawing, fiber arts, and other expressive arts, including music and dance. With staff supervision, university students, as student workers, volunteers, or interns, also provide direct service to ArtWorks artists and individual projects. Those students are from a wide range of health and education related fields, special education, medicine, art education, psychology, family studies and human development, speech pathology, and other.
- Hours and Operations: 8 am to 3 pm; Monday through Friday

- Gallery: The studio holds annual gallery openings and summer talent show to encourage public interaction with their finished artist work and celebrate their accomplishments.
- Role of persons without disabilities: University students in a variety of disciplines participate in ArtWorks as volunteers, interns, or for clinical field experience. ArtWorks artists provide educational opportunities for those future professionals through expressive art activities.

#### ▫ **VSA Arizona (affiliate)**

PO Box 25159  
Phoenix AZ 85002-5159  
(602) 757-8118 - Phoenix  
(520) 631-6253 - Tucson  
Email: [info@vsaaz.org](mailto:info@vsaaz.org)  
[www.vsaaz.org](http://www.vsaaz.org)

- Executive Director: Eileen Bagnall  
[eileen@vsaaz.org](mailto:eileen@vsaaz.org)
- Description: VSA Arizona is a statewide organization whose mission is to create an inclusive community where people with and without disabilities can learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts.
- Staff: 1 full time, Board of Directors, and teaching artists
- Total served: 1,426 (JFK Center for the Performing Arts, 2012) ; ARTability currently serves 640 arts organizations and over 289,000 members of the disability community statewide (VSA Arizona, 2012)
- Funding: The Arizona Commission on the Arts; The Community Foundation for Southern Arizona; Whitmore Elementary School.

## ARKANSAS

#### ▫ **Arts Center for Performing and Visual Arts**

Trinity Court Place Apartments  
2000 Main Street  
Little Rock, AR  
(501) 375-7770  
Email: [thearcarkansas@arcark.org](mailto:thearcarkansas@arcark.org)  
[www.arcark.org/artscenter.html](http://www.arcark.org/artscenter.html)

- Description: The Arc Arkansas for Visual and Performing Arts, located at the Trinity Court Place Apartments, holds structured classes in music, acting, dance, ceramics, pottery, sculpture, painting as well as matting and framing on a daily basis. Also offered are classes in cooking, stamp collecting, and foreign languages. The Arc believes in utilizing the power of the fine arts as a creative outlet for individuals with disabilities. Culminates in an annual art show and sale.
- Eligibility: Participants come from Arkansas ARC. Some services might be residential.
- Staff: Staff is supported by Arkansas ARC.
- Gallery: The ARC holds an annual Art for ARC's Sake show and sale, which features work from ARC artists and artists around the city.



## CALIFORNIA

### **Able ARTs Work**

3626 E. Pacific Coast Highway  
Long Beach, CA 90804  
(562) 982-0247  
Email: [info@ableartswork.org](mailto:info@ableartswork.org)  
[www.ableartswork.org](http://www.ableartswork.org)

### **Alan Short Center and Gallery**

928 East Rose Street, Stockton, CA 95202  
(209) 948-5759  
Email: [asc@ddso.org](mailto:asc@ddso.org)  
[www.ddso.org](http://www.ddso.org)

- Director: Margarita Garcia
- Description: Located on the Stockton Campus of California State University at Stanislaus. In 1976, Mary Short founded the Alan Short Center (ASC) in Stockton. Her vision was to give people with developmental disabilities the opportunity to work side by side with professional artists. DDSO's innovative approach utilized visual and performing arts as a vehicle for teaching other life skills to people with developmental disabilities. DDSO continues to be a strong presence in the community, carrying on its mission to enhance the quality of life for persons with developmental disabilities by creating options which foster individual growth using the arts as one of its primary modalities. Studio art classes produce work for gallery exhibits and incorporate a variety of media including painting, drawing, mosaics, ceramics, and fabric design.
- Eligibility: Adults with developmental disabilities for eligible for the Regional Center services.
- Staff: Operated by Developmental Disabilities Service Organization (DDSO), California State Department of Rehabilitation; professional artists/teachers staff studio
- Hours and Operations: 9 am to 4 pm; Monday – Friday

- Gallery: Established in 1982 to exhibit artists' work and increase public awareness

### **Art@Arc/The ARC-Solano**

3272 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 4, Vallejo, CA 94590  
(415) 250-3212  
[www.thearcsolano.org](http://www.thearcsolano.org)

- Studio Director: Tim Park  
[tim@thearcsolano.org](mailto:tim@thearcsolano.org)
- Description: Art@Arc started in 1995 as a creative arts program within the Solano ARC. Program curriculum includes painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, photography, textiles, mosaics, and ceramics.
- Eligibility: Participants are adults with developmental disabilities who qualify for services through The Arc-Solano.
- Staff: Art@Arc is staffed and run by The ARC-Solano.
- Gallery: Studio has an adjacent community gallery, as well as exhibitions in public galleries.

### **Creative Growth Art Center**

355 24th Street  
Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 836-2340 x15  
<http://creativegrowth.org/>

- Description: Creative Growth is the oldest and largest Art Center serving adults with developmental disabilities, now serving 150 clients in the Bay area. The program provides a professional art studio setting and facilitation in drawing, painting, video production, ceramics, mosaics, wood, fiber arts, textiles, printmaking and photography. The program is further enriched by trips to museums, galleries, and artists' studios. Artists develop a working portfolio and many artists produce exhibition quality artwork for sale in the Creative Growth gallery and internationally. In addition, clients also take independent living skills classes.

- Additional Programs:
  - The Summer Youth Art and Transition Scholarship Program is offered in July and August to high school students with disabilities who demonstrate talent in the visual arts. Classes are small, so that each student receives individual attention. Students experience the excitement of discovering their creative potential and the reward of having their artwork exhibited and sold in the Creative Growth gallery.
  - The Rug Workshop offers an opportunity for a Creative Growth artist to earn hourly pay, while collaborating in the production of Creative Growth limited edition rugs, made in our Studio.
- Eligibility: Creative Growth Art Center serves adult artists with developmental disabilities and physical disabilities. They primarily serve people with developmental disabilities who are eligible for Regional Center services. For those outside this eligibility, admission is determined on a case-by-case basis. No previous art experience is required.
- Staff: Staff consists of several professional artists, as well as operations administrators. There is also a Board of Directors and Advisory Committee.
- Hours and Operations: 9:30 am to 3:30 pm; Monday through Friday
- Gallery: Artwork created within the studio is exhibited directly in the Creative Growth gallery as well as in outside galleries, museums, and private collections throughout the world. The primary focus is to encourage and support artists with disabilities in the development and exhibition of their artwork. The Creative Growth gallery is located in the downtown/Lake Merritt area of Oakland. It is open Monday through Friday from 10 am to 4:30 pm as well the Saturday following the opening of a new exhibition. Presenting seven, in-house exhibitions annually, the Gallery

strives to provide an in-depth look at the work made within the Creative Growth studio program. For more information about the Gallery please contact [info@creativegrowth.org](mailto:info@creativegrowth.org)

- Role of persons without disabilities: Creative Growth has many volunteers assisting in the studio, as aides or assistant teachers.

## ▫ Creativity Explored

3245 16th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103  
(415) 863-2108

Email: [info@creativityexplored.org](mailto:info@creativityexplored.org)  
[www.creativityexplored.org](http://www.creativityexplored.org)

- Executive Director: Amy Taub
- Description: Founded by Elias and Florence Katz in 1983, Creativity Explored advances the value and diversity of artistic expression, providing artists with developmental disabilities the means to create, exhibit, and sell their art in our studios and gallery, and around the world. A key focus of Creativity Explored's services is to support those individuals with developmental disabilities who wish to become self-employed artists in creating and operating fully viable and profitable businesses. Typically, there are about 125 studio artists working in the two studios. Some studio artists create art on a part-time basis, while some work in the studio full-time. On most days, about 60 people make art in the 3245 16th Street studio, and about 20 people work in the One Arkansas Street studio.
- Eligibility: If you live in the Bay Area, are an adult (18+) with a developmental disability, and have an interest in art, you may apply to be a studio artist at Creativity Explored. Artists joining the studios come from diverse backgrounds and have a wide range of experience and ability. You must have the ability to purchase services, either through private means, or via eligibility to receive funding through the California Regional Center System. If you live in San Francisco or San Mateo County,



call the Golden Gate Regional Center (GGRC) for more information. If you live in the East Bay, you will want to contact the Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB). After one has been at Creativity Explored for 30 days, a meeting is conducted with participant, social worker, and other people involved in participant's life to discuss how things are going.

- Staff: Creativity Explored employs about 20 professional artists to facilitate the art-making process in the two studios. Seven people work in the gallery and provide administrative and program support. City College of San Francisco provides a part-time professional artist/instructor to help meet goals.
- Hours and Operations (Studio program):  
Monday through Friday; 10 am to 3 pm  
Thursday; 10 am to 7 pm  
Saturday through Sunday; 12 pm to 5 pm
- Gallery: An on-site gallery opened in 2001 providing the public the opportunity to view work exhibited in a professional setting. Gallery programming now includes six diverse exhibitions per year with more than 10,000 people visiting the gallery and studio annually. Readers of the SF Weekly and Bay Guardian have consistently voted Creativity Explored Best Art Gallery in the Bay Area.
- Role of persons without disabilities: Volunteers and interns also contribute in numerous ways to the successful program implementation.

▫ **Exceptional Children's Foundation (ECF) Art Centers - Serving two locations:**  
[www.ecfartcenter.org](http://www.ecfartcenter.org)

- 3750 West Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90008  
(323) 290-6030
- 624 South Pacific Avenue  
San Pedro, CA 90731  
(310) 519-8527, [rterry@ecf.net](mailto:rterry@ecf.net)
- Description: Founded in 1968, the mission of the ECF Art Center is to train adults with devel-

opmental disabilities into working fine artists. The Art Center Program also strives to create and increase awareness and advocacy for those with developmental disabilities. Instruction is offered in drawing, painting, printmaking, textiles, ceramics and photography. Service is also offered in academics, independent living skills, counseling and behavior management. Exhibitions of the artwork are arranged throughout the year, providing artists with important earnings from the sales.

- Eligibility: Adults with development disabilities, ages 18 to 65, who often have multiple disabilities including intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism and/or emotional and psychiatric disorders.
- Staff: 7 full time professional artists (including Milton Davis, artist-in-residence); staffed with others from social welfare field
- Hours and Operations: 9 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Open to public on weekdays
- Gallery: no adjacent gallery, but holds annual exhibits in Los Angeles by its sponsors: Warner Brothers Records and Aaron Brothers Art and Framing.
- Role of persons with disabilities: The Art Center is open to the public and accepts individual and corporate commissions. If you are a business, an interior designer, or an individual collector who is interested in purchasing or commissioning works, please call (213) 627-7374 or email [gallery@ecf.net](mailto:gallery@ecf.net).

▫ **First Street Gallery Art Center or Sunland Studio**

- 250 W. First Street, Suite 120  
Claremont, CA 91711  
(909) 626-5455  
<http://tierradelsol.org/programs/1st-street-gallery-art-center/>
- Program Director: Rebecca Hamm  
[rhamm@tierradelsol.org](mailto:rhamm@tierradelsol.org)

- **Description:** First Street Gallery is one of 14 programs of the Tierra del Sol Foundation, a charitable, 501 (c)(3) human service organization established in 1971 to enable individuals with developmental and multiple disabilities to realize their greatest human potential, become as independent as possible within their families and communities, and establish a valued role in society. First Street Gallery Art Center provides clients with professional art training and exhibition resources. In the Center's studio, around 50 artists create original works of art in a range of media including: painting, drawing, ceramics, sculpture and collage.
- **Eligibility:** Adults with developmental disabilities who are participants in Regional System services of California.
- **Staff:** First Street's staff is made up of professional artists whose role it is to help facilitate these projects and provide guidance when needed.
- **Hours and Operations:** 9 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday
- **Gallery:** An integral part of the programming at First Street Gallery Art Center is the Gallery. First Street operates a professional gallery where every artist has an opportunity to display and sell his/her work. The exhibition schedule includes approximately five shows per year, most of which are dedicated to showing solely client work. Additionally, First Street artists also participate in many off-site exhibitions and venues, both nationally and internationally. The Gallery's goals are to get as much exposure and recognition as possible for our artists' work, and to assist clients in promoting and advocating for their own professional art careers. Artists earn a 60% commission on art sales.
- **Role of persons without disabilities:** First Street involves community members and guest artists through public workshops and collaborative projects.

#### ▣ **National Art and Disability Center (NADC)**

UCLA University Affiliation Program  
300 UCLA Medical Plaza, Rm. 3310  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-6967  
(310) 825-5054  
<http://nadc.ucla.edu>

- **Director:** Dr. Olivia Raynor  
[orayor@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:orayor@mednet.ucla.edu)
- **Description:** The National Arts and Disability Center (NADC) is a leading consultant in the arts and disability community. It provides resources on general information and training opportunities regarding artists with disabilities. NADC is dedicated to the inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in media, literary, visual, and performing arts. NADC responds to individual requests for information and technical assistance.
- **Staff:** The NADC is a program of the Tarjan Center at UCLA, Semel Institute.
- **Funding:** The center is supported by federal, state, and private grants and contracts.

#### ▣ **National Institute of Art and Disabilities (NIAD)**

551 23rd Street, Richmond, CA 94804  
Email: [admin@niadart.org](mailto:admin@niadart.org)  
(510) 620.0290  
<http://niadart.org>

- **Executive Director:** Deborah Dyer
- **Description:** While not all of NIAD's artists receive widespread recognition for their art, all gain a sense of pride from learning a craft and profession of their own. Artists at NIAD earn 50% commission from the sale of their work and a nearly all have sold at least one piece of art by participating in the program. Equally important to the artists is the community and sense of purpose their participation allows. Mentored by skilled professionals (all of the staff hold a Masters of Fine Arts

degree and are themselves accomplished artists), NIAD's artists see and study contemporary art by visiting local galleries, studios and museums. Inspired, they return to the NIAD open studio to create their own work. Visitors and participants alike as inclusive have described the NIAD studio environment, nurturing, and welcoming. The program serves up to 65 adults with disabilities each week and is a full day program, with a one to eight instructor to participant ratio.

- Eligibility: The program participants are adults with developmental disabilities. Because NIAD receives 60% of its funding from the California developmental disabilities service system administered through regional centers, its services are limited to artists legally classified as persons with developmental disabilities. Consumers of the Regional Center of the East Bay often can secure funding and transportation to participate in the program. If interested persons are not consumers, tuition is required and enrollment availability is limited.
- Staff: 6 administrative staff, 9 studio instructors, 1 studio manager, a board of directors, a community advisor, and several volunteers and interns.
- Hours and Operations: 9 am to 4 pm; Monday through Friday
- Gallery: NIAD Art Center maintains three exhibition spaces. The main gallery is 1,000+ sq. ft. It houses a new show about every eight weeks. NIAD or independent curators organize shows here. NIAD also has an annex space, which is a two walled gallery hosting shows from mainstream artists that the center wants to introduce to our artists or to our visitors and community. The Storefront is home to our various pop-up shops (seasonal and/or themed), artist-led projects, and spotlight exhibitions. NIAD also maintains a lively internet presence with exclusive online exhibitions and various specialty stores hosted on the center's website. NIAD artists show not

just in the center's three spaces and online but in commercial galleries around the country as well as museums around the world.

- Role of persons without disabilities: NIAD's visual art program promotes meaningful independent living by artists with disabilities—while its artists create remarkable contemporary art. In a unique open studio environment, and with the guidance of qualified staff, NIAD artists acquire new skills in artistic practice and in independent living. As artists paint, build sculpture, mold clay, or work with textiles, their skills of observation and project management improve. As they explore and express their creativity, exhibit artwork in professional-quality galleries, participate in the community, and occasionally earn money from selling art, their feelings of independence and self-esteem increase.
- Funding: NIAD is supported in part by local and national foundations, as well as businesses and individual donors.

#### ▣ Neighborhood Center for the Arts

200 Litton Drive #212  
Grass Valley CA 95945  
(530) 272-7287  
[www.neighborhoodcenterofthearts.com](http://www.neighborhoodcenterofthearts.com)

- Executive Director: Amee Medeiros  
[ncadirector@nccn.net](mailto:ncadirector@nccn.net)
- Program Coordinator: Amy Sumner  
(530) 272-7287 | [ncaprogram@nccn.net](mailto:ncaprogram@nccn.net)
- Description: Neighborhood Center for the Arts strives to incorporate the whole person through arts, paid work, education, training, and independent living. Artists can participate in drawing and painting, ceramics, weaving and fiber arts, mixed media arts, woodworking arts, and performing arts. Many artists have had their works exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions, including European galleries.

- Eligibility: Serves up to 50 artists per day with developmental disabilities, ages 21 to 75.
- Staff: Staff includes several professional artists, who have the opportunity to share and exhibit their personal work.
- Hours and Operations: 9:30 am to 4 pm; Monday through Friday
- Gallery: There is an adjacent gallery on-site. Many artists in studio receive proceeds from the sale of their art in the gallery.

#### ▣ Short Center North

2331 St. Marks Way, Sacramento, CA 95864  
www.ddso.org

- Program Director: Rick Tillson  
(916) 973-1951 | rikmaverik@yahoo.com
- Description: Short Center North (SCN), developed in 1978, provides those living in the northern part of the county, with an arts based day program for adults with developmental disabilities. SCN offers studio art classes, including painting, ceramics, mixed media, stained glass, and drawing. Other classes include Videography, textile folk art, art gallery work, independent living skills, internet travel, literacy, journalism, gardening and healthy cooking. Clients can explore their musical talent in choral classes and demonstrate their proficiency in performances. Local professional artists facilitate classes and experiences in the fine arts, literacy and basic academics, community access and services, vocational placement, as well as related supportive services necessary to meet the individual needs and desires of clients.
- Eligibility: Adults with developmental disabilities for eligible for the Regional Center services.
- Staff: Operated by Developmental Disabilities Service Organization (DDSO), California State Department of Rehabilitation; professional artists/teachers staff studio
- Hours and Operations: 9 am to 4 pm; Monday through Friday

#### ▣ Short Center South

1250 Sutterville Road, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95822  
(619) 737-2397  
Email: shortsouth@aol.com  
www.ddso.org

- Program Director: Paul Sherson  
Visual Arts Coordinator: Patricia Wood
- Description: Short Center South (SCS) was established in 1993 when the fast-growing Short Center was divided into two separate programs in order to provide more individualized services to approximately 60 clients each. A year later, SCS moved into a facility in the southern part of Sacramento making access easier for participants living in south Sacramento and outlying areas. SCS now serves upwards of 120 participants. SCS is firmly based in the arts, but offers options in education and recreation that promote personal growth and daily life skills. Studio art students participate in gallery shows and utilize varied mediums and techniques including watercolor painting, tile and mosaic murals, sculpture, traditional ceramics as well as collage, woodwork, and textiles. Additionally, the program offers photography, videography, film editing, and animation. Academic classes include reading, computer science, and internet training. Life skills classes include exercise, sign language, and relationship building skills. Mobility/physical therapy activities include fitness activities at the YMCA/YWCA, participation in Special Olympics, and modern and traditional dance classes. Vocational opportunities include janitorial job skills as well as the opportunity to participate in an on-site work program that involves packaging parts for model airplanes.
- Eligibility: Adults with developmental disabilities for eligible for the Regional Center services.
- Staff: Operated by Developmental Disabilities Service Organization (DDSO), California State Department of Rehabilitation; professional art-

ists/teachers staff studio

- Hours and Operations: 9 am to 4 pm; Monday through Friday

#### ▣ **Sophie's Gallery and Gift Shop**

109 Rea Avenue, El Cajon, CA 92020

(619) 593-2205

Email: [sophiesgallery@stmsc.org](mailto:sophiesgallery@stmsc.org)

[www.stmsc.org](http://www.stmsc.org)

- Gallery Administrator: Wendy Morris
- Description: Art programs began at St. Madeleine Sophie's Center in the 1970s with a weekly two hour class. In 1999, the program moved into a large space, with a studio and gallery. Each week, students are taught in a variety of mediums, including print-making, jewelry making, fusion glass, painting, charcoal, crafts, pastels, and fabric arts.
- Eligibility: Participants include adults with developmental disabilities.
- Staff: All classes are taught by professional artists.
- Hours and Operations: 9 am to 4 pm; Monday through Friday
- Gallery: To view the work of the Sophie's Gallery artists, visit the El Cajon gallery Monday through Friday, from 9 am to 4 pm; or the NTC gallery, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm and Sundays, noon to 4 pm. Both locations host several art receptions throughout the year highlighting the work of its artists.
- Roles of persons without disabilities: In 2009, Sophie's Gallery and Gift Shop at NTC was opened to raise public awareness about programs and engage the support and interests of artists from the general community.

#### ▣ **Southside Arts Program**

- Southside Art Center  
8583 Elder Creek Road, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95828  
(916) 387-8080  
Email: [info@southsideartcenter.com](mailto:info@southsideartcenter.com)

[www.southsideartcenter.com/](http://www.southsideartcenter.com/)

- Southside Art Gallery  
2380 Watt Ave. Suite #435  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
(916) 480-0528
- Southside Art Center – Elk Grove  
8920 Emerald Park Dr. Suite H  
Elk Grove, CA 95624  
(916) 387-2396  
[elkgrove@southsideartcenter.com](mailto:elkgrove@southsideartcenter.com)
- Southside Art Center – Auburn  
669 Lincoln Way #100  
Auburn, California 95603  
(530) 823-7363  
[auburn@southsideartcenter.com](mailto:auburn@southsideartcenter.com)
- Southside Art Center – Roseville  
801 Riverside Ave. Suite 104  
Roseville, California, 95678  
(530) 906-7715  
Email: [roseville@southsideartcenter.com](mailto:roseville@southsideartcenter.com)
- Description: Southside Art Center was started in 1986 by Matt and Robin Rhoades as a 501©3 non-profit corporation. Today, the Art Center serves around 200 people with developmental disabilities at four sites (Sacramento, Elk Grove, Auburn, and Roseville). The visual arts program may include painting, drawing, ceramics, sculpture, woodworking, wire sculpture, knitting, mask making and many other choices. Southside encourage the artists to create their own projects and methods of working, in order to develop their artistic voice.
- Eligibility: Serves adults with developmental disabilities.
- Staff: Southside Art employs a direct support professional team including adaptive skills trainers, an Artistic Growth and Employment Coordinator, Community Skill Trainers, Lead Artists, Lead Production Instructors, Product Coordinators, Recycling job coaches,

- Hours and Operations: 8 am to 4 pm; Monday through Friday
- Gallery: Many of artists choose to exhibit and sell their art at Southside Art Center Gallery and other community exhibitions in the Sacramento area.
- Role of persons without disabilities: Community involvement is a key belief that Southside Art Center operates within. The people served have many abilities that are masked behind their disabilities. Volunteerism provides the means to work side by side with people who volunteer their services. In addition, the Southside Art Center Gallery is located in a mall and operated by people with disabilities.

### **The Studio (Eureka, CA)**

272 C Street

Eureka, California

(707) 443-1428

Email: [thestudio@thestudioonline.org](mailto:thestudio@thestudioonline.org)

Blog: <http://thestudioonline.wordpress.com/>  
[www.thestudioonline.org/](http://www.thestudioonline.org/)

- Description: Modeled after “Creatively Explored”, almost 50 artists, assisted by 7 teachers, work at The Studio each week to express their unique visions of the world and their place in it.
- Eligibility: The artists who come to The Studio have a disability and all have differing backgrounds. They range in age from their early 20’s to 70’s.
- Staff: 7 full time professional artists
- Hours and Operations: 9 am to 2 pm; Monday through Friday
- Gallery: Cheri Blackerby Gallery is the permanent gallery to showcase the work of the artists. A gallery opening is held on the first Saturday of every month.
- Funding: Funded by Redwood Coast Regional Center (as a licensed program of HCAR, Humboldt County Access and Resources), sales of artwork and community grants and donations.

### **VSA California (affiliate)**

c/o Orange County Department of Education

200 Kalmus Drive

Costa Mesa, CA 92628-9050

(714) 299-1813

<http://vsacalifornia.com>

- Executive Director: Troy Botello  
[tjvsaca@gmail.com](mailto:tjvsaca@gmail.com)
- Description: VSA California’s mission is to make the arts accessible to people of all abilities through providing arts, education, and cultural opportunities by, with, and for people with disabilities. Guiding principles and beliefs include respecting people and focusing on their abilities; utilizing the arts to promote understanding and communication among all people; expanding artistic inclusion to reach all schools; promoting accessibility to community cultural facilities; and helping to ensure that everyone who aspires to a career in the arts has the opportunity to develop those skills.
- Staff: 1 full time, Board of Directors, and teaching artists
- Funding: California State Department of Education; Orange County Department of Education; Sacramento City Unified School District; The California Arts Project; CVS Caremark All Kids Can; Sacramento Region Community Foundation; Festival of Children; Boeing Foundation; SMART Foundation



## COLORADO

### ❑ Access Gallery/VSA Colorado (affiliate)

909 Santa Fe Dr  
Denver CO 80204  
(303) 777-0797  
TTY: (303) 777-0796  
[www.accessgallery.org](http://www.accessgallery.org)

- Description: VSA Colorado is working to promote the creative power in people with disabilities. Established in 1978, VSA Colorado annually serves nearly 10,000 people with disabilities, their families, and those who work with them. VSA Colorado/Access Gallery is an inclusive non-profit organization that engages the community by opening doors to creative and educational opportunities for people with disabilities to access and experience the arts.
- Eligibility: VSA Arts of Colorado offers diverse educational opportunities for students of all ages with and without disabilities. The programs use arts-based learning and teaching strategies to ensure that all students can learn from and enjoy the arts. The programs also serve to promote disability awareness.
- Staff: 1 full time, 2 part time
- Hours and Operations (Gallery): Wednesday through Friday; 10 am to 5 pm; Saturday; 10 am to 2 pm

## CONNECTICUT

### ❑ Young Audiences of Connecticut/VSA Connecticut (affiliate)

3074 Whitney Ave. Bldg. 2, 2nd Floor  
Hamden, CT 06518  
(203) 230-8101  
<http://yaconn.org>

- Executive Director: Eileen Carpinella  
[ecarpinella@yaconn.org](mailto:ecarpinella@yaconn.org)
- Description: Young Audiences of Connecticut's vision is that all children realize their potential through the arts; that the arts are valued for their ability to improve our schools and communities; and that by participating in the arts, children will come to understand and value themselves, their neighbors, and the world cultures they share. As Connecticut's VSA affiliate, Young Audiences is committed to creating a society where all people with disabilities learn through, participate in and enjoy the arts. Our arts programs reach over 400,000 children and adults annually in 86% of Connecticut's towns.
- Eligibility: Participants are people of all ages and abilities.
- Staff: 6 staff

## DELAWARE

▣ **VSA Delaware (affiliate)**

Arts Center/Gallery  
 Delaware State University  
 1200 N DuPont Hwy  
 Dover, DE 19901  
 (302) 857.6699  
<http://vsadelaware.org>

- Executive Director: Jennifer L. Gunther  
[jennifer@VSADelaware.org](mailto:jennifer@VSADelaware.org)
- Description: VSA Delaware recognizes the need for children and adults with disabilities to be provided with opportunities to participate and achieve in the areas of performing and visual arts. As valuable learning tools, the arts should be fully accessible by all individuals. We are unique as we are the only organization in Delaware with a sole mission devoted specifically to enhancing the capabilities, confidence and quality of life for individuals with disabilities by providing life-long learning opportunities in the arts.
- Eligibility: Participants are people all abilities and ages.
- Staff: 2 part time

▣ **Art Therapy Express Program**

310 Kiamensi Road  
 Wilmington, DE 19804  
 (302) 584-4068  
 Email: [arttherapyexpress@verizon.net](mailto:arttherapyexpress@verizon.net)  
[www.arttherapyexpress.org](http://www.arttherapyexpress.org)

- Executive Director: Lisa Bartoli  
[lisaBartoli@arttherapyexpress.org](mailto:lisaBartoli@arttherapyexpress.org)
- Description: Art Therapy Express, Inc is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization devoted to making the arts accessible to all people. Launched in 1997, ATE was the first mobile expressive arts program to serve individuals within Delaware schools, hospitals, community and nonprofit organizations. Art Therapy Express provides an open art studio, school programs, educational in services, summer art camp, and individual art therapy sessions. ATE sessions are designed exclusively to support the individual student, and utilize adaptive technology to promote participation or independence.
- Eligibility: Visual and expressive arts program for children and adults with multiple and severe disabilities, including physical, intellectual, emotional, visual and hearing impairments, learning disabilities, communication disorders, autism, Asperger's syndrome, traumatic brain injury, post traumatic stress disorder and terminal illnesses.
- Staff: Staff includes Master's Level Art Therapists.
- Role of persons without disabilities: Arts education program are inclusive, serving students with and without disabilities. The programs provide creative and social opportunities for individuals with and without disabilities to create awareness, understanding, and respect. There are also volunteer opportunities.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### **Art Enables**

2204 Rhode Island Ave, NE  
Washington, DC 20018  
(202) 554.9455  
[www.art-enables.org](http://www.art-enables.org)

- Executive Director: Mary Liniger  
[mcliniger@art-enables.org](mailto:mcliniger@art-enables.org)
- Description: Founded in 2001, with 25 participants currently working at the studio. Art Enables seeks to empower participants to create and market outsider and folk art as a way of developing skills and finding a meaningful role in society. Artist receives earnings from sales (60% of revenues) are distributed by check at the beginning of the month. In the District, Art Enables is a vendor in the categories of day habilitation, prevocational training, and supported employment for the Medicaid Waiver as administered through the Department on Disability Services.
- Eligibility: Art Enables is open to persons 18 and over from throughout the Washington metropolitan area who are diagnosed with developmental disabilities and who have the desire and the discipline to work at becoming professional visual artists. Participants are often referred by case managers and rehabilitation specialists, and are selected for their talent and interest in visual arts. Art Enables has a zero-tolerance policy for physical and verbal aggression.
- There is a per diem fee for participation in Art Enables. That fee can be covered privately, although it is most often covered by state or regional service providers. The responsible party is billed monthly for days attended the previous month. The intake procedure includes an in-depth interview with applicants, focused, in particular, on their enthusiasm for visual expression and their willingness and ability to adhere to studio

rules and guidelines. Applicants are encouraged to bring samples of their work to the interview and are asked to complete a simple arts exercise.

- Staff: Participants work under the guidance of professional art-instructors. Staff facilitates art-work production, helping with technical issues, giving advice, spurring to extra effort. Staff does not teach art.
- Hours and Operations: Participants come to the studio on scheduled days Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm, one to four days a week. They are expected to show up on their scheduled days or to call if they must miss a day. Everyone brings lunch; afternoon coffee or tea is on the house.
- Gallery: In 2005, there were more than 20 exhibits in the area that contained work from Art Enables.

### **ART Options**

2201 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Suite C-150  
Washington, DC 20007  
[www.sjcs.org/services/art-options](http://www.sjcs.org/services/art-options)

- Program Coordinator: Marvin Brown  
[mbrown@sjcs.org](mailto:mbrown@sjcs.org)
- Description: Consistent with other St. John's Community Services' programs, ART Options operates in community settings in which participants enhance their personal and professional skills and prepare for and attain careers in the art field. ART Options focuses on applied, fine arts and digital design instruction, internships and jobs, public programming, museum and gallery visits, and the development of salesmanship and communications skills guided by the participant's goals.
- Eligibility: People with disabilities in Washington, DC age 16+ who are part of St. John's Community Services.
- Staff: Program is operated and staffed through St. John's Community Services.
- Role of persons without disabilities: ART options

utilizes the resources of the Washington D.C. arts community to enable artists with and without disabilities to develop relationships and collaborative on projects.

#### ❑ **The Art and Drama Therapy Institute (ADTI)**

327 S St NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
(202) 635-1576  
Email: [adti@adtinet.com](mailto:adti@adtinet.com)  
[www.adtinet.com](http://www.adtinet.com)

- Description: The Art and Drama Therapy Institute, Inc. (ADTI) is an innovative approach to the care and treatment of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through the use of art, music, movement, and drama therapies, along with innovative behavior management techniques, has been hailed as “a national model.” The goal is to enable its adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to discover and cultivate their unique talents, skills, and strengths, vital to their successful normalization as effective, contributing members of society. The institute offers several therapeutic programs, as well as daily living and behavior management skills.
- Eligibility: Individuals come to ADTI five days a week from around the city, bringing with them a broad range of physical, emotional, behavioral, and cognitive challenges. ADTI serves individuals with intellectual disabilities ranging from ages 21 to 72. ADTI’s individuals live in group homes, natural homes, foster homes, and supervised apartments.
- Gallery: An adjacent gallery is located at the institute where artists can sell their work. ADTI artist work is also exhibited in community galleries throughout the city.

## FLORIDA

#### ❑ **Creative Clay**

1124 Central Avenue,  
St. Petersburg, FL  
(727) 825-0515  
[www.creativeclay.org](http://www.creativeclay.org)

- Description: Creative Clay, Inc. is a non-profit corporation with an expressed interest in providing the local community of Tampa Bay, Florida with a place to experience all aspects of the arts. Creative Clay has 7 different programs. The Community Arts Program specifically works with adult artists diagnosed with developmental, emotional and/or physical challenges and implements services five days a week, all year long, developing each individual artist’s technique and skill. Adult Day Training takes place every day which includes exercises and lessons in personal development such as advocating for one’s self or role playing on how to interface with the community.
- Eligibility: Creative Clay’s mission is to make the arts accessible for every interested member of the Tampa Bay Community regardless of age, gender, ability and/or race.
- Staff: 9 full time staff
- Hours and Operations: 8:30 – 5 pm; Monday through Friday
- Gallery: Creative Clay is committed to promoting the work created by its member artists through bimonthly art exhibitions in the downtown gallery and various public venues throughout the greater Tampa Bay region.

### ▣ **Pyramid Incorporated (six locations)**

Pensacola Office: (850) 438-4679

Tallahassee Office: (850) 671-1690

[www.pyramidinc.org](http://www.pyramidinc.org)

- ▣ Pensacola  
7309 W. Highway 98  
Pensacola, FL 32506  
(850) 453-3341
- ▣ Tallahassee  
2645 W. Tennessee Street, Unit #5  
Tallahassee, FL 32304  
(850) 574-4978
- ▣ Pyramid Studios  
1770 Thomasville Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 513-1733
- ▣ Panama City  
524 Harrison Avenue  
Panama City, FL 32401  
(850) 872-8105
- ▣ Fort Walton Beach  
432 Green Acres Road  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547  
(850) 862-7139
- ▣ Tampa  
1508 W. Sligh Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33604  
(813) 931-3986
- ▣ Description: Pyramid is best known for its unique arts program, which offers a full range of visual and performing arts, catering to each student's level of ability and interest. Pyramid Incorporated, a 501C(3) corporation, was created in 1994 to serve 200 individuals, most of whom faced severe developmental barriers. Pyramid now serves more than 700 adults representing a wide range of abilities. The organization remains committed to serving those with severe disabilities as it seeks new ways to engage its students, to provide an environment in which they can find excitement and meaning – and to provide them

the opportunity to become full participants in their communities. Pyramid's programs are supported by Medicaid and the Medicaid Waiver. That basic support is increasingly supplemented by grants, fund-raising and partnerships with universities and private businesses.

- ▣ Gallery: Pyramid's artists exhibit from St. Petersburg, Tampa and Orlando to the Panhandle. Their work is on display from south Florida to Chicago and beyond.

### ▣ **VSA Florida (affiliate)**

4204 E. Fowler Avenue

EDU 105

Tampa, FL 33620

(813) 974-0715

<http://vsafll.org>

- ▣ Executive Director: Marian Winters  
[mwinters@usf.edu](mailto:mwinters@usf.edu)
- ▣ Description: The mission of VSA Florida is to create a society where people with disabilities have the opportunity to learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. VSA Florida meets its mission through a statewide network of program partners that provide services for children, youth, and adults with disabilities, and programs including professional development opportunities, rotating exhibitions, performances, and artists' residencies.

## GEORGIA

### ❑ VSA Georgia (affiliate)

57 Forsyth Street NW, Suite R-1  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
<http://vsaartsga.org>

- Executive Director: Elizabeth Labbe-Webb  
(404) 221-1270 | [elizabeth.labbe-webb@vsaartsga.org](mailto:elizabeth.labbe-webb@vsaartsga.org)
- Description: Don Robinson in 1974 as Hospital Audiences, with a mission to make the arts accessible to those with disabilities, disadvantaged, and institutionalized. Original programs included providing donated tickets to arts and cultural events and taking artists into human service agencies. In 1977, VSA Georgia was created as a subsidiary of Special Audiences, and became part of a national network of art organizations dedicated to serving persons with disabilities. In 1997, the organizations merged into one entity, under the name Arts for All. In 2000, the organization joined the international network of VSA. VSA arts of Georgia provides access to the arts for people with disabilities and those who live with low incomes. We are a statewide resource working with artists and organizations to fulfill our mission of an inclusive community that encourages everyone to enjoy and participate in the arts.
- Staff: 4 full time, 3 part time

### ❑ Georgia Artists with Disabilities, Inc (GAWD)

Post Office Box 938  
Decatur, GA 30031-0938  
(404) 909-5451  
Email: [info@georgiaartistswd.org](mailto:info@georgiaartistswd.org)  
[www.georgiaartistswd.org](http://www.georgiaartistswd.org)

- Board Chair 2011 - 2012: Nancy Shealy
- Description: Founded in 1985 by the Pilot Club of Metro Atlanta, artists with disabilities in Georgia have opportunity to display and sell artwork, and are eligible to compete for awards and the opportunity to have their artwork displayed in a statewide tour and exhibit. Many mediums of artwork are included in the show, such as pottery, painting, sculpture, woodcarving, photography, weaving, and others.

## HAWAII

### ❑ VSA Hawaii (affiliate)

University of Hawaii Center on Disability Studies  
1410 Lower Campus Road, Bldg 171F  
Honolulu, HI 96822-2313  
(808) 956-3975  
<http://vsahawaii.org/>

- Description: VSA Hawaii promotes awareness of the value of arts in the daily lives of people with disabilities, and fosters opportunities for the full inclusion and participation in all the arts by youth and adults with disabilities, especially the underserved in Hawaii and the outer Pacific.



## IDAHO

❑ **Creative Art Access Center**  
**VSA Idaho (affiliate)**  
**Idaho Parents Unlimited, Inc.**

500 South 8th Street  
 Boise, ID 83702  
 (208) 342-5884  
<http://ipulidaho.org>

- Executive Director: Angela Lindig  
[angela@ipulidaho.org](mailto:angela@ipulidaho.org)
- Description: Idaho Parents Unlimited, Inc., (IPUL) supports, empowers, educates, and advocates to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Idaho with disabilities and their families. Through its VSA programming, IPUL seeks to empower people with disabilities and to engage them in the creative process through opportunities that are fully inclusive, educational, and participatory. Services are delivered in an inclusive environment and so it serves the full arts community and not just those with disabilities. The CAAC includes exhibit space, artist teaching classroom space and a resource library, which includes education, disability and arts information. Professional Development classes and workshops will continue as well through 2012 allowing local artists, both with and without disabilities opportunities to create, display and sell their art. Realizing self-employment in a field of one's interest is key to the success and sustainability of this program.
- Staff: 2 full time, 10 part time
- Funding: This program was funded through the Idaho State Independent Living Council's Medicaid Infrastructure Grant. The SILC promotes the independent living philosophy for all Idahoans with disabilities: choice, self-determination, and access for all. In 2010 and again in 2011 was awarded through the State Independent Living Council (SILC) a Medicaid Infrastructure Grant to

increase employment of artists with disabilities and to establish the Creative Access Art Center (CAAC) and related adult artist employment and professional development programming.

- Role of persons without disabilities: The Master/Artist Apprentice Program pairs apprentice artists with disabilities with a master artist in order to hone a new skill or improve upon an emerging skill allowing for meaningful future employment opportunities in a field of one's own choice.

## ILLINOIS

### ❑ Access Living: Arts and Culture Project

115 West Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60654  
(312) 640-2100  
Toll free (800) 613-8549  
TTY (312) 640-2102  
[www.accessliving.org](http://www.accessliving.org)

- Description: Access Living is one of the most influential centers for disability advocacy and service in the United States. The new headquarters, opened in 2007, brought the establishment of the Disability Arts and Culture Program. Access Living features a permanent art collection “comprised of art by professional artists with disabilities, as well as work by nondisabled artists who have made disability a central focus.” The Permanent Collection at Access Living is unique; comprised of art by professional artists with disabilities, as well as work by nondisabled artists whom have made disability a central focus of their investigations.

### ❑ Arts of Life

Email: [info@artsoflife.org](mailto:info@artsoflife.org)  
[www.artsoflife.org](http://www.artsoflife.org)

- North Shore Studio  
1963 Johns Drive  
Glenview, IL 60025  
(847) 486-0808
- Chicago Studio  
2010 W. Carroll Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60612  
(312) 829-2787
- Executive Director: Denise Fisher
- Eligibility: Participants must: be 18 years or older, have a primary diagnosis of developmental disability, have an interest in creating original art and becoming a working artist. Arts of Life focuses

on the fine arts exclusively and does not work with crafts. Participants must meet the DHS 30U program or the Medicaid adult waiver requirements for funding (except private pay individuals). Participants also must be set up on Chicago’s Para Transit transportation program or be able to travel independently. Participants must have no recent history (in the past two years) of problems using knives, razor blades, or scissors, and no allergies to paint or paint products.

- Staff: Artists, board of directors, and studio managers make up the interdisciplinary team.
- Description: The Arts of Life, Inc. is committed to providing high quality, innovative services for developmentally disabled adults. The studio focuses on its artists’ needs and strives to exceed expectations. The Arts of Life will continue to be characterized by both dedication to its artists and excellence in the field of developmental disabilities.
- Hours and Operations (North Shore Studio): 9 am to 2 pm; Monday through Friday; staff available after hours and on weekends by appointment
- Gallery: On-site gallery, as well as inclusion in several coffee shops, community venues, and restaurants in Chicago.
- Funding: Medicaid Waivers and private donations.

### ❑ Bodies of work

University of Illinois at Chicago  
Department of Disability and Human Development  
1640 West Roosevelt Road, MC 626  
Chicago, Illinois 60608-6904  
(312) 996-1967  
[www.bodiesofworkchicago.org](http://www.bodiesofworkchicago.org)

- Description: Bodies of Work, a network of artists and organizations, is a catalyst for disability arts and culture that illuminate the disability experience in new and unexpected ways. In the fall of 2009, Dr. Carrie Sandahl began designing the

Program on Disability Art, Culture, and Humanities (PDACH). Sandahl was the Co-Project Investigator with Dr. Carol Gill of the University of Illinois at Chicago's on a three-year qualitative study entitled "Experiences of Individuals with Disabilities Pursuing Careers in the Arts: Creating a National Portrait in Words and Numbers" for the National Endowment for the Arts. The program furthers research on disability art and culture, including: Arts criticism, theory, and history; documentation of artists with disabilities and their work through collecting archival materials and oral histories; and studies on the career development of disabled artists, arts policy, and arts education. The program supports the creation of disability art and culture and includes: arts practice classes, projects, and internships; and educational programs for youth with disabilities.

#### ❑ **Esperanza Community Services**

520 N. Marshfield, Chicago, IL 60622  
(773) 981-2831

Email: [info@esperanzacommunity.org](mailto:info@esperanzacommunity.org)

<http://esperanzacommunity.org>

- Description: The arts are woven into all programs at Esperanza Community Services. Throughout the year, the artists have the opportunity to participate in a number of events, including gallery and museum exhibits (with individual artists receiving a portion of their sales) and performances. Creativity becomes a common ground where our artists and members of the community can unite, and the works of art advocate on behalf of their creators. ECS has helped thousands of children and adults with developmental disabilities achieve their potential. The mission is to provide instruction and services to people with developmental disabilities to reach their fullest potential toward a productive and independent life in the community.

- Eligibility: Esperanza Community Services is an inclusive place where children and adults with developmental disabilities are supported to reach their full potential so that they can live as independently as possible. Students and adult participants are learning, developing skills, and increasing self-esteem. Everyone, no matter his or her ability, has strengths, talents, and aspirations.
- Gallery: Artwork is sold annually at Ancient Echoes Gallery and the Intuit Show in Chicago.
- Funding: United Way of Metropolitan Chicago; The Coleman Foundation; Northern Trust Charitable Trust; The Illinois Arts Council, a State Agency; The Andrew and Alice Fischer Charitable Trust of First American Bank; The Donald P. and Byrd M. Kelly Foundation

#### ❑ **Intuit: The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art**

756 N Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60642  
(312) 243-9088

Email: [intuit@art.org](mailto:intuit@art.org)

[www.art.org](http://www.art.org)

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm; Thursdays until 7 pm; Sundays (and Monday school holidays) noon-5 pm; Closed Mondays (with the exception of school holidays)

#### ❑ **Project Onward**

Chicago Cultural Center

78 East Washington, Chicago, Illinois 60602

<http://projectonward.org>

- Program Director: Rob Lentz  
(312) 744-8032 | [info@projectonward.org](mailto:info@projectonward.org)
- Description: Project Onward is a studio and gallery dedicated to the creative growth of artists with developmental disabilities. Located in the historic Chicago Cultural Center, Project Onward provides workspace, art materials, professional guidance, and opportunities for exhibition and

sales to artists who have exceptional talents but face challenges ranging from autism to mental illness.

- Staff: Art professionals act as facilitators in the studio to assist participants in the development of art.
- Hours and Operations: 10 am to 5 pm; Monday through Saturday
- Gallery: Artists receive 60% of sales from gallery on-site. Project Onward exhibits, promotes, and sells the artists' works as a means to provide income for the participants, and to integrate the artists into the community.
- Funding: Project Onward is a program of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events in partnership with the Chicago Office of Tourism and Culture, and is partially funded by grants from the Dr. Scholl Foundation and the I.A. O'Shaughnessy Foundation.

#### ▣ **Little City Foundation: Center for the Arts**

1760 W. Algonquin Rd., Palatine, IL 60067  
(847) 221-7161  
[www.littlecityarts.org/pages/home/1.php](http://www.littlecityarts.org/pages/home/1.php)

- Description: For more than 20 years, The Center for the Arts has provided children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to explore and expand their unique and creative talents, promoting a sense of accomplishment and empowerment through the arts. The result is a dynamic arts organization that on a daily basis pushes the edge of the artistic envelope, and strives for innovation by offering new possibilities of artistic engagement through exposure to new mediums and ideas. Little City Foundation strongly believes in empowering people with disabilities – to give them the education, training, skills and encouragement that enable them to reach beyond their current capabilities and become all that they could be.

- Eligibility: Children and adults with I/DD
- Staff: Professional artists acting as facilitators encourage artists to expand their reach and skills, resulting in art that transcends the disability of the artists who created it.
- Gallery: Beginning with Great Doings, an exhibition at the University of Chicago Renaissance Society, the studio program has displayed work in more than 60 galleries nationally and internationally. Among the studio program's most notable achievements was a lengthy collaborative effort between colleagues in Hamburg, Germany, that culminated in the exhibition Coming Together at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago and the Chicago Cultural Center.
- Funding: The Center for the Arts is funded in part by After School Matters, Bank of America, Boeing Company – Employees Community Fund (ECF), Jean A. Ford, the Gerber Endowment Fund, The Illinois Arts Council - a state agency, Marvin and Kay Lichtman Foundation, Square D Foundation, United Parcel Service, Wachovia/ Wells Fargo Foundation and A. Montgomery Ward.

## INDIANA

#### ▣ **VSA Indiana**

1505 North Delaware Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
(317) 974-4123  
Email: [info@vsai.org](mailto:info@vsai.org)  
[www.aeai.org/vsa-indiana.html](http://www.aeai.org/vsa-indiana.html)

- Description: VSA Indiana was founded in 1982 as Arts Unlimited, and since 1986 it has been the state affiliate for VSA. VSAI's headquarters are located inside the Harrison Center for the Arts in Indianapolis. District Partners in six communities around Indiana (Columbus, Lebanon, Marion, Muncie, South Bend, and Terre Haute) ensure that individuals outside of Central Indiana also have access to programs.

## IOWA

❑ **VSA Iowa (affiliate)**

400 East 14th Street  
 Grimes State Office Building  
 Des Moines, IA 50319  
 (515) 281-5839  
<http://vsaiowa.org/>

- Description: VSA Iowa promotes the creative power of Iowans of all abilities through arts experiences. VSA Iowa uses the arts to improve the capabilities of children and adults with disabilities in learning and expressing themselves. Businesses, organizations, and individuals have been instrumental in helping VSA Iowa's growth plan for providing arts opportunities to an increasing number of people, while expanding services for children and adults. VSA programs are free of cost.

## KANSAS

❑ **Accessible Arts, Inc. (VSA affiliate)**

1100 State Avenue  
 Kansas City, KS 66102  
 Voice/TTY: (913) 281-1133  
 Email: [accarts@accessiblearts.org](mailto:accarts@accessiblearts.org)  
[www.accessiblearts.org](http://www.accessiblearts.org)

- Description: Accessible Arts, Inc., is a nonprofit organization that provides a wide range of services to make the arts accessible to people of all abilities. It has a national referral network and serves as a resource center for consultation and evaluation. Services include training workshops, arts demonstrations with students, and technical assistance. Accessible Arts, Inc., also publishes a newsletter semiannually. The mission of Accessible Arts, Inc. is to foster creativity and provide educational opportunities for people with disabilities while hosting an inclusive environment

for all to engage, explore, and enjoy the arts.  
 Gallery: Epic Clay Studio and Accessible Arts Gallery

❑ **Imagine That**

2040 Central Street  
 Kansas City, Missouri 64108  
 (816) 474-4200  
[www.imaginethatkc.org](http://www.imaginethatkc.org)

- Program Director: Misty Kelso  
[misty@rhd-mo.org](mailto:misty@rhd-mo.org)
- Description: Imagine That! is an innovative creative arts studio for individuals with developmental disabilities located in the Crossroads Art District. Imagine That! is a program offered by Resources for Human Development (RHD), a non-profit, human services organization founded in 1970. RHD operates in 14 states and provides a variety of services addressing intellectual and developmental disabilities, behavioral health, homelessness, addiction recovery and more.
- Hours and Operations: The gallery is open to the public every First Friday of the month from 6 to 9 pm. Visitors can also stop by Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, from 10 am to 3 pm to say hello or check out our artists in action.
- Gallery: Artists receive 60% of sales from gallery on-site. Project Onward exhibits, promotes, and sells the artists' works as a means to provide income for the participants, and to integrate the artists into the community.

## KENTUCKY

❑ **Access to the Arts**

304 East Kenwood Drive  
 Louisville, KY 40214-2842  
 (502) 367-9569  
 Email: [disacool@aol.com](mailto:disacool@aol.com)  
[www.accesstothearts.org](http://www.accesstothearts.org)

- Description: Access to the Arts works directly with persons with disabilities and arts organizations to assure access to diverse artistic experiences. Access to the Arts develops human and financial resources that allow for the full participation of persons with disabilities in the arts. It provides educational tools to people with disabilities, arts organizations, disability groups, and the general public.

❑ **VSA Kentucky (affiliate)**

515 East 10th Avenue  
 Bowling Green, KY 42101  
 (270) 904-7019  
 Email: [vsaky@bellsouth.net](mailto:vsaky@bellsouth.net)  
<http://vsartsky.org>

- Executive Director: Delaire Rowe  
[director@vsartsky.org](mailto:director@vsartsky.org)
- Description: VSA Kentucky provides arts education and inclusion programs for children and adults with disabilities and for underserved populations throughout the state. Through involvement with trained professionals and volunteers, people with disabilities learn creative and social skills that open doors to new opportunities in the arts. Headquartered in Bowling Green, VSA Kentucky conducts programs and services in all six congressional districts in the state.



## MAINE

### ▣ Spindleworks

7 Lincoln Street  
Brunswick, ME 04011  
(207) 725-8820  
[www.spindleworks.org/](http://www.spindleworks.org/)

- Description: Spindleworks is a nonprofit art center for adults with disabilities and a program of the Independence Association of Brunswick Maine, whose mission is to help children and adults with disabilities achieve full and inclusive lives in their chosen community. . Their work is exhibited in the Whatnot Gallery and Store at Spindleworks as well as in shows both locally and nationally. The artists receive 75% of the sale price of their work, with 25% returning to the program to purchase supplies. Nestled in downtown Brunswick, Spindleworks is located in walking distance from numerous galleries, as well as the Curtis Memorial Library, the Theater Project, the Bowdoin College Art Museum, Pickard Theater, and the Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum at Bowdoin College
- Eligibility: Artists in the Spindleworks program come from surrounding communities including Bath, Topsham, Bowdoinham, Portland, Westbrook, Auburn, Lisbon Falls, Richmond, and Freeport. Artists attending the program receive supplies, studio space, and guidance as needed
- Staff: Comprised of artist mentors and program supervisors.
- Gallery: The Spindleworks gallery and store are open Monday through Friday 9 to 4:30. The artists are on site Monday through Thursday 9 to 2, and Friday until 1.

### ▣ Yes Art Works

[www.yesartworks.org](http://www.yesartworks.org)

- 619 Brighton Ave  
Portland, ME 04103  
(207) 879-1140
- 29 Hampshire St.  
Auburn, ME 04210  
(207) 795-6737
- 90 Industrial Park Road  
Saco, ME 04072  
(207) 282-4173
- Description: Yes Art Works encompasses all of the arts at Creative Work Systems. We provide an array of creative opportunities for people with intellectual and other disabilities to flourish, cultivating pride, confidence, and further independence as working artists.

Studios in Portland, Saco, and Auburn provide artists with the tools they need to explore their creativity in multiple mediums and techniques, including, drawing, painting, printmaking, weaving, fiber arts, woodworking, ceramics, and sculpture. Yes Art Works also connects artists with galleries and local businesses for exhibit opportunities and provides field trips to museums, art galleries, artists' studios and community events.

Staff: Each studio has an art specialist and volunteers.

## MARYLAND

❑ **Make Studio**

Schwing Art Center  
3326 Keswick Road (front)  
Baltimore, MD 21211  
(443) 627-3502  
Email: [info@make-studio.org](mailto:info@make-studio.org)  
<http://make-studio.org/>

❑ **Studio Downstairs**

**CREATE Arts Center**

815 Thayer Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
(301) 588-2787  
Email: [create@createartscenter.org](mailto:create@createartscenter.org)  
[www.createartscenter.org/art-therapy/studio-downstairs/](http://www.createartscenter.org/art-therapy/studio-downstairs/)

- Description: Studio Downstairs is a special project of CREATE Arts Center, a non-profit (501-C3) in Silver Spring, MD. Studio Downstairs provides psychological / social support to adults who might otherwise be too vulnerable to attend school or vocational programs. Studio Downstairs is dedicated to improving artistic expression, personal relationships, mental health, and community life. In the Studio, you may paint, draw, and sculpt alongside others. Technique days, art gallery visits, and special classes are also available. Studio Downstairs is modeled after the successful Studio Upstairs (est. 1988) in central London. At Studio Downstairs, we believe that art is a powerful means of communication and healing.
- Eligibility: Studio Downstairs is an all day open art studio and therapeutically informed community for people 18 years and older. Fees are a sliding scale, and health insurance may cover part of them.
- Staff: Program managers, teachers, art therapist, volunteers, and interns.

## MASSACHUSETTS

### ❑ Center for Emerging Artists/ At the Arc of East Middlesex

20 Gould Street  
Reading, MA 01867  
(781) 944-5655  
[www.theemarc.org](http://www.theemarc.org)

- Amy Ruiter, [aruiter@theemarc.org](mailto:aruiter@theemarc.org)
- Description: Established in 2000 as an extension of the Arc, EMARC provides adults with developmental disabilities opportunities to discover and foster artistic talents. Mediums explored at the Center include watercolor and acrylic painting on paper and canvas, decorative furniture painting, jewelry making, ceramics and holiday gift items.
- Staff: Professional artists and human services staff
- Gallery: In addition to fostering the development of artistic skills, the Center is involved in the marketing of completed artworks. This marketing includes sales to the general public through the Center at 20-24 Gould Street, Reading; through art exhibitions and through local gift shops. Available artwork changes seasonally and includes paintings, greeting cards, furniture, Jewelry, T-shirts and more.
- Funding: The Center is supported by the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Disabilities, private foundations and individual donors.

### ❑ Gateway Arts

60-62 Harvard Street  
Brookline, MA 02445  
(617) 734-1577  
[www.gatewayarts.org](http://www.gatewayarts.org)

- Description: Gateway Arts is an internationally known arts-based vocational rehabilitation service with professional studios, a gallery, and a retail store. Artists at Gateway develop skills in

various mediums including, but not limited to, fabric painting, decorative painting, drawing and painting, graphic design, tie dye, mixed media sculpture, ceramic hand-building and wheel throwing, sewing, embroidery, knitting, jewelry making, weaving on production looms, creative writing for publication, and production in theatre, music and film making. Artists work alongside each other and learn from, support and inspire each other while creating unique one-of-a-kind products. Established in 1973 as "Gateway Crafts, the initial model was a vocational program for adults with developmental disabilities entering the community after deinstitutionalization. Now, there are over 100 adults served in 3 studios.

- Staff: Program managers, and art studio supervisors.
- Gallery: Artist can exhibit and sell work in two locations: the Gateway Craft Store and The Gateway Gallery

### ❑ VSA Massachusetts (affiliate)

89 South Street, Suite 101  
Boston, MA 02111  
(617) 350-7713  
TTY (617) 350-6535  
<http://vsamass.org>

- Executive Director: Charles J. Washburn  
[cjwashburn@vsamass.org](mailto:cjwashburn@vsamass.org)
- Description: VSA Massachusetts promotes the involvement of people of all abilities in the cultural life of Massachusetts' communities and develops multi-sensory, arts-based teaching strategies in Massachusetts' schools, opening new windows onto the general curriculum for all students.

## MICHIGAN

### ❑ Heartside Ministry

54 Division Ave S, Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
(616) 235-7211  
Email: [info@heartside.org](mailto:info@heartside.org)  
<http://heartside.org>  
Gallery Hours: Monday – Friday 9 am – 3:30 pm

### ❑ Paint a Miracle Art Studio

400 Water St, LL4, Rochester, MI 48307  
(248) 652-2702  
[www.paintamiracle.org](http://www.paintamiracle.org)

- Description: Paint a Miracle Art Studio opened its doors in 2002 and now maintains an art studio and gallery in downtown Rochester. At Paint a Miracle, artists work in a variety of mediums, including painting and drawing, ceramics and fiber arts. Their work is exhibited and sold in the Paint a Miracle gallery and throughout the community. Paint a Miracle is a place of independence, artistic freedom and inspiration - a place where one can enjoy the creative process amongst friends.

### ❑ VSA Michigan (affiliate)

1920 25th Street, Suite B, Detroit, MI 48216  
(313) 843.2355  
Email: [info@vsami.org](mailto:info@vsami.org)  
[www.vsami.org](http://www.vsami.org)

- Description: VSA Michigan promotes creative power in people with disabilities and works to create an inclusive society where they participate in, learn through, excel in, and enjoy the arts. VSA Michigan increases educational and community arts opportunities for individuals with disabilities throughout the state, and promotes the benefits of arts education. VSA Michigan also provides direct assistance to volunteers in the areas of program development, fundraising, public relations, and community networking to

plan and implement programming that benefits thousands of individuals with disabilities in their respective communities.

## MINNESOTA

### ❑ Interact Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

212 Third Avenue North, Suite 140  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 339-5145  
Email: [info@interactcenter.com](mailto:info@interactcenter.com)  
[www.interactcenter.com](http://www.interactcenter.com)

- Artistic/Executive Director: Jeanne Calvit  
[jeanne@interactcenter.com](mailto:jeanne@interactcenter.com)
- Description: Non-profit organization dedicated to creating art to challenge society's view of disability. The center seeks to create an environment in which artists can find their true voices, while working with professional artists.
- Staff: Consists of social workers, administrative staff, and trained artists who offer instruction in painting, drawing, and textile. Studio volunteers also assist instructors and work alongside artists.

### ❑ VSA Minnesota (affiliate)

Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts  
528 Hennepin Avenue, Suite 305  
Minneapolis, MN 55403  
(612) 332-3888  
[www.vsamn.org](http://www.vsamn.org)

- Executive Director: Craig J. Dunn  
[craig@vsamn.org](mailto:craig@vsamn.org)
- Description: VSA Minnesota is working to create a community where people with disabilities can learn through, participate in, and access the arts. It does this by making the arts available and accessible to people with all types of disabilities throughout Minnesota.

**MISSISSIPPI****❑ VSA Mississippi (affiliate)**

P. O. Box 2364  
Jackson, MS 39225-2364  
(601) 965-4866

- Executive Director: V. A. Patterson  
jacvsa@bellsouth.net
- Description: VSA Mississippi is a statewide 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that promotes and provides arts opportunities for people with disabilities. VSA Mississippi has been offering arts programs for children, youth, and adults since 1978.

**MISSOURI****❑ VSA Missouri (affiliate)**

P.O. Box 58624  
St. Louis, MO 63158  
(888) 718-0866  
[www.vsamissouri.org/](http://www.vsamissouri.org/)

- Executive Director: Leslie Holt  
vsamissouri@gmail.com
- Description: VSA Missouri is a statewide organization incorporated in 2009, promoting access to the arts for people with disabilities. VSA Missouri is committed to collaborating with a broad range of community partners to promote access and facilitate accessible arts opportunities for children and adults with disabilities throughout Missouri.

**MONTANA****❑ VSA Montana (affiliate)**

200 North Adams  
Missoula, MT 59802  
(406) 549-2984  
[www.vsamontana.org](http://www.vsamontana.org)

- Executive Director: Alayne Dolson  
alaynusa@montana.com
- Description: VSA Montana strives to create a culture where people with disabilities are fully involved with the arts as expressive artists, learners, and audience members. VSA Montana provides access to the arts for people with disabilities in more than half of Montana's 56 counties.

## NEBRASKA

❑ **Why Arts?**

1030 South 111 Plaza  
 Omaha, NE 68154  
 (402) 333-4450  
 Email: carolyn.o.anderson@gmail.com  
 www.whyartsinc.org

- Description: WHY ARTS was created to assure that visual and performing arts experiences in Omaha would be open to people of all ages and abilities. WHY ARTS encourages arts organizations and individual artists to create or enhance inclusive education programming and opportunities. The program also supports artists with disabilities through mentoring and educational programming and through direct grants. The goals of WHY ARTS are to: Enable more people of all ages with disabilities to experience social, cognitive, and cultural development through arts learning alongside their peers without disabilities; create educational access and inclusion in the arts for students with disabilities; and provide social service agencies and arts organizations the tools they need to make inclusive education and artistic experiences available.

## NEVADA

❑ **VSA Nevada (affiliate)**

250 Court Street  
 Reno, NV 89501  
 (775) 826-6100  
 www.vsanevada.org

- Executive Director: Mary Ellen Horan  
 meh@vsanevada.org
- Description: Since 1986, VSA Nevada has provided quality arts programs for all, focusing on children and adults who have disabilities or are otherwise at risk, disadvantaged, or underserved by the art.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

❑ **VSA New Hampshire (affiliate)**

PO Box 78  
 Wentworth, NH 03282  
 (603) 764-9159  
 Email: contact@vsaartsnh.org  
 www.vsaartsnh.org/

Description: VSA New Hampshire is committed to creating a community where people with disabilities can learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. To accomplish this, VSA New Hampshire has collaborated with art, education, disability, and community organizations to provide arts programs and professional development opportunities statewide. These programs have reached thousands of people with and without disabilities annually.



## NEW JERSEY

### ▣ Arts Unbound

544 Freeman Street  
Orange, New Jersey 07050  
(973) 675-2787  
Email: [info@artsunbound.org](mailto:info@artsunbound.org)  
[www.artsunbound.org](http://www.artsunbound.org)

- Director: Gail Levinson
- Description: The mission of Arts Unbound is to provide art and vocational opportunities in the visual arts for adults living with developmental, physical, and mental disabilities. Programs include a vocational craft workshop, fine arts, and a mentoring program. The organization also provides the professional training necessary for emerging artists to compete on the retail market and to share their creativity with the world as artists who happen to live with disabilities.
- Eligibility: Arts Unbound strives to inspire students of all ages through classes in the visual arts, cultivating avenues of self expression, personal achievement and life enrichment that come with mastering art techniques. The organization currently serves youth (age five and up), adults and senior citizens with mental illness, developmental and physical disabilities. Arts Unbound programs reach up to 200 individuals monthly in our studios or at various off-site locations in Essex, Union and Morris counties, including public and special schools, senior centers and agencies serving people with disabilities and at-risk youth. There is a robust senior program to provide art therapy, art instruction and retail opportunities through classes at senior centers. The ultimate goal is to provide opportunities for interested people with disabilities statewide.
- Staff: Staff is comprised of administrative staff and professional artists, as well as a Board of Directors. The program also enlists volunteers.

### ▣ VSA New Jersey (affiliate)

703 Jersey Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
(732) 745-3885  
[info@vsanj.org](mailto:info@vsanj.org)

- Description: Founded in 1978, VSA New Jersey has a mission to enrich the lives and promote the creative power of people with disabilities. Guided by the principles of accessibility and artistic excellence, the organization is a leader in the provision of multidisciplinary arts programming for New Jersey residents with disabilities. State-wide initiatives are centered on arts education, professional development, cultural access, and public awareness.

## NEW MEXICO

❑ **VSA New Mexico (affiliate)**

4904 4th Street NW  
 Albuquerque, NM 87107  
 (505) 345-2872  
 TTY: (800) 659-8331  
<http://vsartsnm.org>

- Executive Director: Marjorie Neset  
[mneset@vsartsnm.org](mailto:mneset@vsartsnm.org)
- Description: VSA New Mexico nurtures and celebrates the creative spirit of people of all abilities through education, outreach, exhibitions, and performances. VSA New Mexico offers inclusive arts education, creative employment and training, production, exhibition, and presentation opportunities for all New Mexicans, with a focus on people with disabilities and other diverse social and cultural communities. VSA New Mexico owns and operates the North Fourth Art Center, which houses a variety of resources including arts studios, classrooms, a fully accessible 150-seat black box theater, and lobby/gallery space. Through the North Fourth Art Center's inclusive programs and statewide outreach, VSA New Mexico enriches the community and enhances the lives of people with disabilities.
- Gallery: The N4th Gallery will continue to host exhibitions dedicated to emerging or established artists with and without disabilities; group shows of artwork exploring disability or other social issues or events; shows exploring global awareness and cultural identity, which may include artists with and without disabilities; and shows representing the diversity inherent in many festivals, programs, or projects sponsored by VSA New Mexico.

## NEW YORK

❑ **Alliance for Inclusion in the Arts**

1560 Broadway, Suite 709, New York, NY 10036  
 (212) 730-4750  
 Email: [info@inclusioninthearts.org](mailto:info@inclusioninthearts.org)  
[www.inclusioninthearts.org](http://www.inclusioninthearts.org)

- Executive Director: Sharon Jensen
- Description: Founded in 1986, Alliance for Inclusion in the Arts (formerly Non-Traditional Casting Project) is a national nonprofit advocacy organization based in New York City. It strives to address and provide solutions to the problems of racism and exclusion in theatre, film, and television. Its mission is to serve as an expert advocacy and educational resource for full inclusion, focusing on issues of race, culture, ethnicity, and disability. The Alliance continues to effect change by providing assistance with casting, the adoption of inclusive casting language, the use of preferred terminology, audition accessibility issues, roundtables, and resource events. Its staff serves as consultants to the arts and entertainment fields nationwide.

❑ **Fountain House Gallery**

702 Ninth Avenue at 48th St  
 New York, NY 10019  
 (212) 262-2756  
 Email: [ariel@fountaingallerynyc.com](mailto:ariel@fountaingallerynyc.com)  
[www.fountainhousegallery.org](http://www.fountainhousegallery.org)  
 Hours: Tuesday to Saturday: 11 am to 7 pm  
 Sunday: 1-5 pm

❑ **Hospital Audiences, Inc**

548 Broadway, 3rd Floor  
 New York, New York 10012  
 (212) 575-7696  
[outsider@hospaug.org](mailto:outsider@hospaug.org)  
[www.hospauid.org/hai/gallery.htm](http://www.hospauid.org/hai/gallery.htm)

- Description: Visual Arts Workshop Program of HAI started in the 1970s to provide opportunities to participate in the arts for participants with chronic mental illness, developmental disabilities, and artists living in nursing homes. Offers weekly art workshops at over 100 sites throughout NYC. Now serves more than 100,000 people. Also, hosts Saturday studio at loft space with around 60 participants.
- Gallery: Gallery at HAI, on-site

### ▫ Independent Arts Gallery

Queens Independent Living Center  
23-35 Broadway, Astoria, NY 11106  
(718) 713-4718  
Email: [contact@qilc.org](mailto:contact@qilc.org)  
[www.qilc.org](http://www.qilc.org)

- President: Daniel Aliberti
- Description: Independent Arts Gallery (IAG) is a project of the Queens Independent Living Center, a community-based, nonresidential center that provides services and advocacy for people with disabilities. IAG is committed to uniting artists with and without disabilities, in an effort to build a strong and diverse artistic community. IAG provides cross-disability workshops in visual, literary, and performing arts, and hosts exhibits at the Queens Independent Living Center.

### ▫ LAND: League Artists Natural Design

67 Front Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201  
(917) 670-9322  
[www.landsitc.org](http://www.landsitc.org)

- Description: Studio and gallery for adult artists living with disabilities. LAND helps these artists develop their skills in a supportive environment. LAND is part of The League Treatment Center in Brooklyn.

### ▫ Main View Gallery

73- 75 Main St., Oneonta, NY 13820  
(607) 432-1890  
[infomvg@arcotsego.org](mailto:infomvg@arcotsego.org)  
[www.arcotsego.org](http://www.arcotsego.org)

- Description: Main View Gallery and Center for Self Expression are programs of The Arc Otsego.

### ▫ PURE VISION ARTS

114 West 17th Street  
New York, New York 10011  
(212) 366-4263  
Email: [purevisionart@aol.com](mailto:purevisionart@aol.com)  
[www.purevisionarts.org](http://www.purevisionarts.org)

- Director: Pamela Rogers
- Description: Pure Vision Arts (PVA) is Manhattan's first specialized art studio and exhibition space for artists with autism and other developmental disabilities. PVA provides studio space, art materials, exhibition opportunities, and career development for beginning, emerging and established artists. Pure Vision Arts also serves as a resource and consultation center for artists, educators, art collectors and curators.

### ▫ Survivors Art Foundation

Email: [safe@survivorsartfoundation.org](mailto:safe@survivorsartfoundation.org)  
<http://www.survivorsartfoundation.org>

### ▫ VSA New York (affiliate)

18-05 215 Street, Suite 15N, Bayside, NY 11360  
(718) 225-6305

- Executive Director: Dr. Bebe Bernstein  
[bbvsanyc@msn.com](mailto:bbvsanyc@msn.com)
- Description: VSA New York City, through a network of cultural and community partnerships within the public and private sectors of the city, provides quality arts education programs and

creative expression experiences to thousands of children and their families who reside in the five boroughs of New York City. VSA New York City provides opportunities for people with disabilities to demonstrate their accomplishments in the arts and fosters increased understanding and acceptance.

## NORTH CAROLINA

### ❑ Access Arts, Inc.

P.O. Box 10574, Raleigh, NC 27605  
(919) 833-9919  
[www.artsaccessinc.org](http://www.artsaccessinc.org)

- Description: The mission of Arts Access is to enable North Carolinians with disabilities to have full access to arts programs and facilities, and to encourage them to participate fully in the rich cultural and artistic life throughout the state. Arts Access is a nonprofit organization based in Raleigh, North Carolina. Founded by a group of dedicated individuals in 1982, the organization remains steadfast in its commitment to ensuring that the arts can be enjoyed by everyone. Arts Access concentrates its efforts on providing audio description, consulting and training services, and the organization's website serves as an interactive online resource to connect individuals, artists, educators and organizations throughout the state.
- Funding: Grants from CORAC, North Carolina Arts Council, United Arts of Wake County and VSA Arts; Corporate and Community grants; In-kind Contributions

### ❑ NCCALL: North Carolina Creative Autistic Living & Learning Inc.

P.O. Box 935, Franklin, NC 28744  
Email: [brutan@nccall.org](mailto:brutan@nccall.org)  
[www.nccall.org](http://www.nccall.org)

- Description: A 501© 3 organization, CCALL's vision is to provide persons with autism a place to live, work and thrive in a Western North Carolina environment suited to their special needs. The vision is for NCCALL, Inc. to be a lasting resource for residential care, augmented by vocational opportunities for an adult Autistic population. The goal is to focus on their ABILITIES rather than disabilities of the people we serve by providing an atmosphere, which encourages and promotes creative expression, and the tools necessary to successfully realize a sustainable market for their products. By encouraging advocacy, co-operative workshops, local and on-line marketing and family support, NCCALL, Inc. will be open to expansion as the challenge of Autism increases within our WNC communities.

### ❑ Open Hearts Art Center

5 Woodland Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28806-1292  
(828) 505-8428  
<http://openheartsartcenter.org>

- Description: Open Hearts Art Center is a non-profit art education program located in the rich arts-based community of Western North Carolina. Open Hearts Arts Center is dedicated to serving adults with a variety of challenges, which include but are not limited to, developmental, mental, physical and emotional disabilities. Open Hearts Arts Center holds a studio arts day program, with instructional classes five days a week, Monday through Friday, 9 am to 3 pm in visual and performing arts. Classes offered are as unique and varied as the individuals teaching and participating in them. When visiting the studio you might see a group dance performance, student artist's painting on a life size canvas or artists sewing up a stuffed monster. A typical week at Open Hearts could include classes in painting, drama, dance,

music, fiber arts, mixed media, ceramics, sculpture, screen printing, gardening (seasonal) and creative writing. We have two different classes each day, both running for a period of two hours. Professional artists and crafters collaborate with student artists to develop a project idea and then bring it to life.

- **Funding:** Open Hearts became incorporated and received their 501-c3 nonprofit status in 2004. In 2005 they received their Medicaid provider identification number to provide billable services though the Division of Medical Assistance as well as state funded services through our Local Management Entity, Western Highlands. The Board of Directors was developed consisting of students, parents, case managers, art advocates and community members. The directors fund raised, acquired in kind donations and received support from community members to procure monies needed to begin serving this under-served population. June 1st 2005 Open Hearts began serving clients and have quadrupled in size since their inception.
- **Gallery:** Artists of Open Hearts Art Center have an opportunity to exhibit and market artwork created during their studio time at the day program. Open Hearts showcases artwork within the community, at local and regional art festivals, special events, galleries, our annual open house, in restaurants, in office space, and at our permanent booth at Woolworth Walk. Artists are able to generate an income by receiving 50% of the sale, with the remaining 50% supplementing an arts supply and marketing fund. The Exhibition Program not only increases confidence and autonomy within the artist but also raises public awareness of the numerous artistic abilities that members of this population possess.

#### ▫ **Signature Studio XI/The Riddle Institute**

617 South Green Street, suite 202  
Morganton, NC 28655  
(828) 433-0056  
info@studioeleven.org  
www.jirdc.org

- **Description:** Signature Studio XI is a program of the Riddle Institute, which offers studio space, work space, gallery space, and living space for artistically gifted adults with disabilities. The goals of the program include artistic development, training for independent living, and community integration.
- **Funding:** receives support from J. Iverson Riddle Development Center (JIRDC)

#### ▫ **The Enrichment Center**

1006 S. Marshall St.  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
(336) 777-0076 ext 208  
<http://enrichmentarc.org>

- **Description:** Affiliated with the ARC, the Enrichment Center provides an avenue into the community for our artists as creative, talented individuals. Under the guidance of professional artists, our students earn money through the sale of visual art, and fees for performances and recordings.
- **Gallery:** Community artists are invited to show their work in conjunction with Enrichment Center artists, providing opportunities for integration of talent and ideas. Exhibits change every two months, with a reception for each opening where our Percussion Ensemble performs in a relaxed atmosphere.
- **Open to the public,** Monday through Friday, from 12:30 – 4:30 pm.

## NORTH DAKOTA

❑ **VSA North Dakota (affiliate)**

PO Box 2591, Bismarck, ND 58502

(701) 255-2905

Email: [vsa.northdakota@gmail.com](mailto:vsa.northdakota@gmail.com)

[www.vsanorthdakota.org](http://www.vsanorthdakota.org)

- Executive Director: Linda Olsrud
- Description: VSA North Dakota strives to create and maintain a community where people with disabilities can learn through, participate in, and have access to the arts. Recognizing that every individual has a creative voice that needs to be both expressed and heard, VSA North Dakota provides, promotes, and furthers arts-centered activities in inclusive settings so people with and without disabilities can experience the arts together.
- The four guiding principles of VSA North Dakota are that every young person with a disability deserves access to high quality arts learning experiences; all artists in schools and art educators should be prepared to include students with disabilities in their instruction; all children, youth, and adults with disabilities should have complete access to community cultural facilities and activities; and all individuals with disabilities who aspire to careers in the arts should have the opportunity to develop appropriate skills.

## OHIO

❑ **Blue Shoe Arts**

4465 Coonpath Road, Carroll, OH 43112

(740) 756-7874

Email: [kandu@blanchardvallery.org](mailto:kandu@blanchardvallery.org)

[www.blueshoeartsgallery.org](http://www.blueshoeartsgallery.org)

- Description: Blue Shoe Arts is a program within a MRDD-sponsored sheltered workshop. They help artists with disabilities create original art - Outsider and Folk Art, Found Object Sculpture, Painting and Drawing, Fabric Art, Dolls and Cartoons.
- Funding and Eligibility: Blue Shoe Arts is owned by Fairfield Industries, a sheltered workshop that provides services for 190 adults with developmental disabilities. It receives support from the Fairfield County MRDD.
- Gallery: The Gallery is open to the public Tuesday from 10 am to 5 pm, Wednesday 10 am to 6 pm and Thursday 10 am to 2 pm. The Gallery is also open by appointment.
- Hours and Operations: Studio hours: 9 to 2:30 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday; Gallery hours: 9 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday

❑ **Dream Out Loud Art Studio and Gallery Gift Store**

2420 Wedgewood Drive, Akron, OH

(330) 634-8352

[www.summitdd.org/gift\\_gallery.aspx](http://www.summitdd.org/gift_gallery.aspx)

- Description: Summit DD developed a new program called Dream Out Loud Studio. The Dream Out Loud Studio was designed to be a creative outlet for artisans with disabilities to generate artwork with unconventional materials. The artist will work in an array of mediums with a fine arts focus to create unique, one-of-a-kind pieces.
- Funding and Eligibility: Dream Out Loud is a project and extension of the Summit County DD program.



- Gallery: Works of art will be sold to the public at the Gift Gallery and at traveling art shows. Please see website for our store location:

#### ▫ **Element of Art Studio**

96 North Main Street, Mansfield, OH 44902  
(419) 522-2965  
Email: [aglaze@rnewhope.org](mailto:aglaze@rnewhope.org)  
[www.eoastudiogallery.com](http://www.eoastudiogallery.com)

- Description: Element of Art Studio / Gallery is a non-profit art gallery that showcases the artistic talents of individuals with developmental disabilities affiliated with Richland Newhope Industries, Inc. Because the space doubles as a studio, the public has the unique opportunity to interact with the artists as they create unique artwork including but not limited to painting, photography, jewelry, and sculptures. There are over 70 contracted artists participating in the programs and services offered by the gallery. The artists receive a percentage of the sale price of every item they create after it has sold. The remaining money generated after a sale is used to help cover materials cost, programming, and services for the artists. Element of Art Studio/Gallery is centrally located in the heart of Richland County's Historic Carrousel District in downtown Mansfield.
- Funding and Eligibility: Participants at Elements of Art Studio and Gallery are affiliated with Richland Newhope Industries, Inc.
- Gallery: EOA hosts an on-site gallery and online gallery with artist work available for purchase.
- Hours and Operations: 10 am to 5 pm; Tuesday through Friday

#### ▫ **Goodwill Art Studio and Gallery**

329 South Main Street, Findlay, OH 45840  
(419) 581-0254  
Email: [kandu@blanchardvallery.org](mailto:kandu@blanchardvallery.org)  
[www.goodwillart.org](http://www.goodwillart.org)

- Description: The ultimate goal is to create expressive and high quality artwork that not only provides exposure for the artist, but the opportunity to generate income through the sale of their artwork. This program also provides a remarkable learning experience, as the participants collaborate directly with professional artists and art educators to take their artwork to a higher level. Artists increase their knowledge and discover new skills through exposure to new artistic mediums and collaborative efforts. Each artist works toward achieving individual goals based upon their needs, strengths and desires.
- Funding and Eligibility: Goodwill Art Studio and Gallery is a program of Goodwill Columbus. On-site staff also includes professional artists.
- Gallery: The Gallery is open to the public Tuesday from 10 am to 5 pm, Wednesday 10 am to 6 pm and Thursday 10 am to 2 pm. The Gallery is also open by appointment.

#### ▫ **Inner I Gallery**

81 E. Main Street, Xenia, Ohio 45385  
(937) 376-3996  
[www.ti-inc.net](http://www.ti-inc.net)

- Description: The Inner I Gallery is home to over 100 works of art such as paintings, drawings, mixed media collages, pottery, jewelry, and other pieces created by individuals with developmental disabilities from all over southwestern Ohio. The Inner I Gallery was the first permanent art gallery in Ohio dedicated to displaying the artwork of individuals with developmental disabilities. Since 2002, the gallery has also hosted the VSA (Very Special Arts) Ohio Accessible Expressions Exhibit on an annual basis. This touring exhibit features the work of many Ohio artists with various disabilities. A gift shop was opened to sell products featuring selected pieces of artwork from the gallery, including note cards, prints,

t-shirts, calendars, etc. In 2008, the Inner I, along with Partners For Community Living of Dayton, Ohio, began hosting a new regional art show for artists with developmental disabilities, Art & Soul Exhibit. The exhibit is now in its sixth year of coordination and attracts nearly 250 entries from 22 counties in southwestern Ohio.

- Funding and Eligibility: Showcases work from artists with disabilities across Ohio. The Gallery is run by Toward Independence, Inc; a non-profit agency that provides services and supports to people with developmental disabilities.

#### ▫ KanDu Studio

329 South Main Street, Findlay, OH 45840  
(419) 581-0254

Email: [kandu@blanchardvalley.org](mailto:kandu@blanchardvalley.org)

[www.kandustudio.org](http://www.kandustudio.org)

- Description: The artists at KanDu Studio are provided the opportunity to work together and express themselves through the creation of art. Many of the artists didn't realize that they possessed a passion for art until they were provided with the possibility of "Kan Du." Fun, colorful, happy, raw, expressive, vibrant, and meaningful can describe the art that comes from Kan Du Studio. Located in downtown Findlay, Kan Du works with community business to recycle their unwanted goods into art and artsy products.
- The majority of their products are made from aluminum print plates that we currently recycle from The Courier/ Findlay Publishing Company. The print plates are cleaned and primed by our Production Department, then artists work together as a team to create/paint the art. From then the art goes on to be produced in to one of many products which include garden art like Leepin Lizards and Butterflies, or jewelry and fine art pieces.
- Funding and Eligibility: Kan Du Studio is an extension of Blanchard Valley Industries and Blanchard

Valley Center, supported by Hancock County Board of MRDD

- Gallery: On-site store and gallery with artist work.
- Hours and Operations: Monday through Friday; 9 am to 3:30 pm

#### ▫ Open Doors Studio

1050 Goodale Boulevard

Grandview Heights, OH 43212

(614) 486-4919

Email: [courtney@pwca-col.org](mailto:courtney@pwca-col.org)

[www.opendoorartstudio.org](http://www.opendoorartstudio.org)

- Description: Open Door Art Studio, located in Grandview, Ohio, is dedicated to providing art education and art services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Open Doors Studio acts simultaneously as a creative space and as a gallery.
- At the comprehensive art studio, artists with disabilities work collaboratively with professional artists. Skills are developed by providing an individualized education, mutual respect, and creative freedom allows for "expression without limitation". The studio artists provide assistance with basic cognitive and physical needs, but never compromise the integrity of an individual's original creation. Open Door offers an ever-expanding variety of mediums for studio artists to explore which include but are not limited to: drawing, painting, sculpture, papier-mâché, ceramics, collage, fiber and textiles.
- Artists are supplied with all materials to create their art and receive the proceeds from the sale of their work. Through this process they gain a sense of purpose, validation and self-worth. Aside from these benefits, artists at Open Door develop meaningful peer relationships, become active members of the local arts community, and gain a greater sense of independence.
- Funding and Eligibility: Open Door Art Studio

is a private nonprofit, licensed, day habilitation provider. Open Door accepts Individual Option (I. O.), Level One Waivers, ICF-MR and private payment options. Transportation is provided to and from the program to all individuals who live in Franklin County through Columbus Center for Human Services Inc.

- Role of persons without disabilities: Volunteers and interns can work one on one with artists in studio.
- Gallery: The gallery regularly features the artwork created at Open Door. In addition, it celebrates and displays the work of artists with disabilities from similar art programs. Open Door artists also have their work featured at alternative display spaces and other local and national galleries.
- Hours and Operations: 9 am to 5 pm; Monday through Friday

#### ▣ **Our Town Studio (Mt. Vernon, OH)**

<http://creativefoundations.org>

- Champaign County Adult Day Services  
319 N. Main St., Urbana, Oh 43078
- Delaware County Adult Day Services  
57 N. Sandusky St., Delaware, Oh 43015
- Knox County Adult Day Services  
127 S. Main St., Mt. Vernon Oh 43050
- Description: Our Town Studios is part of the Creative Foundations family. The program provides Adult Day Supports to Individuals with Developmental Disabilities through the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) and the local county boards. Our Town Studios is an art studio where individuals create art and sell it in our galleries. Gallery: The program offers alternative employment for individuals with developmental disabilities while giving them a chance to express themselves in a creative way and get paid for it. Our Town Studios gallery exhibits fine art, painting, drawings, hand painted ceramic tiles, and much more.
- Funding and Eligibility: Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD); Individual

Option Waiver Level One Waiver; Supportive Living through local Ohio county boards of developmental disabilities; Ohio Home Waiver

#### ▣ **Our Town Studios at Creative Foundations**

Email: [david@creativefoundations.org](mailto:david@creativefoundations.org)

<http://creativefoundations.org/>

- Union County Adult Day Services  
104 S. Main St., Marysville, Oh 43040
- Champaign County Adult Day Services  
319 N. Main St., Urbana, Oh 43078
- Delaware County Adult Day Services  
57 N. Sandusky St., Delaware, Oh 43015
- Knox County Adult Day Services  
127 S. Main St., Mt. Vernon Oh 43050
- Description: Creative Foundations was founded in 2001 to provide supports to individuals with developmental disabilities. In February 2009, Creative Foundations founded Our Town Studios, an art studio/gallery within our adult day service program. Our Town Studios gives individuals the choice to earn an income while creating art and selling it to the community. Creative Foundations Adult Day Services offers alternative employment for individuals with developmental disabilities while giving them a chance to express themselves in a creative way and get paid for it. Our Town Studios gallery exhibits fine art, painting, drawings, hand painted ceramic tiles, and much more. In addition to employment, individuals may choose to attend Creative Foundations Adult Day Services as a non-paid activity based program.
- Funding and Eligibility: Creative Foundations is supported by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, the County Board local funding, and the Ohio Home Waiver. Staff includes human services support staff, activities coordinators (artist), and additional artistic support staff.
- Gallery: A gallery displaying artist work is on-site and pieces are available for purchase on the website.

### ❑ **Passion Works**

20 East State Street, Athens, OH 45701

(740) 592-3673

Email: [info@passionworks.org](mailto:info@passionworks.org)

[www.passionworks.org](http://www.passionworks.org)

- Description: Passion Works Studio supports collaborations between artists with and without developmental disabilities. Since 1998 the studio has created one-of-a-kind art pieces and translated artwork into items such as jewelry, ornaments, flowers, and greeting cards. Production of these pieces creates employment for people with and without developmental disabilities and generates a renewable funding stream to continue arts programming. The mission of Passion Works is to be a premier art studio that supports collaborations between artists with and without developmental disabilities.
- Staff: Professional artists and administrative staff.
- Gallery: On-site store and gallery with artist work.
- Hours and Operations: Monday through Friday; 9 am to 5 pm; Saturday 11 am to 5 pm
- Funding and Eligibility: Passion Works Studio is a division of Atco, Inc and a program of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities, with generous support from the Ohio Arts Council.

### ❑ **Rendville ArtWorks**

6541 Main St. SE

Rendville, OH 43730

(740) 347-9139

[rendvilleartworks@gmail.com](mailto:rendvilleartworks@gmail.com)

[www.rendvilleartworks.org](http://www.rendvilleartworks.org)

- Description: The mission of Rendville ArtWorks is to provide an opportunity for people who have disabilities to experience the satisfaction of making art and to participate in a shared sense of community. Each day (Mon.-Fri. 9 am to 2 pm) between 7-9 artists with mental and/or physical disabilities

arrive to work on their individual projects. Each artist has their own focus, whether painting, drawing, sculpting, or a multitude of other media. The Rendville Art Works prides itself on assisting artists to find their own voice and subject matter. Most of the work being produced here would be termed "Folk", "Outsider", or "Self Taught", but a good bit of it leans toward the Contemporary and Realist nature. (See individual Artists Bios on the 'Artists' page)

- Gallery: The Rendville Art Works is always open to the public and we host two special events each year. The "Spring Open House" (generally in April), and the "Holiday Open House" at the Bryn Du Mansion in Granville Ohio (usually the weekend before Thanksgiving). They also exhibit their work outside of the Rendville Art Works at other galleries, shops, art festivals and museums throughout the year.
- Hours and Operations: Monday through Friday; 9 am to 2 pm

### ❑ **Shared Lives Studio**

20 North Saint Clair

Toledo, OH 43604

(419) 244-6649

1645 Holland Road

Maumee, OH 43537

[http://shop.lottindustries.com/shared\\_lives.html](http://shop.lottindustries.com/shared_lives.html)

- Description: Shared Lives Studio is a nonprofit visual arts center in Toledo, Ohio where artists with developmental disabilities create, exhibit, and sell art. Shared Lives Studio is committed to supporting people with developmental disabilities to become working artists, and to promote their work as an emerging and increasingly important contribution to the professional art world. The mission for Shared Lives Studio is to provide artists with developmental disabilities with the means to create and sell their art.

- Funding and Eligibility: Shared Lives Studio is funded in part by a grant from the Stranahan Supporting Organization of the Toledo Community Organization. Shared Lives Studio is a division of Lott Industries and the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities.
- Role of persons without disabilities: Volunteers can work one on one with artists in studio.
- Gallery: Shared Lives Studio hosts an on-site gallery in Toledo and online gallery with artist work available for purchase.
- Hours and Operations: 10 am to 3 pm; Tuesday through Friday

#### ▣ Visionaries and Voices

[www.visionariesandvoices.com](http://www.visionariesandvoices.com)

- 3841 Spring Grove Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45223  
(513) 861-4333  
M-Th 8:30 am - 8 pm  
F 8:30 am - 4 pm
- 225 Northland Blvd  
Cincinnati, OH 45246  
(513) 771-2999  
M-Th 8:30 am - 8 pm  
F 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
- Description: Visionaries and Voices represents artists and provide them with studio space, supplies, assistance/support and offer a welcoming environment that encourages self-expression, collaboration, and growth. The mission of Visionaries + Voices is to provide artistic, cultural, and professional opportunities for artists with disabilities. Visionaries and Voices strives to create a world in which artists with disabilities not only produce and share works of art, but are also given continuous opportunities to learn, develop professionally, collaborate, exhibit, and celebrate with community members.
- Eligibility: V+V represents over 150 local artists.

A variety of styles, backgrounds, mediums and personalities are represented in our two studios – located in Tri County and Northside.

- Staff: Professional artists and administrative staff.
- Gallery: On-site at both locations.
- Funding: State support and private donations.

#### ▣ VSA Ohio (affiliate)

Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts  
77 South High Street, 2nd Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-6108  
(614) 241-5325  
Email: [info@vsao.org](mailto:info@vsao.org)  
<http://vsao.org>

- Description: The mission of VSA Ohio is to empower people with disabilities, creatively and inclusively, through the arts. Since 1986, VSA Ohio has increased accessibility, fostered inclusive environments, advanced creative careers, raised awareness, and provided opportunities for creative expression. In 2011 VSA Ohio will celebrate 25 years conducting statewide programs and services at the dynamic intersection of the arts, education, and disability. Programming includes professional development for educators and artists, technical assistance to artists seeking creative careers, teaching artist residencies in inclusive classrooms, special outreach programs for children, performing and visual arts competitions and exhibitions, festivals for inclusive audiences, two monthly electronic newsletters, and a website with local and national resources and opportunities. VSA Ohio serves as an advocate for the arts, arts education, and accessibility issues and consults with organizations throughout the state seeking information about cultural accessibility.

## OKLAHOMA

❑ **VSA Oklahoma (affiliate)**

1136 Kings Way Avenue, Yukon, OK 73099  
 (405) 350-1603  
 Email: vsaok@aol.com

- Description: VSA Oklahoma's mission is to establish appropriate year-round arts programming that addresses all art forms for individuals with or without special needs in Oklahoma. VSA Oklahoma is working to establish professional training for teachers, artists, and community representatives to assist with its year-round programming. VSA Oklahoma was established in 1990 with assistance from the Oklahoma State Department of Education and the Oklahoma Arts Council to serve the needs of individuals with disabilities through the arts.

## OREGON

❑ **Portland Art & Learning Studio**

4852 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd.  
 Portland, OR 97211  
 (503) 528-0744

- Email: daniel.rolnik@albertinakerr.org
- portlandartandlearningstudio.com
- www.instagram.com/portlandartandlearningstudio/
- Description: The Portland Art & Learning Studios is a 10,000 sqft art studio and gallery for adults experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Portland Art & Learning Studio is a program of Albertina Kerr.
- Hours and Operations: We have an on-site gallery that is open to the public every Monday through Friday, 9 am - 4 pm. Please follow our [Instagram](#) for the latest gallery events. If you would like to take a tour and meet the artists, please email daniel.rolnik@albertinakerr.org.

## PENNSYLVANIA

❑ **The Child And Family Art Therapy Center, PC**

(610) 649-1080  
 Email: ChildFamArt@verizon.net  
 www.ChildAndFamilyArtTherapyCenter.com

- Ardmore Office:  
678 Pont Reading Road, Ardmore, PA 19003
- Paoli Office:  
Station Square 2, Suite 109  
37 North Valley Road, Paoli, PA 19301
- Michael Fogel, MA, ATR-BC, LPC
- Description: Social skills groups for toddlers to young adults, individual art therapy sessions, parent/family support, ESY social skills summer camp, school consultations, and workshops for professionals.
- Eligibility: Art therapy assessments are time and cost effective tools to deeply understand your child's needs and issues. Regardless of a child's art background or ability, art assessments determine the child's social and emotional developmental level, their current range of coping skills, and any underlying issues or concerns that kids typically have difficulty communicating verbally. Parents receive compassionate feedback that generates true empathy and understanding of the child's experience (as well as recommendations for specific medical, therapy, emotional/social/educational supports – if needed).

❑ **VSA Pennsylvania (affiliate)**

2030 Sansom Street, 3rd Floor  
 Philadelphia, PA 19103  
 www.amaryllystheatre.org

- Executive Artistic Director: Mimi Kenney Smith  
(215) 564-2431 | mksmith@amaryllystheatre.org
- Description: VSA Pennsylvania exists to develop



and support inclusive arts education; promote universal access to cultural events and organizations; and provide opportunities in the arts for people with and without disabilities, including through its inclusive professional theatre, Amaryllys Theatre Company.

## RHODE ISLAND

### ❑ VSA Rhode Island (affiliate)

500 Prospect Street  
Pawtucket, RI 02860  
(401) 725-0247  
[www.vsartsri.org](http://www.vsartsri.org)

- Description: VSA arts of Rhode Island is dedicated to providing opportunities for people with disabilities to actively participate in high-quality programs in the visual, literary, and performing arts. By creating arts education programs and access to inclusive opportunities through which children, youth, and adults with disabilities enter the mainstream of their communities, VSA arts of Rhode Island promotes the educational and cultural benefits of the arts for all people.
- VSA arts of Rhode Island supports model programs incorporating Universal Design throughout the state in partnership with the arts, cultural, disability, and educational communities. Founded in 1986 on the principles of advocacy for access and artistic excellence, VSA arts of Rhode Island increases public awareness of the creative talents of people with disabilities, integrating their achievements into Rhode Island's cultural community, and advancing arts for all.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

### ❑ VSA South Carolina (affiliate)

c/o South Carolina Arts Commission  
1800 Gervais Street  
Columbia, SC 29201  
[www.vsasc.org](http://www.vsasc.org)

- Executive Director: Julia M. Brown  
(803) 734-0445 | [jbrown@arts.sc.gov](mailto:jbrown@arts.sc.gov)
- Description: VSA South Carolina is a statewide, nonprofit organization that has served the arts, disability, and education communities since 1986. 2011 marks the affiliate's 25th anniversary. The office is located in downtown Columbia at the South Carolina Arts Commission (SCAC). VSA South Carolina benefits in numerous ways from the partnership with SCAC and its nonprofit arm, the South Carolina Arts Foundation. VSA South Carolina works with its nine-member, statewide board of directors in promoting quality accessible art experiences for people with disabilities throughout the state. VSA South Carolina also follows the mission of VSA International, which is to create a society where people with disabilities learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. VSA South Carolina is the proud recipient of the VSA Award for Excellence in Educational Programming, presented during the 2010 International VSA Festival.

## TENNESSEE

### ❑ Open Arms Care Day Programs & Art Gallery

- Memphis Area Operations  
5120 Yale Road  
Memphis, TN 38134  
Phone (901) 371-9774
- Nashville Area Operations  
7271-A Nolensville Road  
Nolensville, TN 37135  
Phone (615) 776-1011
- Chattanooga Area Operations  
6711 Mountain View Road  
Suite 111  
Ooltewah, TN 37363  
Phone (423) 238-9636
- Knoxville Area Operations  
7325 Oak Ridge Highway, Suite 200  
Knoxville, TN 37931  
Phone (865) 694-8463  
Email: vocational@openarmscare.org  
www.openarmscare.org
- Description: The paintings portrayed in the gallery were created by Open Arms Care clients across Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Memphis day programs, using methods adopted by Tim Lefens, creator of Artistic Realization Technologies (A.R.T). The A.R.T Program at Open Arms Care utilizes specially trained “trackers” who assist clients in creating their unique masterpieces. A.R.T utilizes innovative tools and technologies that empower our clients with disabilities to channel their emotions, thoughts and personalities onto canvas.

### ❑ Vanderbilt Kennedy Center

- UCEDD Arts Initiative  
110 Magnolia Circle  
Nashville, TN 37203  
vkc.vumc.org
- Program Coordinator: Laurie Fleming  
laurie.fleming@vumc.org
- Description: Since 1995, the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Arts Initiative has sponsored exhibits of art by and about people with disabilities. Each year, the center hosts four exhibits in the lobby of the Kennedy Center on the Vanderbilt University Campus. In 1997, the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center began a permanent collection of art by people with disabilities.
- Hours and Operations: 7:30 am to 5 pm; Monday through Friday

### ❑ VSA Tennessee (affiliate)

- 1210 Lake Rise Place  
Gallatin, TN 37066  
(615) 210-8819  
Email: userk7706@comcast.net  
www.vsatn.org
- Executive Director: Lori Kissinger
- Description: VSA Tennessee provides opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in and express themselves through the arts and arts education. Activities are designed to create and support avenues of creative expression for people with disabilities; to promote disability awareness of creative endeavors; to help eliminate barriers for people with disabilities through the arts; and to support the efforts of professional artists with disabilities

## TEXAS

### ▣ Arc of the Arts Studio and Gallery

6717 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78757

(512) 524.2371

Email: [awieding@arcofthecapitalarea.org](mailto:awieding@arcofthecapitalarea.org)

[www.arcofthearts.com](http://www.arcofthearts.com)

- Description: Arc of the Arts Studio & Gallery provides an artistic bridge between people with developmental disabilities and the community. In the Traber Studio, individuals with developmental disabilities take art classes. Clients can sell their exceptional art in the adjoining Cool Family Gallery, and also receive pre-employment skills training. In addition, the program hosts museum-like souvenir items, featuring reproductions of some of the clients' best artwork.
- Funding and Eligibility: Arc of the Arts is a program offered by the Arc of the Capital Area.
- Staff: Staff includes Arc of the Capitol Area support staff and administrators, as well as teaching artists.
- Gallery: The Cool Family Gallery is located in front of the studio for the artists to professionally show and sell their artwork.
- Role of persons without disabilities: This program engages artist volunteers from the community to provide regularly scheduled art classes in a socially inclusive environment for youth and adults with developmental disabilities, ages 14 and older.
- Hours and Operations: 10 am to 5 pm; Tuesday through Saturday;

### ▣ SAGE Studio

828 Airport Boulevard

Austin, TX 78702

Email: [sagestudioatx@gmail.com](mailto:sagestudioatx@gmail.com)

[www.sagestudioatx.com](http://www.sagestudioatx.com)

- Description: It is SAGE Studio's mission to increase the visibility of artists with disabilities within Austin's vibrant arts community, enabling them to become meaningful contributors to the social, economic, and creative life of the community.
- Hours and Operations: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 1 pm – 3 pm

### ▣ VSA Texas (affiliate)

3710 Cedar Street, #7, Austin, TX 78705

[www.vsatx.org](http://www.vsatx.org)

- Executive Director: Celia Hughes  
(512) 454-9912 | [celia@vsatx.org](mailto:celia@vsatx.org)
- Description: VSA Texas works to create a world where people with disabilities learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts by providing inclusive arts programs and experiences. We are dedicated to the mission of promoting the creative power in all people, especially children and adults with disabilities. VSA Texas works to ensure that all individuals explore arts-based knowledge and skills; enjoy complete access to cultural facilities and activities; and practice inclusive instructional practices. All programs and experiences enhance public awareness of the valuable contributions people with disabilities make to the fabric of our society. VSA Texas uses a collaborative model to deliver programs in four core areas, and since 2001, VSA Texas and its partners have created successful programs in every major region of Texas.

## UTAH

❑ **VSA Utah (affiliate)**

230 South 500 West, #125  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
Phone/TTY: (801) 328-0703  
<http://accessart.org>

- Executive Director: Ruth A. Lubbers  
[ruth@accessart.org](mailto:ruth@accessart.org)
- Description: VSA Utah provides equal opportunities to inclusive arts programming for Utahans with disabilities and those with limited access to the arts. Through its Art Access programming, VSA Utah is committed to providing quality arts activities for adults and children with disabilities as well as for those who represent other underserved communities. We seek to create enthusiasm for, understanding of, and awareness of the importance and benefit of the arts for all persons. The arts are truly a universal and essential language that challenges people to look beyond themselves and celebrate diversity. VSA Utah believes that participation in the arts promotes acceptance and inclusion in all aspects of life.

## VERMONT

❑ **VSA Vermont (affiliate)**

20 West Canal Street, Suite 8  
Winooski, VT 05404  
(802) 655-7772  
[www.vsavt.org](http://www.vsavt.org)

- Executive Director: Judith Chalmer  
[judy@vsavt.org](mailto:judy@vsavt.org)
- Description: VSA Vermont is dedicated to making the world of the arts accessible to Vermonters of all abilities. VSA Vermont is the only statewide organization devoted to arts and disability inclusion, offering programs in every county of Vermont.

❑ **G.R.A.C.E Art (Grass Roots Arts Community Effort)**

PO Box 960  
13 Mill Street  
Hardwick, VT 05843  
(802) 472-6857  
Email: [contact@graceart.org](mailto:contact@graceart.org)  
[www.graceart.org](http://www.graceart.org)

- Description: G.R.A.C.E has served the community since 1975 to discover, develop, and promote self-taught artists. G.R.A.C.E has been recognized as a model community arts program by the National Endowment of the Arts.
- Staff: 6 working artists
- Funding: Member based, and supported by donations, grants, and income from art sales.

## WISCONSIN

### **Art Working**

1945 W. Broadway Suite 100  
Madison, WI 53713  
(608) 442-5294 ext. 0  
Email: [info@artworking.org](mailto:info@artworking.org)  
[www.artworking.org](http://www.artworking.org)

- Description: ARTworking provides professionally oriented art mentorship and training for adult artists with cognitive disabilities. The program serves artists in a studio workspace as well as community and private settings. The program provides specialized support to talented individuals with unique abilities in a laid-back and fun environment.
- Funding and Eligibility: Art Working is part of Work Opportunity in Rural Communities, Inc.
- Staff: Staff includes administrative staff and artist mentors.

### **Studio 84**

121 West Center Street  
Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190  
(262) 812-7560  
Email: [info@studio84inc.org](mailto:info@studio84inc.org)  
[www.studio84inc.org](http://www.studio84inc.org)

- Description: Studio 84 is a non profit art center that provides experiences in the visual arts, theater, dance, and music for the community. Studio 84 specializes in working with all people including those with physical, cognitive limitations and mental illness.
- Funding and Eligibility: Studio 84 is open to all ages and all abilities. It is a non-profit art center supported by private donations.
- Staff: Staff includes administrative staff and artist mentors.
- Gallery: Adjacent art gallery is located on site

and online.

- Role of persons without disabilities: This program engages artist volunteers from the community to provide regularly scheduled art classes in a socially inclusive environment.

### **VSA Wisconsin (affiliate)**

1709 Aberg Avenue, Suite #1  
Madison, WI 53704  
(608) 241-2131  
Email: [vsawis@vsawis.org](mailto:vsawis@vsawis.org)

- Description: VSA Wisconsin expands the capabilities, confidence, and quality of life for children and adults with disabilities by providing programs in dance, drama, creative writing, music, and visual art. The mission is achieved through statewide initiatives, including extensive educational programming, professional development opportunities, and public awareness and outreach efforts.

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The Vanderbilt Kennedy Center works with and for people with disabilities and their family members, service providers and advocates, researchers and policy makers. It is among only a few centers nationwide to be a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, a *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center, and a Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities Training Program. In 2008, Autism Speaks named Vanderbilt University Medical Center as an Autism Treatment Network site – a prestigious designation in the field of autism treatment and research. Visit us online at: [vkc.vumc.org](http://vkc.vumc.org)

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