

Lamont Gallery Exhibition Archive

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www.exeter.edu/lamontgallery

Catalyst
Work from Community-Based Arts Centers
Arts in Reach, Community Access to the Arts, Mudflat Studio
NOVEMBER 4-DECEMBER 13, 2013
RECEPTION: Friday, November 8, 6:30-8pm

Art for change. Art for social justice. Art for empowerment.

Lamont Gallery Phillips Exeter Academy

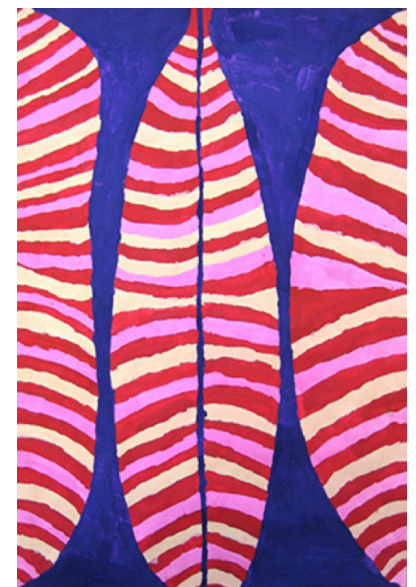
Catalyst: Work from Community-Based Arts Centers **November 4- December 13, 2013**

Art for change. Art for social justice. Art for empowerment.

These are a few of the phrases used to describe the work of community-based arts programs, which take place in hospitals, childcare centers, nursing homes and other non-arts settings.

These programs offer support, training, and opportunities for self-expression: they provide a catalyst for growth and positive change.

Catalyst celebrates the work of three community-based arts organizations. Each uses art to enrich individuals and communities. **Arts in Reach (AIR)**, based in Portsmouth, NH, empowers teenage girls through mentoring and the arts. **Community Access to the Arts (CATA)**, in Great Barrington, MA, celebrates the creativity of people with disabilities through shared experiences in the arts. **Mudflat Studio**, located in Somerville, MA, promotes ceramic arts education and serves as a neighborhood anchor in urban revitalization efforts. Each organization offers a safe, supportive environment where participants gain skills in the arts, develop self-confidence, and can build strong relationships with peers and community members. The settings may vary - programs can take place anywhere from church



Kelli - CATA Artist, Temera on Board

basements to parks - but what they have in common is an atmosphere of care and respect, access to exceptional teaching artists, and the opportunity to share work with the wider public.

The benefits are profound - not only to the people who attend, but to their family and friends as well. One CATA parent noted: "How do you put into words how it makes me feel knowing my daughter has such a wonderful self-image and actually walks around our home saying, 'I love my life'?"



Anesa Winn - Arts In Reach

The organizations in Catalyst raise important questions about what defines artistic excellence. Success is not just a matter of individual talent, drive, and practice, but it arises from a collective effort to nurture artists at all levels of their development.

The exhibition also provides a glimpse of how Exeter students are engaging communities young and old in arts and cultural activities through the **Exeter Social Service Organization, ESSO**. Students "think globally" and "act locally," and contribute via direct action to improving the world around them. ESSO clubs include the Empty Bowls project, which raises funds for the Cross Roads House transitional shelter, and Music for Life, which serves senior centers and long-term care facilities, as well as clubs that promote awareness of critical global issues such as hunger, mental health, and educational access.



Mudflat Studio

In the spirit of Phillips Exeter Academy's motto of non sibi, or not for oneself, these organizations promote generosity, empathy, and goodness in and through the arts.

Related Links

[Arts in Reach](#)
[Community Access to the Arts](#)
[Mudflat Studio](#)
[Photos from the exhibit on Flickr](#)