

ANNUAL REPORT | 2023



ART
Connection
RHODE ISLAND

Connecting Lives with Art
for 12 Years

"Summer Camp" by Richard Harrington

2023 Highlights

Platinum
Transparency
2024

Candid.

ACRI received 2024 Platinum Seal of Transparency" for the 5th year in a row.

Supporting the Community

In 2023, Art Connection-RI continued to place original art, generously donated by local artists, to 8 non-profit community service organizations in Rhode Island.

We are looking ahead to a busy 2024 with art selections at The Women's Fund of RI and CCAP RI as just a start!



Bringing after-school arts education workshops to youth

ACRI provided after school, hands-on art education for children at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Center in Newport taught by Carolyn Kent and at the South Providence Public Library taught by Callie Wohlgemuth.

2024 preview: In January, we welcomed India Sachi, Rachael Barillari, and Mary Ann Rossoni as new instructors. We are so happy to have them on board!



Drawings from Carolyn Kent's class! ↑



Prints from India Sachi's class! ↑

Welcoming Adrienne Wooster as Program Manager

In September, Adrienne joined ACRI to facilitate artwork donations and placements with organizations throughout the state, including several new nonprofits.

Adrienne holds a BFA from Roger Williams University ('19) and brings her experience in administration, advocacy, and arts non-profit work, including her concurrent role at The Collaborative, to the position. Adrienne is also an artist and writer, working primarily in multimedia and collage. Since 2018, she has participated in regional exhibitions and showcases, including those at The Pawtucket Arts Collaborative, IMAGO Foundation For The Arts, The Bristol Art Museum, The Collaborative, and Studio29. She greatly looks forward to working with the community to give others the experience of art.



Celebrating Art at Wood River Health Services!

“Wood River Health is grateful to Art Connection and to the artists who donated to our federally qualified health center’s new building at our Hope Valley site. The art brightens our walls and is enjoyed by everyone who walks our halls including patients, staff and visitors.”

~ Sarah Channing, Director of Development & Communications

Right: Wood River CEO, Alison Croke, Lt. Gov. Sabina Matos and colleagues cut the ribbon for Wood River’s Hope Valley expansion on November 28th, 2023.



ACRI Welcomes Two New Board Members to the Team



Vera Gierke

Vera is an exhibiting artist at the Providence Art Club where she maintains a studio in the Deacon Taylor House. Her main art focus is collage, but she also works in various forms of printmaking, photography and photoshop. She is a member of several artist organizations locally and nationally and has been awarded Signature Membership in the National Collage Society. Her work has been published in Create! Magazine, Contemporary Collage Magazine and Artists Magazine. She has served on the boards of Habitat for Humanity of West Bay and Northern RI, Women’s Center, Crossroads and Art League Rhode Island.



Lauren Hill

Lauren E. Hill is currently the chief legal counsel for the Rhode Island Commission for Human Rights. Before becoming an attorney, she was a public high school teacher and is a Teach For America alumna. Lauren holds a B.A. in journalism from the University of Oklahoma and a J.D. with highest pro bono distinction from the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. Outside of work, Lauren knits and crochets and sings with the Rhode Island Civic Chorale & Orchestra. She freely admits that she is not an artist but believes that art is important to communities and should be accessible to all.



Above – Detail of "Angel Series" floral painting by Sophie Breton

Special Thanks to Our Artist Donors

2023 Donating Artists

Ed Carone (donated by Robin Boucher)
 Michael Bryce (donated by Robin Boucher)
 Wendy Ingram
 Janet Alling
 Jillian Lauren (donated by The Collaborative)
 Kendra Bidwell Ferreira
 Bill Nieranowski
 Sophie Breton

Artists whose work was placed in 2023

Peter Aldrich	Marguerite Pile
Ron Brule	Wendy Ingram
Deborah Clearman	Penelope Manzella
Richard Harrington	Kendra Bidwell
David Kupferman	Ferreira
Bill Niernakowski	Benjamin Miller Jr
Maria Termini	Alice Hoffman
Mary Lianko	Rosemary Boyle
Meredith Thayer	Broton
Roberta Richman	Reba Stewart
Fay Chandler	Jean Fain
John Marlow	

2023 Testimonials



Art Selection with One Neighborhood Builders, October 2023

"Thanks so much for letting us know about my Dad's paintings. It's wonderful to know that so many people are able to enjoy them."

–Benjamin Miller III

Donor of art from father, Benjamin Miller Jr.

"Our staff and constituents all enjoy the artwork. It's a breath of fresh air to the workplace."

–Tony Swackey, Director of Operations, One Neighborhood Builders



Canby's Carriage House, Ossining, NY by Benjamin Miller Jr.



Beach Chairs by Kendra Bidwell Ferreira

"I'm happy that those served by Wood River Health Services will enjoy my piece that I had fun creating many years ago."

–Kendra Bidwell Ferreira, 2023 Artist Donor



Andrew at the New England Medical Innovation Center (NEMIC) next to a piece by David Kupferman

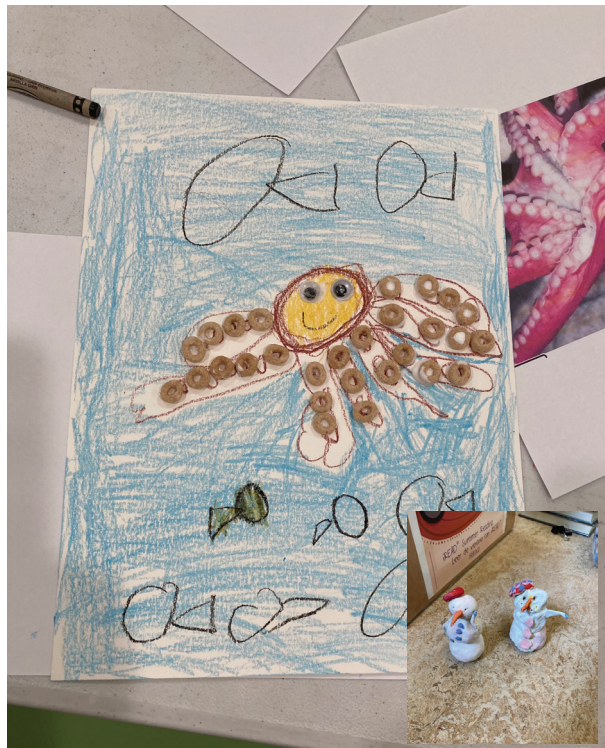


Wood River Health Services at their September Art Selection

The Year In Pictures



Above: Carolyn Kent with children at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Center in Newport.
Left: Making Cheerio octopi and snow people at South Providence Library.



Above: Children with paper butterflies in Carolyn's class.



One Neighborhood Builder's art selection committee purusing work in October for their new building.



A young artist in Callie's Wohlgemuth's class.



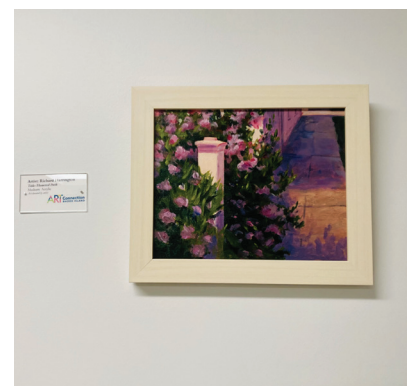
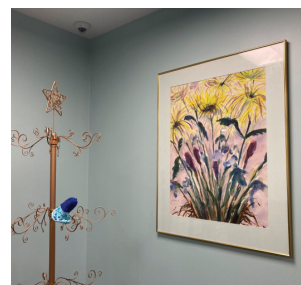
Above: A scene of artwork placed at NEMIC.



Right: Adrienne Wooster and Wendy Ingram with NEMIC's Maey Petrie, Director, Programs + Business Development and Andrew Williamson, Business + Engagement Coordinator.



Above: The art selection committee from One Neighborhood Builder's after their selection in October.



Right: Pieces at Wood River Health Service's new Hope Valley Facility

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2023 ART PLACEMENTS

Tri-County Community Action Agency
Children's Friend
Sojourner House, Providence
Sojourner House, Pawtucket
Sojourner House, Woonsocket
NEMIC
Wood River Health Services
One Neighborhood Builders

MISSION

Art Connection-Rhode Island believes that everyone should have access to art regardless of socioeconomic background. We provide community service organizations original works of art created by local artists at no cost so that it may enrich and inspire those they serve.



110
NONPROFITS
SERVED SINCE 2011



1,832 TOTAL
PLACED
WORKS OF
ART

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY



**CARTER FAMILY
CHARITABLE
FUNDS**

OSCEOLA FOUNDATION INC.



Fay Slover Fund at



Papitto
Opportunity
Connection

June Rockwell Levy
Foundation
at the RI Foundation



BANKRI

The Iona Dobbins Art Fund

Ida B. Littlefield Memorial Trust

The Felicia Fund



Rhode Island House of Representatives
Legislative Grant

Rhode Island Senate Legislative Grant

DONORS

Karen Rand Anderson	Bill & Linna Kite
Tom & Dotty Blair	Janice Libby
Herman Brewster	Harold Mackinder
Elizabeth Buckley	Dr. Mahendar
Hannalore Crossgrove	Paula Martiesian
James Cullen	Daniel Mechnig
Lewis & Betty Dana	Michele Mozzone
Debbie Dobbins	Miriam Plitt
Susan Erstling	Kim Polson
Liz Glatzer	Judith Queen
Sarah Gleason	James Scott
George Goodwin	Deming & Jane Sherman
Vera Gierke	Pamela Stanton
Richard Harrington	Andrew & Louise Swanson
Al Harris	Ruth B. Thumbtzen
Wendy Ingram	Valerie Weingard
Ellen Kellner	Pam Wooster

BOARD MEMBERS

Wendy Ingram, Chair
Karen Rand Anderson
Herman Brewster
Vera Gierke
Lauren Hill

STAFF

Robert Malley, Development Manager
Adrienne Wooster, Program &
Administrative Manager

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