

Expressions Traveling Exhibition

March 6 - Early May 2020

Rochester Brewing and Roasting Company

2129 Washington St., Kansas City, MO

Mon.-Thu.: 6:30am-10pm, Fri.-Sat.: 6:30am-11 pm, Sun.: 9am-8pm

Early May - Early June 2020

Mid-Continent Public Library-Woodneath Library Center

8900 NE Flintlock Rd., Kansas City, MO

Mon.-Thu.: 9am-9pm; Fri.: 9am-6pm; Sat.: 10am-6pm; Sun.: 1pm-5pm

Early June - Late July 2020

Mid-Continent Public Library-North Independence

317 US-24, Independence, MO

Mon.-Fri.: 9am-9pm; Sat.: 10am-6pm; Sun.: 1pm-5pm

Early August - October 2020

Thornhill Gallery at Avila University

11901 Wornall Rd., Kansas City, MO

Mon.-Thu.: 10am-3pm; Fri.-Sun.: Closed

November - December 2020

The Smalter Gallery

1802 W 39th St., Kansas City, MO

Wed.-Sat.: 11 am-7pm; Sun.-Tue.: Closed

January - February 2021

InterUrban ArtHouse

8001 Newton St., Overland Park, KS

Mon.: 9am-3pm; Tue.-Thu.: 9am-5pm; Fri.: 9am-6pm;

Sat.: 9am-4pm; Sun.: Closed





The Whole Person

People with Disabilities Leading Independent Lives

Welcome to Expressions

Expressions provides opportunities for artists with disabilities to overcome barriers that may keep them from showing their art in a professional setting, allowing them to share their perspectives and experiences with the community.

The exhibit celebrates artists' abilities and unique talents, adds diversity to the Kansas City arts community and exposes audiences to art that otherwise might not be seen.

Artists chosen to take part in the exhibit are provided with professional development training to increase their experience in marketing their brand and selling their artwork.

VISUAL ARTISTS

Dr. Donna Agnew

Margarita Aguilar

Jasmine Ali

Mist Ballew

Matthew Breedlove

Margaret Welch Crow

Luna (Aquilla) Elfindale

Samantha Goad

Leslie Norman Hubble

Elise Huther

Kelly Johnson

Kim Johnson

Nick Lopez

April Marie Mai

Sylvia D. Mooney

Josephine Termini

Sandra Vukas

Support from:



Unlucky Rabbit Art Studio

Depth Security

Jack Stack Barbecue

Local Pig

Blick Art Materials

Daren + Co.



Expressions 2020 Artists talk about their work

DR. DONNA AGNEW

Kansas City, KS

My freehand work is mostly done with water-based paint. Blue Shores is waters that struggle and I love painting seas and waters.

When I participate in Expressions, my being in a power chair will allow other artists and people to see that my position isn't where I'm grounded. My physical disability has not ever disabled me or deprived me of any successes in my life.



MARGARITA AGUILAR

Kansas City, KS

I am a Mexican American artist living in Kansas City, Kansas. I love drawing, painting in pointillism, and painting as much as possible. Painting helps me manage anxiety and stay calm and focused. When I am painting, I don't have depression or suicidal thoughts. I'm just painting, and I feel good. I paint things that bring me hope. I paint things that are autobiographical; my family, my culture, and the things that would otherwise just live in my mind. I hope my paintings help others understand me and my unique perspective.



As I participate in Expressions, I will be very proud to show my children my art in a show. I love them very much and I want them to be proud of me.

JASMINE ALI

Kansas City, MO

My name is Jasmine Ali. I received my graphic design degree from Missouri Western State University. From there I've pursued my art career. When I was younger, I had a stroke and developed a speech disability, and with the disability I feel people seem to doubt me. This pushes me to be the best at my Craft. I aim for all my art to empower. I want people to feel emotion when they look at my art. I feel that with my impairment, I haven't fully mastered the intricacies that come along with communicating feelings through speech and writing. But where I lack in speech and in writing, I feel confident that I make up for it in my art. Art has become my window of communication. So with that, I let my art speak for me. Being in Expressions will open more doors for me. Give me a chance to show my work.



MIST BALLEW

Kansas City, MO

Coping with a debilitating chronic illness (and its many co-morbidities), I confront the ideal perspective of what beauty actually is through my artwork. I achieve this by exploring high contrasting colors, embracing imperfections, and choosing subjects that may be controversial, dark, or uncomfortable.

Participating in Expressions will impact me as a new artist, as I can't leave the house much. Expressions will provide an opportunity to network and show the community my work. This will be amazing to help me be in touch with our awesome artist community. I also hope to watch others analyze my work and start a conversation about controversial topics, and embrace it. That will be amazing! After all, my existence is controversial!



MATTHEW BREEDLOVE

Leawood, KS

I am a Leawood, Kansas resident whose bright and colorful paintings exuded energy and life. I was diagnosed with autism at the age of 2. I have always expressed myself through my artistic endeavors, whether it is making my own crayons, painting watercolor cityscapes or creating my latest bold and energized acrylic canvases. My use of palette knife and paint brushes, along with my dynamic choice of colors, has won me a loyal following across the Midwest.

Participating in Expressions makes me happy to share my art with the world.



MARGARET WELCH CROW

Kansas City, MO

I see art in everyday things, settings, angles, lighting... Take a moment to really look and see the way things change with time and light (Impressionism) and how they create a new mood. Don't overlook shadows, they are an integral part of the work, and yes shadows do have color!

Participating in Expressions will motivate me to create more, regardless of limitations.



LUNA (AQUILLA) ELFINDALE

Kansas City, MO

As my journey with Ehlers Danlos Syndrome continues, I find more and more I am unable to do. I find it harder to hold my DSLR, even balancing my cellphone to take a photo when having to walk with my cane. To snap a photo can be challenging. I can still do both, and will still do both, because what pain keeps me from fully experiencing, my photos will reveal forever.

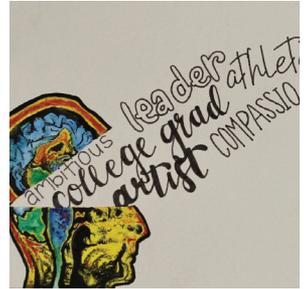


Ehlers Danlos is very tricky I have good days and bad months. It's so hard for me to make commitments or finish projects but being blessed with the opportunity to take part in Expressions last year I learned how much more motivated I was to continue to take photos, paint more and give myself more kindness on my bad days. I tend to get very down on myself for not contributing more to society, but this gave me a real sense that I wasn't just a waste of space. I had art here in town and that space was making people happier.

SAMANTHA GOAD

Olathe, KS

My artwork is a display of my personal experiences that explore the relationship between adversity and strength. When I create art, I am not always thinking -- but feeling. I pour my pain and emotions into my artwork. I am currently focusing on watercolor paint and Prismacolor pen on paper. I utilize both a wet-on-wet and wet-on-dry technique. I finish by writing in Prismacolor pen to communicate the importance behind the work. My artwork helps me find my voice, my strength, and significance of my hardships. As an adult with a disability, I have found people often can't see past the "dis" in disabled. I am continually discriminated against, stereotyped, and looked down upon as a college educated, successful adult due to the world's stigmas and lack of knowledge. I create artwork to spread awareness and help others find strength in the adversity they endure.

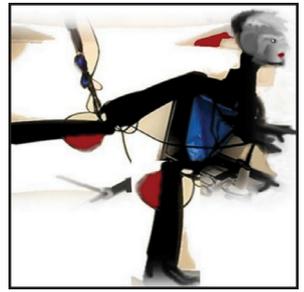


Participating in Expressions will allow me to advocate for those with disabilities and spread awareness about disability discrimination to a larger audience. I have recently been significantly discriminated against by my employers. Creating this artwork has helped me get through this discrimination and helped me feel empowered rather than demoralized. I want others who are or have been in my position to know they are not alone and can fight through the adversity. I want to educate others and my art being displayed in Expressions would help me achieve this. I believe participating in an exhibition will also further my career as an artist.

LESLIE NORMAN HUBBLE

Kansas City, MO

My pieces are based on the struggle to be human and reconcile what is on the inside with what is on the outside. Disturbing content is often my inspiration. I am obsessed with beauty based on the distressing and let art interpret overload and disorder. I try to emphasize color, texture, and information. I construct and manipulate images and information from the physical, technological, medical, mental, cultural, and existential world and let art reveal a truth and beauty. I draw, paint in acrylic, collage, and do digital art and photo manipulation, often incorporating various items, such as x-rays, sonograms, electronic parts, graphs, bar codes, dolls. I want to confront the frightening and create less conventional ways of seeing the body, mind, spirit, and modern culture.



As an artist with disabilities Expressions will impact me tremendously. I am dedicated, driven to making art, and it is therapeutic for me; however, my physical and mental disabilities affect me in several ways. I feel Expressions can help remove some roadblocks to my growth. For example, I believe Expressions can teach me, in ways I can understand, how to network more effectively and potentially expose me to new information I can use to improve my art. My physical disability limits my capacity to seek venues, install and show my work. My work exhibited at multiple locations through Expressions will be invaluable. Spiritually, I will experience the joy of sharing my art. I feel Expressions will help my goal to obtain financial support by possible sales of my work, on-line and in proper locales.

ELISE HUTHER

Louisburg, KS

I am a queer, disabled, fat artist. My work often explores themes of disability/chronic illness, radical self-acceptance, body positivity, and the experience of being part of the LGBTQIA+ community. I draw inspiration from my own experiences, from strong women and GNC (gender nonconforming) people past and present, from music, and from nature. While I enjoy dabbling in many mediums, my favorites are graphite and watercolor. I typically work in layers, covering my surface with basic proportions and light shadows, then gradually carving out and intensifying details.



I am unable to keep any kind of traditional employment due to my disability, so whatever income I am able to contribute to my family is what I make by selling prints of my artwork and drawing/painting commissions. Participating in Expressions would be important exposure for me; it's difficult to get one's name out there, especially as a disabled artist. I am also passionate about the social justice related themes of my work, and contributing to this exhibit would be very meaningful to me as an activist.

KELLY JOHNSON

Kansas City, MO

Painting is my way of expressing beauty as I wish to see it in the world, and it is my way of working through feelings that I sometimes don't understand or even have full access to. When I sit down to paint, especially if I am working in watercolor, I often use a reference image to springboard off of. However, the reference image usually becomes secondary to the fluid process of letting my intuition guide my hand and my color choices. Although I have the technical ability to paint photo-realistically, I typically choose not to. My practiced knowledge of color and form simply allows me to engage the parts of myself that need expression or therapy. I work in many layers, allowing the work to build and change over time. I find the most energy and drama in contrasts of color, value, and form, and I love to emphasize them.



As a painter with a severe physical disability, as well as a neurological diverse brain, I often struggle to get my work out into the world as often as I'd like. For me, painting is the easy part. Because my energy is limited, I don't participate in shows or events regularly. Being a part of Expressions will allow me to show my work, interact with other art-lovers, and engage people who are also at the intersection of art and disability. My disabilities and my creativity are inseparable from my being, and I would appreciate the chance to be a part of an exhibition that embraces both parts of me.

KIM JOHNSON

Kansas City, MO

I'm free-spirited and open minded. I try to reflect that same feeling in my paintings. I pull from my Native American and African ancestors and love the use of vivid colors found in art from both cultures. My paintings have a story, however, art leaves room for the viewer's interpretation and personal interpretation is my greatest joy of being an artist. I extend my heartfelt appreciation for your time, please enjoy the art. Namaste.



Having an auto-immune disease affects me on a daily basis and I often struggle silently because people don't believe what they can't see. Painting is my pastime and joy. As difficult as it can be for me it helps take my mind off of the chronic pain which is my life. It's my hope through Expressions I will have the opportunities to create more art, encourage auto-immune disease awareness and be an example for other artist with disabilities.

NICK LOPEZ

Grain Valley, MO

My work is a reflection of who I am and is a gate way for me to feel comfortable with myself. The theme of this piece is to spark emotions, not only mentally but also a physical feel. Inspiration for my work comes from music, my own life experiences, and poems I have written. The media used for "The End" is acrylic on canvas. I am self taught and have not mastered techniques, but go with what feels right.



Participating in Expressions will allow me to step out of my comfort zone and be able to share with others who live with mental health issues, they are not alone.

APRIL MARIE MAI

Overland Park, KS

My work utilizes bright colors, simple patterns, and textures to explore the collective human unconscious abstractly. I then use the results of my purely abstract pieces to create other works that address difficult and taboo topics. Painting and fiber are used in much of my work, along with a variety of other media. The hand is always visible; it provides grounding and breathes life. Variation and accidents enthrall me, and I eschew rigid uniformity in all aspects of my work. My purely abstract works are playful and colorful and are an instinctual exploration of the reactions humans have to color and pattern. I break things down into the simplest pieces and play with the different ways they can be recombined, seeking to understand my own basic responses to visual stimuli, and thus something of humanity.



Because of my disability, I am currently unable to work. I am working towards making art a job that can support me and allow me to make a living.

SYLVIA D. MOONEY

Kansas City, MO

Giving and receiving love – love of God, family and friends and the bountiful earth – is my destiny, my life's purpose. Passionate young love brings euphoric physical connectedness; creation of new life is the ultimate fulfillments of love's commitment. Love is joy, pain, sorrow and truth. My art evokes that truth.

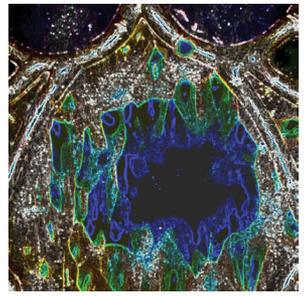


The Whole Person Art Show will expose the very real, creative talents of ALL people and especially those of us who may have limited access to art galleries and art exhibits.

JOSEPHINE TERMINI

Kansas City Missouri, MO

I was born in the Northland of Kansas City, Missouri. I still reside in the same area. I became interested in art at an early age and found my passion and talent in working with pastels when I entered high school. My art teacher praised my linework and shading, stating he had not seen such talent come from a student. Back in 1996 during my high school years, I won various awards for different pieces. In my senior year, I won the Artist of the Year. I've always made brightly colored crazy wacky artwork, but they flow in a unique design that people just can't stop staring at. I have multiple influences, my son being one of them. My son is my inspiration and influence on recent works. I love pastels and the way they flow off my fingertips, I've used other mediums, but they do not compare to the pastels that I fell in love with at a young age. In 2019 I was intrigued to try out digital art, and I ended up loving it. I see art in everything, and a lot of my art pieces are beautiful mistakes.



Participating in Expressions will get my art out and show more people what I can do. It'll show people no matter what disability you have, you can still do whatever you desire in life. It warms my heart that this organization is giving the artists with disabilities a chance to shine and thrive as an artist.

SANDRA VUKAS

Kansas City, KS

Painting relaxes me, motivates me, and helps me sleep. I go to art groups twice a week to be around other artists and it makes me feel less alone. I'm part of a community with my friends and my art teachers. Painting has helped me manage my tremors and I've learned to work with them instead of against them. I like to create paintings of the things in my head; I used to see things that weren't there and now I can just paint them instead of being afraid of them. I feel happy and delighted when I finish a painting and it always makes me want to start the next.



Participating in Expressions will give me something to look forward to. I love making art and want to feel good about what I make. I think seeing it in a show would help me feel good about myself. I also want to see other people enjoying my work.

THANK YOU EXPRESSIONS SELECTION COMMITTEE

POPPY DI CANDELORO (Chairperson) graduated with her master's degree in Art History from the University of St. Thomas in 2012 and is currently writing her dissertation on Nuclear Aesthetics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Di Candeloro teaches Art History 110 and Anchor III on-line courses and serves as an undergraduate advisor to art history and studio art students at UMKC. In addition to her roles at UMKC, Di Candeloro is co-founder and operator of D2 Research with her business partner Meghan Dohogne. D2 Research is a local independent research and collections management firm.



JOHN CAMPBELL is owner and operator of Unlucky Rabbit Art Studio, a nonprofit studio that supports artists with disabilities, as well as local student artists. By working with local KC organizations, his goal is to introduce the community to different types of art. John started with The Whole Person as an artist in their 2018 Expressions show and continued with the 2019 show. He is a Marine Corps Veteran and is currently developing ways to introduce veterans and their families to the world of art. His key goal in life is to build a foundation for Unlucky Rabbit and give youth an example to follow by pursuing their artistic goals.



CJ CHARBONNEAU is an independent writer and curator based in Kansas City, MO, and the director of KC Women in the Arts Networking Group. She is a 2019-2020 Charlotte Street Foundation Studio Resident, and a 2018-2019 Arts Writing and Curatorial Fellow of the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition (OVAC). Charbonneau's primary areas of interest are women and other underrepresented artists, and social practice that engages with issues of agency and access for artists with disabilities.



MEGHAN DOHOGNE graduated with her bachelor's degree in History from McKendree University in 2014, and her master's degree in Art History at the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2016. Dohogne co-authored a book entitled McKendree Recollections in 2014 and is currently the Arrowhead Art Fellow for the Kansas City Chiefs. She and fellow Expressions board member Poppy Di Candeloro co-own a research company entitled D2 research who offer collections management, curation, and private research as part of their professional services.



KATHRYNE GRIMM (née Husk) is an award-winning and nationally exhibited fine art conceptual figurative photographer and queer disability activist whose work focuses on using femme and non-binary bodies to initiate a dialogue about issues facing people with disabilities. They were the recent subject of the short documentary "Kathryne: Uncensored", and their artwork has been published in various literary journals and art magazines. Kathryne's activist work has led to numerous lectures and presentations on disability rights and issues facing the disability community. Their current focus is breaking down the barriers of how disabled bodies are viewed in contemporary art and in society, and bringing awareness to the lack of accessibility within the Kansas City arts scene. Presently Kathryne sits on the board of the Kansas Disability Caucus, and are in their 3rd year on the Expressions committee, and 5th year involved with the exhibit.



LEA KLEPEES is an Employment Specialist at The Whole Person where she works with people with disabilities to explore competitive employment. Lea is a disability advocate, using personal experiences to help bring awareness to disability issues in the community. Through Expressions, Lea has cultivated relationships with many organizations and individuals in the Kansas City arts community. As a social anthropology graduate from the University of Hawai'i, her passion for people, culture, and diversity lends itself well to the Expressions program.



ASHLEY LINDEMAN is an adjunct instructor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) and a Ph.D. candidate at Florida State University (FSU) in art history. She has taught art history courses on the FSU campus in Tallahassee as well as for their study abroad program in Florence, Italy. She recently returned from a 3-month dissertation research fellowship in Rome, bringing her closer to finishing her dissertation on Italian murals constructed during the 1930s and 1940s. Ashley will soon be presenting a paper at the Midwest Art History Society (MAHS) conference in Houston, TX in March 2020, and in past years she has participated in the American Association for Italian Studies (AAIS) conference and the Southeast College Art Conference (SECAC).



LINDA LINK graduated with a B.A. in Studio Art with an emphasis in photography and graphic design from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2015. She is currently an Art History master's candidate at UMKC where her thesis examines the phenomenological performance of sacred dresses of the Lakota nation. When not conducting research, Link is a freelance photographer for D2 Research and freelance graphic designer, furniture re-upholsterer, and silversmith.



HEATHER LUSTFELDT is an art historian, curator, educator and writer. She is Collections Manager at the Belger Arts Center and a Contributing Writer at KC Studio Magazine. Heather's previous positions have included Curator at the Epstein Gallery in Overland Park, KS, Assistant Curator at the H&R Block Artspace at KCAI and Collection Consultant and Instructor in the Printmaking Department at KCAI. Heather has contributed essays and art reviews to local, regional and national publications. She resides in Kansas City with her two sons and their white Siamese cat.



COLIN MOSELY is a New Media artist and interdisciplinary researcher who uses animation, 3d modeling, and programming to create interactive art. He is the cofounder of Robot Rauschenberg (RR), a New Media collective working to bring together traditional and technological art forms in performative and material ways. RR has exhibited, performed, and presented workshops nationally at Comfort Station, Salonathon, and the MCA. Mosely received his BFA from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and is currently an MA Candidate at the University of Missouri - Kansas City with a focus in Video Art and New Media studies. His art practice focuses on the nonhuman-human dialogue, in specific how plant life relates to human and technological interventions. Recently, Mosely put on live experimental musical performance, Techno Chapel, at Charlotte Street's Capsule performing space.



EMILY STAHL is a fourth year undergraduate student at UMKC. She is studying Art History and intends to have a career in Kansas City's amazing art scene. This is Emily's third year on the Expression's Art Exhibition committee. Previously, Emily has interned at The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis where she curated and promoted Fire & Fat exhibition in 2017. She also volunteered at the Foundry Art Center and Imagine That. Her interests include all disciplines of art, with a particular focus on ancient art and curation or design of exhibitions.



ALEXEJ SAVREUX is a mixed media artist and current resident at Unlucky Rabbit Art Studio in Kansas City, Missouri. He was voted one of Kansas City's five favorite artists in 2019 in the Pitch's Guide to the GalaK.C. He is also author of the book of poems, Graffiti on the Window and Eat Me and Other Short Poems and his poetry has won international awards.



AUDREY SEIDER is currently a sophomore at the University of Missouri Kansas City, studying Art History and English. She thoroughly enjoys the arts and plans to make a career of working in the field. She is interning at The Whole Person for the Expressions Exhibition.



MADISON WELLMAN earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Studio Art from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She is a former intern for the Expressions Exhibition at The Whole Person. Madison has exhibited work at The Lawrence Arts Center, UMKC, and the Kansas City Artists' Coalition.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Whole Person connects people with disabilities to the resources they need by supporting independent choice and advocating for positive change in the community.

VISION STATEMENT

The Whole Person envisions a fully accessible community where opportunities and choices are not limited by disability.

CORE VALUES

The core values will influence how we interact with each other, guide how we go about our work and fulfill our mission.

- Respect
- Integrity
- Inclusiveness
- Committed
- Collaboration

WHO WE SERVE

- People with disabilities
- Parents, spouses, siblings and significant others of people with disabilities
- Schools
- Businesses
- Local government agencies
- Volunteer organizations
- Hospitals, health organizations and the medical community
- Civic organizations
- Churches/religious organizations
- Veterans
- Any individual or organization seeking assistance

PROGRAMS

- Independent Living Services
- Personal Assistant Services
- Employment Services
- Individual and Systems Advocacy
- In-Home Care Services
- Youth and Adult Services
- Transition Services
- Blind Low Vision Experience
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

SUPPORT GROUPS

Through peer groups there is a full exchange of brainstorming, problem solving, and sharing of concerns, successes, and ways to address issues. Peer groups meet 1-2 times a month. Visit our website for more information including meeting dates, locations and information about facilitators.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Whole Person provides education on disability etiquette, including reasonable accommodations and accepted social interaction, as well as why disability awareness is important. Visit our website to arrange a presentation for your company or organization.

816-561-0304
3710 Main Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

thewholeperson.org





The Whole Person

People with Disabilities Leading Independent Lives

EXPRESSIONS

FEATURING ARTISTS WITH DISABILITIES

Expressions Mission Statement

Expressions strives to promote artists with disabilities by featuring their work in professionally organized art exhibitions and offering innovative (educational and/or networking) workshops that connect them to the broad regional creative community.

