Requirements for Admission

A serious interest in art and the ability to work within a shared studio environment with other artists. Previous training not required, only a serious commitment to one’s work and the desire to do art work.

Accreditation

Gateway Arts is accredited with commendations by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Fees

Current fee schedule provided on request.

Transportation

Centrally located in Brookline Village. Convenient to MBTA and bus routes. Metered parking.

To Apply or For Referrals

Contact Ted Lampe, Clinical Program Director
617-734-1577 x. 10
lampet@vinfen.org
Gateway Arts is a vocational day service for artistically talented adults with developmental and psychiatric disabilities, including mental retardation, cerebral palsy, spinal cord injury, visual impairment, hearing impairment, head injury, Williams Syndrome, and autism (i.e. spectrum disorders).

The service has a diversified funding base, including the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services, the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind, the Statewide Head Injury Program, the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, as well as public school funding and private pay.

Gateway Arts is the premier center for outsider artists with disabilities on the east coast. Gateway is an art service of the non-profit human services provider Vinfin Corporation, which provides administration and clinical support.

“Making art professionally can create a life that is of value and gives value back to society.”
-Roe Edelson, Director

Making Art Work

Gateway artists spend their time creating artwork and craft items that can be exhibited and sold. Venues include Boston’s Berenberg Gallery, the popular Gateway Gallery, the Gateway Crafts store, and other outside venues, such as New York’s Outsider Art Fair and retail outlets such as Barney’s New York.

Each artist comes to the studio on a preset schedule and works independently on his or her projects. Gateway provides high quality art materials, as well as a staff of professionally trained artists who are always available for facilitation, suggestions, and sensitive critique.

“I value the help the staff gives me... I am getting excellent services.”
-John Finn, Gateway artist

Artists receive the profits from the sale of their work. While participating in the service, each artist develops a portfolio while learning the necessary skills for marketing their work. Staff support artists in the creation of their artist statements, resume, and biography.

Gateway provides artists with professional development instruction, access to visiting artists, and focused field trips to local museums and galleries.

“I think we have to get back to caring about each other. When I walk into [Gateway], that’s the kind of atmosphere and spirit that I feel.”
-Senator Edward Kennedy

Stronger Together

Gateway provides essential access to other practicing artists. Participants make valuable connections with each other through the service and are there to support each other’s art and careers. This support takes the form of critique, conversation, and friendship.

“Gateway has given me the opportunity to feel whole as a person in an art community that I never knew existed.”
-Ruby Pearl, Gateway artist

Therapeutic Supports

In addition to serving artists’ creative and professional needs, Gateway Arts is dedicated to addressing their psychiatric and medical well-being. Gateway staff receive clinical training and work side-by-side with the artists’ counselors, therapists, and support teams. Artists who participate in the program receive case coordination and mentorship that assists them with challenging vocational or emotional issues.