Where Dreams Come True

Studio A, a bright and cheerful 2,358 square foot studio space in Brookline Village, provides long term professional support to artistically talented adults with psychiatric and other disabilities, such as spectrum disorders and head injury.

Established in 1997 in consultation with initial funding from the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, Studio A offers opportunities to pursue professional art careers in a supportive community of dedicated artists with similar experiences.

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

“Studio A is a community of artists working in their chosen field and pursuing their dreams.”
-Rae Edelson, Director

“Gateway is a place to make art and transcend one’s difficulties.”
-Gabrielle Sicel, Studio A artist

Artists receive 50% of the profits from the sale of their work. While participating in the program, each artist develops a portfolio while learning the necessary skills for marketing their work. Staff supports artists in the creation of their artist statement, resume, and biography. Artists also learn how to photograph their artwork so they can approach galleries for exhibition opportunities.

Gateway holds critiques to provide artists with professional development, instruction 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. Artists make valuable connections with each other through the program 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, Studio A artist

Therapeutic Supports

In addition to serving artists’ creative and professional needs, Gateway is dedicated to addressing their psychiatric and medical well-being. Gateway staff receives clinical training and works 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.
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 to art as a vocation.

Accreditation
Studio A and the entire Gateway program are examined and accredited with commendations each year by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Fees
Funding is available for those who qualify. Artists who are not eligible for funding by Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission or the Department of Mental Health can privately pay. Please inquire for current rates.

Billed per three hour group studio session with additional fees for individualized support.

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 Zoe Wyner
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