Community Partner Programs - potential site visits

Historically, the Center has offered its Board members opportunities to go on site visits to our Community Partner Program sites. We would be happy to try to arrange site visits for each of you individually or in groups to those programs you are interested in. A list of those programs follows. Offsite site visits are contingent on the approval of the partner sites.

Offsite Programs

*Creating in Clay* at the Center for The Blind and Visually Impaired in Chester, PA - We have been running a sculpture program for the blind since 1965, it is our longest running program and one of the most active. It is funded completely by Karen Lotman and the Fredrick’s Foundation. We work with 20-25 adults, mostly older adults, who are visually impaired or blind to create clay sculptures and functional pieces

*Overbrook School for the Blind* (OBS), Overbrook section of West Philadelphia – This is a new program as of last year. It is a partnership in that OBS funds half of the cost and Karen Lotman provides the Center with the other half of the funding. It is also a clay program for young adult resident students of OBS. About 95% of the students at OBS have more than one disability (physical and cognitive).

*Davidson School Elwyn*, Media PA – this program, created last year, is a renewed relationship with Elwyn, Inc. The Davidson School is a residential program for about 25 young adults with severe disabilities both physical and cognitive. Art includes drawing, painting and clay.

*Pennsylvania School for the Deaf,* Germantown - Elementary and high school aged students collaborate to design imagery that shares their experience as people who are deaf or hard of hearing with the broader community. The public artwork created illustrates how art shapes personal identity and facilitates self-expression and community connection. One of the pieces is now permanently installed on the second to third floor stairway.

*Joseph W. Catharine School*, Southwest Philadelphia - Transforming their school building, fifth graders of the Catharine School create clay tiles of birds, bugs and plants to be installed as part of a three year mosaic mural and community garden project.

Onsite Programs (held at the Center)

*Carelink Support Services* - Residents of the Carelink community work with teaching artists in paint, ink, clay and mixed media during monthly workshops that deepen a connection with creative expression. Participants make mask, self-portraits, still life paintings, and prints.

Exceptional Art Classes for Children, Teens and Adult with Special Needs - Class focus on mixed media exploration and hands-on skill building. Projects are personalized and teaching artist work closely with student to define and meet tailored goals. After students who joined us as children aged out of the program we continued to add a teen program and have now seen those same teens join us for a new specialized adult class. We have truly seen student grow up in the exceptional art classes.

Artz Philadelphia, - Art therapists facilitate creative conversation with people living with dementia and their caregivers. 3-4 artworks from our gallery are highlighted at each monthly meeting.