

The Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism (CCT) brings together tourism, historic preservation and the arts. Its mission is to preserve and promote Connecticut's cultural and tourism assets in order to enhance the quality of life and economic vitality of the state. The Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism is located at One Constitution Plaza, Second Floor, Hartford, Connecticut. For more information, visit www.cultureandtourism.org.



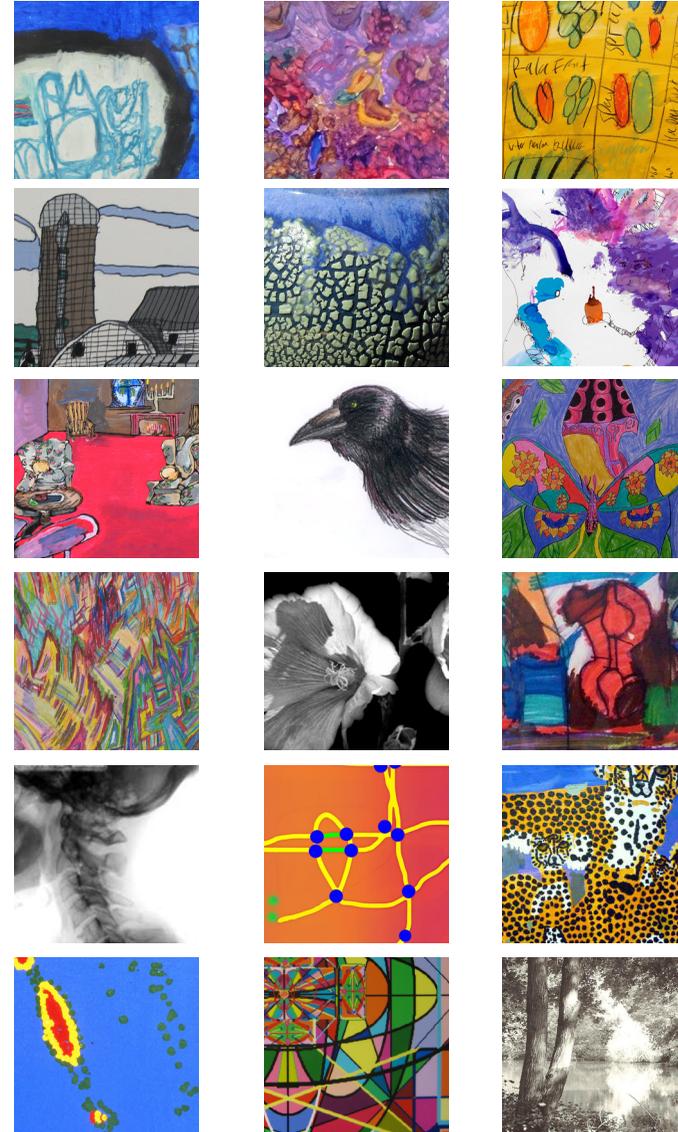
Young Audiences Arts for Learning Connecticut (YAC), an affiliate of VSA. The mission of YAC is to integrate the arts into the lives of children in educational and community settings. As Connecticut's VSA affiliate, Young Audiences is committed to creating a society where all people with disabilities learn through, participate in and enjoy the arts. Our arts programs reach over 400,000 children and adults annually in

86% of Connecticut's towns. For more information, visit www.yaconn.org and www.ctvsa.org.

VSA is an international nonprofit organization founded more than 35 years ago by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith to create a society where people with disabilities learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. VSA and its name have evolved since the organization was founded. The organization was and continues to be a pioneer in the field of arts and disability. VSA has played a significant role over the years in changing society's attitudes towards people with disabilities. With that change, the organization has regularly looked at its own identity to ensure it is consistent with current attitudes and language used by the disability community. For more information, visit www.vsarts.org.



CHANGE: A Juried Exhibition of Visual Art Created by Artists with Disabilities



Richard Anderson
Christina Bevans
Vito Bonanno
Todd Carboni
Kristen Dockendorff
Christopher Fusco
James Graves
Heather Harlow
Dylan Heslin
Bonnie Kaehler
Paul Kline
Suella Kondo
Bernard M. Lynch Jr.
Ken Morgan
Kerri Quirk
John Sembrakis
Michael Alan Snyder
John Taggart

The *CHANGE* Exhibition is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Arts and Disability Center at the University of California Los Angeles.



The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Endowment is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases. For more information, visit www.nea.gov.

The National Arts and Disability Center (NADC)

The mission of the NADC is to promote the full inclusion of audiences and artists with disabilities into all facets of the arts community. The NADC is a leading consultant in the arts and disability community, and the only center of its kind. NADC's information is aimed at artists with disabilities, arts organizations, museums, arts administrators, disability organizations and agencies, performing arts organizations, art centers, universities, arts educators, and students. The NADC is a project of the University of California, at Los Angeles, Tarjan Center. For more information, visit <http://nadc.ucla.edu>.



Upcoming CHANGE Exhibitions

The Cornwall Public Library
30 Pine Street, Cornwall
November 2 - December 4, 2010

Fairfield Arts Council Gallery
70 Sanford Street, Fairfield
January 7 - February 25, 2011

CHANGE: A Juried Exhibition of Visual Art Created by Connecticut Artists with Disabilities June 11 – August 20, 2010

The Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism (CCT) and Young Audiences Arts for Learning Connecticut (YAC), a VSA affiliate, are proud to feature the artwork of 18 Connecticut artists with disabilities. This exhibition honors the creativity, imagination and talent of artists with disabilities and deepens the public's understanding of the power of the arts as an effective means of communication and enjoyment for all individuals regardless of abilities.

The 18 artists were selected for the exhibit at the Commission – the first in a series of three juried exhibitions entitled *CHANGE* – from a pool of 91 artists who responded to the Call for Entries issued by CCT and YAC in February 2010. An additional 21 artists were selected for the other two exhibitions (see back cover for dates and locations). *CHANGE* sought artwork that reflects what “change” means to artists with disabilities ages 16 and up. Two jurors participated in the review of artwork: Stephanie Moore, Director of Visual Arts at VSA in Washington, D.C., and Salvatore Scalora, former director at the William Benton Museum of Art at the University of Connecticut in Storrs.

We thank the exhibiting artists for sharing their work with us. Collectively, the art in this exhibition reflects all levels of inspiration, energy and emotions and all aspects of change and transformation. Through imagery and choice of media and technique, the creators captured something profound that they experienced and desired to share with others. We invite you to enjoy their art and read their statements which are in the Exhibition Binder.

The artwork in this show reflects a broad spectrum of disabilities as well as a wide range of artistic training and backgrounds. A person with disability is defined by the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act as someone who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person who has a history of record of such impairment, or a person who is regarded as having such an impairment.

A major goal of the *CHANGE* exhibition is to provide an accessible venue to display artwork by artists with disabilities while modeling accessibility accommodations so all may enjoy the art. Large print and Braille copies of materials, audio description of the art work, and placement of the art in the exhibition space all ensure that everyone who visits the exhibition has the same opportunity to enjoy *CHANGE*.

The *CHANGE* exhibition celebrates the creativity and accomplishments of artists with disabilities and advocates for community awareness people with disabilities - both for the positive influence of the arts and for the understanding of the disability experience.

Exhibit Background and Acknowledgment

Lack of exhibition opportunities was one of the challenges identified by artists with disabilities at Connecticut's first Statewide Forum on Careers in the Arts for People with Disabilities held in November 2008. Organized by the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism and Young Audiences of Connecticut/VSA, the Forum brought together a statewide advisory committee whose ongoing efforts have been instrumental in planning and implementing this series of *CHANGE* exhibitions.

Special thanks to the National Arts and Disability Center and the National Endowment for the Arts for providing

partial grant support for both the 2008 Statewide Forum and for the 2010-2011 *CHANGE* exhibitions. Special thanks to the State of Connecticut Board of Education and Services for the Blind for providing Braille and large print; to the Statewide Independent Living Council for providing interpretation services; to Bill Patterson of Audio Description Solutions for guiding us in our preparation of an audio description tour of the exhibit, and to Judith Mortensen of Wellspring Holistic Services, LLC for audio description. And, finally, special thanks to the statewide advisory committee members whose input and contribution have been invaluable.

CHANGE Exhibition Accessibility Descriptions



Physical Location: The Gallery at the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism is accessible to all. Parking, building entrances, elevators and restrooms are accessible to everyone.



Audio Description: For people who are blind or visually impaired, audio description will provide concise, objective descriptions of the size, shape, colors, textures, composition, subject and content of the visual art and other exhibited art works. Guided audio description will be provided on the following dates and times: June 17, during opening reception, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm; and July 8 and August 5, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.



Large
Print

Braille and Large Print: For people who are blind or have low vision, material available in normal visual formats will be available in alternate formats.

- Exhibition signage is printed in Large Print, 16 point Arial type.
- The Exhibition Binder will be printed in Large Print, 16 point Arial type, and in Braille.
- Exhibition programs will be printed in Large Print, 16 point Arial type, and in Braille.

Interpretation Services: For people with hearing disabilities, American Sign Language Interpretation will be provided at the Opening Reception on June 17, 2010.



Comfortable viewing zones: For people with physical disabilities, the display of artwork in this exhibit complies with standards described in *Design for Accessibility: A Cultural Administrator's Handbook*, jointly issued by the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Statewide Advisory Committee Members

Bob Bloom, *Drumming-About-You*

Margaret Bodell, *City of New Haven*

Eileen M. Carpinella, *Young Audiences of Connecticut/VSA arts*

Kay Carver, *Connecticut State Independent Living Council*

Susan Cassioppo, *Central Connecticut State University*

Starr Champion, *Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center, Inc.*

Molly Cole, *A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, UCONN Medical Center*

Dee Hansen, *The University of Hartford, The Hartt School*

Trish Hesslein, *Oak Hill*

Susan D. Huard, *Quinebaug Valley Community College*

Jacqueline Kelleher, *Sacred Heart University, Isabelle Farrington School of Education*

Darlene Key, *Connecticut Department of Children and Families*

Aaron Kubey, *National Theatre of the Deaf*

Terry Lennox, *Eastern Connecticut State University, Visual Arts Department*

Debbie Melaragno, *Connecticut State Independent Living Council*

Judith A. Mortensen, *Young Audiences of Connecticut/VSA arts*

Andrew Norton, *State of Connecticut Board of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB)*

Kate Parenteau, *Creative Arts Workshop*

Allyson Pequita, *Bureau of Rehabilitation Services*

Elizabeth Peterson, *Eastern Connecticut State University, Akus Gallery*

Marion Radeen, *CREC Soundbridge School*

Susan Rosano, *Connecticut Expressive Arts*

Robert Smith, *Saint Joseph College, The Carol Autorino Center for the Arts and Humanities*

An-Ming Truxes, *Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism*

Cindy Watson, *JGE - just gui enterprises, llc*