

SEARCH SPOTLIGHT

A NEW WAY FOR SEARCH TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE IMPORTANT PEOPLE WE SERVE AND THE IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN THEIR LIVES

WORKS BY OUR VISIBILITY ARTISTS



ARE CURRENTLY SHOWCASED AT SOL CAFÉ 1615 W HOWARD STREET THROUGH JANUARY 2016

Building Strong Community Ties



Labeling is a necessary part of the important work of Feed My Starving Children.

Fall is a time of year when many of us get out to enjoy the crisp autumn weather, toss back some apple cider and look forward to the feast that is Thanksgiving dinner. It is also a time when we think about what we are thankful for and how we can give back to the communities that contribute to our lives.

At Search's Waukegan site, the individuals we serve have been talking a lot about giving back to their community. This led to a new community volunteer experience. A group from the site went with staff to Feed My Starving Children in Libertyville, IL. While there, they contributed by labeling boxes filled with food for children in need. This was a great learning experience and a worthwhile way to give back. All of the volunteers expressed how awesome the experience was and are eager to return on a consistent basis.

Frightful and Delightful

This fall, the Lincoln Square site had a couple of great ideas for celebrating the Halloween season. First, they thought it would be cool to have a haunted house. So, a group went to Party City and chose decorations that would be perfect for a spectacularly spooky party. And what's a party without some snacks? A group took advantage of the computers, found a fun, fall recipe online and prepared yummy pumpkin-shaped rice crispy treats. With Halloween-themed music pumping through the speakers and the decorations spread out, the party was a spooktacular success.



With a gate keeper like that, enter at your own risk!

A Well-Deserved Treat



Katie is a regular volunteer in the community and (of course) a cupcake lover!

After finishing their weekly volunteer work at the Wheeling food pantry, a group from our Kensington site stopped-off for a treat. Their destination: a charming cake and cupcake shop called Nutphree's Bakery, in Mount Prospect. The extremely accommodating staff there treated our group to coffee that paired perfectly with the delicious cupcakes that everyone enjoyed. Highly recommended!

An Inspirational Year

Meet Stephanie Klein, one of the Visibility Artists here at Search. Stephanie has been in our art-dedicated program, for over 7 years. Her artistic potential was immediately obvious to staff. They also recognized that Stephanie had the potential to make beneficial strides in self-expression. Initially, Stephanie was not confident that she would be able to take on some of the artistic challenges, but she decided to trust in her potential and abilities.

After 7 years of art instruction, Stephanie has learned and gained so much skill in expression. She not only loves to paint and draw but is also a wonderful writer. This year, Stephanie was singled-out to contribute to the design of the new Visibility Arts logo. She collaborated with the Vis Arts manager, Tina Zemen, and a graphics artist, creating a drawing of an eye that would dominate the design. Her drawing was made into a linoleum cut and block printed, to create the image on the logo. Stephanie is very proud to have contributed to the logo design.

To cap off a great year, another of Stephanie's works was selected to adorn one of the holiday cards that the Visibility Arts program has been selling. 450 of these cards are delivering well wishes and countless smiles this holiday season. When asked to share what being an artist means to her, she eagerly and poetically stated, "Art is Good! Art is Great! Art is what keeps me in my heart!" Well said, Stephanie. Well said!



Stephanie showing off her logo design with Vis Arts Mgr Tina Zemen displaying her Holiday Card.

Local Outing Proves Adventurous

There are few things that the people we serve look forward to more than going out into the community with their friends and staff. Whether done in the warm, sun-bleached days of summer or during the crueler, grey months of winter matters little. The idea is simply to get out of the classroom, load up the van, and go!

One memorable fall outing for a group from a Kensington classroom involved a trip to the historic Wagner Farm in Glenview. On this rural setting, everyone got a rare opportunity to get up close with draft horses, pigs and chickens. Not too close, though!

The group also got to observe hungry cows grazing in the large pasture-area surrounding the barn that doubles as a museum.

Finally, everyone went inside an interactive silo exhibit, to learn about corn, wheat and other crops which make up a large part of our food supply. This fun and educational outing proved to be a big hit with our group and one which many wish to revisit when the weather becomes more favorable.

WINTER IGNITE

After completing a phenomenal Fall Ignite schedule, it is time to look ahead to our Winter Schedule!
To enroll, contact Maggie Davidson at mdavidson@search-inc.org

Tuesdays

January 12th - March 29th
(4:00-5:30PM)

**“Life Strategies: Goal Attainment”
&
“Do It Yourself: Craft Your Way”**

Thursdays

January 14th - March 31st
(4:00-5:30PM)

**“Skills for Life:
Cooking & the Kitchen”**