



As we approach the end of another vibrant year at Piece by Piece, I'm thrilled to share the latest stories of creativity, community, and transformation from our studio. The Piece by Piece participant artists have been busy crafting stunning mosaic art. Our workshops provide a nurturing community that fosters personal growth and empowerment. In this, our last newsletter of the year, you will find stories about:

- **Discovering self-worth through creativity:** Many of our artists have faced life's tough challenges, but through their art, they're rediscovering their confidence and unique voices.
- **Frames inspired by art postcards:** Piece by Piece artists have been inspired to create unique frames from these postcards, deepening their understanding of art history and enjoying a fun, educational experience.
- **"A Few of Our Favorite Things":** Dive into our curated collection of mosaic favorites selected by Piece by Piece participant artists. A fun look at how the artists view their peers' art.
- **November workshops:** Led by Ellen Dinerman, focused on mastering various tools for glass cutting, ceramic nipping, and clay sculpting.
- **Special edition holiday candles:** Bring the spirit of Los Angeles into your home with our special edition holiday candles, which are a collaboration with Downtown Women's Center. These unique candles not only illuminate your space but also support our mission and values. It's a gift that truly glows with purpose.
- **Your support makes a difference:** As we wrap up the year, we invite you to consider a [year-end gift](#) to support our expanding programs. Your generosity enables us to continue providing a haven for artistic expression and personal growth.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. Your support and enthusiasm make all the difference. Let's continue to create, inspire, and transform lives, one mosaic piece at a time.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Sophie Alpert
Founder

P.S. The deadline to order gifts for Christmas delivery is 12/17/23. When you purchase a Piece by Piece gift you give a beautiful mosaic to the recipient and you give the gift of hope to the artist who created it.

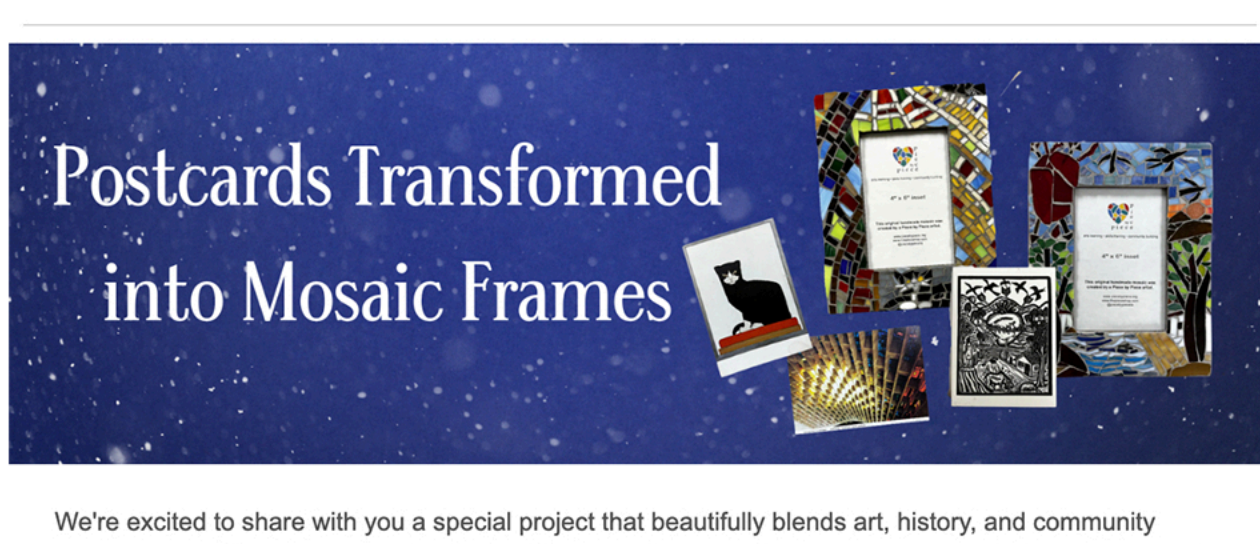


At Piece by Piece, the participant artists achieve so much more than simply creating beautiful mosaic art pieces. They are part of a community that fosters personal growth, empowerment, and a sense of belonging. Here, the act of creating art becomes a transformative journey, enriching the lives of our participants in profound ways.

One of the most significant accomplishments at [Piece by Piece](#) is the sense of community that flourishes within our creative space. Participant artists come from diverse backgrounds and life experiences, yet they find common ground through art. They form deep connections, supporting each other on their creative and personal journeys. This sense of belonging is invaluable, as it combats isolation and fosters a strong support system.

Piece by Piece helps individuals discover their own self-worth. Many participants may have faced challenges or hardships in their lives, which erodes their self-esteem. Through art, they not only regain confidence in their abilities but also learn to appreciate their unique creative voices. This newfound self-worth is a precious gift that extends far beyond the studio.

Continue reading [here](#).



We're excited to share with you a special project that beautifully blends art, history, and community empowerment. Longtime volunteer Sheila Nash spent years collecting an array of art-themed postcards, each offering a window into different worlds of art. These postcards are snippets of history, emotion, and beauty collected by Sheila with love and care.

When she decided to pass on her collection, she wanted it to go to people who would not only appreciate the collection but also use it to inspire more beauty. She knew Piece by Piece was where her postcards belonged.

[Luz Mack](#), the Social Enterprise Lead at Piece by Piece, saw an opportunity in Sheila's generous donation. She envisioned using the postcards as a source of inspiration for our artists. Luz initiated a project, inviting the artists to create unique, handcrafted frames inspired by the art represented in the postcards.

The Piece by Piece artists embraced this project wholeheartedly. They thoughtfully created frames that are inspired by the art in each postcard. As part of the process, the Social Enterprise artists deepened their knowledge of art and the artists behind the work. It has been a fun and educational experience for them.

See some of the frames and postcards and read the rest of the article [here](#).



We are excited to share with you "[A Few of Our Favorite Things](#)," a thoughtfully curated collection by the Piece by Piece artists. This collection is handpicked by the talented artists and staff at Piece by Piece. These pieces show the variety of styles and incredible works by the talented artisans here at Piece by Piece.

[John V](#) admires the realistic the leaves and pedals in the piece [Sunflowers](#) by [Vicki M](#). He says, "It's hard to make mosaics look real in 3D or in pieces that aren't perfectly flat and this one piece captures reality so well. In fact, the way the pieces pop out a bit helps it look like actual leaves!". When asked about her creative process, Vicki shared that she had fun with the challenge of creating a sense of reality and felt "as if I was in the garden" when she completed it.

Hugo selected Stacked Cups by Norma C for the dynamic color usage. "The colors in it really pop but still show each individual cup as a separate piece. I like how the cups fit together well, but you can still see where each one starts and the next begins."

Continue reading [here](#).



Instructor [Ellen Dinerman](#) led workshops in November focusing on tool use. Participants learned the value of knowing the right tool for the job, be it glass cutting, ceramic nipping, or even clay sculpting. They created unique pieces this month using a variety of tools and techniques, including making focal points in clay and then combining both ceramic and glass pieces into their artwork.

The workshop became a very collaborative process. Working together, those artists more experienced in one style could support and mentor other artists who might have been new to certain tools. Cutting glass, for example, is a new experience for some of the newer participants. Ellen led demonstrations on using certain tools, sharing her own experience and techniques.

Learning how to use a variety of tools opens up new opportunities for artists to develop new skills. "It gives you more experience," says [artist John](#). "Then you know how to do more and be more creative." [Artist Margarita](#) agrees: "You get a different feel with your hands using each different tool. And when you see the pieces come to life, it's like, Wow!"

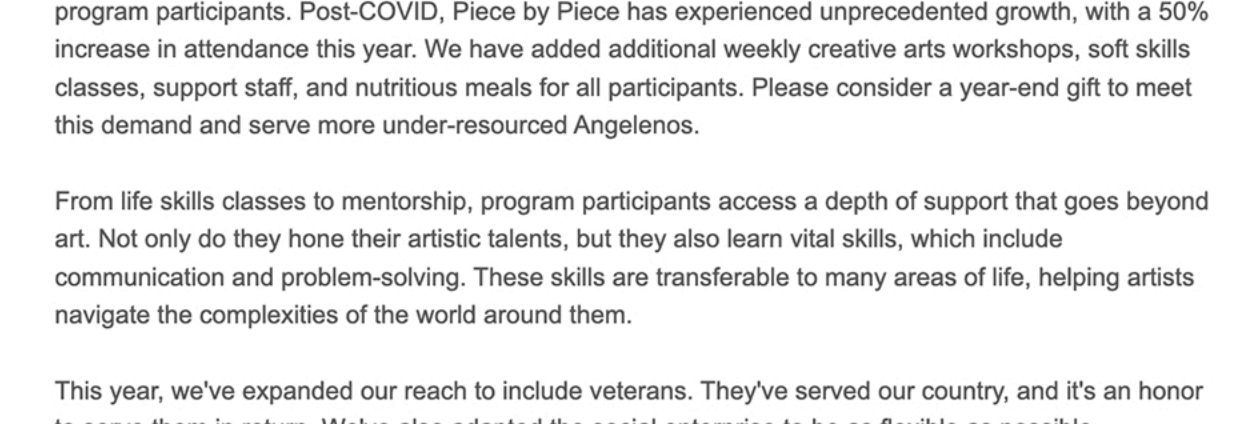


Special Edition Holiday Candles: The Essence of Los Angeles

Immerse yourself in the unique and luminous world of our special edition holiday candles, available in [opalescent white](#) and [shimmery amethyst](#) hues that echo the vibrant spirit of Los Angeles. With a subtle beach linen fragrance, these candles fill your space with refreshing beachy and citrusy notes, bringing a slice of the serene Los Angeles coastline into your home.

When you choose these candles, you choose to support two organizations that put mission and shared values above all. You become a part of a narrative that celebrates transformation, resilience, and the spirit of community. The proceeds from your purchase are reinvested in programs that are crafting new stories of hope and determination, supporting Angelenos on their journey to self-renewal.

Join us in illuminating lives, fostering artistry, and building a community grounded in love and respect. Choose MADE by DWC and Piece by Piece special edition [holiday candles](#)— a gift that glows with purpose.

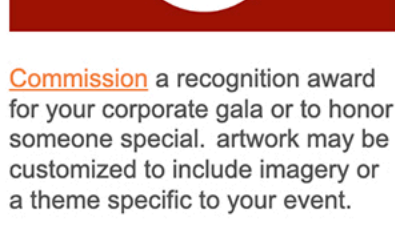


Piece by Piece is much more than an art sanctuary; it is a lifeline that addresses the holistic needs of program participants. Post-COVID, Piece by Piece has experienced unprecedented growth, with a 50% increase in attendance this year. We have added additional weekly creative arts workshops, soft skills classes, support staff, and nutritious meals for all participants. Please consider a year-end gift to meet this demand and serve more under-resourced Angelenos.

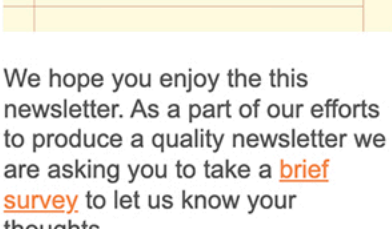
From life skills classes to mentorship, program participants access a depth of support that goes beyond art. Not only do they hone their artistic talents, but they also learn vital skills, which include communication and problem-solving. These skills are transferable to many areas of life, helping artists navigate the complexities of the world around them.

This year, we've expanded our reach to include veterans. They've served our country, and it's an honor to serve them in return. We've also adapted the social enterprise to be as flexible as possible, accommodating participant artists' unique needs related to health, mental well-being, benefit cliffs, and caregiving responsibilities. We offer a bilingual workplace to ensure that language is not a barrier to success.

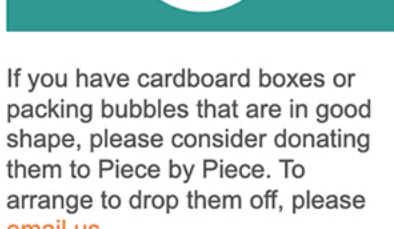
Your year-end gift will enable more individuals to access these vital services and experience the healing and therapeutic power of art and community. Please make a [tax-deductible gift](#) to support and expand programs that continue to support participants as they create beautiful art out of recycled material and provide hope for a new cycle of life.



[Commission](#) a recognition award for your corporate gala or to honor someone special. artwork may be customized to include imagery or a theme specific to your event.



We hope you enjoy the this newsletter. As a quality of our efforts to produce a quality newsletter we are asking you to take a [brief survey](#) to let us know your thoughts.



If you have cardboard boxes or packing bubbles that are in good shape, please consider donating them to Piece by Piece. To arrange to drop them off, please [email us](#).