

celebration of our community. Your support continues to empower lives through art and creativity. In this edition, there are some wonderful stories and updates for you: Spotlight on Ricardo: Dive deep into the artistic journey of our newly certified artist.

I am excited to share the latest edition of the Piece by Piece newsletter, a celebration of creativity and a

- July Class Theme: A look at the vibrant portraits and cartoons explored in our July class. • Fall Collection Preview: Get a sneak peek of the beautiful pieces in our upcoming fall collection.
- · Classes for Veterans: I am thrilled to share Piece by Piece is offering new classes for our veteran community. Skid Row Arts Alliance: Learn more about this remarkable alliance, of which Piece by Piece is a proud
- founding member. We Value Your Feedback: Share your thoughts and suggestions through a brief survey to help us enhance your newsletter experience.
- I hope the Fall Newsletter will be a source of inspiration, offering you fresh perspectives and fostering a deeper connection with our vibrant artistic community.

Should you have any questions, feedback, or suggestions, I'm just a message away. Your insights are invaluable to us.

Thank you for being a part of this beautiful journey. With gratitude,

Sophie Alpert Founder

veterans, their families, and caregivers.



with each individual. We are thrilled to announce that our work with veterans is able to continue thanks to generous funding from Creative Forces®: NEA Military Healing Arts Network — an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the U.S. Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. This funding supports Piece by Piece in launching new, free

classes specifically for veterans. This initiative is aimed at enhancing the health, well-being, and quality of life for

veterans, offering them a canvas to express themselves through mosaic workshop, a process that resonated deeply

Join us every Monday at 1 pm at the Piece by Piece South Broadway Studios and every Friday at 10 am at the Heroes Golf Course at the West LA VA. These locations have been chosen for their accessibility to the veteran community, with the West LA workshops being presented in partnership with Village For Vets. For more information please reach out to Jadie. If you would like to read more about these classes please do so here, and to learn more about our work with veterans

We invite veterans, along with their families and caregivers, to explore the therapeutic power of art in our new classes.

please see our website. If you are a veteran who wishes to join's please fill out this form.



Ricardo's entry into the world of Piece by Piece is a tale of serendipity. Formerly a pizza delivery person, he spent a significant chunk of his life navigating the neighborhood. During his deliveries, he frequently found himself at the doors of Piece by Piece, the studio's vibrant mosaic creations leaving an indelible mark on his imagination. Despite being captivated by the artistry, his busy schedule initially prevented him from actively participating. Nevertheless, the seeds of inspiration were sown, awaiting the right moment to blossom.

infuse it with his unique vision and style. Join us as we sit down with Ricardo to unearth his profound artistic

expedition, and catch a glimpse of the transformative magic that mosaic art wields.

ambitious projects. Drawn by the prospect of being part of something greater, he embarked on a mission to weave himself into the artistic fabric of Piece by Piece. Driven by sheer determination, Ricardo found his way in, ready to harness his passion and creativity to breathe life into mosaic art. Among the many facets that make Ricardo's journey unique is his ability to find beauty in every project. His

Ricardo's excitement to join the Piece by Piece community stemmed from a desire to contribute to the studio's

canvas for him to explore and express his artistic soul. Keep reading about Ricardo here.

open-hearted approach to his craft means that he doesn't adhere to favorites; each piece he creates becomes a



collection here.

community's bonds.

Piece by Piece takes immense pride in its membership within the Skid Row Arts Alliance (SRAA). Established in

2019, this collaborative consortium emerged as a natural network of arts organizations committed to delivering free, accessible programming within the Skid Row Community. Comprising four key organizations—the Los

Angeles Poverty Department, Piece by Piece, Street Symphony, and Urban Voices Project—SRAA unites their

Weekly community meetings lie at the heart of SRAA's endeavor, inviting anyone from the Skid Row community, neighboring arts organizations, and individuals with ties to the area to contribute to discussions on programming

distinct strategies, experiences, and collaborative initiatives to uplift artists within and around Skid Row.

and local concerns. These gatherings foster unity and address gaps in connectivity, strengthening the

SRAA has embarked on a range of projects to bridge gaps and foster unity. The Arts Zine, a recurring

of pride for both contributors and readers, the Zine has become a significant success.

The consortium also orchestrates collaborative events that bring together various arts groups under one roof, fostering engagement and community connection. From spontaneous busk fests to well-structured fairs, these activities ensure that every artist finds a space to belong. You can continue reading this story here.

publication, showcases interviews, activities, and articles about local artists and programs. Serving as a source

Did you know that we have an events calendar available on our website? It's your go-to place to stay updated with all

the exciting happenings at Piece by Piece! From exclusive pop-up sales featuring one-of-a-kind mosaics crafted by our amazing participant artists, to community projects and outreach events — it's all there to keep you in the loop.

Mark your calendars for **September 23rd** because we are thrilled to announce that Piece by Piece will be popping up at the Central Ave Jazz Festival once again! We will have both a community art project and a table for sales. We can't wait to see your smiling faces there. Let's celebrate art, community, and togetherness. Visit our <u>website</u> to explore the events calendar and we hope to see you on the 23rd!

workshop at Piece by Piece, featuring the talented Julie Williams, reminded participants that art is not about conforming to rules, but about breaking free and embracing the joy of creation. Julie led July's workshop on drawing and cartooning, leaving attendees inspired and exhilarated.

Julie guided attendees on a journey of self-discovery through art. The workshop kicked off with light stretching exercises, allowing participants to ease into the creative mindset. Comfortable and relaxed, the artists delved into the world of caricatures under Julie's expert guidance. The room soon buzzed with pencils dancing across paper, bringing to life whimsical characters inspired by the prompts provided by the instructor.

Through a series of engaging exercises, sketches transformed into fantastic portraits. Participants learned to breathe

life into their characters, adding depth and individuality. As the artists gained confidence in their sketches, they

transitioned to refining their pieces, carefully selecting color palettes to infuse vibrancy into their creations.

Julie Williams, renowned for her unique and playful style, transformed Piece by Piece into an artistic haven where participants were encouraged to toss aside self-doubt and let their creativity run wild. With her infectious enthusiasm,

In the bustling world we inhabit, it's easy to forget the boundless imagination we all possessed as children. The latest

The culmination of the workshop was a transformation that surprised even the participants themselves. Under Julie's tutelage, the caricatures evolved into stunning mosaics, each piece a testament to the creative journey embarked upon during the workshop. Beyond honing their artistic skills, attendees were guided through the holistic creative

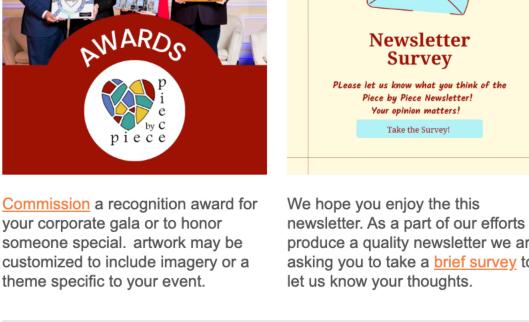
process – from brainstorming and refining designs to understanding color theory and finally, fabricating their mosaics.

You can finish reading this story on our website.



your corporate gala or to honor

theme specific to your event.



newsletter. As a part of our efforts to produce a quality newsletter we are asking you to take a brief survey to



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Our Contact Information

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