

Dear Friend,

Our Piece by Piece Spring newsletter is here! We appreciate your ongoing interest and support and have many exciting updates to share including:

- An interview with newly certified artist John
- A look at our stained glass mosaic workshops
- Information about our upcoming art exhibit and Father's Day frame workshop (open to the public)
- A note about our Spring appeal

In addition, we are thrilled to announce that our website has undergone a refresh, offering an enhanced shopping experience. Please visit our [website](#) to see our new curated collections.

We hope our Spring Newsletter brings you inspiration, insights, and a deeper connection to our artistic community. If you have any questions, feedback, or suggestions, please don't hesitate to [reach out to us](#).

Wishing you a vibrant, healthy and creative spring season.

With gratitude,

Sophie Alpert
Founder



May is Mental Health Awareness month, a time when we reflect on the importance of mental well-being and the various tools available to support it. While traditional therapy and medication are essential, we often overlook the profound impact that art can have on our mental health. Art has long been recognized as a powerful medium for self-expression and emotional healing. Engaging in creative activities can provide a therapeutic outlet for individuals facing complex issues, such as homelessness and economic insecurity. The act of creating art allows individuals to explore their thoughts and emotions, promoting self-awareness and aiding in the healing process.

Mosaic art, in particular, offers a unique way to promote mental wellness. Through the process of assembling various pieces, participants experience a sense of focus and concentration that helps to quiet the mind and alleviate stress. The repetitive and meditative nature of creating mosaics can be a form of mindfulness, allowing individuals to be fully present in the moment and find solace from their daily challenges.

Piece by Piece is an organization that understands the power of art to transform lives. Through free mosaic classes, we create a nurturing community that supports individuals who have experienced homelessness and/or economic insecurity. By providing a safe and welcoming space, Piece by Piece fosters hope and breaks down the barriers that often hinder personal growth and success. Read the full article [here](#).



As the year keeps moving along, more artists are completing their certifications and becoming Piece by Piece Certified Artists! John recently met with Artistic Director, Dawn Mendelson, to demonstrate the new skills he's learned and pass the Level 1 certification requirements! As Level 1 Certified Artist, John had to master core concepts in mosaic art including safety, cutting, adamento, color theory, finishing techniques and more. We sat down with John earlier this week to talk with him about how he came to Piece by Piece, and what he plans for his future.

What does it mean to you to get your certificate?

It gives me a challenge to do better now and challenge myself. I want to progress to be better in mosaic and expand my horizons. It makes me want to try new forms of mosaic and try things that aren't my style.

What did you do before Piece by Piece?

I was sketching, drawing, and working with watercolor. Outside of art, I worked in caregiving for seniors which I did for 6 or 7 years. I had to switch to taking care of myself recently, and that's when I found Piece by Piece. I was introduced to it by another participant over COVID, but when the restrictions were lifted I was excited to join in person.

Now that you're here, how have you grown?

I feel more enthusiastic overall. I've made more friends and have surprised myself. Normally I don't throw myself out there but I'm proud that I've done this and that I continue to come.

What excites you about coming to workshops?

Seeing everyone. They keep me going. They've become my second family. I see them more than I see my actual family most weeks. We inspire each other and have a great time too.

Keep reading about John [here](#).



Spring is here, and with it comes new growth and endless possibilities. At Piece by Piece, we have been fortunate to witness our community blossom and thrive. **Attendance at our free mosaic arts classes has grown by 48% since the start of the year. In response to this growth, we are in need of additional resources to meet the demand.**

Piece by Piece mosaic art classes provide an outlet for individuals who have faced challenges and are working to transform their lives. Our classes provide a safe and supportive environment where participants can express themselves creatively, learn new skills, and build confidence.

Participant Artist Margarita M. shared her perspective on Piece by Piece "All of us here are like a mosaic ourselves. We're all a little broken but when we're here we're one big beautiful piece." With your support, we can welcome more participants to be a part of the 'one big beautiful piece'.

A gift of any amount will help us meet this increased demand. Your donation will go towards purchasing additional materials and tools, as well as hiring more staff to support the growing roster of participants. Together, we can create a brighter future for all.

DONATE TODAY!



Piece by Piece is delighted to invite the community to the spectacular art exhibit showcasing new works from talented participant artists. This free event aims to celebrate the spectativity and dedication of these artists and provide an opportunity for art enthusiasts to explore the world of mosaic art.

The art exhibit will feature a diverse range of captivating mosaic artworks, each uniquely crafted by the talented participants of Piece by Piece. From intricate designs to vibrant compositions, visitors will be immersed in a world of color, texture, and creativity. This exhibition offers a platform for artists to showcase their talent and share their stories through the medium of mosaic art.

In addition to the art exhibit, Piece by Piece will host a special Father's Day Frame Making Workshop, an exciting opportunity for attendees to create personalized keepsake frames for their loved ones. This workshop will be a memorable experience, allowing participants to explore their artistic side and craft a meaningful gift for Father's Day.

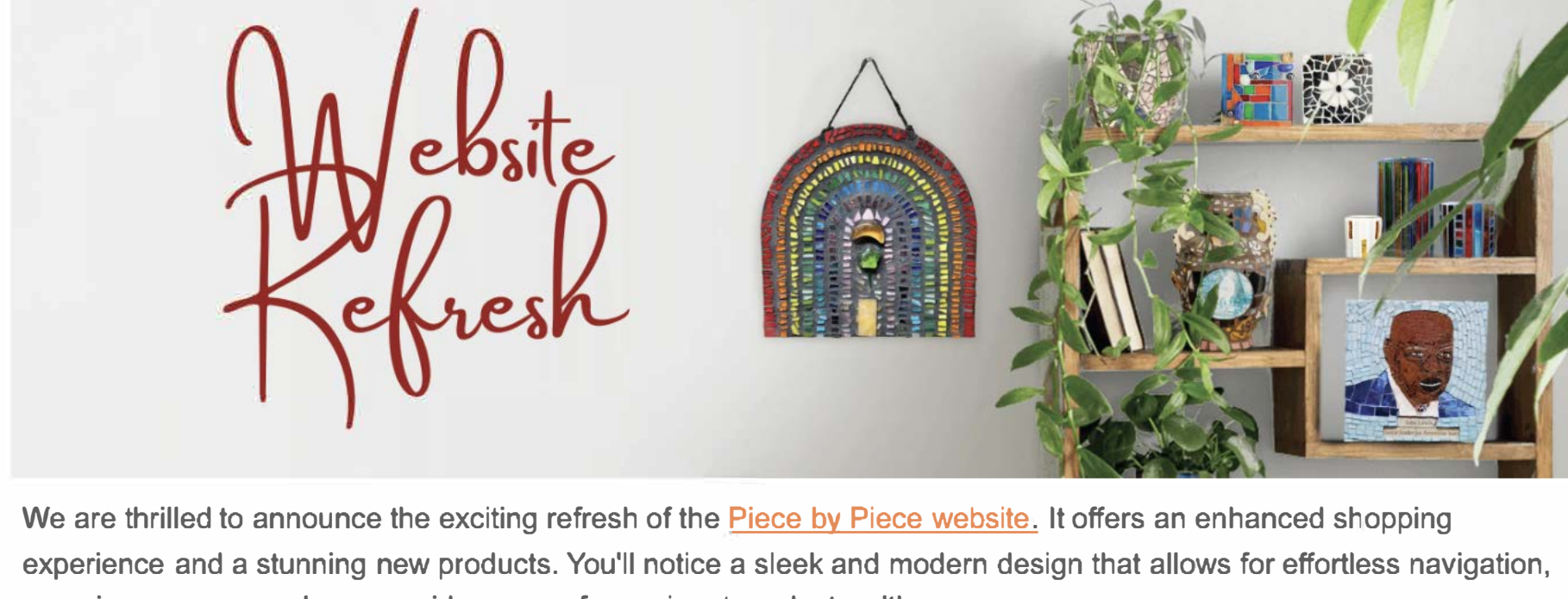
The Father's Day Frame Workshop requires a ticket for participation. However, Council District 9 residents can avail themselves of this workshop for free. For others, the following ticket options are available:

- * \$40.00 - Family of Two Ticket: A family of two creating one keepsake frame
- * \$55.00 - Family of Three/Four Ticket: A family of three or four creating two keepsake frames
- * \$75.00 - Family of Five/Six Ticket: A family of five or six creating three keepsake frames

The workshop will provide all the necessary materials and guidance from experienced instructors, ensuring that attendees can unleash their creativity and leave with a beautifully crafted frame as a cherished gift for Father's Day.

- Event Details:
- * Date: Saturday, June 10th
 - * Time: 1pm -4pm
 - * Venue: Piece by Piece Studios at 5101 S. Broadway Los Angeles, CA 90037
 - * Admission: Free (Art Exhibit); Ticketed (Father's Day Frame Workshop)

For registration and more information, please visit the [Piece by Piece website](#) or contact email us at info@piecebypiece.org.



We are thrilled to announce the exciting refresh of the [Piece by Piece website](#). It offers an enhanced shopping experience and a stunning new products. You'll notice a sleek and modern design that allows for effortless navigation, ensuring you can explore our wide range of mosaic art products with ease.

We know that finding the ideal gift can be a delightful yet challenging task. To make your shopping experience even more convenient, we have introduced a new feature that allows you to shop by occasion. Whether you're looking for a Father's Day gift, a wedding present, a housewarming surprise, or any other special event, Piece by Piece has curated collections that cater to your specific needs. Simply select the occasion category, and you'll discover a selection of mosaic art pieces perfect for that memorable moment.

We hope you will enjoy the [refreshed website](#) and browse some of the exciting new additions to the collection, including butterflies, spring ornaments, and exquisite coasters.



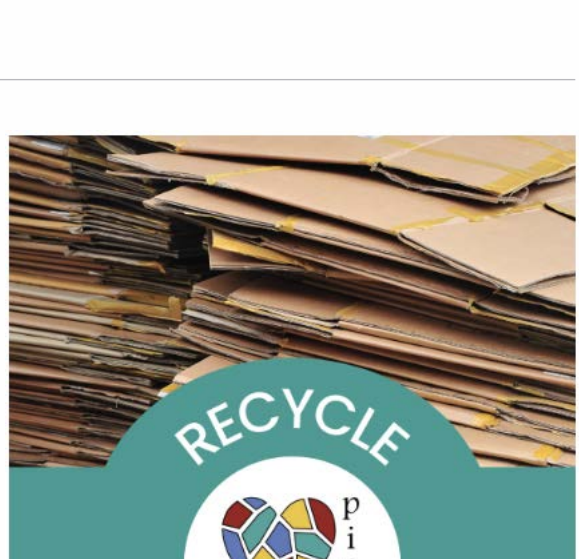
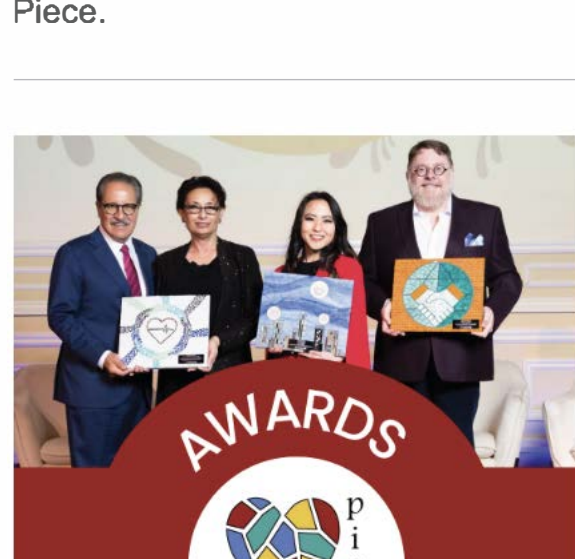
Stained Glass Mosaic Workshop

Recently, we were thrilled to have not one but three highly-skilled instructors share their talents and knowledge in a series of classes focusing on stained glass in mosaic. Piece by Piece receives hundreds of pounds of scrap glass, and it is a primary type of material used in our projects.

The first two All About Glass workshops were taught by Piece by Piece lead instructor Luz Mack and Assistant Instructor Jose Morales. With an emphasis on glass on glass, the class learned about the tools and techniques for cutting glass. Everyone was able to practice cutting shapes and learn about different types of glass used in this style. Each artist was then able to create their own project using specific patterns. These new skills are sure to bring out some new-found creativity.

The second series of workshops was led by local visiting mosaic artist Hannah Maximova. Hannah has created many murals throughout the Los Angeles area using primarily stained glass and fused glass. She shared with the class photos of her work and talked about her process.

Participants then created their own whimsical stained glass birds using the tile tape technique, used by Hannah in her large-scale work. Tile tape is often used in mosaic to assemble artwork off-site for larger installations. The birds made in these workshops are now being assembled into a community project, also created by the participants at Piece by Piece.



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.

Bring the Piece by Piece team to lead a team building workshop for your group. Experience the benefits of creating as a team! Learn more by reaching out to [Jadie](#)

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](#).