



Changing Landscapes

Exhibiting the work of artists with disabilities

Presented at AAIDD Conference, June 7, 2011

Megan Dushin & Patricia Salmi, Ph.D.

Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota



UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™



How and Why We Began

- Small seed grant from our college within the UMN - perfect link with our mission as University Center on Excellence in DD – *improve the quality of services and supports to individuals with disabilities and their families.*
- Beautifying our space – tall ceilings, blank white walls
- Building bridges to the community in new ways
- Offering opportunities for artists w/ disabilities





What it Took

- Identified partners that met our criteria
 - Free loan of artwork for 3-4 months
 - Art available for sale
 - Significant portion of sales goes directly to artist
- Determined & installed display system
- Procured Letter of Agreement & Release Forms
- Selected & hung art; planned & hosted art openings
- Kept it fresh and new with each exhibit!





Community Partners

- Art Shop, Inc.
- Courage Center
- Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota
- Interact Center for the Visual & Performing Arts
- Partnership Resources, Inc.
- Rise, Inc.
- VSA Minnesota



UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™



What Came of It

- Displayed over 300 pieces of 2- & 3-D art since 2007
- Facilitated art sales totaling over \$1,500 (most of \$ went to artists)
- Made new friends and partners across the University and in the community through the arts
- Created community in our workplace
- Created an efficient means to exhibit and celebrate art on an ongoing basis



UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™



Symposium on Arts & Disability

- Collaborative effort with new and existing community and University partners
- Held October 2009 – over 100 in attendance, keynote from Creative Growth Art Center in CA, highly valued event according to evaluations
- Raised awareness about:
 - Existing arts and disabilities movement, international reach
 - Opportunities for artists with disabilities in Twin Cities
 - Need to continue breaking down barriers to access the arts





Film on the Arts & Disability

- Film available on our website at <http://ici.umn.edu/art>



UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™



See photos, upcoming exhibits, and more on our website at

ici.umn.edu/art/



UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™



Contact Us FFI

Megan Dushin: dushi001@umn.edu

Patricia Salmi: salm0054@umn.edu



UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™