



Annual Report

**2017,
Formally
and in
Black & White**



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Part 1: Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

Make Studio of Baltimore thrived in 2017. This hub of activity, practice, thought, communication, and community is so busy and multi-layered that I feel inadequate to describe it, and yet the life of the studio is too cheerful to not share with you all what the family has been up to.

To begin with, Make Studio artists produced wonderful work this year that was shown all over Maryland at fairs and in professional galleries, bought by first time buyers and seasoned collectors alike, and honored with placement in prominent publications as well as awards. But these artists also, as individuals, developed their own methods and their fields of exploration, progressing as professional creatives. They also learned and practiced further the business of being a visual artist, working as self-advocates, discussing their work at house shows and workshops and at outside galleries and event spaces. This outreach work had a wider impact, as well, of course, as these inspiring professionals – through events hosted by both Make Studio and fellow organizations -- reached out to and presented to people considering careers in art therapy, art education, and the visual arts themselves.

Meanwhile, Make Studio's staff, while supporting our artists in their work, were on their own roll, participating in conferences all over the country, bringing what they have wrought here at home to people hungry for an inclusive and creative future.

In 2017, the Schwing Arts Center showed itself to be an important part of its Hampden neighborhood, getting major new signage to welcome everyone in, and hosting shows and events all year long, for people of all abilities. In one month alone (I am looking at you April), there were events and arts celebrating poetry month, autism acceptance and the Orioles.

Lastly, Make Studio has been this year, as it is every year, is a rare, rich community. This is a "product" of the studio that is near impossible to adequately describe, and yet is far too important to ignore. The life of the studio is truly inclusive, with people with many

different cognitive and intellectual abilities working together, side by side, toward common ends. Our studio family includes people who represent all of Maryland's economic, cultural and political flavors, and we get things done. How rare is that?

Yours in service,

Jean McAllister Brooks, *Outgoing President*
Make Studio's 2017 Board of Directors

Greetings to you readers,

Over the years, Make Studio has certainly supported me and helped broaden my horizons in terms of creating art and getting it exposed.

The year of 2017 had many notable examples of such opportunities, such as enabling artists like myself to learn traditional ink painting techniques from Mrs. Yumi Hogan (the First Lady of MD), which I used as inspiration for a later composition. Another instance gave us artists the opportunity to speak to art teachers from Baltimore County's public schools. We were allowed to give our perspective in developing and selling art as adults with disabilities and how the studio assists us. One last example is the workshop Make Studio offered for transitioning young/student artists. Talking to the prospective artists about our program and our processes for creating and selling art reminded me of how far my art has evolved since I joined Make Studio.

Overall this program has helped me learn and grow as an artist and as a person.

Sincerely,

Erika Clark

Make Studio Program Artist

Part 2: Letters to the Editor (continued)

To the Editor,

In our respective roles at St. Peter's, a long-time partner of Make Studio, we want to share one perspective on Make Studio's value to our center in 2017. Our agency has been involved in Make Studio since its inception. Kareem, a member of St. Peter's vocational program, has participated with Make Studio for several years. We immediately saw the worth of this organization for the people that we support; this has been especially true for Kareem as he struggled to find his way after leaving school. At first he was in our day program but it was obvious that he was destined for more inclusion in his community.

Now almost 7 years into his time at Make Studio, we've seen that the opportunity for Kareem to explore his artistic and creative side with Make Studio has offered him a rare and unique experience coupled with his employment services he receives from us. After enrolling in Make Studio, Kareem took off. He became employed independently and was even recruited by his employer to follow them to a new contract.

With Make Studio as part of his work week, Kareem is offered a dedicated time weekly to connect with artistic colleagues, discuss his paid job, delve into creative projects, and naturally round a more complete self. Make Studio has given Kareem the tools he needs to find acceptance and explore his own uniqueness. It is his outlet for creativity and wonder.

Make Studio has become a conduit for Kareem with opportunity for full expression. At this point in time, our partnership with Make Studio has created a constant and evolving piece of Kareem's life as a whole and specifically his pursuit for inclusion through gainful employment.

Chip Woods, Executive Director &
Cindy McCabe, Program Director
St. Peter's Adult Learning Center
(Make Studio Partnering Adult Agency)

Dear Editor:

In response to the "2017 Issue", I am writing to express my excitement about Make Studio's ongoing partnership with the Farring-Baybrook Therapeutic Rec Center in Brooklyn. Nearly ten miles away from Schwing Art Center, yet still within Baltimore City limits, it has been a delight for me to help link Make Studio's mission and practice with the participants at Farring-Baybrook as an arts facilitator. With a dance aerobic soundtrack of pop hits booming through the center, Farring-Baybrook offers a cornucopia of programs geared toward adults with disabilities: dance aerobics, gardening, basketball, yoga, soccer, and a highly anticipated bocce ball league, as well as arts and crafts.

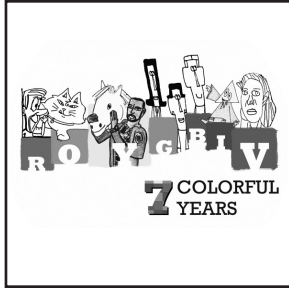
My co-facilitators, often students of art therapy, and I offer "invitations" each week to our 15-25 participants and staff. Each invitation offers up ways to engage with that week's materials and process to encourage self-expression and creativity. We emphasize that inside our class, everyone is an artist who gets to touch, play, and create. Make Studio's philosophy of creating art in community shines in a full classroom of artists working on weekly projects ranging from paper-mache plants to sand mandalas to monster collages to yarn-wrapped nature sculptures. Participants are often excited to bring their work home to share with favorite staff or family members.

Each class ends with some sharing and reflection - participants highlight favorite parts of their piece or process or share their inspiration. And then we end with applause, celebrating each other and what we made. A round of applause for the art yet to come from this little slice of Make Studio that exists and thrives across the Patapsco River!

Sincerely,
Rosalie (Rosie) Eck
Art Facilitator for
Make Studio's contract with Baltimore City Dept. of
Recreation & Parks

Part 3: Highlights

A small selection out of Make Studio's 15+ exhibitions & assorted other events in 2017



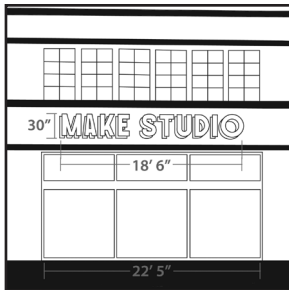
Our 2017 anniversary show “ROYGBIV: 7 Colorful Years” not only drew a wonderful crowd of new and old friends and our first custom showroom window decal just for the occasion, but also a Baltimore City Council resolution wishing us a happy anniversary, delivered by Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke.



Make Studio was proud to again be part of Artscape’s Artist- Run Art Fair, which transforms a humble Charles Street parking garage into a showcase of contemporary artwork presented by artist-run galleries and small curatorial projects from across the country. This year we mounted our most popular interactive art installation yet.



One of multiple artistic collaborations we undertook this year, our fall collaborations with Maxine Taylor’s MAXgallery was the first of its kind for us, featuring “cross-platform” curation, two exhibitions, two receptions, artist talks, and a workshop in our respective Hampden and Butcher’s Hill spaces.



And, to much delight, after months of preparations and right before this little sheet went to print, it happened!! Our name started to go up on our building after final city approval. Thanks to our donors and Sam Redles!



For something a bit different but still just a stone’s throw from the 34th Street lights in Hampden, Make Studio hosted a holiday train garden! Make Studio artists and the Boy Scouts of Troop 161 teamed up using Harry Potter and Disney themes to create a unique model train experience for visitors to enjoy in our Showroom Gallery.

Part 4: Financials

INCOME

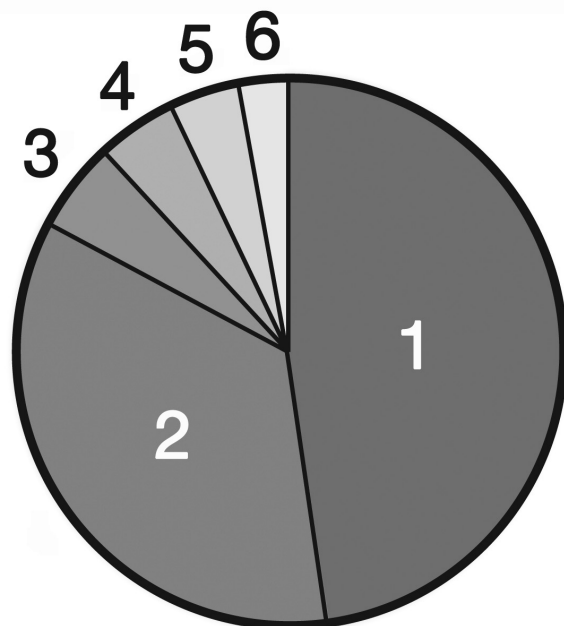
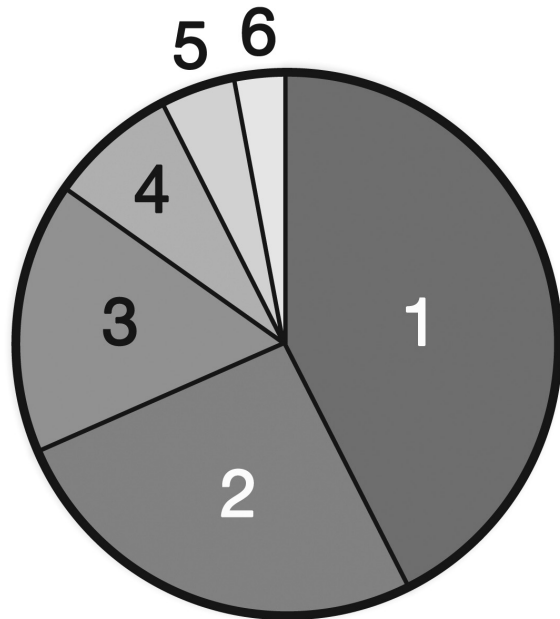
1	Program fees-for-service	110,687
2	Direct public support (individual donations)	42,481
3	Grants and Contracts (Foundation & Government)	22,450
4	Other income (space rentals, workshops, interest, etc.)	20,052
5	Artwork and gift item sales	11,694
6	Corporate	7,850

TOTAL 215,214

EXPENSES

1	Personnel	90,998
2	Facilities (rent, utilities, im- provements, equipment)	67,342
3	Supplies	10,154
4	Other direct program costs (exhibits costs, supplies, communications, etc.)	9,067
5	Other operational and administrative costs	8,049
6	Artist commissions	5,500

TOTAL 191,110



Part 5: Board & Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Education Forward DC (Washington, DC)

Kathy Lumsden

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Human Resources and Quality Assurance, USF&G Insurance,
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Foundation Faculty, Maryland Institute College of Art
(Baltimore, MD)

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mentary "King Gimp"

Alisa Rock (founding)

Pathfinders for Autism, Board member & former President

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Cathy K. Goucher, ATR-BC, LCPC, LCPAT

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Studio Manager

Carolyn Shayte, BFA

Studio Assistant

THANK YOU

to all the

**foundations
public agencies
companies
local businesses
organizations
interns
volunteers**

who have supported us
and helped make 2017
a great year for Make Studio!

