

The Burchfield Penney Art Center's work is grounded in inspiring, celebrating, and investing in the achievements of our region's artists by cultivating an ecosystem that fosters connection and brings their work into the broader community.

Welcoming Spaces is a new collaboration between Partnership for the Public Good and the Burchfield Penney that places the work of diverse artists in the spaces of local nonprofits.

Selected Partnership for the Public Good partner organizations will each acquire one work from a featured artist to be permanently installed in a public-facing area in their building. There will be a Community Art Crawl celebration on September 13, 2025, where artists and community members can visit each site to experience the works and learn more about each organization.

The selected organizations offer myriad programs and services, including job training, employment assistance, legal services, access to fresh food, family and youth support, and accessible healthcare.

By bringing artwork into a broad range of spaces, this project beautifies the workplaces of nonprofits doing important work in the community. It also allows the work of our local artists to be seen and enjoyed by people of different cultures, identities, and lived experiences. Through dynamic partnerships like these, the Burchfield Penney continues to deepen its commitment to making the arts an accessible and welcoming space to heal, inspire, reflect, and connect.

Massachusetts Avenue Project

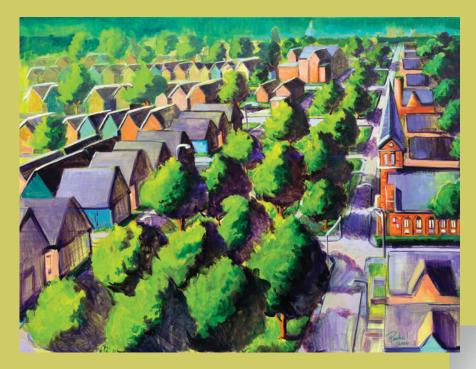
Massachusetts Avenue Project is a food organization on Buffalo's west side that attempts to nurture the growth of a diverse, accessible, and equitable local food system, promote economic opportunities, and empower youth through social change education.



Angela Guest is a fabric artist based in Mississauga, Ontario, recently transplanted from Buffalo, New York. In Buffalo, Guest began to focus on making felt and paracord clouds that were saturated with color and paint, as well as abstract works made from stitched together fabric scraps and found materials. Guest has been in group shows at Buffalo Arts Studio, Main Street Arts in Clifton Springs, New York, where she was also an artist resident in 2018, and the Burchfield Penney Art Center through Stitch Buffalo's Social Justice Stitched Stories series in 2022.

Center for Employment Opportunities

Our vision at Center for Employment Opportunities is that anyone with a recent criminal history who wants to work has the preparation and support needed to find a job and stay connected to the labor force. Our program consists of providing participants with immediate employment with daily pay, skills training, job placement, and ongoing career support. CEO is dedicated to ensuring that justice-impacted job seekers have opportunities to achieve social and economic mobility.



Nu-Humboldt, 2024 Acrylic on canvas, 36" x 48"

Stephen Forman Jr, aka Paulie!, is a Christian, African American illustrator born and raised in Buffalo, NY. He seeks to express his foundational faith, the sorrowful struggles along with the jovial joy of the Black experience, and outright love for storytelling all whilst using a marker, paint brush, stylus, and/or ballpoint pen. Figures and visual analogies are his main vehicle to convey his thoughts and ideas: with each piece's goal being to spark conversation amongst the most esteemed critic to the greenest of gallery-hoppers.

Paulie! has exhibited at local galleries and venues including Buffalo Art Studio, Hunt Art Gallery, Cass Gallery's Cass Cave, Allen Street Art, and The Exchange at Beverly Gray. In 2023, he had his first solo show, Serving the Solution, at the Artisan Culinary Lofts. Coupled with his father's culinary business, Thyme-N-Honey, the exhibition shared his vision of a greener future for African-Americans nationwide.

Family Promise of Western New York

The mission of Family Promise of Western New York is to keep families experiencing homelessness together by offering emergency housing and compassionate support as they work to find their way back home. Our vision is to build a community that wraps homeless children and their families in hope.



Falling Into Place, 2017
Pastel on paper, 28" x 34"

Wendy Caldwell Maloney is a watercolorist and mixed media artist who works out of her home studio in Snyder, NY. Her imagery is largely nature-based, with an ever-increasing focus on abstract and conceptual work. After receiving a BFA in Art and Design from Alfred University with concentrations in drawing, photography, and printmaking, she returned to Buffalo to pursue a career in the pre-press industry. Initially as a typographer, and then as sole proprietor of Current Design, she served the Western New York business community as a graphic designer and award-winning illustrator for two decades. In 2002 she returned to the fine arts to study transparent watercolor with renowned Buffalo artist Margaret M. Martin.

Her work is included in public and private collections in the United States, Canada, Italy and Mexico. She has exhibited at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, The Kenan Center, Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center, and Carnegie Art Center, among others. She is an exhibiting member of the Buffalo Society of Artists, a signature member of the Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society, and has taught watercolor workshops at the Burchfield Penney Art Center.

Center for Elder Law and Justice

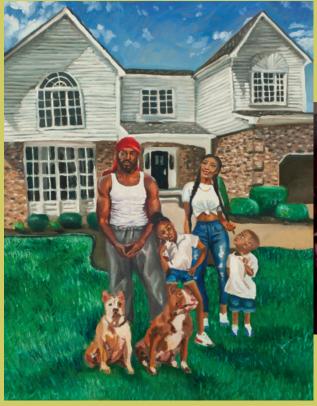
The Center for Elder Law and Justice provides free legal services to individuals throughout Western New York, focusing on older, disabled, and low-income adults. Our goal is to use the legal system to ensure that our clients may live independently and with dignity.



Confused by everything, **Steve** uses art to slow down and process his life. It doesn't help much, but it's something to do. After painting, Steve is often more confused than when he started. In this endeavor, he is broadly drawn to themes that address the relationship between people and their built environment. He has a master's degree in architecture from the University at Buffalo and has studied abroad in Belgium and China; his training in design, interest in built-up places, and experience abroad form the backbone of his approach to art. His work has been exhibited in numerous local shows, as well as a 2-person show in Buffalo, NY.. He was also featured in a show in Kyto, Japan at the conclusion of a recent residency program. He currently lives in Rochester, NY with his wife and their son, where he practices architecture full-time and paints at every reasonable opportunity.

Open Buffalo

Established in 2014, Open Buffalo is a nonprofit organization that grows the power of individuals and communities through innovative leadership development, advocacy, and organizing. Our mission is to advance racial, economic, and ecological justice. We do so through skill building, network connecting, and activating leadership opportunities. Our goal is for all communities in Western New York to thrive free from discrimination and poverty. Open Buffalo is located on Jefferson Avenue, in the heart of the Cold Springs neighborhood.



There Goes the Neighborhood, 2023 Oil on canvas, 30" x 24"



Bree Gilliam is a figurative painter from Buffalo, NY. She is the owner and founder of Paintphoria, Buffalo's first paint-throwing studio. Gilliam attended SUNY Buffalo State University, receiving her B.F.A. in painting and a minor in art therapy.

Her work addresses the social issues that plague society. As a young black woman, she believes that her responsibility is to depict the perspective of marginalized people, give a voice to the voiceless, and empower her community. Gilliam was an artist in residence at Hunt Gallery in 2023. Her work has been exhibited throughout Western New York at BOX Gallery, Buffalo Arts Studio and the Burchfield Penney Art Center, among others. She has also completed several commissioned murals throughout Western New York.

King Urban Life Center

King Urban Life Center (KULC) is committed to being a catalyst for radical educational, economic, and social neighborhood change while preserving the historic building it occupies as a symbol of the work it hopes to accomplish.



Danielle works primarily in oil paint, but utilizes collage, performance, and installation to create immersive, narrative driven bodies of work. Her art explores themes of personal and collective experience, psychology, and spirituality. Her goal is for viewers to experience her work as a mirror to promote reflection, connection, and healing.

Jericho Road Community Health Center

At Jericho Road Community Health Center, we provide primary care for about 25,000 people each year. Because of our proximity to the most vulnerable people in our community, our mission is also to advocate for systemic health equity—addressing the injustices that make all of us sick. Our vision is for individuals, families, and communities to become healthy and whole.



Born in Chicago and raised in Kansas City, **Ginny O'Brien** is a painter and mixed media artist currently living in Lancaster, NY. She maintains a studio at the Tri-Main Center in Buffalo, NY, and is a teaching artist specializing in the visual arts, education, and healthcare. Inspired by abstract expressive imagery, her work utilizes color as a central element to explore themes of memories, dreams, and a sense of place.

O'Brien has exhibited in group exhibitions nationally and internationally. Her work is in permanent collections including Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY; Lessedra Art Gallery, Sophia, Bulgaria; the Ruth and Marvin Sackner Archive of Concrete and Visual Poetry, University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City, Iowa; and the Kirsten Vincent Respite & Recovery Center's collection in Buffalo, NY.

Metro Community Development Corporation

The Delavan Grider Community Center is dedicated to fostering a vibrant and inclusive community by providing programs and services that promote the cultural, economic, social, and physical well-being of residents within the City of Buffalo area. We aim to empower individuals of all ages through education, recreation, and community-building initiatives, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for growth and connection. Together, we are strengthening the heart of Buffalo, one person and one family at a time.



Joshua Nickerson is a self-taught artist who has been living and making art in Western New York since 2007. His work has been exhibited in numerous solo and group shows including at Buffalo Art Movement (BAM), El Museo, the Carnegie Art Center, University of Pittsburgh and Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center.

Initially starting out as a painter, Nickerson's studio practice transitioned to large-scale works on paper around 2015. He has long been inspired by the variation and repetition of basic forms and patterns within natural, subatomic, and anatomical systems and structures, and their relationship to human-produced systems, structures and the built environment. His work invites the viewer to notice and consider subtle variations of details, as well their own role in the interpretation of the work, the interplay of perspective and the construction of reality.

Western New York Law Center

The mission of the Western New York Law Center is to promote human and civil rights guided by an overarching commitment to racial and economic justice. In furtherance of that overall mission, the Law Center's work ensures that low-income people receive the full range of civil legal services including "nontraditional" legal assistance like policy advocacy and legal education, emphasizing the areas in which low-income people are underrepresented and underserved.



Goergen has worked as an illustrator for bands like Excide and Sign Language doing their album art and merchandise. He has also exhibited at places like Transformer Station Cleveland as well as continually showing with the Cozy Up! Collective in Ohio. His works often manifest in works on paper and have also reached into installation and performative works that engage the viewer through phone calls and street signs.

Peaceprints of WNY

With a mission of "strengthening communities by rebuilding lives," Peaceprints of WNY has been pioneering reentry across Western New York since 1985. Every year, Peaceprints helps thousands of justice-involved individuals and their families connect to the tools, resources, and support to regain their independence and thrive.



Dr. Phyllis I. Thompson is a visual artist and educator with a concentration in printmaking. She holds a PhD in urban education/art education from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and a MFA in printmaking from Tyler School of Art, Temple University. Her visual work has been shown in galleries across the United States for more than 30 years. Using print processes and collage materials, she explores meaningful experiences in her life. In this way she empowers memory, brings renewed meaning to slices of her life, and shares these insightful experiences.



