

Progressive Art Studio Collective



- Launched in January 2021
- First progressive/supported art studio and exhibitions program in Detroit and Wayne County.
- Supports adults with developmental disabilities and mental health difference to build individual career paths in the arts.
- PASC is a program of Services to Enhance Potential (STEP).



## What is a Progressive Art Studio

- Progressive art studios, AKA supported or disability art studios)
- Art programs that align with an ideology aimed at advancing contemporary art careers for adults with disabilities, (mostly developmental disabilities and/or mental health differences).



## What is a Progressive Art Studio

- Many progressive art studios exist in the US and globally.
- Some programs are part of an informal network, who meet quarterly to discuss concerns, advancements, and advocacy around art and disabilities.



## More Than 60 Progressive Art Studios Across the USA

The Canvas, Juneau, AK Studio by the Tracks, Irondale, AL Hozhoni Artists, Flagstaff, AZ **Axis Dance Company, Oakland, CA Creativity Explored, San Francisco, CA** Creative Growth, Oakland, CA **ECF Art Centers, Los Angeles, CA** Tierra Del Sol Studios, Los Angeles, CA Hope Center for the Arts, Anaheim, CA NIAD, Richmond, CA **Neighborhood Center for the Arts, Grass** Valley, CA The Studio, Eureka, CA **Creative Clay, Petersburg, FL Arts Of Life, Chicago, IL Project Onward, Chicago, IL** Little City Center For The Arts, Palatine, IL Latitude Artist Community, Lexington, KY Spindleworks, Brunswick, ME The Theater Project, Brunswick, ME The Art Department, Portland, ME Yes Art Works, Auburn, Portland & Saco, ME **Art Enables, Washington DC** 

Make Studio, Baltimore, MD **Gateway Arts, Brookline, MA** Outside The Lines Studio (RHD), Boston, MA Paint a Miracle Art Studio, Rochester, MI PASC, multiple locations, SE, MI Soul Studio, Bloomfield, MI Interact, Minneapolis, MN **Blank Canvas Studios, St. Charles, MO Artists First, Maplewood MO Arts Unbound, Orange, NJ North Fourth Art** Center (VSA), Albuquerque, NM **Arts Work at Autism Services Inc., Buffalo &** Williamsville, NY Fountain House, NYC, NY LAND, NYC, NY **Pure Vision Arts, NYC, NY YAI Arts, NYC, NY** Starlight Studio and Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY Main View Gallery, Oneonta, NY **Open Hearts Art Center, Asheville, NC** 

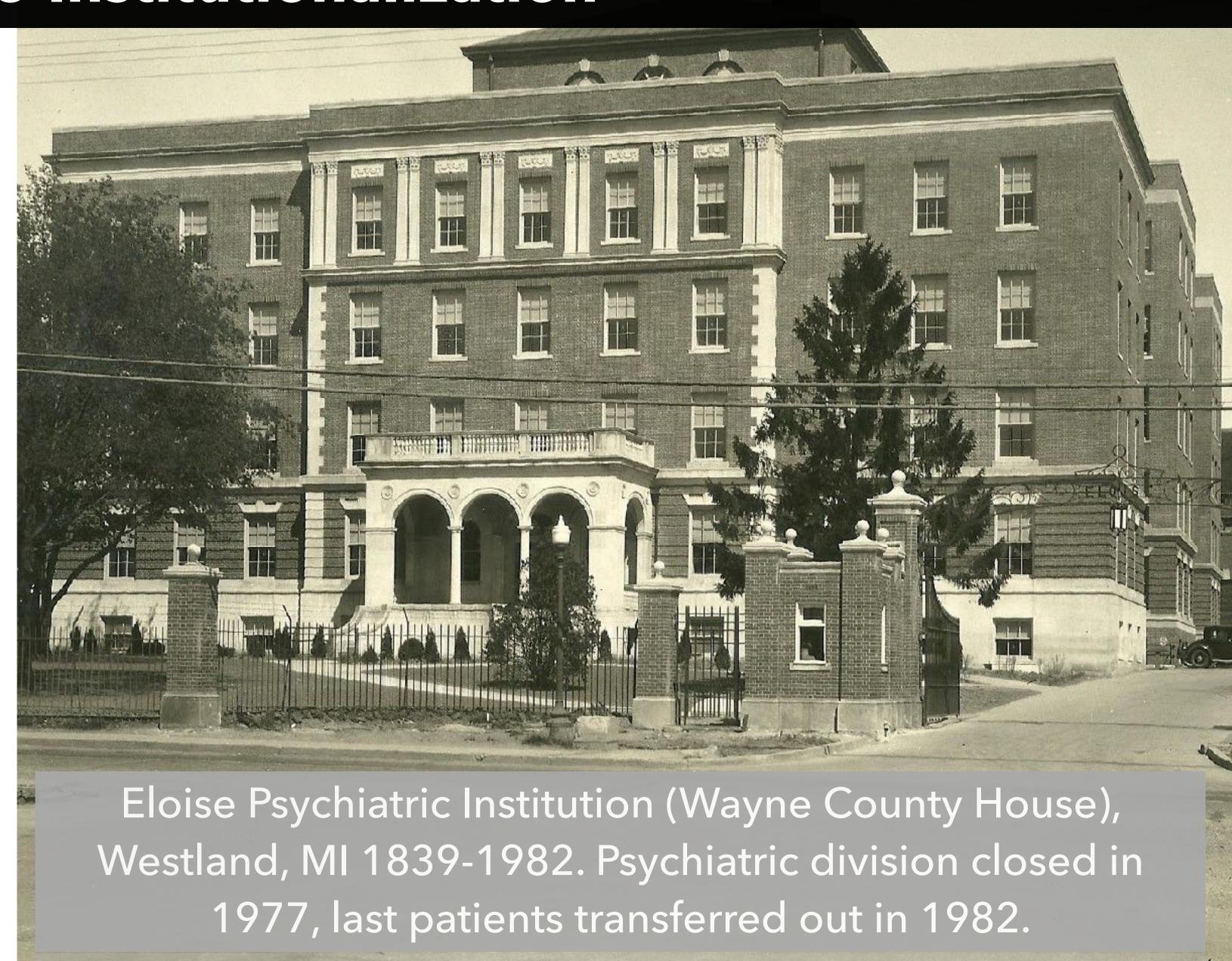
**Blue Shoe Arts, Lancaster, OH** 

**Inside Out Studio, Hamilton, OH Open Door Art Studio, Columbus, OH** Passionworks, Athens, Oh Rendville ArtWorks, Rendville, OH **Shared Lives Studio, Toledo, OH Visionaries and Voices, Cincinnati, OH** Portland Art And Learning Studio, Portland, OR **OSLP Arts & Culture Program, Eugene, OR Full Life, Portland, OR** Living Opportunities Studio, Medford, OR Port City Project Grow, Portland, OR Creative Citizen Studios, Pittsburgh, PA **Center For Creative Works (RHD),** Philadelphia, PA Friendship Heart Gallery, Lancaster, PA Flying Shuttles, Providence, RI ARC of The Arts (ARC), Austin, TX Sage Studio, Austin, TX My Possibilities, Plano, TX **Grace, Hardwick, VT Artworking, Madison, WI Encore!**, Madison, WI

# ...a short history of Progressive Art Studios

### De-Institutionalization

- From the Mid 1960s 1980s psychiatric institutions began to be shut down through government mandates, and adults with disabilities were discharged into the community.
- Disability nonprofits founded as a result of Deinstitutionalization.



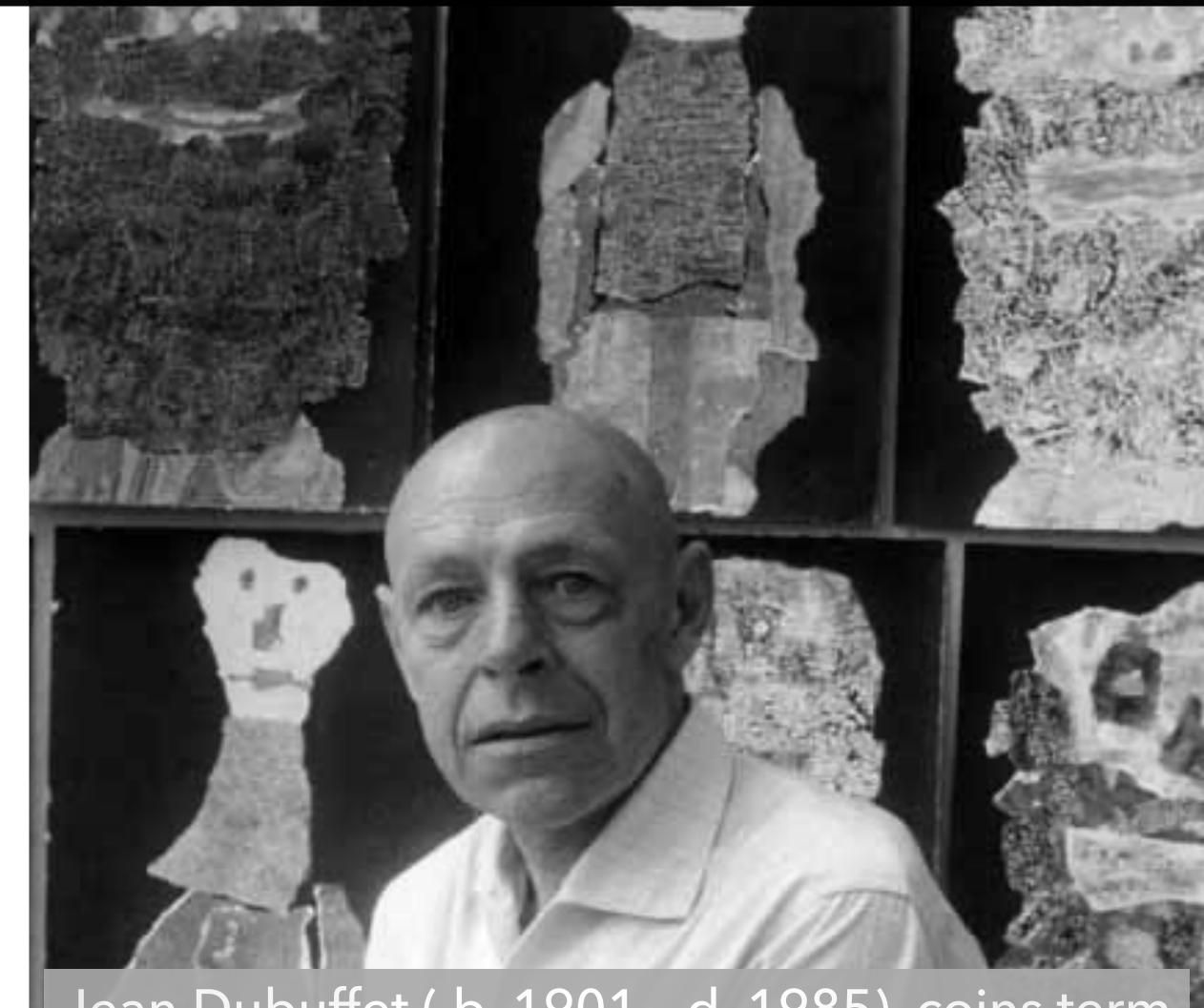
## De-institutionalization, Factory Work & Sheltered Workshops

- Many disability service programs to support deinstitutionalized adults were job oriented, providing mostly factory work, sheltered workshops, and job placement.
- However some began to explore other creative options



## Art Brut and Self-Taught Artists

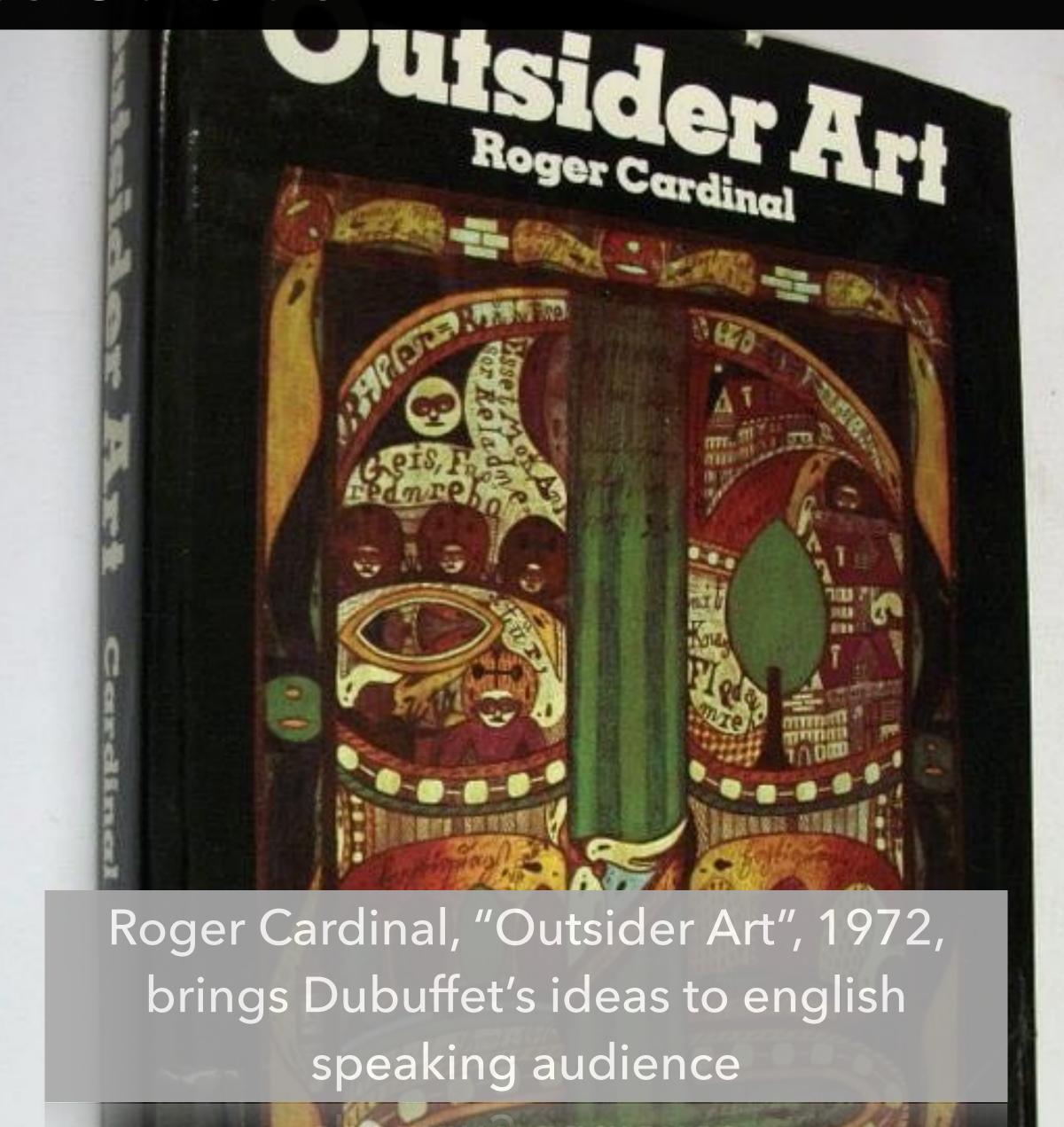
- In Europe, particularly postwar (1940-60) France, Austria and Germany, curators and artists began to champion art by self-taught artists outside the mainstream art world.
- Artist and curator Jean Dubuffet coined the term "Art Brut" (raw art), for art by self taught artists
- Many of these artists had developmental disabilities and/or mental health differences.



Jean Dubuffet (b. 1901 - d. 1985), coins term Art Brut and shares art by self-taught artists and disabled artists across Europe

#### Art Brut Becomes Outsider Art

- In 1972, British Art Critic Roger Cardinal brought Art Brut to English speaking audiences.
- Titling his translation of Dubuffet's ideas "Outsider Art",
- "Outsider Art" became a popular art marketing term for art by selftaught artists, and helped launch a market for art by self-taught artists, including those with disabilities.



## First Progressive Art Studios

- First progressive art studios emerge 1970-80s, also during de-institutionalization as alternatives to factory work programs.
- Saw emerging Outsider Art market as a potential market for disabled artists to show and sell artwork.



## First Progressive Art Studios

- Early progressive art studios were called disability art centers.
- These programs were launched by many who had worked in institutions prior and witnessed the therapeutic importance of art.
- Structured as non-hierarchical developmental studios



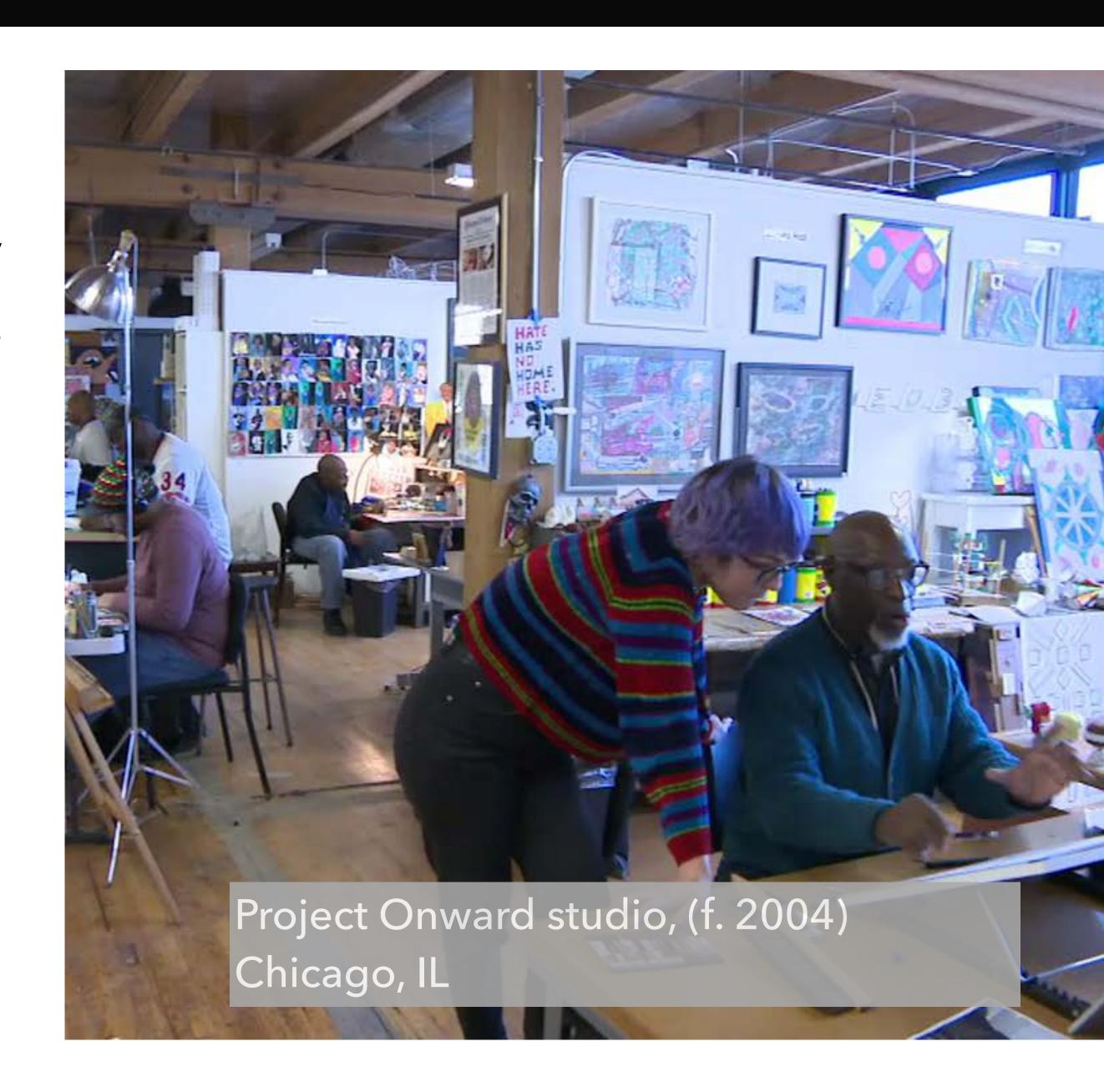
## First Progressive Art Studios

- Created open studios that encouraged disabled adults to follow self-taught, self-directed practices, to build unique art careers.
- While also functioning as safe community spaces were adults could create amidst likeminded peers, helping reverse traumas caused by institutionalization.



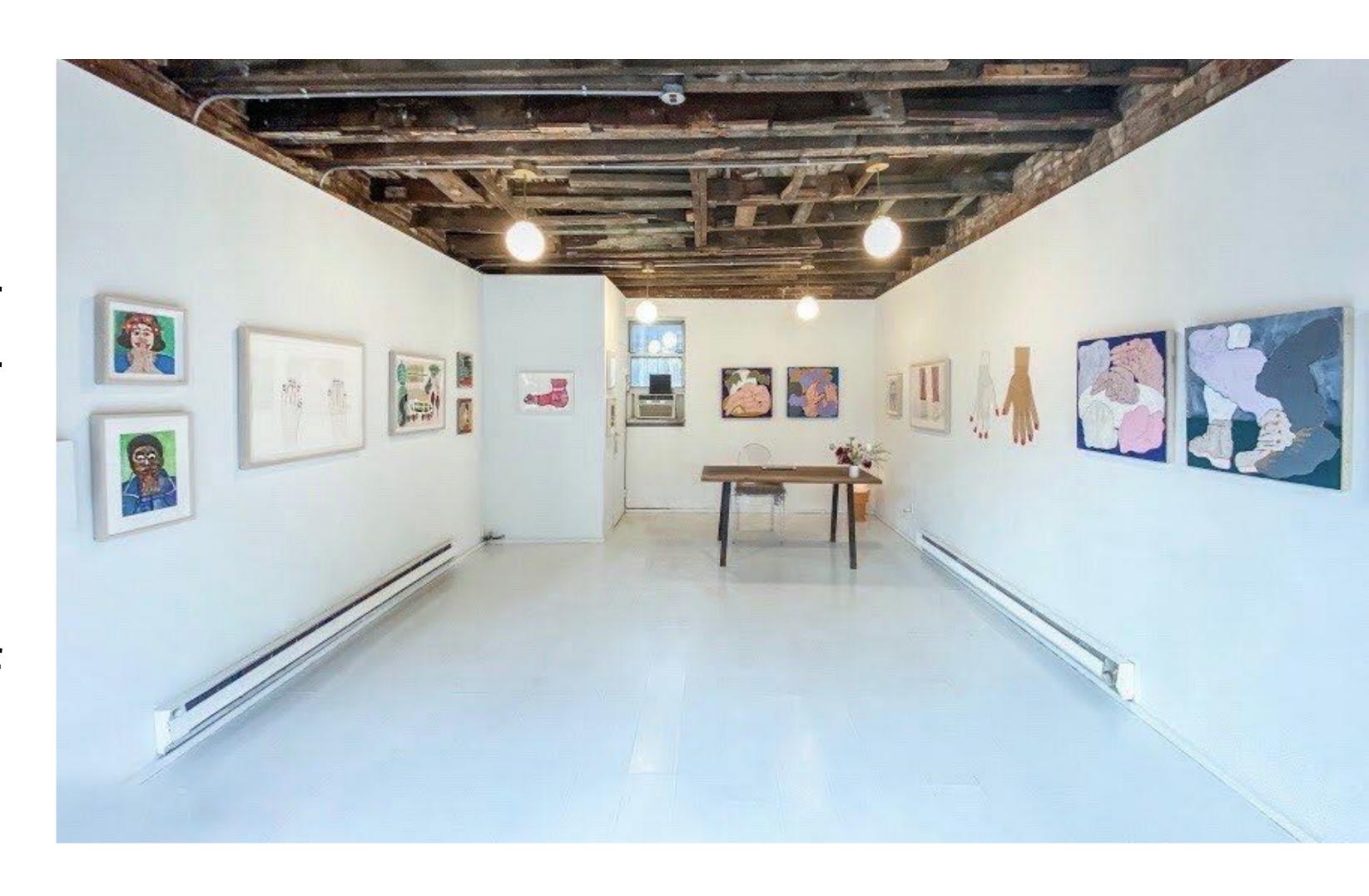
#### The Art Studio

- All studios base their understanding of professional art career training by looking to artists and the artworld as reference.
- Programs hireprofessional artists to provide individualized attention and empower studio artists to realize their artistic potential, while focused on supporting their individual interests and unique talents.



## Professional Galleries and Exhibition Spaces

- Because artists need a gallery to represent them and help sell their artwork, studios either have their own onsite gallery space or work with outside organizations to present exhibitions of artists' artwork
- Sometimes alongside other professional artists.



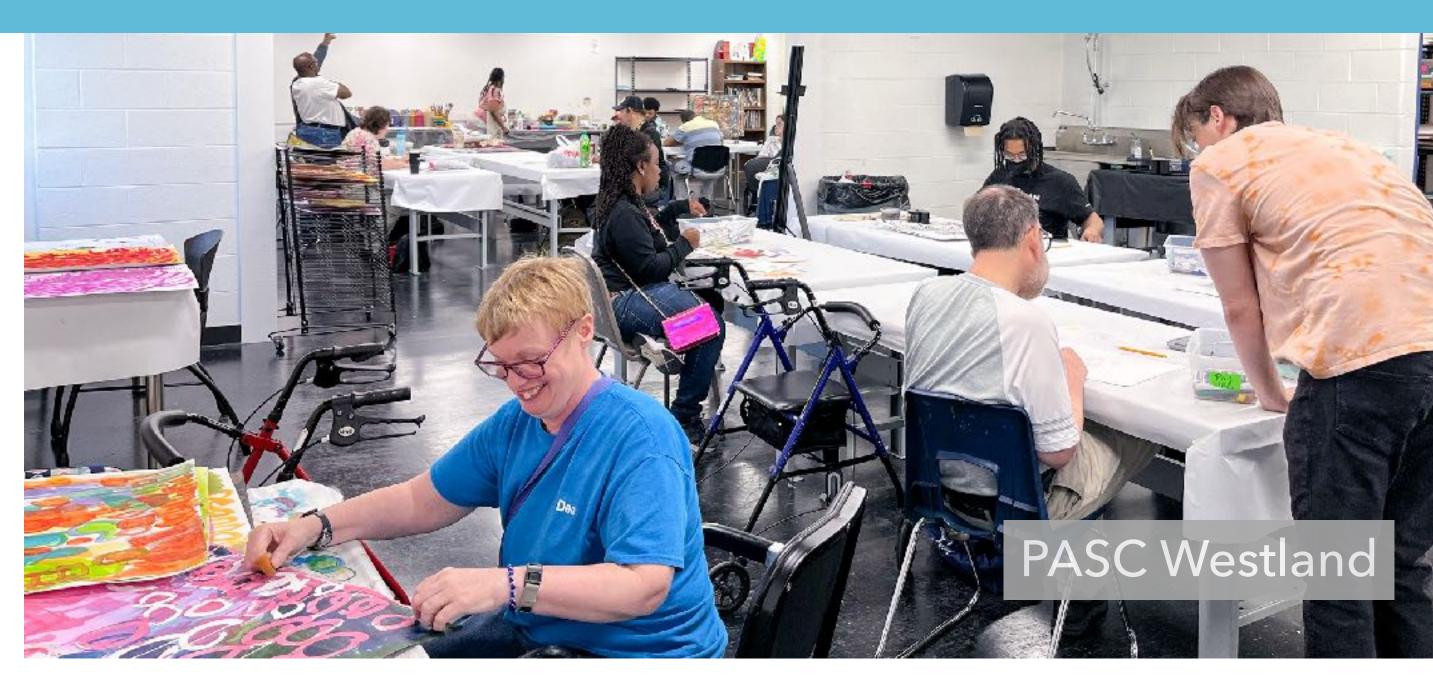
"Footnote," 2019-2020, Summertime, Brooklyn, NY

PASC was launched in 2021, to fill a gap in creative programming for the disabled population of Wayne County. We are dedicated to building professional art careers for our artists.



#### PASC Artist Studios

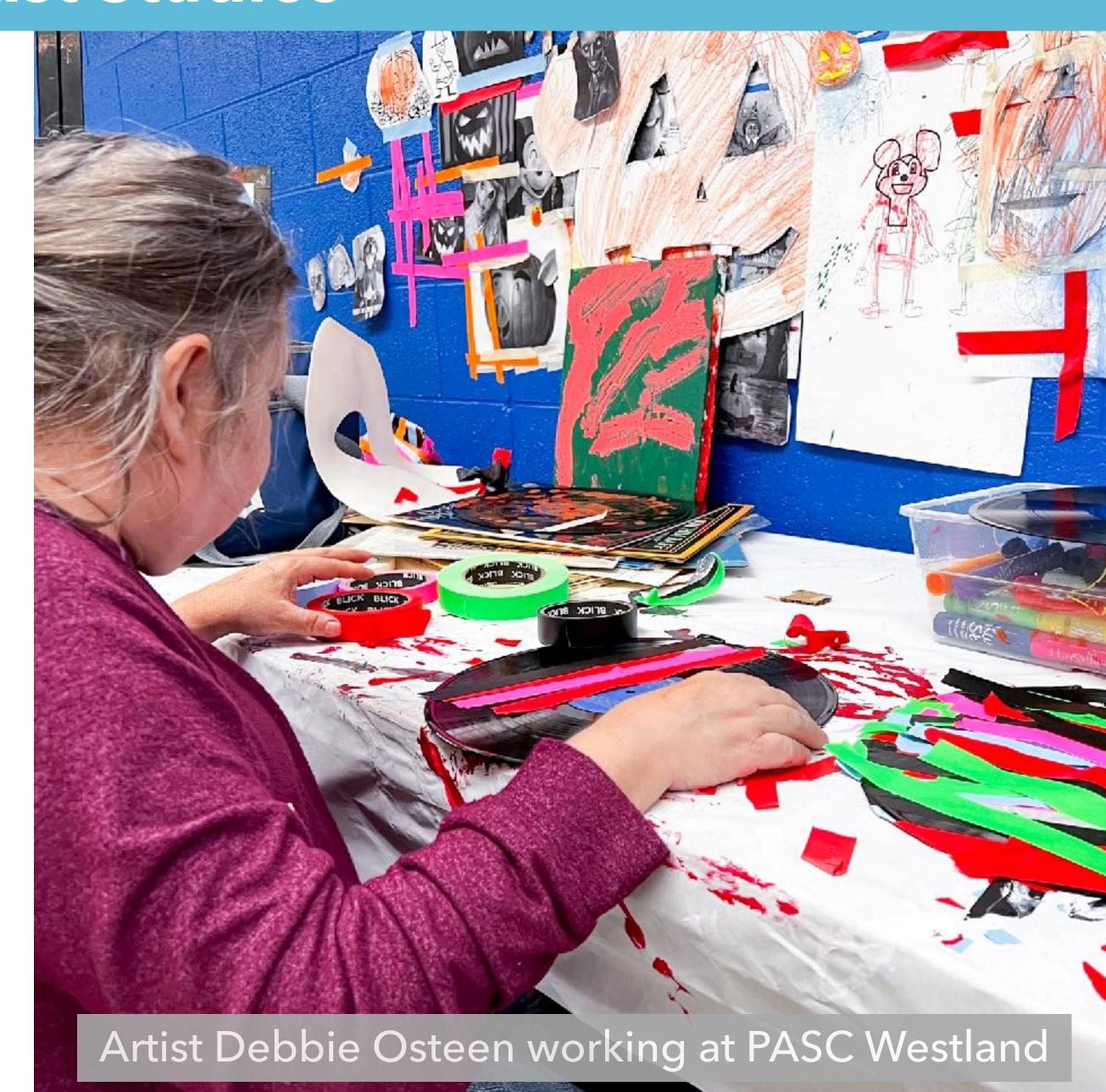
- PASC runs 3 studios in Detroit,
  Westland and Southgate
- We support 180+ artists.
- Each artist has a scheduled day or days they attend the studio from 1 to 5 days a week, based on their availability.
- Studio hours are between 8:30am and 3pm.

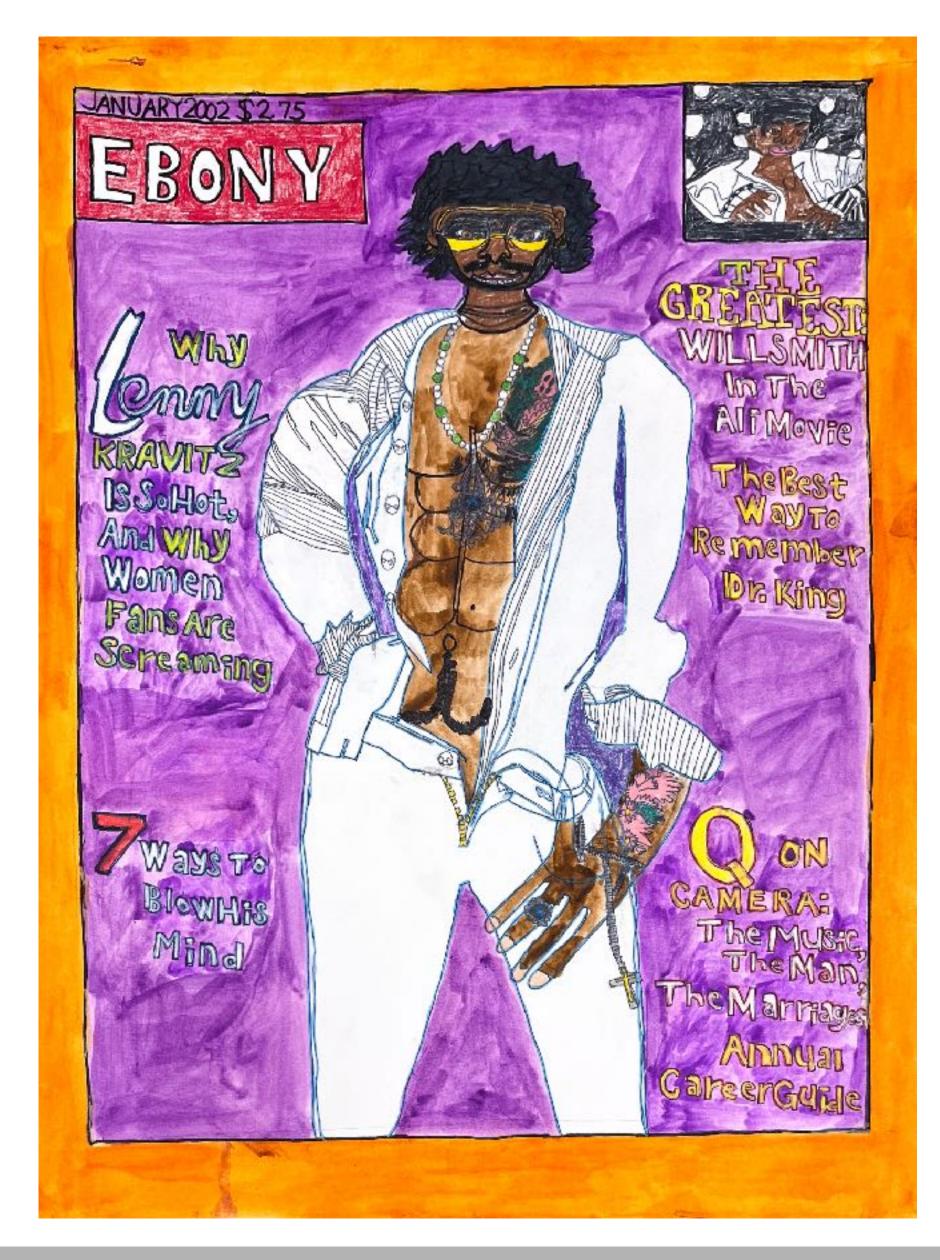




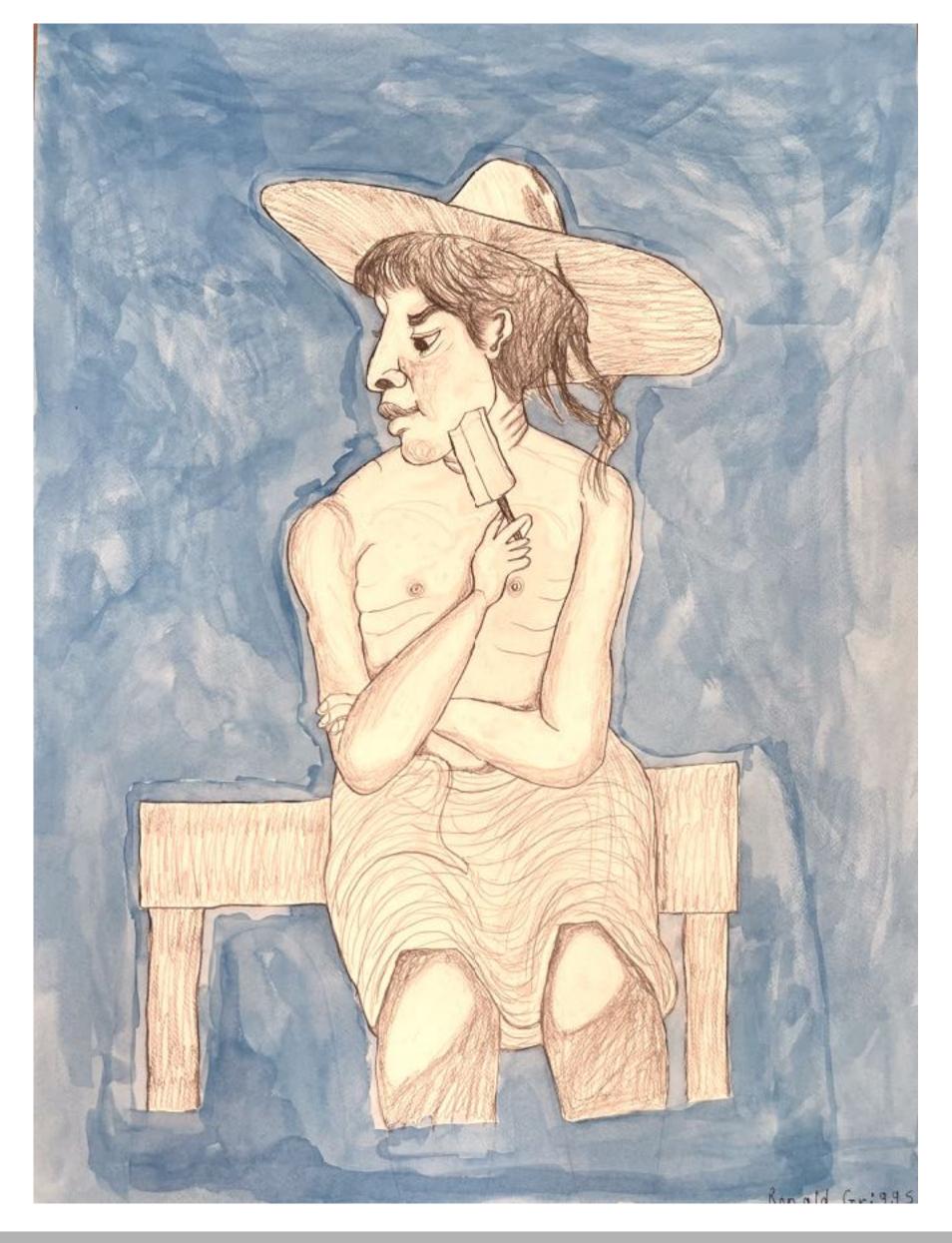
#### PASC Artist Studios

- Art studios are equipped with professional art equipment and materials
- Art materials are informed by each artist's practice. Some work in 2D forms (acrylic, watercolor, drawing and mixed media) others in sculpture.
- Some artists have their own dedicated spaces, others work at communal tables.





Keisha Miller, *Lenny, Ebony Magazine, Jan* 2002, 2023, mixed media on paper, 18 x 24 in



Ronald Griggs, *Man With Popsicle*, 2023, watercolor and pencil on paper, 22 x 30 in

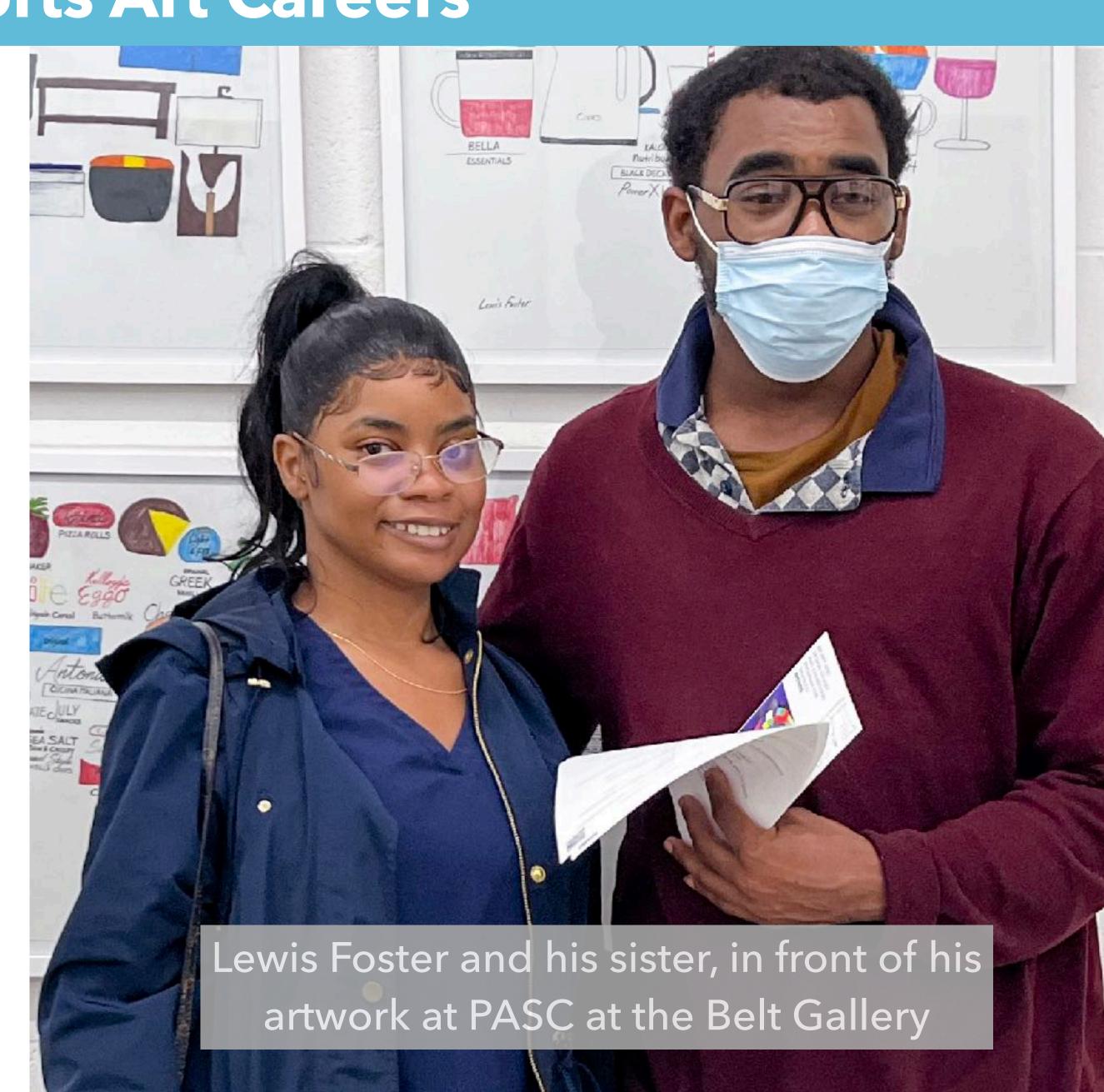
## PASC Supports Art Careers

- Each artist is encouraged to creates artworks in their own unique original style.
- PASC gallery works with the artist to promote, display and sell their artworks



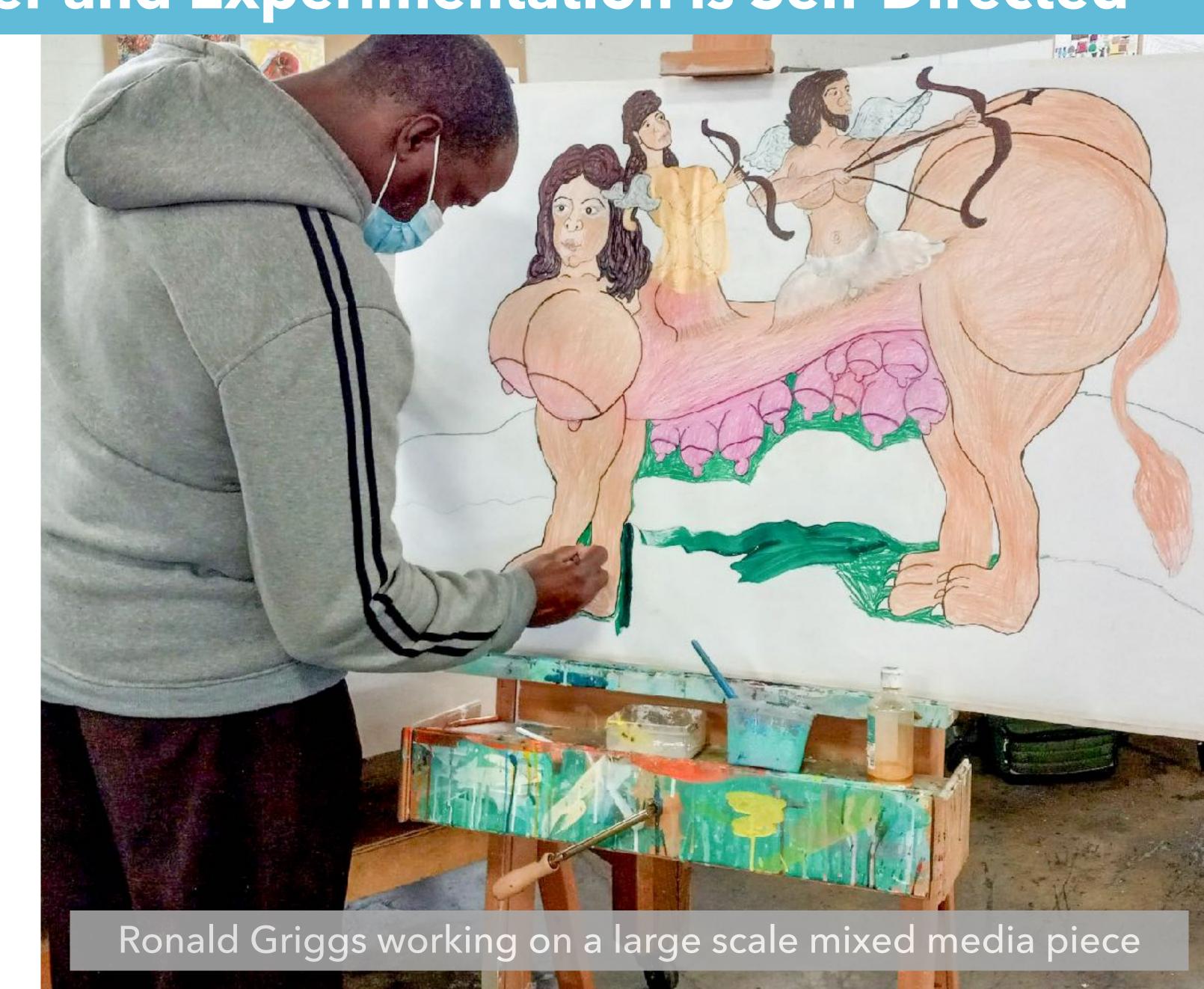
## PASC Supports Art Careers

- PASC gallery makes connections to sell artwork to art collectors and collections.
- Sometimes the gallery creates multiples of the artists artwork, such as bags, prints or cards
- Artists are paid from the sale of each piece



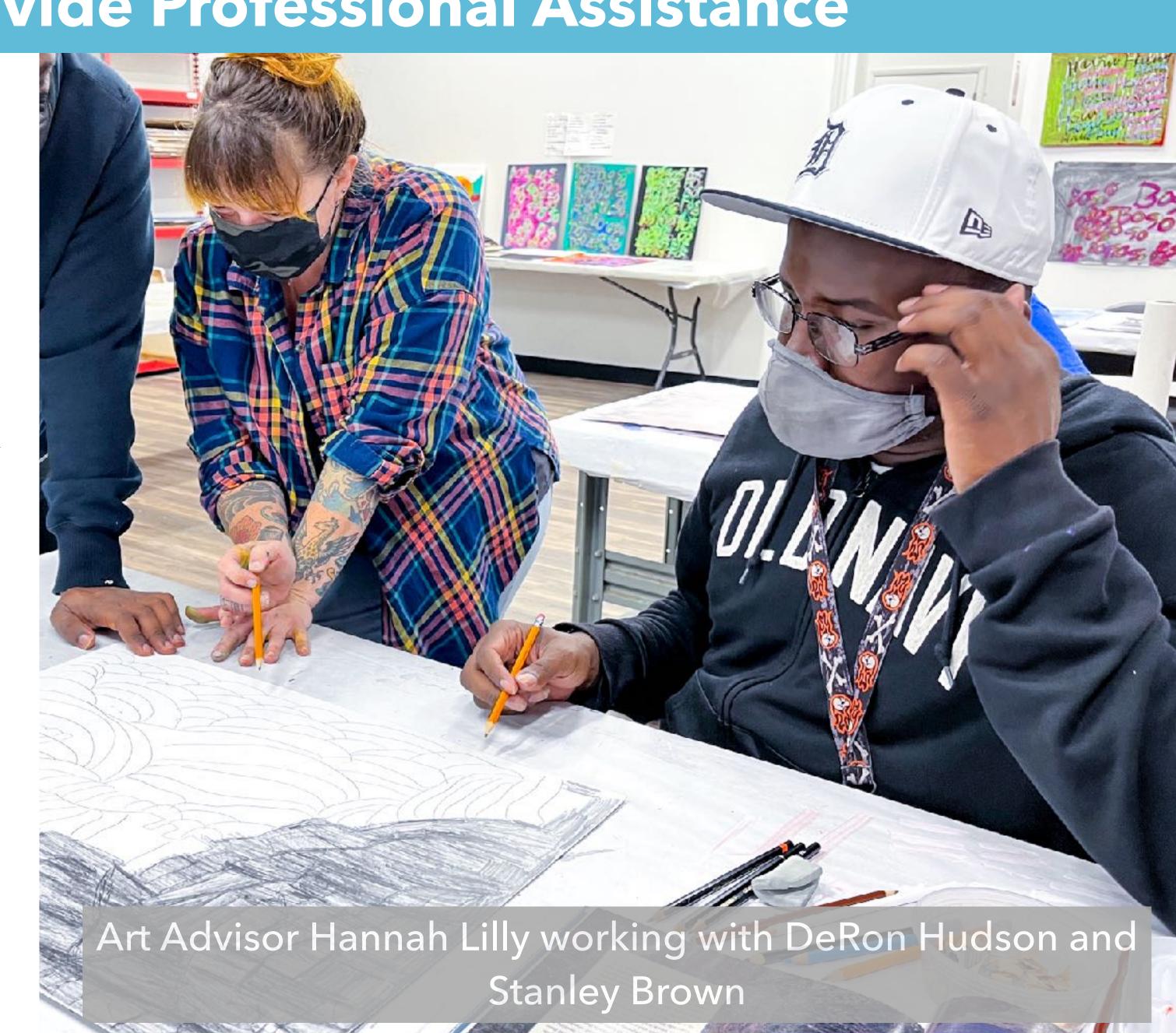
## At PASC Subject Matter and Experimentation is Self-Directed

- Artists create best when they're self-directed, and confident in their own individual way of creating.
- At PASC we trust each artist to create whatever and however they want.
- Independence builds confidence and confidence supports a unique artistic identity.



#### Art Advisors Provide Professional Assistance

- All artist's need assistance. At PASC professional artist staff, called **Art Advisors**, assist studio artists, by providing material suggestions, artwork advice, and encouragement.
- PASC currently employs 7 art advisors, plus 3 dedicated skills trainers, to support participants, at a 1 to 9 staff to participant ratio.



#### Professional Exhibitions

 We provide exhibition opportunities to our artists. To present their creative production to the public and generate sales.

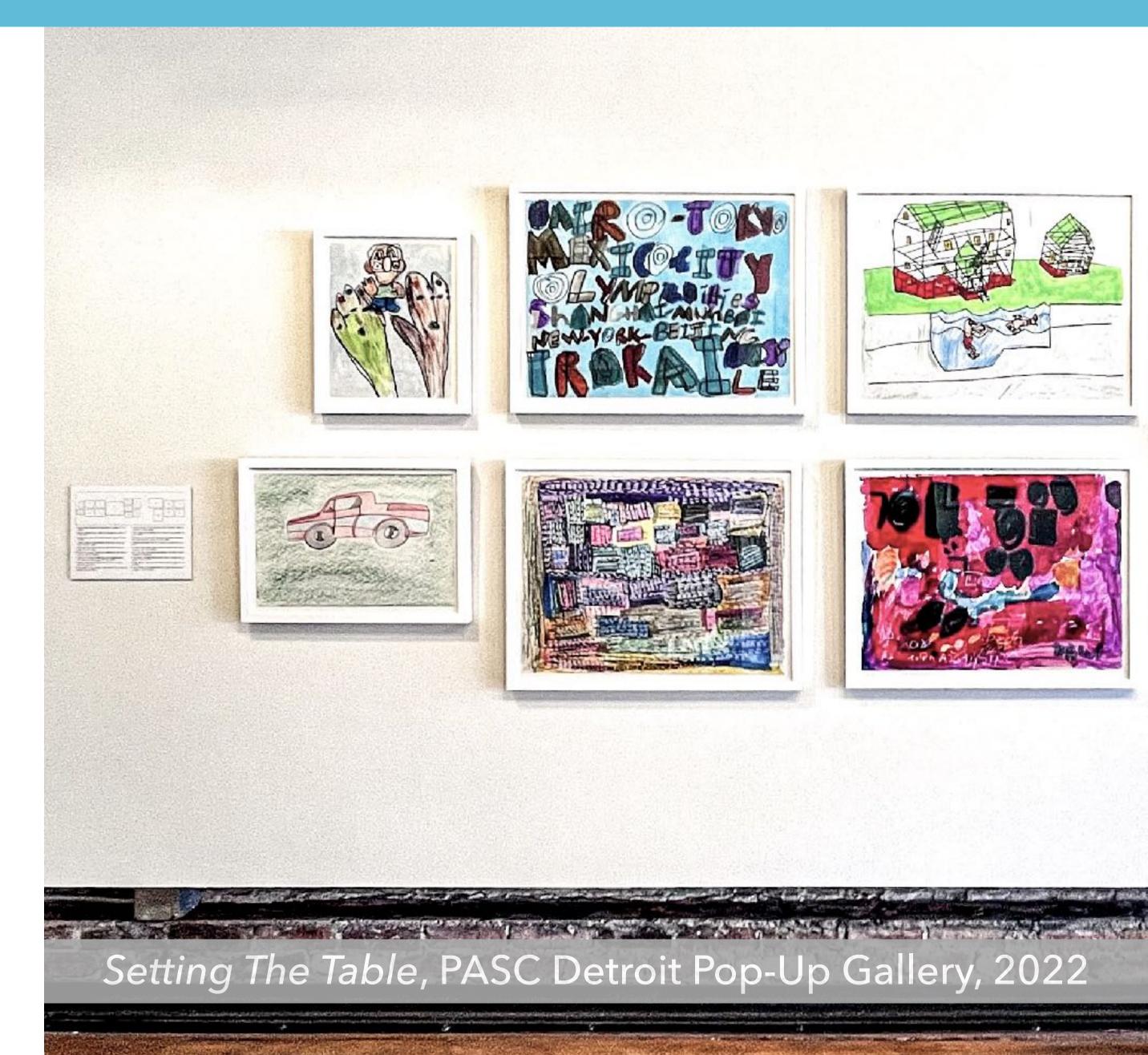
 Exhibitions also help define an artist's sense of self, self-worth and selfpurpose. Participants in PASC identity as artists. This is their job!





#### **Professional Presentation**

- Artworks are professionally framed and priced at professional gallery prices.
   Artwork prices increase as an artist's career grows.
- Artworks are available for purchase at our physical gallery and online store at progressiveartstudiocollective.org



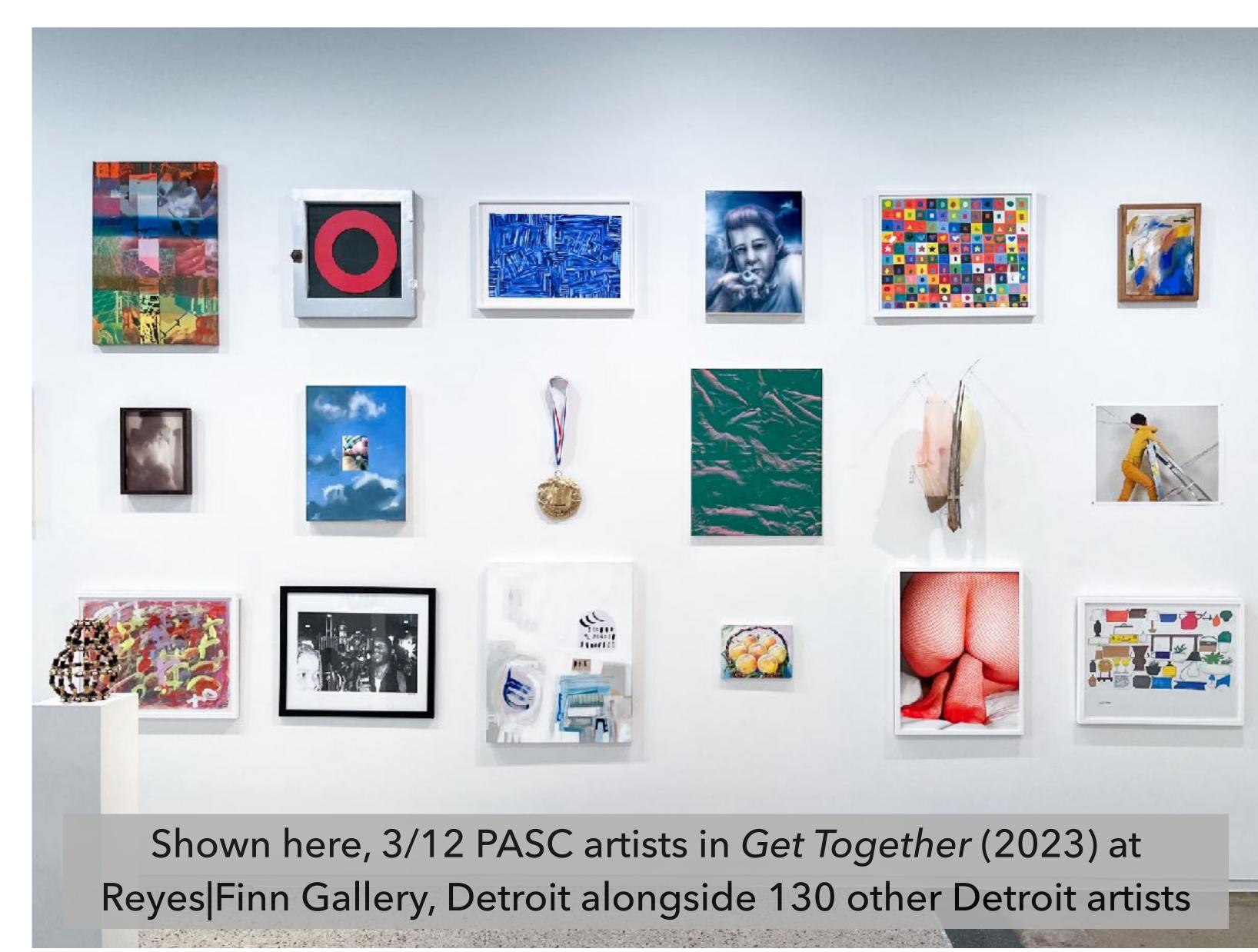
#### PASC Exhibitions

- Exhibitions are professionally curated by local curators and artists, PASC artists and PASC staff.
- When working with external curators, they bring their perspective and their audience to PASC.



#### PASC Exhibitions: Locations

- PASC currently has one dedicated exhibition space in Southgate, and we participate in local and national exhibitions.
- Since our first show in Sep. 2021, we've had 18 local exhibitions, and 5 external exhibitions, in Austin, TX, Dallas, TX, Chicago, IL, Washington DC, and Richmond, CA.



## PASC Exhibitions: BELT Pop-Up Gallery

•In May 2023, PASC launched our second pop up gallery, PASC at the Belt, a partnership with local gallery Library Street Collective and a local outdoor bar The Skip.



at the Belt Gallery, May-June 2023

## PASC Exhibitions: BELT Pop-Up Gallery

- PASC at the Belt was located in The Belt Alleyway, a cultural destination semi-public space, filled with a rotating selection of public artworks.
- Our gallery was located across from two well known commercial galleries, Library Street Collective and Louis Buhl. Who shared their audience with us



## PASC Exhibitions: BELT Pop-Up Gallery

 A destination for locals and tourists, this gallery has increased PASC's audience, bringing from 20 to 100 gallery visitors each day. And increased PASC's art sales.

 Our sales this year have surpassed \$27,000 with 60% going to artists after framing costs have be reduced.



#### **Art Events and Fairs**

In addition to our exhibitions we participate in a number of art fairs and other public events, such as Detroit Art Book Fair (October 2022/23), The Palmer Park Art Fair (June 2023), The West Village Block Party (June 2023), Midtown Art Fair (July 2023), Eastern Market After Dark (September 2023). Increasing sales and opportunities for artists to engage with the public.



## PASC Online Gallery / Store

- All exhibiting PASC artists have their own web page on our website with a bio and artworks for sale.
- All exhibitions are also located on our website with a press release, and artworks that can be purchased online for out of state buyers.



#### **PROMISE VOS**



Promise is a Westland based artist working out of the PASC Westland studio. Promise's artwork combines whimsical vibrant gestures and symbolic imagery such as flowers, smiley faces, hearts and stars, built through energetic layering like a multi-track song. She composes her works by overlapping mixed media, markers, gel pens, colored pencils, watercolors and acrylic. When Promise is outside the studio she is often found practicing music on the cello. Promise's work has been shown in Affections at the PASC Detroit Pop-Up Gallery (2022) and Outside Forces at Art Enables, Washington, DC (2022).







#### PASC Products

- PASC produces products for our artists putting their artwork on everything from greeting cards, to bags, to books, to socks, to mugs.
- Our galleries also have flat files where additional unframed artworks can be purchased.



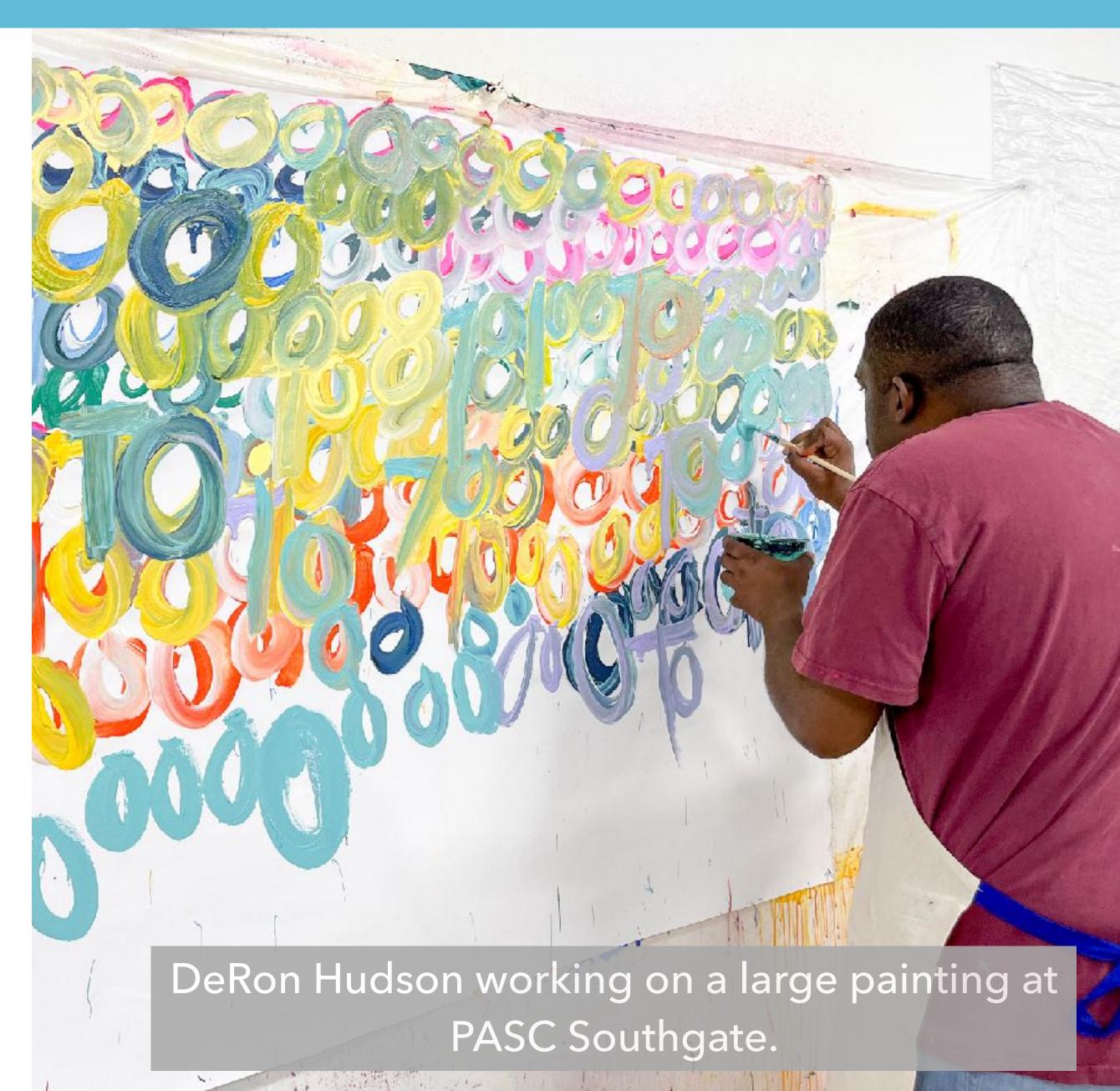
## **Program Costs**

- Keep costs low to non existent for our artists.
- Most artists pay with medicaid service dollars, no out of pocket costs.
- We also support private pay at \$30 a day, with scholarship options available.
- All studio materials, staffing, space and gallery representation are covered for all artists.



#### Grants and Individual Donations

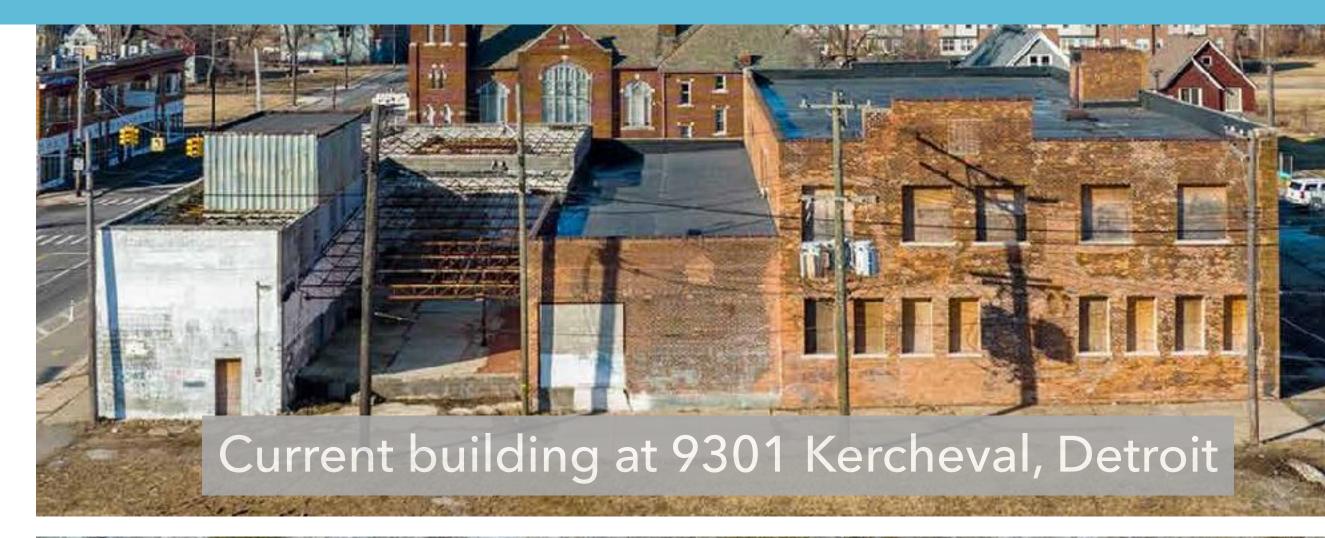
- In 2023 we received grants from Michigan Arts and Cultural Council (MACC), Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan (CFSEM), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and a matching grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) along individual fundraising, for our PASC Detroit LANTERN campaign.
- And \$55,000 in individual donations



 Spring 2024 PASC Detroit studio moves into 1/3rd of the LANTERN Building, a 10,000 Sqft warehouse in SE Detroit.

• LANTERN is a project by Library Street Gallery owners and building developers Anthony and JJ Curis, who are transforming several blocks of SE Detroit into an arts district.

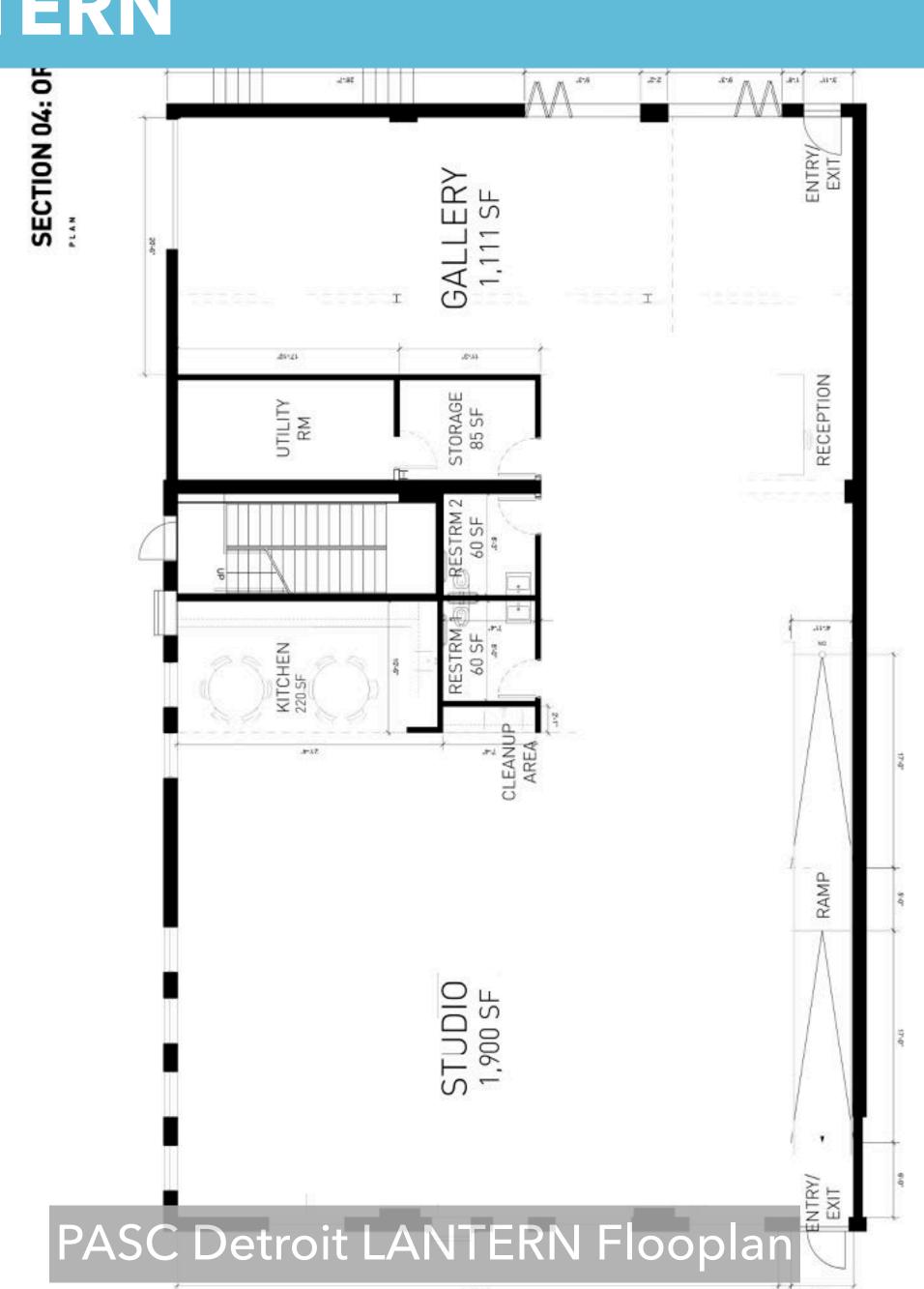
• Exterior of LANTERN designed by international architecture firm OMA.







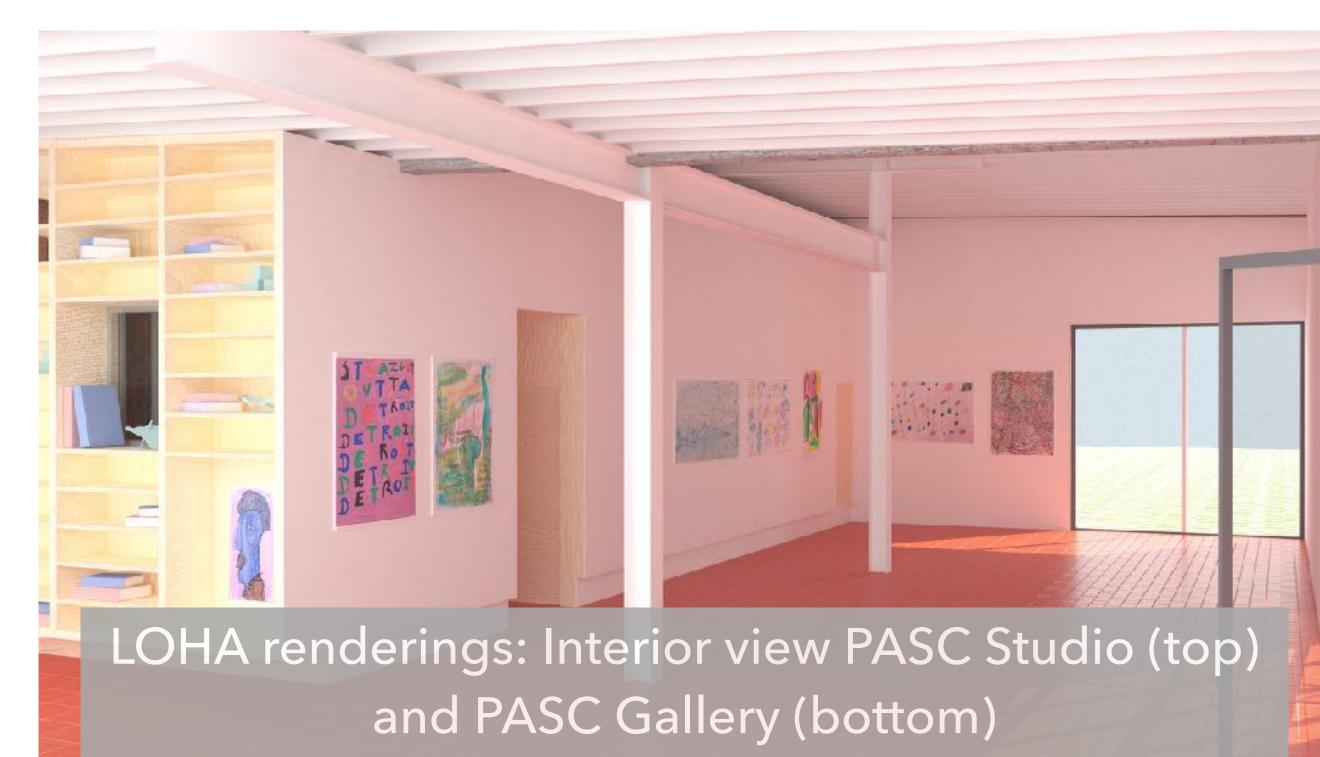
- PASC will use aprox. 4500 sqft for a studio and gallery
- Sharing the building with printmaking collective Signal Return
- Plus a bar, a cafe, and other non-profit and for-profit cultural institutions
- The building will also have studios for professional artists located on the second floor



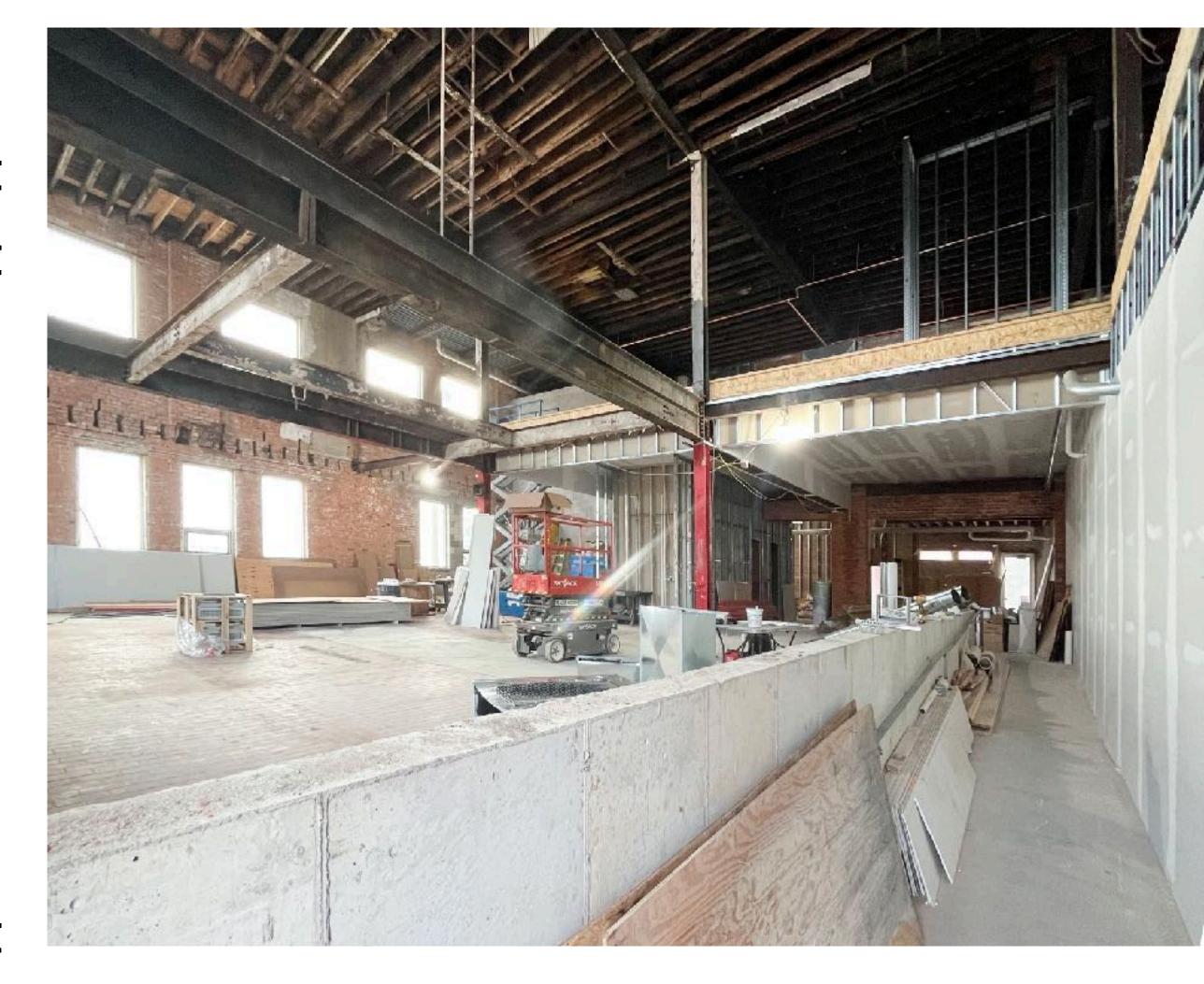
PASC is working with Detroit/LA based architecture firm Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects (LOHA) on our interior architecture.

- Public gallery 1100 sqft
- Studio 2400 sqft
- 2 bathrooms
- Artwork storage space





- PASC's Detroit LANTERN gallery and studio will be the first permanent public studio and gallery in Detroit dedicated to artists with disabilities.
- This location will provide increased opportunities for inclusion of the disabled population with the general public, boost gallery sales, and place our studio/gallery amidst a destination neighborhood for art audiences.



Interior of PASC's LANTERN studio space under construction

