

INTERACT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

DISABILITY INNOVATION GRANT EVALUATION HIGHLIGHTS

WEB STORE

8,745

visitors viewed the web store

513

pieces of artwork were displayed

144

pieces of artwork were sold

53

artists made sales via the web store



“Because we are disabled, Interact artists are on a very limited income, and so we rely on our art for an income. It’s our passion and our joy, and it has also become a part of what helps our daily living. By making our art available to a wider audience through the web store, it really helps us.”

—Interact artist

EXHIBITIONS

71

artists’ participated in exhibitions

2,012

pieces of artwork were showcased in exhibitions

28

exhibitions hosted by Interact



“Since we got the grant, we’ve been able to easily analyze the success of different exhibitions in terms of sales. There are exhibitions that have community value, and that’s really important, and there are exhibitions that bring in money—and that’s important, too. The grant has allowed us to evaluate that more clearly.”

—Interact staff person

DIGITAL ARCHIVE

1,580

pieces of artwork were professionally archived



“My early work tells a part of me and how I got here. The archive tells my story—and that’s really important for our nonverbal or less verbal artists. It’s a fact of life that Interact artists pass away. We have a lot of good artists at Interact, and I don’t want our Interact artists to be forgotten. The archive is really important for that. It’s a way to preserve the essence of these artists who are no longer with us and who were really impactful when they were with us. Before this grant, our archiving was not formal and poorly managed. Now we have an archive and someone who works on it full-time.”

—Interact artist

CERAMIC STUDIO

30

Interact artists explored ceramics in the new ceramic studio (created with grant funding)



“The ceramic studio has affected my practice tremendously. My hands have a lot of nerve damage, and being able to physically touch and work with the clay has trained my hands to do it better. I can’t throw because the wheel turns the wrong way, so I build pots. And so my stuff has a sort of Japanese aesthetic to it. It’s very simple in form. I like small bases and sweeping outward from that. Getting my hands to do that is a big, big thing.”

—Interact artist

ARTISTIC AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

93

Interact artists learned more about being a professional artist through the “Profiling professionals” series

48

Interact artists visited galleries, museums, and arts centers



“I mostly work in needle felting—that’s a form of fiber arts, which is in the textile field. We went to the Textile Center and I was just amazed at the different forms of fiber arts. It makes you hungry to learn more because you see something and you wonder how you can incorporate these ideas into what you do. Right now, we’re making our own inks out of natural things like berries. That was something we saw on that trip to the Textile Center.”

—Interact artist