

Independent Perspective #1916

Articulations Project Overview with Rae Frank, Larry and Mary Kinney

Transcript

00:00:00 Speaker 1

Welcome to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of Western New York Independent Living.

00:00:06 Speaker 1

I am your host, Tracy LeBlanc, Chief Community Engagement Officer at Western New York Independent Living.

00:00:12 Speaker 1

Our focus today is on the artistic side.

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The Articulations Project is a collaboration between Independent Living of the Genesee Region and the University Heights Art Association.

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The project creates a welcoming and accessible space for artists with disabilities.

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Joining us today to talk about the history of the Articulations exhibition project are Ray Frank, Director of ILGR, as well as Larry and Mary Kinney from the University Heights Art Association.

00:00:42 Speaker 1

Welcome to the program.

00:00:45 Speaker 1

Ray, can you provide us with an overview of the Articulations collaboration here at ILGR, and how did the project start, and what benefits have you seen?

00:00:56 Speaker 2

Yes, so the project started when I met Mary and Larry back in 2014.

00:01:00 Speaker 2

They were at the Summit for Aging, and they talked about their University Heights Arts Association project, and I was just very excited about it.

00:01:07 Speaker 2

I thought, we need to bring art to our community, to our center as well.

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So, we sat down and brainstormed a way to make it just for artists with disabilities in the Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming County area, and we've always managed to keep it to that.

00:01:22 Speaker 2

So, it's residents that we're serving through the center, and we decided to have it curated.

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We didn't want people to just kind of bring us some coloring pages and hope that we'd put them on the walls.

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So, they made it a juried competition.

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So, on the application, people are aware that it will be judged, and maybe they'll be accepted, or maybe they won't be.

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We haven't really had to turn anyone away in all the years we've done it, but

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that's how it started.

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And then just from there, we started scheduling monthly, quarterly exhibits and putting it out in the community that people could apply.

00:01:59 Speaker 1

You have another project called Art Cove.

00:02:02 Speaker 1

Can you tell us what that is?

00:02:04 Speaker 3

Art Coves are art dispensers that we created that our organization formed in 2013, and it was one of the first projects that we thought about doing.

00:02:16 Speaker 3

And Larry had ideas about how to build them.

00:02:21 Speaker 3

And we both had ideas about how to create projects so that we could offer free accessible art, small art projects or small packages of art supplies that would benefit artists might not be able to afford to access those supplies otherwise.

00:02:40 Speaker 1

Okay, so the one at here at Genesee Region was your first?

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Yes.

00:02:45 Speaker 3

Yeah, so Larry.

00:02:46 Speaker 4

It was the very first one that we did.

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And as a sculptor, I worked with wood my entire life.

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So, it was a natural transition to make these objects.

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And I was saying to the director, Stephanie, just a short while ago, that the one in the other room is the very first one.

00:03:07 Speaker 4

And we bought an old, I think it was a humidior, paid like a small amount, \$45 or \$50, if that.

00:03:16 Speaker 4

And it was in rough shape.

00:03:17 Speaker 4

And I was questioning whether or not, you know, we could do it, but we reconditioned it, took things away, added things to it, and purposely we wanted to keep it that size.

00:03:27 Speaker 4

So, it's approximately this wide, maybe four feet high.

00:03:32 Speaker 4

And the other ones we made after that from scratch were pretty much fashioned after this one with some tweaking going on.

00:03:40 Speaker 1

So, you have them in other locations as well.

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We've had them in a few locations, yes.

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You know, one in downtown Buffalo, the Public Library.

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That one still exists.

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It we have an arrangement with them because there are so many people there that they keep it in storage until we and then when we have a special project, they bring it out and people are invited because of the level of traffic that they have is otherwise impossible, right?

00:04:09 Speaker 1

If someone's interested in more information about the Articulations Project at Independent Living of Genesee Region, how can they get more information?

00:04:17 Speaker 2

They could go to our website at ilgr.org, or they can contact us several different ways.

00:04:23 Speaker 2

I'll give you the e-mail and then the phone number.

00:04:26 Speaker 2

So, they could e-mail me at rfrank@wnyil.org, or they could call us at 585-815-8501 extension 406.

00:04:39 Speaker 1

That's all the time we have for this week.

00:04:41 Speaker 1

Thank you all for joining us this week to discuss the Articulations exhibition space.

00:04:46 Speaker 1

And thank you for tuning in to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of Western New York Independent Living.

00:04:54 Speaker 1

I have been your host, Tracy LeBlanc.