Requirements for admission

Be a minimum of 18 years old, still in school or post graduation, looking for a community transition experience, and exploring art as a career option. An interest in art and the ability to work within a shared studio environment with other artists. Previous training not required.

Accreditation

Gateway Arts is accredited with commendations by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Fees

Funding for Gateway Arts is available to those who qualify through the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services (DDS) or Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB).

Families and artists can also privately pay for services. Please inquire for current rates.

Transportation

Centrally located in Brookline Village. Convenient to MBTA and bus routes. Metered parking. Families or individuals can inquire about The Ride.

To Apply or for Referrals

Contact Ted Lampe
617-734-1577 x 10
lampet@vinfen.org
Preventing the Future

Gateway Arts is an arts-based vocational service preparing young people with disabilities to transition successfully from school to work using age appropriate, arts-based activities considering individual needs, strengths, and interests. This service is also available for talented adults turning 22 with appropriate public or private funding. Disabilities include developmental and psychiatric, including cerebral palsy, spinal cord injury, visual impairment, hearing impairment, head injury, Williams Syndrome, and Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Gateway Arts has a diversified funding base, including Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services, Massachusetts Commission for the Blind, Statewide Head Injury Program, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, as well as private payers.

Gateway Arts is a premier art center on the east coast successfully serving young adults and others with disabilities. Gateway Arts is an art service of the non-profit human services provider Vinfen Corporation.

“Art can be a way to communicate to the world and connect with the world.”
-Stephanie Schmidt-Ellis, Clinical Program Director

Making Art Work

Gateway Arts artists spend their time creating artwork that can be exhibited and sold. The work at Gateway Arts is designed to prepare young adults with disabilities for further employment, education, and independence. The vocational skills and enhanced self-esteem help enable people to transition successfully into various fields of interest or supported employment or can lead to a career in the arts.

Artists come to the studio where they are encouraged to work on their projects with facilitation as necessary. Gateway Arts provides high quality art materials, as well as a staff of professionally trained artists and educators who are always available for suggestions and gentle encouragement. Gateway Arts also plans offsite field trips and outings for artistic inspiration and community participation.

We offer artists the materials to create what they desire to create. We help as much as is needed to get their ideas realized.
-Bil Thibodeau, Artistic Program Director

Fulfilling the Promise

Gateway Arts provides a community of other young adults and practicing artists of all ages in a supportive, diversified community where participants make valuable connections and are there to help each other through the challenges that can accompany transition and change. This support takes the form of interactive learning, feedback, conversation, and friendships that help build confidence and real world skills.