We are very pleased to announce the new Gateway Arts Gallery has proven to be a success.

Adjoining the Gateway Arts Store, visitors can easily indulge in experiencing exhibitions in our spirited and accessible space.

We’ve loved being able to welcome our supporters back to Gateway Arts for two gallery events and we’re looking forward to an exciting year of gallery programming under our new Artistic Director, Bil Thibodeau.
Gateway to 50: Celebrating our Past, Creating our Future

Dear Gateway Arts Family,

Gateway to 50: Celebrating our Past/Creating our Future is the theme my colleagues and I chose for our work together for the coming year, my first as Director of Gateway Arts. You—our supporters—are essential to translating that vision into reality.

Celebrating our Past: As a history lover, I know it’s vital to understand the origins and evolution of this unique program as we approach its 50th anniversary in October 2023. Gateway Arts was founded upon the belief that persons with disabilities can not only live meaningful, productive lives in our communities, but that it is our collective responsibility to make sure they do so, and that our communities are stronger and healthier for their contributions.

Gateway Arts’ founders took a step further by demonstrating that art and creative expression are essential to the human experience, and a particularly effective means to self-actualization for persons with disabilities. With strong leadership and an extensive network of philanthropic support, Gateway Arts became a leader at the intersection of art, creativity, and disability.

The last two years have put these founding ideals to the test. In 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic forced Gateway Arts to temporarily shut down; the program reemerged with fewer staff serving fewer artists, facing new financial, material, and logistical pressures. Undaunted, the Gateway Arts team reorganized studio spaces, created a new gallery, and welcomed new artists, all while integrating rigorous health and safety protocols.

Creating our Future: Now it’s my privilege and opportunity to advance and accelerate this remarkable rebuilding. Gateway has hosted two in-person gallery receptions this year, most recently the colorful *Shine* exhibition, and on December 3rd, we’ll bring back the beloved Holiday Fair. We’re pursuing rich artistic collaborations with Fuller Craft Museum, Abilities Dance Boston, Make Studio Baltimore, and the Brookline Public Library. And we’re restarting our Community Integration Program after the New Year—providing our artists new opportunities to connect and grow amid Greater Boston’s rich cultural landscape.

With a creative staff and a dynamic Advisory Committee, Gateway Arts is now crafting ambitious plans to celebrate its half century of service. Special exhibitions, public programs and publications, and new partnerships, are all on the horizon. To achieve these goals, we’ll need the support and generosity of the Gateway Arts family, whose members I’m just getting to know. Please consider a philanthropic gift to ensure our artists have the materials, facilities, and professional guidance they need to thrive. Purchase work in our Store or online. Come to the Holiday Fair on December 3rd. Tell family and friends about Gateway. Share our story on social media.

Gateway to 50 is a threshold to a hopeful new era for this extraordinary program and the artists at its center. Let’s make this journey together!