

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

CREATIVE GROWTH MAGAZINE

In 2015, Creative Growth Magazine was founded as a vehicle for the artists to present their work and explore their lives as people with disabilities. It was envisioned as a place to tell their stories from inside our studio, to highlight their interests and obsessions, and to offer the larger community a look inside their lives and work. Since 2015, 4 magazines have been published, each with a distinct, artist-selected theme. The magazine provides a platform for artists to be seen and speak for themselves rather than be spoken for.

BEYOND TREND

For nearly 10 years, Creative Growth's annual fashion show, entitled Beyond Trend, has become a signature event for the artists and the audience. What began as a modest exhibition of clothing made by the Creative Growth artists has become a major public event for hundreds of spectators, and its creative and performative elements have been recognized by The New York Times and fashion journalists across the country.

SYMPOSIUM

In 2019, Creative Growth expanded its leadership role in the field by launching a symposium for art and disability centers from across the USA and internationally. The annual event brings together staff and artists from art studios, many based upon the Creative Growth model, to explore issues related to Creative Growth's practice, including pedagogy, exhibitions, curatorial practice, the advancement of people with disabilities as artists and leaders, studio practice and administrative issues. The recently completed third conference which took place in June, 2022, was attended by participants from North America and Europe, furthering Creative Growth's role as a national and international leader in the field.

VISITING ARTISTS

Visiting artist workshops have existed since Creative Growth's inception. During Creative Growth's formative years, internationally prominent artists like Joan Brown, Manuel Neri, and Mark di Suvero were inspired by the work they saw coming out of the Creative Growth studio and became involved, donating their own works to benefit the program, visiting the studio, and engaging in collaborative creative projects. Their participation, along with that of many other artists since then, has been an inspiring affirmation of the groundbreaking significance of the artists' work. More recently, with a grant by the California Council of the Arts, Creative Growth has codified this previously organic form of collaborative engagement by dedicating staff hours to recruiting artists and organizing workshops. Last year Creative Growth hosted six workshops and 12 visiting lecturers.

