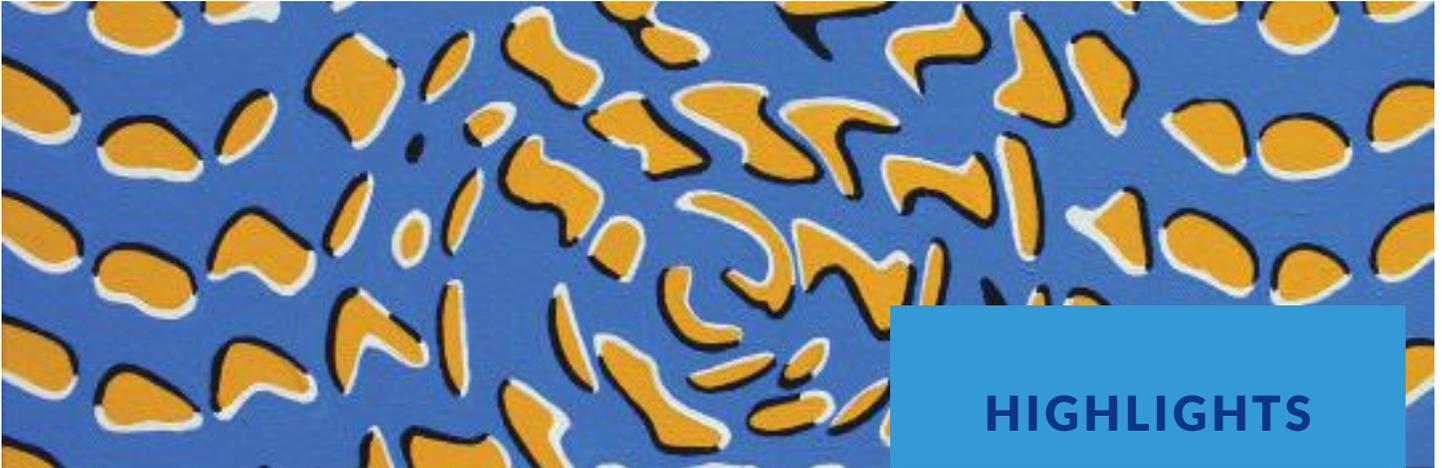


Brookline Arts Center

A SNAPSHOT FROM FY 20



MISSION

WE ARE A VISUAL ARTS CENTER COMMITTED TO BRINGING THE COMMUNITY MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES IN THE ARTS THROUGH CLASSES, EXHIBITIONS AND OUTREACH.

A YEAR IN REVIEW

FY 20 presented substantial challenges for the BAC and for so many others in the era of COVID. While half of the year was tremendously difficult, and we continue to grapple with what's happening around the world, we want to celebrate the many wonderful accomplishments we worked to achieve throughout the year.

We are most proud to say that at nearly 60 years old, we continue to serve our community and work toward our mission. Health and safety remain our top priority, which requires limited entry to our beloved firehouse. The temporary closure of our physical space continues to provide an opportunity for us to think creatively to best meet the needs of our community in our current reality.

Throughout FY 20, we made exciting progress in programming. From a special winter Artist Residency and establishing a permanent Public Art program, to displaying the work of over 60 artists in our galleries and virtually, we provided numerous opportunities for the public to engage with works from professional and



emerging artists on a local, regional and national level.

Virtual programming became a focus for our classes and workshops later in the year. We offered over 65 classes in a new virtual setting, focused on exploration, skill-building and fun.

While we continue to lose significant income each month and our building remains closed to the public, with the support of our community, we know we will continue to provide meaningful experiences in the arts for many more years to come. We thank you for your ongoing support.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Launched Art at Home, a virtual portal offering free art activities for all ages.
- Established a permanent Public Art program in Monmouth Park.
- Developed a series of free virtual artist talks.
- Adapted classes in 2D, ceramics and jewelry mediums for a virtual setting.
- Displayed the work of over 60 professional and emerging artists in our gallery and online.

STAFF

Lauren Riviello
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lauren Trombino-Walleser
COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT
MANAGER

Elizabeth Ponce
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

HIGHLIGHTS

Virtual Classes

We worked to provide a variety of creative opportunities and an outlet for arts education in a virtual setting. Through a combination of face-to-face video instruction via Zoom, step-by-step video demonstrations and written lessons, as well as video-based group activities, students learned to bring their art to new levels. In this virtual format, students had the opportunity to share their work and receive feedback from teachers, interact with other students and continue working on their lessons between class meetings.



Winter Residency

We hosted an Artist Residency in the winter with artist Narrae Kang. While in residence, Kang created *Here*, a series of archival drawing projects of the BAC.

For the exhibition, Kang focused on subtle site-specific features to create glassworks and drawings. Using a mark-making method on the surface of glass, she worked to reinvent how we see the beauty in our daily lives and raised questions about life as an immigrant artist.



Art at Home

Our arts community is strong and vibrant, whether we gather in person or online.

Following our closure as a precautionary response to COVID-19, we launched Art at Home, a series of art activities for all ages that individuals and families can enjoy for free while practicing social distancing.

Projects range from sketchbook prompts to colorful paper landscapes to shadow theaters. Activities are added to the portal on our website each week!

Exhibitions

Our FY 20 exhibitions featured the work of over 60 professional and emerging artists. *Activation*, a national exhibition juried by Artlette Kayafas, featured works that move and explored elements of time. Our annual *Faculty & Student Exhibition* was transitioned to a virtual setting on our website. Works included a range of drawings, paintings, ceramics, metalsmithing and more.



Public Art

We established a permanent Public Art program in Monmouth Park in partnership with the Town of Brookline's Parks and Open Space Division. An annual call for proposals invites artists to create a temporary site-specific installation for Monmouth Park.

Shimmer by Meagan Hepp was installed in the spring. The sculptural replication of the BAC used donated recycled bottles. During the day, the bottles reflected sunlight and at night, the lit structure created a pattern on the park's floor.

