CREATIVE DISCOVERIES FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH:
Our teaching artists guided young artists ages 5 to 18 in discovering their creative voice through hands-on art-making. On Saturdays, we welcomed 1,638 children, 83% of them residents of Philadelphia, to 96 tuition-free classes. Our summer term offered workshops in illustration, photography, ceramics, and more, with $29,205 in tuition assistance provided, an 8% increase from 2017.

In our award-winning Teen Lounge, high school students worked with local artists in 20 creative projects, from web comics and homemade electronics to sign language and printing without a press. In nearby schools and community organizations, Fleisher provided 15 artist residences, helping 357 students learn to think like an artist. Our Stories, a new program with Sunrise of Philadelphia, engaged families learning English as a second language.

LIFELONG LEARNING FOR ADULTS: 3,830 adults explored their artistic potential in a Fleisher class or workshop this year, with an overall 9% increase in registrations from 2017. An additional 248 artists used our open studios to make art in their own way and at their own pace. For adults, Fleisher provided $68,381 in tuition assistance to ensure our programming remains an affordable, accessible space for adults diverse in background to make art together. 44% of adults learned about Fleisher from a friend, and 34% have taken a class for two or more consecutive years. 2018 welcomed a 12% increase in new students over 2017.

“’I learned that art can be so much fun and when you work with so many other creative minds your artwork could turn out beautiful.’”- Young Artist

EXHIBITIONS: Our free galleries exhibited work by students and faculty, as well as nine contemporary artists in our acclaimed Wind Challenge Exhibition Series: Jan Almquist, Corliss Cavalieri, Brad Jamula, Jerry Kaba, Hee Sook Kim, Kristen Neville Taylor, Sarah Peoples, Omid Shekari, and Tamsen Wojtanowski. An opening reception, gallery discussion, and artist-led public event accompanied each exhibition.

Fleisher collaborated with Women Organized Against Rape (WOAR) and VietLEAD on Bring Your Own Project, a creative place-keeping program funded by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage and Samuel S. Fels Fund. WOAR is working with artist Laura Deutch and VietLEAD with artist Miki Palchick on projects that engage their communities in a creative process, with culminating events to be presented this year.

“I feel whole again...great place to find your inner peace and creative sensibilities....” - E. Nina, Adult Student

“My students always inspire me and seeing them push through difficulties in projects and come out surprised by how well they did is something I take great inspiration from. It reminds me that a lot of the time we get in our own way and set limitations for ourselves. By persevering and pushing through obstacles we can often surprise ourselves and reach new levels of growth and progress.”

- PT, Teaching Artist
“I am 16 years old and I have been attending Fleisher since I was 12. In my time here I have grown as an artist and as a person. Fleisher is the one time during the week that I get to relax and express myself. Without these classes, I would have abandoned art due to the responsibilities of high school. In life, art has taught me how to trust my intuition and to work through my mistakes.” - Adina, Young Artist

SPECIAL EVENTS: On May 30, we were proud to recognize Dr. Carmen Febo San Miguel and Gayle Isa for their leadership, creativity, and vision with our 2018 Founder’s Award. We were also pleased to introduce Edwin Ruben Vasquez, recipient of the 2018 Ella King Torrey Young Artist Prize. Edwin reminded us all that art gives us the opportunity to grow, learn, and change. He was joined at the event by two of his best friends from kindergarten, along with his family.

FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS: In October, we presented our Dia de los Muertos festival, in collaboration with Calaca Flaca, our committee of community advisors, artists, and activists. We hosted our first-ever Pachanga de los Muertos preview party where guests were treated to a talk by artist-in-residence Cesar Viveros. Also new this year was Sloppy Copy, which transformed our parking lot into a venue for local screenprinters to share and sell their work. Handmade in December offered DIY gift-making workshops for the holidays, along with 20+ vendors. In February, Print Love-In returned for the 18th year, with two days of Valentine’s Day art-making.

Now in its 6th year, ColorWheels, our mobile art studio visited neighborhoods throughout Philadelphia for creative projects. Presented by PNC Arts Alive, ColorWheels provided 63 hours of free art-making in 21 different neighborhood settings.

FLEISHER ART MEMORIAL
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Philadelphia, PA 19147
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INDIVIDUAL & INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS

Gifts received from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

THE ARTISTS’ CIRCLE
Fleisher Art Memorial’s most committed and visionary donors. These annual leadership gifts ensure that we can continue our mission to provide access to the arts for everyone, regardless of economic means, background, or artistic experience.

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