MIDTOWN KINGSTON ARTS DISTRICT



ADVOCATE EDUCATE CELEBRATE

MKAD believes in the power of creative arts to be an agent of change. We serve the people of Midtown Kingston as a hub for collaborative relationships with individuals, artists, businesses, organizations and government to create positive change together.

MISSION

To provide access and support for the arts to advance, engage, unite, and enrich a vibrant community in Midtown Kingston.

VISION

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VAILUES

- Collaboration and Community Building
- Artistic Integrity and Personal Excellence
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility
- Creative Growth and Innovation
- Midtown-centric

Meet the initiatives of the MKAD creative ecosystem:





HOW WE ADVOCATE

With advocacy we focus on creating fair and inclusive policies and practices that will cultivate and ensure equitable access to resources for the artist economy, as well as cultivating support for the arts and artists across business and public sectors.

Advocacy includes:

- Collaborate and liaise with local government
- Drive funding toward the arts
- Support and promote the artist economy
- Provide fiscal sponsorship to artists and other organizations
- Spearhead public campaigns to promote the arts
- Create opportunities to share artistic resources



WHAT WE CELEBRATE

We celebrate through our annual annual public events including Celebration of the Arts, DRAW-A-THON, and Eco Arts Week.

- Insure recognition through the Todd Samara Art Fund Award and Red Goat
- Exhibitions throughout the year in The DRAW Gallery bringing art to the people
- Collaborate with government and other organizations to increase audience (The Dorsky Museum, TRANSART, City of Kingston, Ministry of Maåt, Kingston Library, O+ Festival, Radio Kingston, CCE, Midtown Business Alliance, SUNY Ulster, Eureka House, Bard Center for Curatorial Studies)
- Show/Tell, an eclectic new arts and literary magazine

2025 Events Calendar:

- February 22 / 3rd Annual Jello Jamboree fundraiser for Youth Workforce and The DRAW
- April 25 May 2 / 4th Annual Eco Arts Week
- June 14 / Opening Reception for Youth Workforce curated Group Exhibition at The DRAW
- August 5 / 5th Annual DRAW-A-THON
- September 20 21 / 3rd Annual Steamroller Print Fest & Teaching Artist Group Show

WHO WE EDUCATE

Making Art, Building Community, Transforming Lives

We provide enrichment and skill-building through high-quality, accessible and affordable arts education for everyone, from beginners to working professionals. We help build agency and explore the creative process as well as create opportunities for intergenerational mentorships for legacy, continuity, and mutual inspiration.

THE DRAW

The Department of Regional Arts Workers (The DRAW) provides arts education programs for people of all ages and levels and professional development for local artists and teachers. Through its diverse range of teaching artists, the DRAW facilitates an unabashedly nontraditional, contemporary, experimental and progressive approach to art making.

Programming is designed for both youth & adults and offered 7 days/week on a pay-what-you-can tuition scale. The DRAW Gallery & Studio is located at the Energy Square Building at 22-24 lwo Jima Lane.

Core Classes Offered Include:

- Saturday Arts Lab
- Drawing FUNdamentals
- Visual Storytelling
- Life Drawing for Everyone
- City Look Lab for Middle School ages
- Art Practice and Conversation
- Watercolor Exploration
- Soft Sculpture

YOUTH WORKFORCE

The Youth Workforce (fka PUGG) is an out of school, paid internship for Kingston High School students and recent alumni ages 15-24. The program focuses on professional development in the arts and arts-related industries and is designed to provide invaluable experiences, fostered by individualized pathways for future careers in arts-related fields & beyond. Interns assist MKAD staff and teaching artists at The DRAW and Neighborhood Print Studio. They also act as ambassadors for MKAD in collaborative projects with community partners, neighboring organizations and businesses.

We believe in supporting young creatives through workforce development and the empowerment that comes through a sense of shared purpose and a safe, inclusive community. These personal, creative, and professional development opportunities are essential to cultivating confidence, self-knowledge, creative problem-solving, and expanding career pathways for our neighborhood's youth.





NEIGHBORHOOD PRINT STUDIO

Neighborhood Print Studio is a community print studio and business incubator dedicated to fostering creativity, collaboration, and access through the art of printmaking. Located in the Pajama Factory at 49 Greenkill Avenue across the street from The DRAW, the studio maintains 3 intaglio printing presses, screenprinting, etching and finishing equipment. The Print Studio offers a variety of introductory and advanced classes in printmaking techniques, including intaglio, silkscreen etching, collagraph, relief, pronto plate lithography, as well as bookmaking, taught by local professionals.

Become a Patron

The Neighborhood Print Studio, with its 3,000 sq ft professional studio, is the perfect place for serious artists of all backgrounds and skill levels to explore the transformative art of printmaking. Join our Studio as a supporting Patron and gain access to exclusive benefits including discounted rates to reserve studio time and to purchase paper and materials.

Legacy of Benjamin Wigfall & Communications Village We draw inspiration from the visionary legacy of Ben Wigfall (1930-2017), embodying our core values of creativity, collaboration, and community empowerment. As custodians of Wigfalls' 40" x 60" Laguna intaglio press, we honor his vision by providing our print studio as a resource for the community.

SUPPORT MKAD

mkad.art

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Midtown Kingston Arts District is a 501(c)(3) corporation.



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