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Imagine Art
where every life is a work of art

Imagine Art Newsletter November 2011

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*Where every life
is a work of art*

Dear Alison,

Thank you for keeping in touch with the Imagine Art community! We are excited for this season of Thanksgiving and have many upcoming events for you to share in. This month we are highlighting Jonathan Balagia, the East Austin Studio Tour show at Imagine Art, and just a few of our awesome volunteers.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Jonathan Balagia

We are excited to shine our spotlight on Jonathan Balagia this month! In the past two years we have seen Jonathan blossom as an artist and in our community. Jonathan enjoys figure drawing with charcoal and is currently working on a series of charcoal drawings of sculptures. One of his goals has been to get his first job, and he set his sights on one of his favorite stores early on in his search, Hobby Lobby.

Texas Commission
on the Arts

Austin House of Prayer

City of Austin

The Blanton Museum

Mike Burns

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After months of hard work and training Jonathan has achieved his goal and is working part time at Hobby Lobby while still pursuing his art in the Imagine Art studio twice a week! Imagine Art staff volunteered with Jonathan at Hobby Lobby throughout the summer and assisted in negotiating the position.



What he likes best about his new job is the people, "they're friendly and helpful". Jonathan's favorite thing about working is how proud his family is of him. He also enjoys organizing things and getting to know his co-workers. When asked how he has changed in his time at Imagine Art, Jonathan said *"It's good to be getting out. I've enjoyed trying new things and meeting people. I feel more confident."*

Congratulations Jonathan!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

East Austin Studio Tour

Imagine Art is excited to be a part of the East Austin Studio Tour for a third year in a row! The East Austin Studio Tour is a once a year opportunity to discover new artistic talent, see working studios, learn about artists' tools, techniques, and inspirations, and of course to support your arts community by building your collections and supporting local businesses. This year we will be presenting a group show with two featured artists for our E.A.S.T exhibit and we hope you will all come out to take place in the festivities!

Our first featured artist is **Angelique Catero**, who has created a series of pottery using slab and coil techniques. Angelique's clay series is comprised of semi-functional vessels and decorative pieces that are free form and organic

. She has taken a very intuitive approach to her medium, letting the process of watercoloring and hand construction form themselves. Angelique attended the North Carolina School of the Arts as well as Texas A&M where she received her Bachelors in Fine Art.



Our second featured artists is **Timothy Baker**, who works



primarily in acrylic on found objects and recycled materials. His series is comprised of 2-D paintings on canvas as well as 3-D painted objects. One interesting thing about Timothy's work is that there are hidden images in each peice. He creates complex patterns using shapes and hidden images. His work is an expression of his unique perspective, portrayed in vibrant colors, and often with a tribal feel.

We hope to see you at our **E.A.S.T Opening Reception** on

Saturday, November 12th from **6:00pm to 8:00pm**, snacks and drinks will be provided. The show will also be available for viewing from November 12th - 20th from 9:00am - 4:00 pm on weekdays and 10:00am - 3:00pm on weekends.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Volunteerism at Imagine Art



We love our volunteers at Imagine Art, they make so many of our projects and services possible and are important part of our community. We are blessed with individuals who share their time and talents in many different areas, and most importantly join with us in our mission to see God glorified through the restored lives of artists with disabilities. You can find Imagine Art's volunteer postings at <http://imagineart.net/wordpress/volunteer> and [CLICK HERE](#) to download our Volunteer Application.

We'd like to share how three of our volunteers have contributed and why they give back to the Imagine Art community: Zach, Hazen, and Amy.

Zach is a talented artist that met our Art Director at one of his art shows in Austin. His art is mainly graphite drawings of people on a large or medium scale. He started volunteering at Imagine Art by leading a figure drawing class, which has developed in to one on one drawing instruction with artists.

Zach: "I like coming here, it's a break in my every day routine of the work week. I like being here and drawing here, it's a unique place."

Hazen heard about Imagine Art through a friend and called to see how he could help. Hazen is a professional portrait photographer and has been able to use his talents to take artist portraits, document art, and take photos of our community in action.

**Hazen: "I like the community and the fact that it's a sharing community. Almost everybody I run in t
o there's heart is to build up and encourage others."**



Hazen Volunteering at
Imagine Art

Amy came to Imagine Art through a friend who also volunteered at Imagine Art. She is a creative writer and storyteller and found her place here working with artists to write short artist bios and artist statements.

Amy: "I have always loved how genuine and accepting the people are at Imagine Art. It has always been a place of healing for me, a place where I could let loose and just be me and not worry what anyone thinks because I know I won't be criticized. The people are so real, and there are no masks being worn. At Imagine Art, it's okay to be imperfect, and that's what I love most about the place."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We would like to recognize the **Capital Area Food Bank** for 2 years of partnership and recognize Mike Burns for his service in making the Food Pantry Program possible!

Cynthia Herbst, a talented jewelry designer, will be traveling to Cairo, Egypt on November 20th where she plans to use her fine art and teaching skills to communicate with people about human trafficking and slavery. Please keep Cynthia in your prayers as she embarks on this journey.



You can find out more about Cynthia at www.inner-peaces.com

EVENTS

Thursday, Nov. 10th Artist field Trip to Blanton Museum, see Debbie Kizer for details.

Friday, Nov 11th, 4:00 - 8:00 (informal gathering at 4:00, potluck at 6:00, prayer to follow at 7:00)
Cynthia Herbst Missions Sendoff Party

Saturday, Nov. 12th, 6:00pm - 8:00pm
EAST Opening Reception

Saturday, Nov. 12th, 2:00pm - 4:00pm One of our artists, Nicole Cortichiato, is Speaking at Half Price Books about her upcoming children's book ***The Independent Hand***

Nov. 12th - 20th 9am - 4pm (weekdays), 10am - 3pm (weekends) **EAST** show viewing at Seabrook Center

Saturday, Nov. 19th 7:00pm - 9:00pm Open Mic Night at VSA at Access Gallery

Thursday, Nov. 24th **Thanksgiving Dinner** at Imagine Art , bring drink or dessert to share (see Evite or contact Debbie Kizer for details)

That is all for this month's newsletter. Be sure to check out www.imagineart.net and our [Facebook](#) page for more info and pictures on the stories above! Thank you all for your love and support.

Debbie Kizer
Imagine Art

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Imagine Art | 2830 Real St. | Austin | TX | 78722