



Co-founders
Emily Riggert • Rachel Rushing

info@sunsetartstudios.com • sunsetartstudios.com
1811 Balboa Place, Dallas TX 75224

Social Practice • Residency • Gallery • Studios

Sunset Art Studios is a collaboration between Emily Riggert and Rachel Rushing.

Together we host events that are focused on community place-keeping, promote artist sustainability through affordable space and fair pay, and we use art as a conversation starter for empowerment and social change.

Programs

Sunset operates under 4 banners of programming:

Social Practice- As a collaborative practice, all events, programs, projects, etc. are conceived and designed as social practice to create inclusive access to the arts for our community.

Artist Residency- The fundamental program of Sunset is the artist residency. Each resident receives up to 2 months of free studio space with bills paid and wifi included. . When the program is funded each person also receives a stipend for their work. Residencies culminate in a gallery reception featuring work created during their time. All artists are required to include the public in their work.

Gallery- While technically a gallery, the space of Sunset is multipurpose. The gallery is sometimes used as community meeting space, special project space, critique space, and more.

Studios- In a separate space Sunset operates an artist sustainability program. Through this program member artists rent studio space at below market rate, receive as-needed professional development, participate in quarterly open critique nights, commune at a monthly studio dinner, and have the opportunity for a solo exhibition in the gallery. Each artist has 24/7 access to their space with all bills included and guaranteed compliant spaces as defined in the City of Dallas Certificate of Occupancy.

Projects

Open Studios

Regular studio time for residents, open to the public

Sound Thinking

a podcast collaboration between Sunset Art Studios and the Oak Cliff Cultural Center. In each episode artists share what they hear, see, and interpret from their own work while listeners explore a visual world through sound.

Open Crit Night

Quarterly critiques for residency and member artists, open to other artists in the community.

Studio Dinners

Part of the studio artist sustainability program. Monthly potluck dinners focused on building camaraderie and critical conversation.

Hablemos

A small-scale program focused on storytelling and community artist-led workshops discussing gentrification and identity through writing, sculpture, and zine-making. This culminated in a free zine published with Make Art With Purpose and distributed at the Oak Cliff Cultural Center.

Events and Exhibitions

2016

Giddy Up: Oil and Cotton Student Show

An exhibition of student works inspired by the works of Frederic Remington, Wassily Kandinsky, and Frida Kahlo.

Dog Days

A day promoting responsible dog ownership and dog adoption in South Dallas. Dallas Animal Services and Adoption Center and a local rescue were beneficiaries. Event was sponsored by City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, Oak Clips, and The Tamale Company.

Sleeping Lions

A one-night-only party to feature the work of: Mylan Nguyen, Emily Riggert, Jessica Sinks, Jessica Trevizo.

Sunset Solstice

Celebration of the summer solstice, June 20th, with a yurt camera-obscura, a walk-in camera. Visitors were also invited to create lumen prints with photographic artist Ashley Whitt Faircloth.

Make Peace With Words

Make Peace With Words was an event promoting peace in our neighborhood, presented by Iris Bechtol in partnership with Make Art with Purpose.

Do You Feel it? Cuz I Felt It. feat. Tierra Firme

Finished works by artists Crimson Allen, Kaila Parrish, Sandra Freeman, and Julie Link. Works were completed during Oil and Cotton's, "Intro to Textiles" class led by Tierra Firme artists, Sarita Westrup and Analise Minjarez.

Art Haunt

Part haunted house, part art history, part immersive theater and installation, Art Haunt artists create a multi-sensory, multi-media art exhibit inspired by the surreal paintings and life of Salvador Dali.

Dia de los Muertos Festival

A collaboration between Oak Cliff Cultural Center and CocoAndre Chocolatier. Sunset Art Studios provided wood block printing materials for attendees to create printed memorial cards for lost loved ones.

2017

Interfacing: Meet and Build at Hampton/Illinois Library

Alli Rogers Residency event inviting families to create sculptures from vernacular materials like straws, tape, and variety of papers. Sculptures were incorporated into a larger installation.

Storytelling & Topo Chico

Community building workshop in collaboration with The Meet Shop OC focused on interviews, photography, and writing considering home and togetherness.

Interfacing: Meet and Build with Alli Rogers

Residency reception featuring a collaborative installation created by Rogers and community members.

Nasty Women: Dallas Edition

Exhibition network launched in New York. One of many national shows organized around solidarity among female artists and allies in the face of threats to roll back women's rights, individual rights, women's healthcare rights, immigration rights, racial and environmental justice. Local activist groups spoke on their missions and how they work within the community, and proceeds from the sale of artwork went to the Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center.

Elmwood Earth Day

Workshop exploring place and storytelling through writing, walking, and weaving. Participants worked with artists Ofelia Faz-Garza, June Covington, and Iris Bechtol.

Identity: I am One, I am Many

Exhibition at the Oak Cliff Cultural center featuring 3 artists in residency and Sunset founders. The exhibition considered identity through the lenses of place, material, iconography, race, gender, and sculpture.

Identity: Gallery Talk

Panel discussion of featured artists open to the community. Moderated by Oak Cliff Cultural Center Cultural Programs Coordinator, Gerardo Robles.

Sunset Swap and Summer Party

Studio swap meet bartering, trading, and giving away studio supplies to artists in the community.

Dallas Art & Public Policy

Hosted by Indivisible: Oak Cliff, founding artist Rachel Rushing and community artist Giovanni Valderas discussion of Dallas art and how local Public Policy influences not only what art is created and who creates it, but which citizens benefit culturally and economically from it's production.

Elmwood Waterway Clean-up: Found Artifacts | Mapping | Walking

Public residency event with River Jackson-Paton leading members of the public on a clean-up walk along the Elmwood Greenbelt. Participants were led in a discussion on art making using found objects, especially litter.

Expression Through Embodiment: Somatics and Art

Public residency event with River Jackson-Paton and Carla Weaver focusing on a somatic movement class at Sync Yoga.

Residency Reception: Finding the Forgotten

Reception for resident River Jackson-Paton featuring installation and sculptural work created during residency.

Respond: Puerto Rico

Exhibition featuring the work of Puerto Rican artists. All profits of work sold sent to Beta: Local, a PR non-profit focused on developing an emergency fund in support of cultural workers and their communities in the aftermath of the storm and guarantee the sustainable rebuilding of the island.

Residency Reception: Wide Awake

Reception for resident Shoshana McIntosh. Her work explore movement and dance through recorded improvisations to Alters by Emily Riggert, Eyelids by Adrienne Lichliter, and Untitled from the series It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year by Daniela Cruz.

2018

Member Reception: Commonplace by Anna Guillory

Reception for member artist Anna Guillory as part of the studio artist sustainability program.

Paper Processing with Laura Davidson

Public residency event with Laura Davidson exploring confession, writing, and paper making with the community

Residency Reception: Paper Processing with Laura Davidson

Reception for resident Laura Davidson featuring installation and paper work created during residency.

Neighborhood of the Heart with Ellie Ivanova

Public residency event with Ellie Ivanova supporting her Visiting Artist work at the Dallas Museum of Art Center for Creative Connections. Residency was sponsored by the OCA

Uwazi (Transparency) with Tré Suber

Reception for Sunset Intern Tré Super featuring artwork from his senior year at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts.

Friday the 13th: "Peelings"

Public residency event with Violeta Miro in collaboration with Will Heron and Betty Rodriguez.

Residency Reception: Adult Papers

Reception for resident Violeta Miro featuring drawings and zines created during residency. Residency was sponsored by the OCA

Myth of A Strong Black Woman with Stacie Monday

Public residency event with Stacie Monday. Participants were invited to wear flower crowns and pose for photographs with signs declaring positive messages. Monday's work focuses on combating negative stereotypes of Black women by creating imagery that is positive and embraces the full identity of each figure.

Theory of Evolution with Stacie Monday

Reception for resident Stacie Monday featuring paintings and photographs created during residency.

2019

Black Box II, Box Raising with Kiara Walls

Community viewing of the original *Black Box Experience* with response followed by the raising of the Black Box II. Sponsored by the OCA

Community Meet Ups

Letterformers

Monthly meetup for lettering artists and calligraphers

Aviary Dallas

Monthly meetup for theatre actors and writers

Artists in Residence

2016

Chesley Antoinette

Kellie Spano

2017

Alli Rogers

Tina Medina

Johnathon Foster

Iris Bechtol

River Jackson-Paton

Shoshana McIntosh

2018

Laura Davidson

Ellie Ivanova
Violeta Miro
Stacie Monday

2019

Kiara Walls

Awards and Grants

2015

CADD FunD!

2016

City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs Cultural Vitality Program

2018

City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs Special Support Grant

2019

City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs Cultural Vitality Program

Press

Elevating Elmwood, the Bishop Arts for locals

Oak Cliff Advocate, <http://oakcliff.advocatemag.com/2016/06/elevating-elmwood-bishop-arts-locals/>

Oak Cliff Studio Offers Free Space for Emerging Artists

Dallas Innovates, <https://www.dallasinnovates.com/oak-cliff-studio-offers-free-space-for-emerging-artists/>

Dallas Nasty Women Exhibition

Dallas Observer, <http://www.dallasobserver.com/event/dallas-nasty-women-exhibition-9223050> How the Dallas

'Nasty Women' Art Show Loops in a History of Women's Suffrage

D Magazine, <https://www.dmagazine.com/arts-entertainment/2017/03/how-the-dallas-nasty-women-art-show-loops-in-a-history-of-womens-suffrage/>

Catching A Glimpse Of Art In Dallas, Circa 2018

D Magazine, <https://www.dmagazine.com/arts-entertainment/2017/12/catching-a-glimpse-of-art-in-dallas-circa-2018/>

Making Space for Artists in Oak Cliff

D Magazine, <https://www.dmagazine.com/publications/d-magazine/2019/march/making-space-for-artists-in-oak-cliff/>

Dallas Arts In The Age of Patreon

Central Track, <https://www.centraltrack.com/dallas-arts-in-the-age-of-the-patreon/>