

Art@theCore:Building Community



The artist appeals to that part of our being . . . which is a gift and not an acquisition – and therefore, more permanently enduring. Joseph Conrad

OurSpace/Creative Exchange

OurSpace/Creative Exchange is a project of **Art @ the Core**, a community movement in North Park and City Heights that utilizes art as a catalyzing force for positive change. Our goal is to increase access, engagement and participation in the civic process through community cultural development.

WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS COMMUNITY PROJECT
BY BRINGING A GIFT TO EXCHANGE.

All gifts will be small enough to fit in a baggie and will be accompanied by a tag with your name and a message to the receiver of your gift. **Gifts will be traded at Art Produce Gallery May 17 – June 28, 2009.** A photo of you and your gift will be displayed in the gallery throughout the exhibit.

OurSpace/Creative Exchange stems from the idea of the Potlatch, a public ritual/festival/feast involving a gift exchange practiced by some indigenous cultures. Potlatch was a community celebration of important events, but also a redistribution and reciprocity of wealth. Once banned by Canadian and US governments, it was considered a wasteful and unproductive custom, not associated with “civilized” values.

As artists and community activists we wish to reconsider this custom as an antidote to the Internet-based virtual exchanges and market-driven connections so abundant today. It is our belief that real objects exchanged in a real space, in a real community, can initiate real connections between people and communities.

BRING IN SOMETHING SMALL, SOMETHING YOU CREATED,
SOMETHING FOUND, SOMETHING MEANINGFUL.

Our Space/Creative Exchange is a component of the art exhibit
Voices: Mapping the Hood at ART Produce Gallery- **May 17 – June 28, 2009.**

For more info. contact- Lynn@artproducegallery.com

ART Produce Gallery
3139 University Ave.
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ART@theCORE
www.artcoresd.org
www.artproducegallery.com

A true gift never belongs entirely to the giver or the receiver. It remains in a place between them like a meaningful conversation or a kiss... As Heidegger said, gifts are not given or owned, but rather shared. Clancy Martin