

Diversity and Inclusion Awards

Creative Clay's core program is its Community Arts Program, which serves 50-60 adult artists with neuro-differences each week. The Community Arts Program specifically works with adult artists diagnosed with developmental, emotional and/or physical disabilities and implements services five days a week, all year long, developing each individual artist's technique and skill. Adult Day Training takes place every day which includes exercises and lessons in personal development such as advocating for oneself or role playing on how to interface with the community.

Dr. Gary Keating is the founder and conductor of the **Fort Lauderdale Gay Men's Chorus**, which formed the LGBTQ and Allies Youth Honor Choir in 2015 with students from Dr. Keating's Miami-Dade County Dr. Michael Krop Senior High School so the students would have a safe place to meet and sing. This choir has performed at concerts and high school diversity events.

The Florida Tax Collectors' Kids Tag Art Program is a program through which 5th grade students design license plates that are then produced and offered to the students' families. Sponsors cover production costs, and funds received are distributed to teachers for the purchase of art supplies. Over the past 12 years, the program has expanded to 14 counties in Florida and raised more than \$800,000 to support the arts.

The Henry B. Plant Museum's current initiatives include programs targeting children 5 years old and younger from lower income families to gain access/exposure to cultural venues. Their living history theatre program, Upstairs/Downstairs, will soon feature live sign language interpretation.

Karen Peterson and Dancers is dedicated to physically integrated dance. Dancers with and without disabilities perform the company's groundbreaking repertory and an annual season of new choreographic work for dance artists of all abilities. The organization also facilitates The Talent Showcase, a 20-week residency program for 250 Miami Dade Public School students with special needs, now in its 12th year.

Morean Arts Center, under the leadership of **Michael Killoren**, offers a variety of arts classes to meet their students' needs and ensure diversity, equity and inclusion. Their team of instructors includes those skilled at working with persons of all ages with learning disabilities, mental health challenges, physical limitations or social skill difficulties.

The Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center's Cultural Arts Program offers a varied menu of activities through theatre, literature, and dance targeting a diverse audience of different socio-economic backgrounds, ethnicities, and ages. These programs are designed to bring the community together to enjoy the world of the arts by offering multiple choices that appeal to different segments of the population.

