



November 27, 2015
 VSA Vermont uses the magic of the arts to engage the capabilities and enhance the confidence of children and adults with disabilities.



How Important is Joy in Your Life?

What would happen to joy if people saw you mainly for what you can't do rather than what you can? What would happen to joy if your ability to make choices was discouraged? That is the unfortunate experience of far too many people with disabilities.

You can help people with disabilities grow the joy in their lives by supporting arts programs that are focused on discovery, choice and pride. You can help people with and without disabilities see their strengths and connections they have by supporting arts programs that bring us all together in shared creativity.

Here's how one teacher described the effect of VSA Vermont's program for students with severe behavioral challenges.

Our students find so many failures so often at school ...It gives each of our kids something they can be successful at. That changed how I viewed some of the students. Seeing what that success looks like, you can't help wanting to be part of that success moving forward.

Please donate today. Your gift of \$40, \$70, \$100, \$250 or more can make joy and accomplishment fill the future hopes of students who have struggled with discouragement.

VSA Vermont is expanding opportunities for joyful choice in new ways this year.

Youth in Transition: We're creating Vermont's first mentoring program matching adults with disabilities to mentor youth with disabilities to participate in Vermont's rich cultural life. *"It's so hard to imagine your future as a person with a disability if you don't know any other adults with disabilities,"* says Toby MacNutt, who has designed this program at VSA Vermont, *"and that's what is so valuable about the relationships we're creating."*



Early Childhood: Childcare providers who have graduated from VSA VT's award-winning early childhood Start With The Arts program are **using new leadership skills to develop and test a family engagement program** that can give families nurturing support for **arts and literacy activities at home**. This is what some of those childcare providers already say. ***"This project has completely changed how I work with families....My families are so excited. They arrive singing and leave dancing."***



BOOM VT: VSA Vermont is an early adopter of Remo's Sound Comfort drums, designed to **eliminate the frequencies that can be jarring to people with sound sensitivities**. Vermonters got to try them out at BOOM VT in October when the Fletcher Free Library was rocking for hundreds of audience members, great drummers and 60 volunteers with drum-making, drum-instruction, demonstrations and of course a big drum jam.



As our newest board member, Mark Bowen said, ***"The only thing better than the day I first heard about VSA Vermont and the work they do, was when I was asked to be part of it all."*** **You can be part of the art-beat too!**



Please donate.
Join the art-beat that is booming with excitement.
Get involved. Donate. Volunteer.
Make magic happen!
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At VSA Vermont, Art Beats For All!

Help **VSA VT** keep great opportunities coming.

Donate online at **PayPal!**



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