

PRESS RELEASE

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BIOCLINICA RESEARCH FUNDS SECOND YEAR OF SENIOR ARTS PROGRAMMING

ORLANDO – OCTOBER 12, 2018 – For a second year, United Arts of Central Florida has received funding from **Bioclinica Research** for arts programs dedicated to enriching the lives of Central Florida’s senior population. The funding for the second year of Senior Arts Programming increased to \$10,000 that will go to four arts programs.

The current and upcoming arts programs supported by **Bioclinica Research** include a clay class called “We Push, We Pull” from **Osceola Arts**, the Musical Minds Choir from **Central Florida Community Arts**, a weekly fine arts program with the Easterseals Day Break program organized by **Crealdè School of Art**, and a merienda for seniors hosted by the **Downtown Arts District** at CityArts Factory.

“Bioclinica Research is a local research facility dedicated to improving the lives of those touched by memory loss and we look to partner with local organizations that help the senior population express themselves through the arts,” said the Bioclinica Research Marketing and Recruitment Director Leslie Carney. “Through our community efforts, we identified that United Arts of Central Florida has a parallel mission as Bioclinica; to continue enriching the lives of our senior citizens.”

Osceola Arts has partnered with the Osceola Council on Aging to deliver arts programs to older adult learners living in the Kissimmee, St. Cloud and Poinciana communities. The clay class offered by Osceola Arts will use various clay-building techniques where students will be challenged to think creatively, enhance their dexterity, feel the accomplishment of creating art, and form friendships in a fun and welcoming environment. The classes will begin in January 2019, are offered in eight sessions, once per week, and will include a conversation-based gallery tour, scheduled art exhibits at Osceola Arts, and a 90-minute on-site and interactive art-making experience provided by a teaching artist. For more information regarding this program, contact Osceola Arts at 407.846.6257.

The Musical Minds Choir from Central Florida Community Arts serves adults experiencing the early stages of memory loss, dementia or Alzheimer’s disease. The choir members are asked to be accompanied by their care partners, who are welcome to sing with the choir or relax and enjoy the music. Being a member of the Musical Minds Choir provides seniors with an opportunity to meet others who are also living with memory loss while having some fun and exercising the brain. Research findings suggest that being part of making music or simply listening to music can be a great way to stimulate the brain and help promote brain health. Rehearsals began on September 10, and will take place Monday

mornings from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This program is still enrolling participants. For questions about the program contact the Musical Minds administrator at 407.937.1800, or email musicalminds@cfcart.com

CityArts Factory will be hosting a merienda on January 22, 2019 from 1PM to 3PM. The merienda will have coffee, pastries, discussions about art facilitated by professional artists, and a guided tour of the gallery. Space for this event is limited. If interested in attending the merienda in the gallery, contact Ha'Ani Hogan at hhogan@dadorlando.com or 407.405.4049.

The fourth program is the Easterseal's Day Break Program, facilitated by Crealdè School of Art, where seniors with progressive memory loss and cognitive impairment can interact with weekly fine arts workshops. These workshops run from August 2018 to May 2019 at the Miller Center in Winter Park. There will be an exhibition of student art organized in a gallery.

About United Arts of Central Florida

United Arts is a collaboration of individuals, businesses, governments and school districts, foundations, arts and cultural organizations, and artists. Its mission is to enrich communities by investing in arts, science and history. United Arts serves residents and visitors in Lake, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties through more than 60 local arts, science and history organizations. It raises and distributes funds for these cultural groups and provides management, administrative and advisory services. Since 1989, United Arts has invested more than \$150 million in Central Florida's arts and culture.

For more information, visit <http://www.UnitedArts.cc> or call 407.628.0333. Please email FloraMaria@UnitedArts.cc for comments or inquiries. You can follow United Arts of Central Florida on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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