

Open Studios at Metro Art Studios

Saturday, November 8; 11 am to 6 pm

Sunday, November 9; 11 am to 5 pm

Meet the artists of Metro Art Studios – over 40 artists working in a wide variety of disciplines, from drawing to painting, sculpture to jewelry, printmaking to photography, video, and music. Three full floors in a renovated corset factory in the South End of Bridgeport with professional artists in loft studios to wander, discover, explore, and learn about various forms of art, inspiration, and the creative process.

Special events during Open Studios include the opening reception of *Margins of Memory*, a thought provoking exhibit curated by Sariah Park in Crown Gallery on Saturday, November 8 from 1-4 PM, as well as *Art Squared*, a fundraising exhibit of all square art at affordable prices of \$100-\$300 each to support Metro programming and events. Collect clues to a scavenger hunt where every correct entry wins a piece of original art. Visit art activation stations throughout the building to create and make art yourself. View a short film, *Our Last Lungs*, and learn more about Remington Woods and the Sierra Club's efforts to preserve it.

This event is free, although donations are gladly accepted. Fully ADA accessible; ample free on and off street parking.

About Metro Art Studios:

Located at 345 Railroad Avenue in the South End of Bridgeport CT, Metro Art Studios is a 501(c)3 organization offering free and low-cost programming to the public through open studio events, art exhibitions, musical performances, and the monthly Artist WorkLab, a professional development discussion series for artists working in all media. To learn more about this event and all of the diverse programming at Metro Art Studios, please visit www.metroartstudios.org.

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Margins of Memory exhibit

Opening reception: Saturday, November 8, 1-4 PM

Exhibit: November 8, 2025 to January 10, 2026

Gallery hours: Thursday to Saturday, 12-4 PM, and by appointment

Crown Gallery is proud to present *Margins of Memory*, an exciting new exhibit that brings together six international artists who currently reside in New York but span five different countries of origin, offering a global yet deeply personal meditation on memory and healing through the expanded mediums of print, papermaking, collage, and installation. In a world increasingly marked by displacement, fragmentation, and collective grief, these artists turn to the tactile intimacy of works on paper-etchings, monoprints, handmade pulp, and experimental processes-as a way to trace the fragile imprints of memory: personal, ancestral, and imagined.

Paper, as both surface and substance, holds and reveals. Its fibers retain touch, absorb pigment, and fray with time. In this exhibition, curated by Sariah Park, paper becomes a vessel for healing: a space where trauma can be transmuted, and stories-once silenced-can find form. Despite vast cultural and geographical distances, each artist finds a shared language in the medium itself. Printmaking, with its cycles of layering, pressing, and repetition, echoes the rituals of remembering and forgetting. The handmade sheet becomes an archive; the printed image, a gesture of reclaiming. Together, these works invite viewers not only to look but to feel-to engage with memory not as static record, but as a living, breathing process of making and mending.

Participating artists include Emilie Houssart, Holland/U.K., Hayoon Jay Lee, South Korea, Anette Millington, USA, Malgorzata Oakes, Poland, Sariah Park, USA, and Xuewu Zheng, China

Margins of Memory opens on Saturday, November 8 with a reception from 1 - 4 PM, and runs through January 10, 2026. The gallery is open Thursday through Saturday, 12 - 4 PM, and by appointment. ADA accessible, free parking.

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Art Squared exhibit

Opening reception: Saturday, November 8, 1-4 PM

Exhibit: November 8 to December 12, 2025

Gallery hours: Thursday to Saturday, 12-4 PM, and by appointment

Celebrate and support the arts in Bridgeport with the annual Metro Art Studios fundraiser. All works are between 10" and 14" square and \$100 to \$300 each. Start or add to your art collection! You'll find over 100 pieces of art to choose from in a wide variety of media from painting, printmaking, and photography, created by both Metro and regional artists. This is a fantastic opportunity to purchase high quality artwork that is worth more than \$100 while supporting both the exhibiting artists and Metro Art Studios' programming during this unique fundraiser. Come early for the best selection, this exhibit is eagerly awaited by collectors annually; be there *and* be square!

Metro Art Studios is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides opportunity to local, regional, and national artists for exhibition and professional development, as well as art and music experiences and events for the public of the Greater Bridgeport region. With your help, the proceeds from the Art Squared exhibit allow us to continue this vital work.

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Our Last Lungs short film

Screenings at 11 AM, 1 PM & 3 PM on Saturday, November 8 and Sunday, November 9

Meet the director, Daniel Recinos, on Saturday, November 8 at 12 PM

This short documentary uncovers the powerful voices of residents, environmental advocates, and community leaders exploring the impact and urgent need for protecting green space in Bridgeport, the “Park City”, an urban city with pressing environmental justice concerns.

As this city's future is being reimagined, we hear firsthand why conservation matters from longtime activists to students. All with a shared understanding that cleaner air, community well-being, and a connection to nature in an increasingly urbanized world are vital.

This film amplifies the stories of the people who dreamt of access to nearby forested green space and have fought for it, the dreams they have for the future of green space, and what it means for the broader movement of urban conservation in Connecticut. As we witness a shift to environmental stewardship, this documentary highlights what's possible when communities work together. It's a blueprint for how conservation can thrive in cities, ensuring that urban forests remain protected, accessible, and vital for generations to come.

Our Last Lungs was written, filmed and produced by Daniel Recinos with the support of the Sierra Club CT Chapter and with the generous support of the Connecticut Green Bank and Sustainable CT.

Join us for a behind-the-scenes chat with the filmmaker to learn his creative process, the stories uncovered along the way, and the vision behind capturing Bridgeport's growing movement for conservation and environmental justice. This is an opportunity to ask questions, connect, and get a glimpse at how the film came to life.

Free and open to the public

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