

Karcher Artspace Lofts



Where Creativity
Is a Way of Life

Meet the artists of the Karcher Lofts

artspace



Cara Dunning Painter, Illustrator, Singer/Songwriter



Contact Info:

Website: www.caradunning.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/CaraDunningart

Email: caradunning@gmail.com

Cara's Music:

www.soundcloud.com/cara-dunning

Cara Dunning is a Visual Artist and Singer/Songwriter who came to Waukegan from New Mexico. Originally from Central Florida, she worked as a caricature artist for Disney and SeaWorld through high school and college. Cara attended the University of South Florida for Fine Art also studying in Paris for a semester with the study abroad program. Upon finishing her degree she travelled and taught art for five years. She recently settled at the Artspace lofts and is focusing full time on her art and music. While in Paris she was inspired by the city and its people and realized her subject matter had always had something to do with identity, whether of a person, a city or a culture, and that became her main focus in her work. She finds herself constantly intrigued by the visual information that comes from peoples urge to identify with something, or for something, or against something. She is best known for her Big Legged Women series, which was inspired by her exploration of the self-portrait. Her newer series also explores ideas of identity in pop culture. She gives the subject of her portraits an iconic look by changing their hairstyles, posture and clothing. Cara's music is also a big part of her life. She was in two different bands in Florida and is now singing with an acoustic ensemble. "As a painter, I make all the decisions, I set the tone and identity, but as a musician, the group of musicians take on an identity completely separate from their own. I think that is so interesting." ~Cara Dunning

Evelyn Larsen Ford

Jeweler, Fashion Designer, Painter



Evelyn Larsen-Ford is an all around artist and has worked in many different mediums from making soap, handmade jewelry to painting, drawing, doing fashion design, fiber art and textiles. She co-owned the popular downtown store, IVY with her daughter who is also a resident. Her main focuses are the Fiber arts and Jewelry Design. Being a first generation Norwegian she incorporates a Nordic style to a lot of her work at her online store "Valhalla Art Loft" on ETSY.com. She likes to take Salvaged fabric, trims, buttons, Vintage costume jewelry and other found objects to create many items from purses to dog clothing or steampunk inspired jewelry to classic and eclectic. She recently has started exploring acrylics & would like to continue to learn as much as possible. Evelyn's art spills over into everything she does and is truly a way of life for her. Case in point: Both of her children, inspired by their mother's creativity, are also artists living in the artspace lofts. "I love the Karcher and I am so proud to call it home" ~Evelyn

Contact Evelyn:

Phone 708-215-0809

Email: evelynlarsenford@gmail.com



Ivy Ford Musician, Singer and Visual Artist

Ivy Ford is a musician/singer and fine artist. Ivy is a native Waukeganite grew up inspired by her family of musicians and artists. At the age of ten she started listening to Billie Holiday and Etta James and attributes them to her love of blues. She considers herself to be a blues musician however she appreciates all genres of music. She has won numerous singing competitions, and has performed in musicals and plays. Ivy also works with pencil and acrylics using her passion for blues as her subject matter. Ivy says that she has been able to exponentially expand the amount of time she spends honing her crafts since moving in to the Artspace Lofts. She will be performing with her band, Ivy Ford & the Cadillac's at today's event.

Contact Info:

For booking

Ivy Ford & the Cadillac's:

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For Ivy Ford:

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Phone: 708 334 0356

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ivy.ford



Tom Collins, Musician



Tom Collins is a workingman's musician with dreams of making music his full-time gig. Collins loves to play guitar and sing at taverns and fairs between day shifts at the local salt mine. You'll usually see him around Lake and Kenosha counties, playing with his new friends, the award-winning rockin' country band ***Mandy Z and Rural Route 1***. June 2013 was a big month for the band; a new single debuted on Milwaukee Country - FM 106.1 and they rocked Nashville, TN for two performances during CMA Fest. Don't miss your chance to see 'em live this summer... visit the website for info, music and show dates: <http://www.reverbNation.com/mandyZofficial>



Eric Joseph Photographer

Eric Joseph began his career in 2000, on Chicago's Westside where he was first a music producer at Chain Weight Productions, a production company he founded. This is where he initially honed his skills for editing and found his passion for the art of photography. He then collaborated in a joint venture with fellow Chicagoan Demetrius Gregory, of I'm beautiful too Photography. Together they founded Double Focus Media Ent. During this time he worked media events with a host of celebrities such as Eric Benet, Layla Hathaway, Mary Mary and Sidney Poitier just to name a few. Always on a search to expand his creativity and style, Eric sought to start his own photography company, so in March 2008 he started Eric Joseph Media Group. Eric has over 10 years in the media field and is widely known for his creative prowess when it comes to music, images and video work in the underground scene in Chicago. Oftentimes using himself as the subject matter, he challenges his eye for new angles and styles. His claim to fame is his black & white images that take on a feeling of their own as seen through his creative eye. With the drive and the passion to be the very best Eric Joseph is a name that will be around for years to come in Photography and Video media.

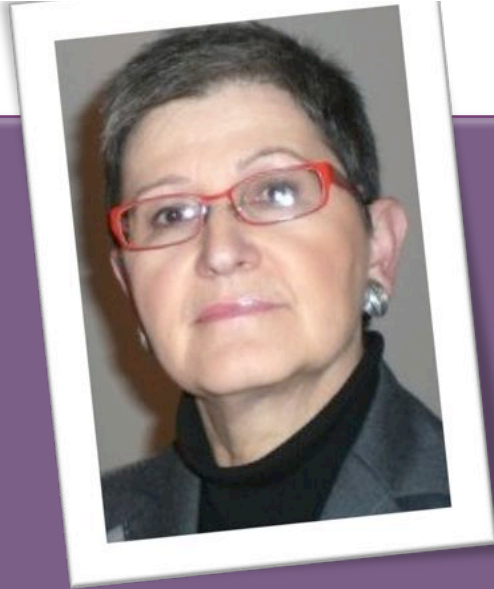
Contact Info:

<http://ericjosephmediagroup.com>



Iliana Doytcheva

Architect,
Jeweler and
designer



Iliana is an architect by education and has worked as such for more than 35 years in Eastern Europe, Russia and the USA. In her native Bulgaria, she was accepted to the Union of Bulgarian Artists with a fashion collection of exquisite natural linen & crochet accented dresses. This enabled her to create and exhibit unique garments and fashion accessories in their art galleries. In 1992 she relocated to Chicago and her career as an architect became mandatory for providing a steady financial support for her family. She retired recently, and is extremely excited to finally be able to focus on the creative activities kept on the back burner for so many years.

Since 1970 when she started exploring different techniques, she tried her hand at everything from interior and fashion design, to sewing, embroidering, macramé, batik, bobbin lace, knitting, and crocheting. She also experimented with polymer clay, recycled and vintage jewelry, and her style spans from vintage and handmade jewelry and lace to unique contemporary pieces.

To Contact Iliana:

(c) 312-493-8616

idoytcheva@hotmail.com



Jillian Chapman

Photographer and
Mixed Media Artist

The first thing anyone should know about Jillian is that she is in love with art. As a mixed media artist or a photographer she finds it very hard to express herself and through her visual art she is able to show exactly how she sees the world. Everything she creates is a piece of her. Whether it's small or large it shows how she approaches life and expresses that to everyone. Jillian grew up in Lake Forest but her roots come from Waukegan. One of her relatives died in the fire that shut the Karcher down in the early 80's. She feels it is such an important experience to come here and live in such a unique space with other artists. "Life is art. Art is my life and no matter what is going on in my life: Being here is making that possible." ~Jillian



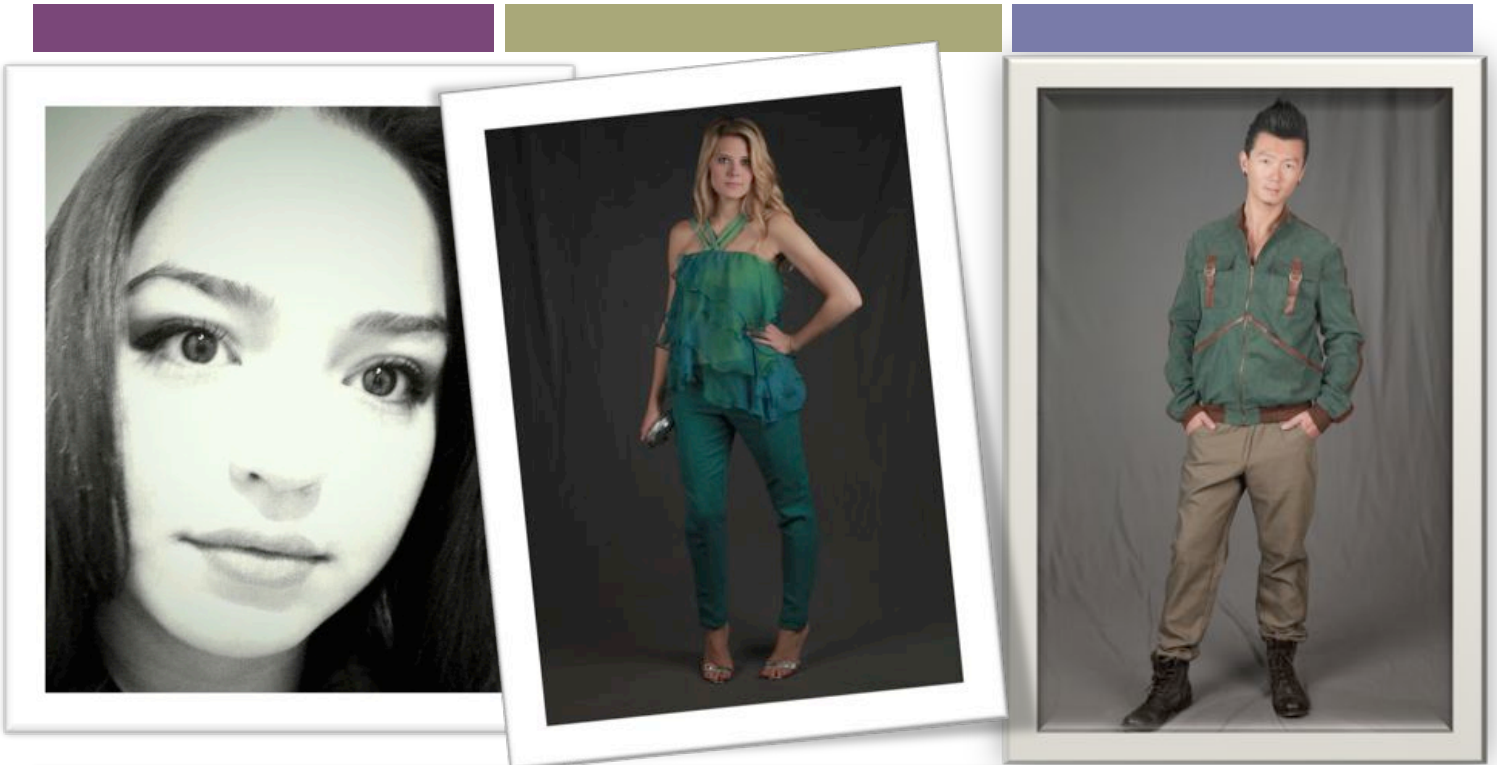
Contact info:

Jillian.Chapman@gmail.com
Juneberrystar.com



Carolina Wence

Fashion Designer & Illustrator



Carolina, a native Waukeganite, studied Fashion Design at the International Academy of Design Chicago. She is currently an executive designer for Chi Love's me; a non-profit Chicago based Design Company. She is interested in Elegant and Chic designs and is inspired by Designer Carolina Herrera. Carolina is drawn to living at Artspace because she feels everyone here has common goals and accepts everyone for their individualism. Her art is her passion and she believes it saved her from going down a more destructive path. She likes fashion because she likes the idea that someone can put her art on and feel great about themselves. Her goal is to one day inspire people through her designs by instilling pride in our city and what it stands for.

Contact Info:

wencecarolina@yahoo.com

Chi love me:

www.CHILOVESME.com

Nicole Romany

Culinary Artist & Event Planner



Nicole Romany grew up with a family of artists, vocal musicians, textile artists and chefs. She attributes her love of food to the spices and flavors used in her native home of Trinidad and to her mother who is a dancer and wonderful cook. Her other major inspiration was Julia Child. Nicole loves the cultural differences in cuisine and strives to fuse her love of the island heat and spice with foods from other cultures. To Nicole, the food is only one part of the experience. She enjoys creating, planning and executing dinners, but she also strives to take you into another world where she creates the mood, and she sets the ambience to give you an entire experience. Since becoming an Artspace resident, Nicole has been able to rekindle her love for baking. She has been able to create new bakery goods and successfully engaged in her first ArtWauk. To quote Nicole, "sky's the limit, thanks to Artspace."

Contact Info:

Have a Taste Foods - like me on Facebook

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+

Eric Marsten

Painter, Craftsman &
Sculptor

Born in 1953, Eric grew up in the northern suburbs of Cincinnati, Ohio. He studied at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, California from 1983 to 1989. During his tenure he was mentored by many nationally known instructors and artists: Howard Brodie, Barron Storey, and Brook Temple to name a few.

After Academy he began working in the juvenile fashion industry as an artist and textile designer. These experiences lead him to start a children's furniture business called Pipsqueak's, which grew to national recognition. He manufactured children's furniture for Lucas Films Feature Film Star Wars: Episode I- The Phantom Menace. His passions include drawing, painting, collage and woodworking. "Creativity is my language, it runs through me, it is how I think and speak." ~Eric Marsten



Crystal M. Malavé Roldan



Photographer



Crystal is a Photo-Craft nature & landscape photographer from Puerto Rico. Coming from an artistic background she decided to major in Creative photography where she developed an interest in nature, landscapes & interior design. Her work consists of original digital & 35mm prints in handmade frames with assorted craft accessories. She moved from New York City to Waukegan where she found her biggest inspiration of all and the start of her new journey at the Karcher Artspace. Crystal's work is currently on display in the lobby gallery of the building.



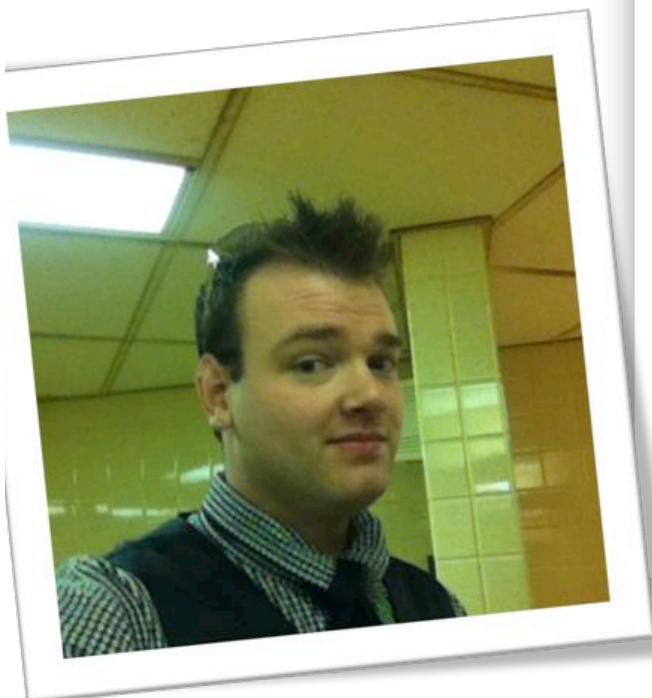
Web: www.facebook.com/CnatPhotography
www.etsy.com/shop/CnatPhotoCraft

Contact: 787-414-8474

E: cnat_photography@live.com

Mason Absher

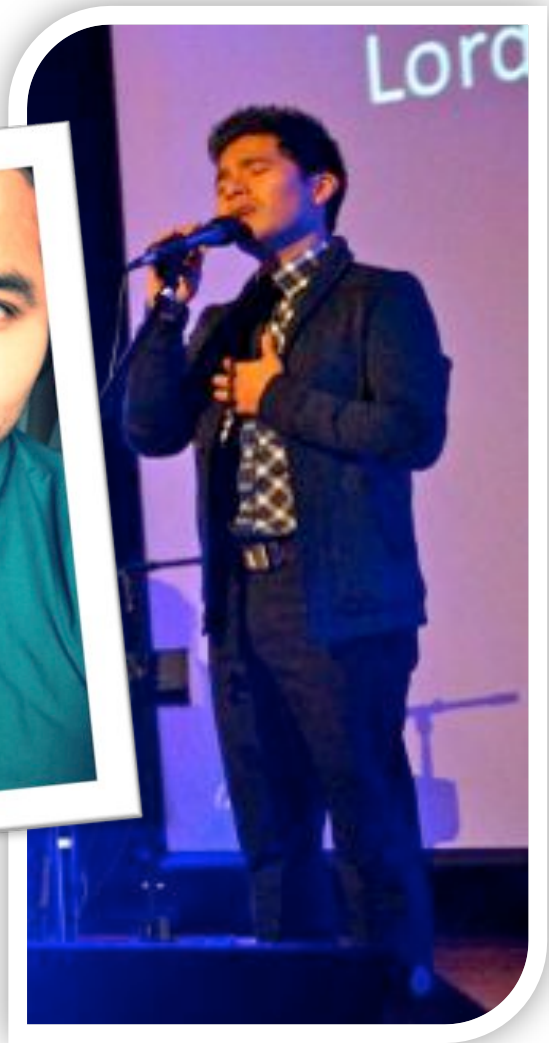
Actor & Sound
Designer



R. Mason Absher is a sound designer and actor originally hailing from Anderson, Indiana. He grew up there working in community and high school theatre companies and eventually went off to the university of Indianapolis to hone his craft. At Uindy he had the pleasure of working on *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel's Prince), *Spike Heels* (Sound Designer), *Leading Ladies* (Duncan), *There's A Burglar in my Bed* (Sound Designer) and the original musical *Shame* (Roger Chillingworth). The *Native Hoosier* has moved to Waukegan, because of its strategic location between Milwaukee and Chicago. His sound designs are eclectic yet delightfully specific to each piece. As an actor he brings his own instincts and choices with sensitivity to the needs of a director.

Benito Gomez Jr.

Vocalist & Musician



"If you don't share your talent with people, God will take away your voice", were the words that encouraged Benito to perform for the very 1st time. He has since performed at many events both as a soloist and with small ensembles. His most recent musical accomplishment was making it through to the 2nd round of auditions for the popular TV show, The Voice, earlier this year. He is eager to continue his journey as a musician at ArtSpace and cannot wait to see what the future holds for him.

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YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/gomezlyoko?feature=watch>
&
<http://www.youtube.com/user/ALMStudios85>

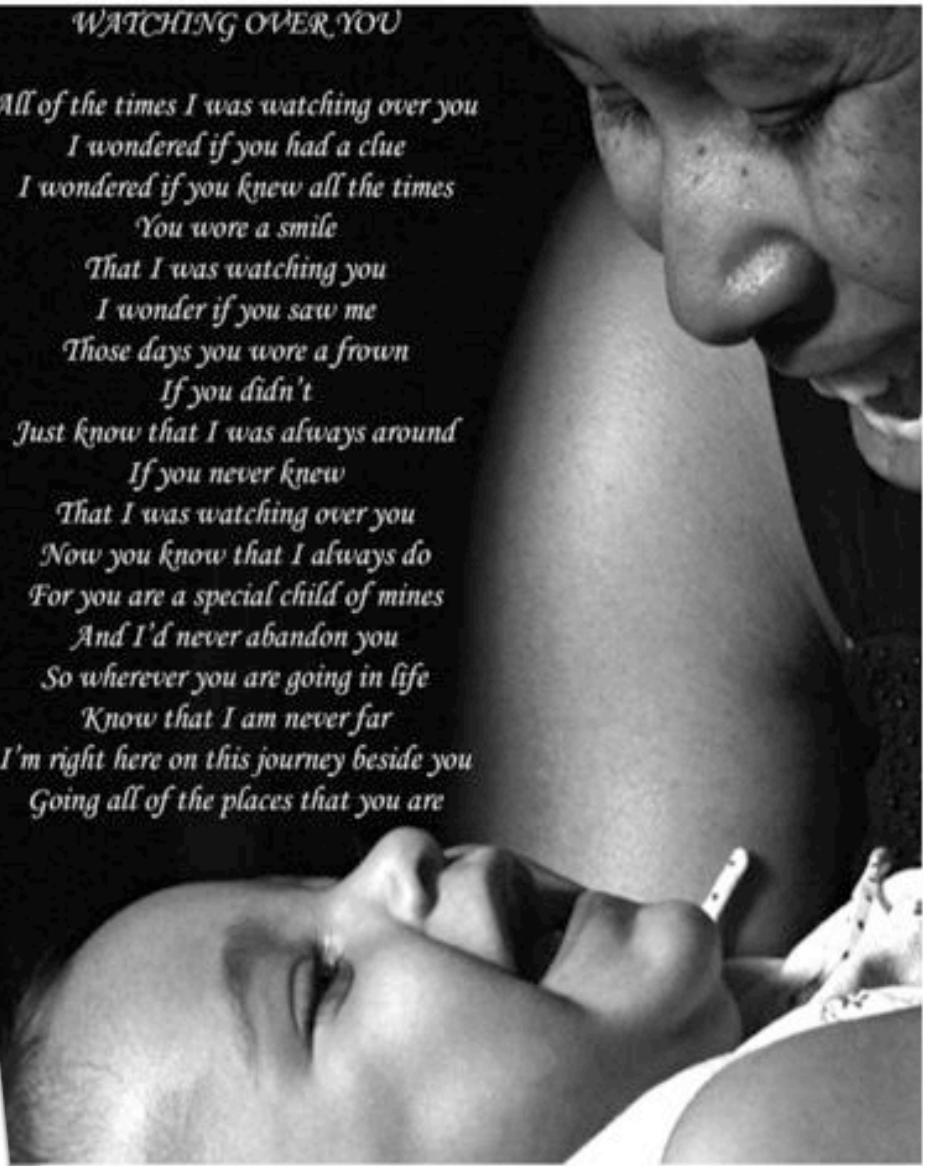
Nina Nicole

Poet



WATCHING OVER YOU

*All of the times I was watching over you
I wondered if you had a clue
I wondered if you knew all the times
You wore a smile
That I was watching you
I wonder if you saw me
Those days you wore a frown
If you didn't
Just know that I was always around
If you never knew
That I was watching over you
Now you know that I always do
For you are a special child of mine
And I'd never abandon you
So wherever you are going in life
Know that I am never far
I'm right here on this journey beside you
Going all of the places that you are*



Nina Nicole started writing poetry and short stories when she was a young teen as a way of expressing her feelings. After winning various local competitions, she decided that she wanted to perform and started attending open mics and literary sessions. In 2002, she saw a fellow poet perform and it changed what she thought was her vision of poetry. She was so taken away by his performance that she finally knew that she was ready to go to the next level of her writing and performing. She has performed in Chicago, Indiana, Wisconsin and Florida, and hopes that she can continue to add to the list. She currently volunteers at the Jack Benny Center for Arts teaching the Written Word to Spoken Word, for youth workshop. She will be teaching an adult class starting in the fall. One goal that she has for the year is to finish a short book of monologues that she wants to bring to the stage at one of the theaters here in Waukegan. In addition to being a writer/performer, she is a mother and a student.

Contact Nina: ngcustombeauty@gmail.com



AB

Alan Blair

Has worked professionally in advertising,
marketing, consumerization and the internet.
His work covers - oil - watercolor - mixed
media - sculpture - construction - jewelry -
photography - poetry - video - graphics -
music

ab.kas@gs.ablair.com



Evan Ford

Graphic Designer,
Illustrator & Animator



Evan Ford is an illustrator and animator living in Artspace lofts. Evan is a Waukegan Native and recently graduated from Warren Township High School. He also recently received second place for his illustrations in advertising and design in the national talent competition, SKILS USA. Evan has created comics under his pen name and brand, Frollipop. He also runs a YouTube page where he posts speed-drawings of his artwork. Evan exhibits his work in Galleries around Waukegan as well as on the art site, Deviant art. He is influenced by many things and continues to work to expand his fan base and inspire people with his work.
Contact: frollipop@gmail.com

Julian H. Dunning

Musician,
Visual Artist



Julian is a visual artist and Musician and soon to be Karcher resident as he is coming to live with his mother and start his senior year of High School at Waukegan High. Julian dabbles in all art forms but has gained the most notoriety from his production of Dubstep music, a branch of Electronica that is defined by its overwhelming bass drops. Julian is very interested in sound production and engineering as a possible career. Recently he hosted his first major podcast at a professional recording and broadcast studio with the help of his comedian and cohost, Ian Gutoskie. Julian looks forward to a life filled with creativity and inspiration and is eager to gain more knowledge in his areas of interest.

To Listen to Julian's Music:

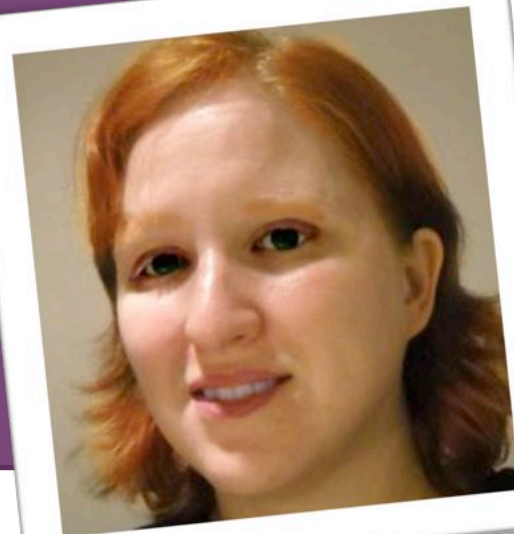
www.facebook.com/Juliandunningbeats

Heather Crain

Poet &

Mixed

Media Artist



A life-long writer, Heather Crain earned her M.A. in English from the University of Arkansas before moving to Illinois to settle in Waukegan. Her poetry and non-fiction articles have been published in several journals and newspapers. Heather also incorporates her writing into her love of visual arts by combining words with photography, painting, digital media, and more. Heather is an assistant editor for a local art magazine and currently is working on her first book of poetry for publication.

March, Lakeside

*Strong gusts blow in from
the shore,
crisping damp hair, making
people scurry
for their vehicles and
their hearths.*

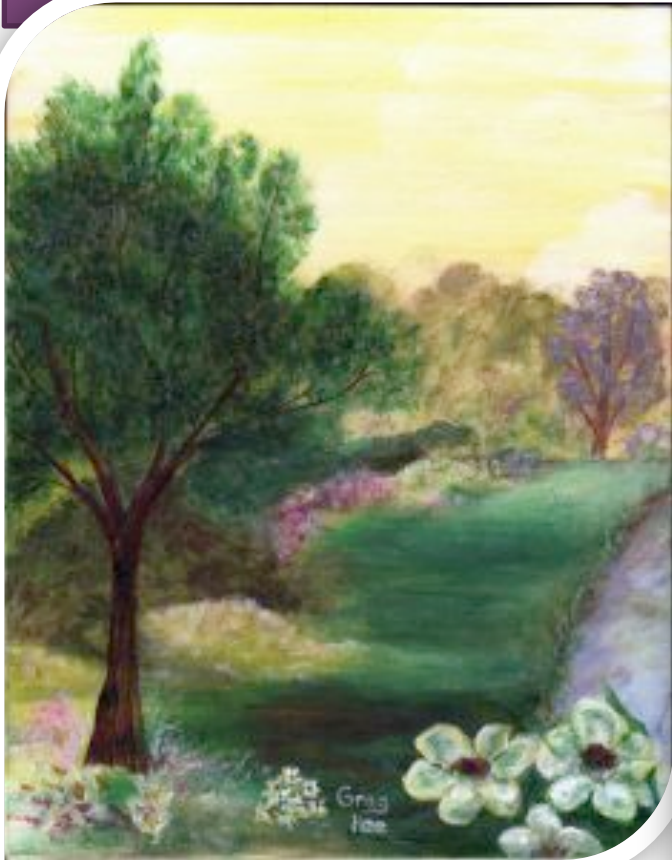
*There is more spring to
the wind than warmth
as it leaches the pleasure
out of sunlight,
casting the land in the
pall of winter's dying
gasp,*

*a melancholic start to a
new year.*

Heather can be contacted by email at: url337@gmail.com

Greg Kee

Painter

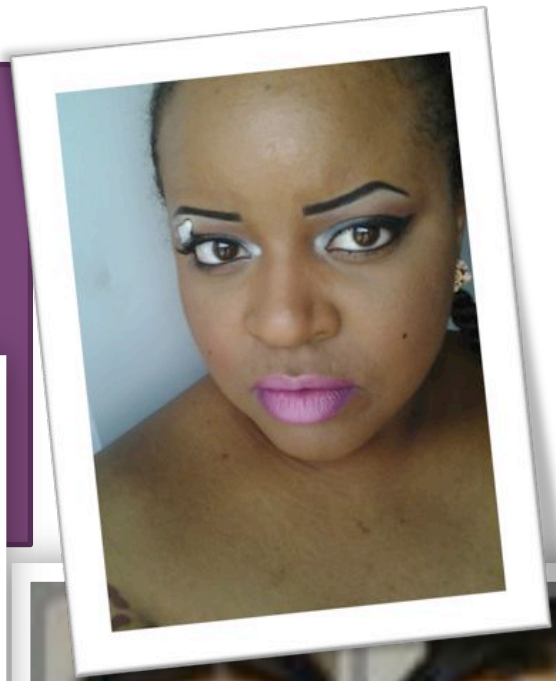


Greg's art is continuously changing. He is always trying something new. Currently his paintings are tending toward a lot of detail. He usually tries to get a look and feel of a photograph. As his painting matures he hopes to add a touch of impressionism. His studio gallery will be open to the public during the opening.

Greg can be contacted at: greykee@aol.com

Jatera Hooks

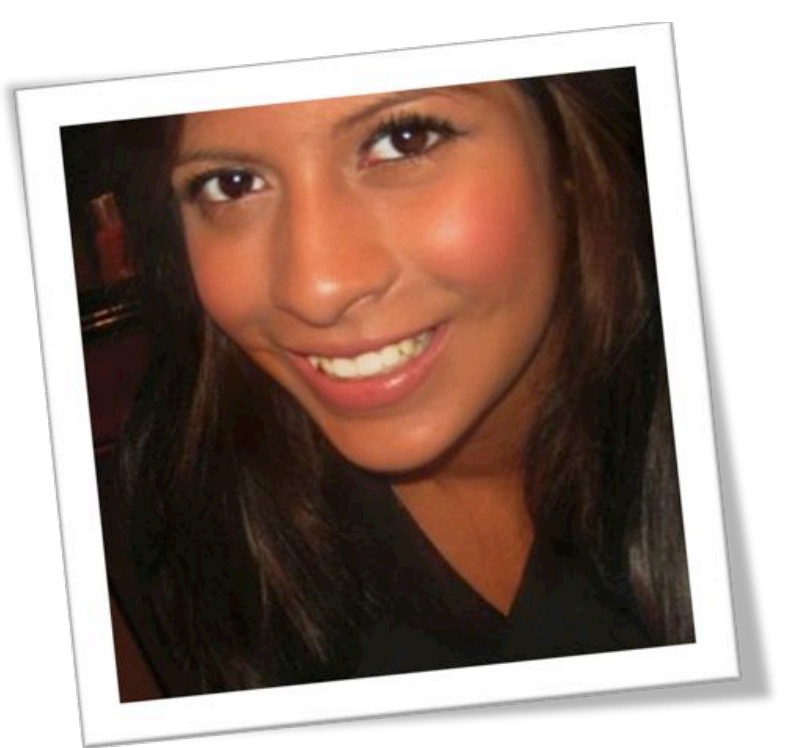
Makeup artist



Jatera Hooks is a freelance makeup artist. She specializes in "makeup art", where she takes an everyday picture or painting and converts it into eye makeup. Most of her work is totally freehand, not stenciled, so she takes pride in rendering all the little details. While she can create a very dramatic look, she is a full service make-up artist and has extensive experience with soft bridal looks, family photo shoots, fashion shows etc. She has experience in numerous lighting situations from runway to theatre to print. No matter the age, skin tone or style, Jatera delivers a stellar look.

Facebook: [hooked byhooks](#) Instagram: [hookedbyhooks](#) Cell: 8475213077

Sandy Panchi



Born in Mexico City and raised in Waukegan, Illinois, Sandy Panchi, 24, has been singing for twenty years. She was inspired to sing and create art when she first heard her late uncle, Luis Panchi, and his daughter, Elizabeth, sing at church. Since then, Sandy has been singing at different churches throughout Waukegan, Chicago, and Milwaukee.

Sandy hopes that through music she can bring people to God. She continues to sing contemporary Christian music at her church and you can hear her sounds at New Remnant Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Waukegan.

She can be contacted at panchisandy@yahoo.com and 224.619.4558

Cindy Cudworth Poet



Lake Michigan
Your dark blue and light green water
is magnificent
and huge and inviting
I look at you out of my window and
you're so exciting and relaxing
And then the sun shines on my peaceful mind.
Now I see a boat
Moving across the green water
And it leaves white waves behind it
I look into the beautiful green water
Full of calm cool waves
The sun hits my face
I'm in a good mood today. ~Cindy Cudworth

Cindy is a native of North Chicago Il. She wrote her first poem at 11 about her first love. This started her journey and love of spoken word. In high school she won 8 trophies in spoken word and travelled all over Illinois reading. As an adult Cindy has been published in numerous books, articles and other publications most notable being the library of Congress and the National Library of Poetry. "As a poet Artspace has helped me organized poetry nights. Poetry is an important way to state your ideas about life. I talk a lot about women's issues. I make a lot of statements about things I believe. I see that with a lot of poets, there is a common voice. It's a voice that needs to be heard. "Cindy

Cassandra Ellwing

Actress & Singer

Cassandra is a Company Member with Clockwise Theatre in downtown Waukegan, just blocks away from ArtSpace. As Clockwise's Company Stage Manager, she can usually be found backstage or at the booth. Past Clockwise experiences include stage manager and board operator for *The Long Awaited*, *Palmer Park*, *Cars and Quinceaneras*, and *The Party in the Kitchen* and costume designer, assistant stage manager and sound board operator for *Courting Vampires*. She also appeared briefly onstage as Sandra Langley in *Soul Sisters* this past Fall. Originally an Education major, Cassandra switched majors after being cast in her first college show, *Talley & Son*. Cassandra graduated in May 2011 with her B.A. in Theatre from Lincoln College and was Vice President of the Alpha Psi Omega Honor Society on campus. She has appeared onstage as Greta in Clockwise's readings of *Six Fights on a Summer's Night* and in numerous roles for *A Holiday Event to Cherish*, both by Madelyn Sergel. Cassandra performed in numerous productions at Lincoln College including *Fuddy Meers* (Gertie), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Beatrice), *The Odd Couple* (female version) (Olive Madison), and *Antigone: The Burial at Thebes* (Antigone). Cassandra also received Lincoln College's Best Actress Award (2011) and Performing Arts Award (2008). She has experience in costume design, set construction, directing, marketing, and dramaturgy. Cassandra has been singing since the 3rd grade when she joined the Red Rose Children's Choir of Lake County and has been a part of the Midwest Young Artists, Mundelein Lights Show Choir, and many different collegiate choirs. Choral performance experience includes classical, chamber, gospel, and jazz. While she is a Clockwise Company member year round, during the school year she is also a Teaching Assistant for moderate to severe profound special needs children and experiences the healing power of all art forms with them. During the summer, she stage-manages at Six Flags Great America. Cassandra is so grateful to ArtSpace for allowing her such a wonderful place to pursue her art and such a great community of people to live with.



Colie Waltemate Musician



Colie Waltemate, a native Waukeganite, was first inspired by music when her Mother bought her a little keyboard for Christmas when she was 10. After realizing her talent, she bought Colie her first real piano at the age for 12 and started her on piano lessons.

She developed a love for classical piano and poetry at a very young age, which she attributes to her strengths in songwriting. Colie sings, plays, writes and performs with her band the Damn Dicks and still takes piano lessons religiously. "To me it signifies being around other people who are similar to me but also keep an open mind to seeing what other people can bring to make me a better artist. It's also just fun to see

How many different forms of arts are represented." ~ Colie

Contact Info:

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Peter LaMantia

Craftsman
Artist



Peter LaMantia enjoys working with his hands and is a one-of-a-kind artist here at Karcher Artspace Lofts. He enjoys leatherworking, sculpting, painting, wood crafting and drawing. He came to live at Karcher by chance. He was on his way to deliver a form for another apartment complex when he stumbled upon the historic building. He felt it was fate that brought him here being an artist looking for a place to express his creativity and put a roof over his head. Peter is a person best described to go along with the flow and when chance presents itself he will take it. He loves to create what we would view as art but he feels he doesn't just create things; he creates from within himself and expresses what is inside. "This is how we express ourselves, that is why people who dislike art make fun of us because they are jealous that we can be so open and not hide what we are." Peter LaMantia is still young and has a long bright future ahead of him.

Pedro Salazar

Photographer

Fashion Designer



Pedro is a Waukegan native. At a young age, Pedro was inspired to create art. At home with seven siblings and a single mother, it was hard for his family to provide any luxuries. Pedro used economy of means to design accessories and custom shoes growing up so he always had his own style/trend. Pedro has also modeled with well-known Chicago photographers such as GOYK and PANDA & KAMILA. After modeling for a few months in San Diego at the Casa Blanca modeling agency, Pedro was motivated to get behind the lens. This gave him creative license to design and edit photo shoots his own way. He started by taking pictures of family and was soon booking professional gigs. Pedro uses Waukegan as the source of his inspiration. He is always looking for new locations. Pedro feels that Karcher Artspace is the perfect place for creative people like himself to share their ideas and experiences to create new projects and opportunities for Waukegan.

Contact Pedro: pedrowsalazar@gmail.com

Verde Harper Floral and Interior Designer



Verde Harper, a Chicago native started painting at 3 years old. She painted half her life until she lost interest and decided to explore other avenues. She went to the University of Illinois in Champagne/Urbana for a degree in Business. Verde worked in the business sector for many years and continued her creative pursuits as a hobby. Upon purchasing her own home she was inspired to start decorating and keeping a garden. She loved gardening so much so she decided to bring her garden into her home through Floral Arrangements. She started adding Eclectic accents and gained wide popularity with her friends, coworkers and more. Her interior designs and floral soon became a commodity and she began to get a lot of referrals and made it into a business. Verde still dabbles in floral and Interior design as a small business for friends and family. "I feel that Artspace is very important to have in the community especially for young people. " ~ Verdie Harper

David Carter

Cartoonist, Voice Over Actor



David Carter was born in Cleveland, Ohio in December of 1975. He lived there most of his life until 2002 when he decided to move to Los Angeles. His cousin Chris Stokes, a movie/music producer helped him to pursue new professional avenues start his creative journey. He first started working with Orlando Brown on the set of the TV sitcom "That's So Raven." Also, he worked with Imani Hakim from the TV show "Everybody Hates Chris." Later, he was a talent coordinator for his Uncle Jarvee Hutcherson, the president of the Multicultural Motion Picture Association/American Society of Young Musicians. After being around the entertainment industry, he decided to do something special for children as well as making people laugh. This inspired him to learn how to make cartoon videos, animations, and voiceovers. Last year, after moving to Chicago David made a video for Jackson Green at the "Make A Wish Foundation/Applebee's." Jackson and his family came into Applebee's and watched the video, as he received all of his gifts from Applebee's. David Carter has made cartoon videos that have been used for commercials of restaurants and videos for special celebrations. He moved into the Karcher Artspace earlier this year and continues to grow with his creative process. Being at Karcher inspires David to pursue his arts continue his passion, making people laugh with cartoons and voiceovers. "There is nothing better than the feeling you get seeing someone smile."

*Thank you
for coming
to support
us.*

Graphics, Editing and Layout by Cara Dunning: caradunning@gmail.com

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Special thanks to little Fort Media for printing our book.

artspace

The Nation's Partner in Arts-Driven Community Transformation

- > Artspace is the nation's leading real estate developer for the arts.
- > Our mission is to create, foster and preserve affordable space for artists and arts organizations.
- > Artspace has developed, owns and operates 33 projects throughout the U.S., representing a \$500 million investment in America's arts infrastructure.
- > For more information: artspace.org.

The artists and residents of Karcher Artspace Lofts would like to give a special thanks to Ludwig and Company and their wonderful staff for their continued support of our creative community.

“I’ve been
absolutely
terrified
every moment
of my life...”

- Georgia O’Keefe



Supporting the Arts
LUDWIG
AND COMPANY