



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Epiphany Center for the Arts Presents *Identity: Perspectives on Y(OUR)selves***  
*Extensive group exhibition, created as part of Thresholds' Creative Arts Therapy Program during the COVID-19 pandemic, runs until Sunday, September 12, 2021*



**CHICAGO (August 9, 2021)** – [Epiphany Center for the Arts](https://www.epiphanycenterforthearts.org/) today announced the opening of *Identity: Perspectives on Y(OUR)selves*, an extensive group exhibition of artwork created during the COVID-19 pandemic as part of [Thresholds' Creative Arts Therapy Program](https://www.thresholds.org/). The exhibition features a variety of media, including painting, sculpture, collage and photography, and runs until Sunday, September 12, 2021 in Epiphany's Chase Gallery.

"We are thrilled to support Thresholds' Creative Arts Therapy team, and showcase the important work they do with artists suffering from mental illness and substance use," said Aaron Baker, Epiphany's director of art & programming. "This beautiful exhibition explores the meaning of identity and community, as seen through the lens of the COVID-19 pandemic, and is a touching representation of the artists' personal journeys during these unprecedented times."

Thresholds' Creative Arts Therapy Program provides innovative behavioral health care that promotes empowerment, well-being and full participation in community life through art therapy. Through a series of virtual workshops, art therapists asked the artists in this exhibition to explore the concept of personal identity and how they fit into their communities, and encouraged them to examine personal values, strengths, abilities and community sociograms. All of the work in *Identity: Perspectives on Y(OUR)selves* was created during the pandemic, which shaped the artists' perspectives on belonging and community. In a similar way, each art therapist was asked to consider their role in the mental health field and the work they do with clients. The fiber tapestry included in this exhibition is a response from each art therapist, representing their own growth and resiliency during the past year and a half, through their own creative language.

“Art therapy is an integrative mental health field that allows a vital and dynamic form of community and self-expression through active art making. Our artists build insight through developing and sharing their creative work,” says Claire Slater, team leader of Thresholds’ Creative Arts Therapy Program. “We are thrilled to showcase their work in this exhibition, exploring the ways each artist has found connection and support in their Chicago communities.”

Artwork featured in *Identity: Perspectives on Y(OUR)selves* is available for purchase, with all proceeds directly supporting Thresholds and its artists. The exhibition is free and open to the public. To schedule a viewing or inquire about the artwork, please contact [art@epiphanychi.com](mailto:art@epiphanychi.com).

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#### **About Epiphany Center for the Arts**

Conceived with the vision to return Epiphany to a place for people to congregate, the shuttered, historic Church of the Epiphany has been preserved and adapted into the Epiphany Center for the Arts, an iconic cultural hub “For the Good of Art, Entertainment and Events.” Thoughtfully designed, the exemplary 42,000-square-foot campus located on the artsy edge of Chicago’s West Loop neighborhood boasts three distinct venues (Epiphany Hall, The Sanctuary and The Chase House) and a stunning array of amenities. The campus also features eight galleries that serve as a platform for a diverse selection of artists from Chicago and beyond. Epiphany’s exhibitions showcase the work of women, the LGBTQIA community, artists of color, and the disability culture. Epiphany’s top priority is to curate programming that is inclusive, while providing a place established artists can collaborate with emerging ones. Epiphany’s programming serves to unite community and artists alike while “Bringing Chicago Together.” Visit [www.epiphanychi.com](http://www.epiphanychi.com) to learn more.

#### **About Thresholds**

[Thresholds](#) is one of Illinois’ oldest and largest community-based providers of mental health and substance use treatment. Thresholds supports individuals through community outreach and integrated health opportunities. Through unwavering community-based engagement, support and advocacy, Thresholds helps people living with mental health and substance use conditions find home, health, hope and their own creative languages. This exhibition is a reflection of the importance of community to Thresholds’ clients, staff and the work they do.