# The Puzzle Art Installation & Collaborative Project

"There are no extra pieces of the universe. Everyone is here because he or she has a place to fill, and every piece must fit itself into the big jigsaw puzzle (of life)." - Deepak Chopra





# What is the Puzzle Art Installation & Collaborative Project?

#### The "Puzzle Project" consists of thousands of 24"x 24" artistic puzzle pieces created in more than 20 states and 10 countries. The puzzle pieces are assembled together into a massive jigsaw puzzle art installation.

People of all ages from corporations, galleries, museums, arts groups, schools and non-profit organizations have created puzzle artwork to help form this historic collaboration. It is a simple way for each of us to express ourselves or tell a story with art.

You don't have to be an artist to participate. There are no rules to how you make your puzzle piece. Like each of us, every puzzle piece is different. Together they create a large meaningful piece of collaborative art that is like nothing ever seen or exhibited.

www.puzzleartproject

#### The Puzzle Project offers each participant a multi-level creative experience:

**EXPRESS YOURSELF:** Each participant has their own individual creative experience making meaningful puzzle art. You can make your puzzle piece any way or about anything YOU want.

**COLLABORATE WITH OTHERS:** Artists work together and enjoy a shared creative experience. Businesses and organizations utilize the Puzzle Project for team building. Support groups utilize it for healing.

**BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIG:** Participants become part of something big by sending their jigsaw art to NYC to join the thousands of puzzle pieces from around the world in the massive collaborative installation.

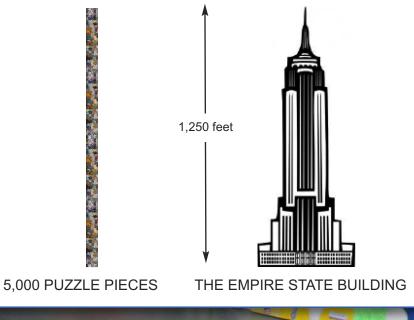


# The Puzzle Project Goal

Assemble the thousands of artistic puzzle pieces into a massive jigsaw puzzle art installation in New York City.

#### **How Massive?**

If we assemble 5,000 pieces 9 feet wide (six puzzle pieces across), stacked up, the installation would stand 1,250 feet high. For context, the Empire State Building stands 1,250 feet tall. We have more than 10,000 unique artistic puzzle pieces at our disposal. We could add another 5,000+ puzzle pieces to this dynamic art installation as it continuously grows until our massive NYC exhibition event.





## Each Puzzle Piece is Someone's Story

**Examples of Individual pieces.** Every piece is different, just like us.



















# You Cannot Make Your Piece Wrong

Examples of Individual pieces.











67-2004











# **Collaboration is a Beautiful Thing**

#### Examples of group puzzle art making.















**Corporate Team Building Workshops.** It fits most every group and the analogies and metaphors that can be made between the Puzzle Project, employees, work and life are endless.









More than 100 SurfTaco employees created puzzle art together as a holiday team building activity















Employees from The Marcus Buckingham Company made puzzle art about their *StandOut Strengths*. The pieces are exhibited at their office on Wilshire Blvd in Beverly Hills, CA







#### Team Building Workshops.









The Keegan Theatre (in Dupont Circle, Washington DC) participated in the Puzzle Project after the matinee performance of "Working." Along with family & friends, artists sat together on stage or alone in seats and made puzzle art.





Soulpowered in San Francisco, CA made puzzle art as a team building activity.









#### Arts Groups are a very natural fit with the Puzzle Project. Fine arts organizations are always looking

for fun collaborative project and tend to completely embrace and really run with this project.



Art Connect New York Soho, NYC



**Reaves Gallery** Chelsea, NYC



Monroe Center for the Arts Hoboken, NJ



inRivers Art Space Greenpoint, Brooklyn NYC







The Queens Museum of Art Queens, NYC



Middletown Arts Center Middletown, NJ



**Fine Arts Blount** Merriville, TN



Universities, high schools, elementary schools and after-school programs from across the country and around the world have participated in the Puzzle Project.



**Healing Arts Workshops.** Many support groups have utilized the Puzzle Project for healing. The fun, safe, non-threatening creative environment makes for an effective outlet for expression & catharsis. It works.



Art is Good for The David S. Zocchi Brain Tumor Center



Camp Jinka, an award winning camp for kids & teens from the brain tumor support community



MC&OC Brain Tumor Support Group



The Valerie Oncology Center





www.CompassionateFriends.com





JSAS (methadone treatment facility)

**SPECIAL Needs Puzzle Artists.** Artists with learning & behavioral problems really get art and the Puzzle Project. They are some of the most focused & motivated participants in our world-wide collaboration. They are SPECIAL indeed.



**The Puzzle Project and the YMCA.** The YMCA in Brooklyn provided Art is Good puzzle making workshops to four of its after-school programs in Greenpoint & Williamsburg. We assembled all of the 300+ YMCA puzzle pieces together as an exhibit at their Strong Kids Kickoff event. It was a hit.



**Families connect during the Puzzle Project.** One of the artsolutely best parts of the Puzzle Project is when families make art together. Parents regularly tell me that they had an amazing creative experience with their family making their puzzle piece. The beautiful stories are countless (see book). Families often ask for more blank puzzle pieces.



**Seniors make meaningful art.** The workshops we have done with older adults have been personally some of the most inspiring of the Puzzle Project. They are grateful and motivated to say something meaningful about life on their puzzle piece. Seniors make great jigsaw art (and conversation).



### **Testimonials**

# The Puzzle Project is all about collaboration. We believe that making art with others is a beautiful thing. See what participants had to say about the Puzzle Art Installation & Collaborative Project:

"Art Connects New York (ACNY) is delighted to be working with The Puzzle Project! The Project offers a rare and rich combination that generates individual achievement—no matter the puzzle worker's level of art expertise—and group involvement. As a "drop-off" site, ACNY repeatedly experiences the anticipation of individuals coming in to pick up blank puzzle pieces. Even more wonderful is the infectious enthusiasm they bring back with them along with their finished pieces.

ACNY's first Puzzle Project workshop was nothing short of remarkable! Some 30 people arrived ready to create puzzle pieces, and did they ever! The room took on a quiet, happy intensity as work went into the widest possible variety of images: a detailed pencil drawing of John Lennon, collaged hearts, painted ghosts, music sheets dancing off their pieces—each finished puzzle piece its own unique creation. The puzzle piece artists, ranging in age from about 6 to 70, while intent on their own work were ultimately interested in what everyone else was doing. By the end of the evening dozens of new pieces lined the Spattered Columns Exhibition Space—and even covered some of our windows—while conversation among participants was lively.

As a partner, the Puzzle Project supports and extends ACNY's mission to make original artwork available to New Yorkers in non-traditional ways. The Puzzle Project is masterful in using the great powers of art to build community, encourage dialogue and add unexpected beauty to our world. We're proud to be a partner!"

Jamie Johnson Founder, Art Connects New York





### **Testimonials**

#### continued:

"Our club finally had the workshop with our Balboa Naval Hospital. The group I specifically worked with was a small unit of patients suffering from PTSD. At first I wasn't sure we were going to have the workshop as there were a few who were not in an 'art' type of spirit, but as soon as they sat at the table they were smiling and really enjoying themselves. Their director was so pleased we were able to provide an activity like this and it's all because of YOU and your wonderful art movement! It was a very rewarding experience for all. However, because of policies regarding patients privacy I was unfortunately not able to take photos during the puzzle art making workshop, but am looking forward to sending you their finished pieces the end of this month".

#### Kathryn Curd

Navy Wives Clubs of America, Coronado, CA

"Tim and his crew brought out the best in our participants during the Puzzle Project. They gave basic ideas and instruction, walked around looking over shoulders, answered questions and helped resolve artistic challenges while instilling a passion for art and self expression. Tim and his team are dynamic, inspirational and charming. Our artists loved them and have made the commitment to attend other puzzle project workshops. The final puzzle is hanging in our entry foyer and looks amazing. We've received a wonderful response from the community."

Stephenie Acosta, Veronica Stevens & Janice Campbell Monmouth County Library





### **Testimonials**

#### continued:

"I am pleased that we met Tim and his great puzzle project. My children love it and they can't get enough of it. They express themselves through art. They had an opportunity to put anything they wanted on their puzzle piece and they were very excited to be part of this. The parents of the children love this project as well, and are glad that Tim is doing this with the YMCA."

Karina Montoya, YMCA

"I'm still smiling from the experience of participating in the Art is Good puzzle making workshop yesterday afternoon! What a wonderful opportunity to bring people together to make art, while also providing a safe place to talk about feelings and thoughts that might come up related to their individual experiences of being affected by brain tumors in some way. It was a delight meeting you, as well as the others who were helping on site. Thank you again for everything you are doing with this unique puzzle project!"

Nancy Conn-Levin, M.A. Health Educator (and 13-year brain tumor survivor) Co-founder/Facilitator, Monmouth and Ocean County Brain Tumor Support.





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Planning Sheet



Don't just make SOMETHING on your puzzle piece... make something MEANINGFUL TO YOU.

Project brought to you by



www.timkellyartist.com



www.puzzleartproject.com

Notes: