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Community-based Art and the Prison Arts Collective

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California State University, San Bernardino

August 2, 2016



A University and Prison Collaboration

Community-based Art: Prison Arts Collective is dedicated to collaborating to facilitate creative arts and writing in prisons. We are committed to supporting the development of self-expression, reflection, communication, and empathy.

We believe in the capacity of art to expand make a difference in how we see and understand ourselves and the world around us.

We currently facilitate weekly programs in three California state prisons: California Institution for Men (CIM), California Institution for Women (CIW), and Los Angeles County State Prison, Los Angeles County (LAC). Currently, we have approximately 140 inmate participants in these weekly programs.

What I took from this experience is that
“I can do anything if I put my mind to it.”

—Participant, California Institution for Women (CIW)

I learned that we can all come together and learn from
each other, without judgment.

—Participant, California Institution for Women (CIW)

Office of Student Research Summer Research Grant Recipients, 2015 and 2016

- ▶ In CBA: Prison Arts Collective, students, alumni, and volunteers facilitate art at three state prisons. One vital part of our research is to co-facilitate these weekly programs, including teaching in the prisons and organizing materials and resources.

- ❖ In addition, the OSR Summer Research Grants afford us the time to expand on the work we are doing including:

2015:

- a) Further develop the organizational structure for the PAC
- b) Support with research for a new online publication, Radical Actions: From Teaching Artists to Social Practice.
- b) Reflection and Assessment

2016:

- a) A facilitator training for those interested in teaching in the prison art program, both for inmate and outside facilitators.
- b) Researching other prison and higher ed programs and prison arts programs.
- c) Research and investigation about best practices to establishing a certificate and/or BA program in prisons.















Through the Wall Prison Arts Collective

MAY 14 - MAY 29, 2016
CB-G Gallery, Los Angeles



Branscombe, *Prison Scape*, 2016, Painting, 16 X 36 inches







Thank you!