



Community  
Driven  
Artist Led

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CINCINNATI, OH  
December 20th, 2024

## **Wave Pool opens an exhibition featuring the work of Visionaries + Voices staff members**

As part of her final curated show at Wave Pool, former Director of Exhibitions Maria Seda-Reeder says she wanted to leave the gallery with an exhibition that evinces her beliefs about artists as agents for progressive social change.

“Visionaries + Voices artist studios are some of my favorite art-going spaces in the city,” she says. “I have never failed to find inspiration from the artists working in their studios, and the artists helping to *run* their studios are just as remarkable. It felt like the right time to shine a light on the work that they do on behalf of their own artistic practice.” The resulting exhibition, which opens the second Saturday in January, is a demonstration of that commitment to care and service that V+V staff maintains.

When artists enter into relationships of service towards the creative needs and human circumstances of *other* artists, (as these fourteen artists and staff members of Visionaries + Voices do for their jobs,) the process by which their own artwork is produced—even what their work communicates—can be profoundly impacted.

When faced with the question, “Do you make art as a way of moving *through* life’s difficulties, or as a way to transcend *out* it?” most artists likely answer both.

And for these professional studio artists who spend the bulk of their days in service to the creative endeavors of *other* artists, the pressure to sustain one’s own daily studio practice can be akin to the professional chef who eats a bowl of cereal for dinner, after cooking all day.

Likewise, the artists on staff at V+V perhaps have valid excuses to not feel motivated to create. However, the stunning work included in this exhibition—from drawings and illustrations, painting and sculpture, to textile and multimedia creations—demonstrate the ongoing commitment these creatives have to continuing to make art. Despite the myriad of reasons life provides us with, not to do so.

Wave Pool will host two receptions for *Out & Through*. The first, a V+V Artists-specific Opening Reception, with food and drinks to celebrate with artists from the studios; and the subsequent opening, on the Second Saturday in January, which will be open to the public.



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The work included in *Out & Through* demonstrates the ways in which art has the capacity to alchemize hardship into beauty through various means.

Thankfully, one does not have to limit themselves to the confines of an either / or approach. As in art—and perhaps all of life—diversity lends a richness of experience and perspectives.

After all, oftentimes the only way out is through.

*Out & Through: a V+V staff show* will be on view from January 11th through March 1st, 2025.

This exhibition is generously supported by Diane Fishbein.

### Participating Artists:

Karen Boyhen, Ron Brookbank, Courtney Combs-Mock, Geoffrey “Skip” Cullen, Missy D’Angelo, Lizzy Duquette, Luke Findley, Dawn Hanlin, Sophie Harrison, Seana Higgins, Tory Keith, Morgan McKnight, Robyn Winkler, and Drew Yakscoe.

### IF YOU GO:

**What:** Opening Reception, *Out & Through*

**When:** Saturday, January 11th, 2025, 5-7 PM

**Where:** Wave Pool, 2940 Colerain Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45225

**Admission:** FREE, open to the public

For more information or further questions about *Out & Through: a V+V staff show*, email Skip Cullen at [skipcullen19@gmail.com](mailto:skipcullen19@gmail.com).

### Attached Images Credit:

1. Sophie Harrison, “All I Think About is You” (2021). Cotton fabric, Sequins, felted wool, glass beads, and thread.
2. Karen Boyhen, “Drawing from the V+V studio” (2024). Ink on paper.

***Wave Pool creates community fulfillment through artistic opportunities.***

Wave Pool is a socially-engaged art center that acts as a conduit for community change through artist opportunities and support. Pairing communities’ knowledge of their needs with artists’ sense of possibility, Wave Pool provides a structure whereby contemporary art and artists can be integral contributors to the fabric and success of our city, country, and beyond, by helping us



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build relationships and collective knowledge around complex issues, centering the insights and experience of those most intimately affected.

[www.wavepoolgallery.org](http://www.wavepoolgallery.org)