

# Drawing on Our Legacy, Shaping Our Future



**At Gage Academy of Art, we believe that artists are made, not born.**

And, that high-quality art education is an essential part of a strong, flourishing community. Join us as we extend the reach of our mission and reshape the way Gage interacts with our community.

## The Gage Next Level Campaign

The campaign supports moving our main campus into a new highly accessible South Lake Union (SLU) space positioned at street-level. Additionally, it **strengthens** our artistic and administrative team, our infrastructure, and our tuition assistance program. Your participation in this Next Level Campaign enables us to bring high-quality art programming and experiences to an even broader, more inclusive community.

**Join us in shaping our future.** The strategic move to SLU is the result of a two-year analysis developed by the board of directors, staff leadership and key Gage advisors to ensure the organization's future stability, growth and expand its reach.

**In the process, these core needs for Gage next level emerged:**

- To have more efficient, high-functioning spaces designed to best serve our visual arts instructors and students
- To be an integral part of the cultural fabric of Seattle in a more centralized location
- To have a more visible, public-facing location to showcase our artists' work
- To be closer to more public transportation options
- To be ADA accessible and up to date in all safety standards
- To have long-term lease stability

# Revitalizing Gage and Downtown Seattle with Strategic Partnerships

Our search for a new home was perfectly timed with current commercial market trends to garner a **win-win partnership** with Amazon as the owner of the leased space. Amazon worked closely with Gage to provide terms which made it possible for the school to take advantage of the high-quality space at 2105/2107 Westlake Avenue (intersection 8th and Westlake, one block from Amazon Spheres.)

## The benefits of this partnership include:

- Street-level retail space will be **activated as a creative hub**—a powerhouse district where arts thrive in coexistence with other sectors – tech, healthcare, higher education, and social services.
- Gage becomes part of a nationwide trend of **revitalizing downtown districts** through the integration of arts and experiences.
- Gage will have more opportunities to **co-create programming with SLU cultural district neighbors** including Cornish College of the Arts, MOHAI, SIFF's Cinerama and the Center for Wooden Boats.
- Gage reaps deep benefits of this new location and a **purpose-built space** (see "A Facility Built for Creativity and Connection").



Through the Gage Next Level Campaign, **our partnership with you** will strengthen the Seattle community, enable us to bring our high-quality arts education programming to a broader more inclusive population, and help us realize our long-term strategic plan for a thriving art school that is deeply connected in community.





”

**Gage Academy is boldly becoming a vision of the successful future of downtown Seattle and cities everywhere.**

Gage has long been an important community asset and its move to SLU will multiply the school's reach and positively impact our city and, in turn, that vibrancy will energize the school.”

-SCOTT WYATT, CONSULTING PARTNER NBBJ ARCHITECTS & GAGE STUDENT

# Campaign Pillars

Our campaign seeks to raise **\$2.5 million** from individuals, grant makers, corporations, and civic partners. The funds will support the costs of the physical relocation, key space enhancements, and targeted infrastructure and operation investments to better support our community and make Gage more accessible.



## A Facility Built for Connection and Creativity

An award-winning, nonprofit-focused team at the esteemed architectural firm NBBJ is designing this space. It embodies openness and accessibility through its centralized location and welcoming layout. **Exciting new features and amenities include:**

- **14,000 square feet** of studios, classrooms and spaces to house an event/lecture hall, a library, offices, and meetings
- A prominent corner building with **street-visible art galleries and studio space**
- Easy access to a wide range of **public transportation options**, onsite free or low-cost parking, charging stations, and secure bicycle parking
- A design **optimized for different approaches to learning**, including spaces for formal instruction, self-discovery, group dialogue and critique
- A **dedicated media room** with technology to record online classes and photograph student artwork
- New construction that is fully **ADA-compliant**, with modern air filtration, fire and safety features, and comfortable temperature control
- **Ample natural light** and adjustable lighting systems to meet artists' needs.







”

**Gage has been one of the great adventures of my life. It is an experience of participating within oneself and with the seen environment, of awakening the brain, through learning to draw and paint. No matter where one is in years or careers or experience, all one needs is the desire for discovery to enjoy what a class at Gage can offer.”**

**-ANNE, ADULT STUDENT**





## Vital Infrastructure Upgrades

In addition to funding the costs of the move and completion of the design and built environment, investments made by donors will allow Gage to:

- Ensure continued excellence in both instruction and operations by **investing in our teaching artists** and staff, providing competitive benefits and salaries, and professional development opportunities
- **Expand our reach**, both online and in-person, to Gage's excellent classes and programs through community partnerships
- **Successfully share our mission and tell our story** with a new, refreshed Gage brand
- Improve our ability to manage student registration and customer service, and connect with our supportive donors by adopting **secure, modern data management systems.**

**"The new space, together with improved administrative infrastructure, will ensure we can fulfill Gage's mission to educate, enrich and transform the community through the visual arts."**

**-CONNIE MAO, BOARD PRESIDENT, GAGE ACADEMY OF ART**



## Guaranteed Tuition Assistance

At Gage, we believe arts programming should be available to everyone in the community, regardless of age, experience, skill level, and economic means. The Gage Next Level Campaign will expand the allocation of tuition assistance committed in the annual budget so that no one is ever turned away due to their economic situation. This will be in addition to the named scholarships and many free and low-cost programs that Gage already offers.

**"No one should be turned away from Gage due to lack of financial resources. We need capacity funding to ensure robust tuition assistance is sustained and core to our operating budget."**

**-KATHLEEN ALLEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GAGE ACADEMY OF ART**



”

**I felt like I had people I could trust, which was a pretty foreign thing to me at the time. TAS is a place where everyone is accepted for who they are and encouraged to bring their most authentic, creative self into the room.”**

LAVENDER, FORMER TEEN ART STUDIO STUDENT / CURRENT TEEN ART STUDIO TEACHING ARTIST





# Help Us Reach Our Goal of \$2.5 Million

Your support is crucial for shaping Gage's future.

Together, we will take Gage to the next level through gifts and pledges of cash contributions, donor-advised funds, stock, securities, and more.

Learn  
More



Kathleen Allen, Executive Director  
[allen.k@gageacademy.org](mailto:allen.k@gageacademy.org) | 206.350.7890

## How Funds Will Be Invested

Tenant Improvements	Infrastructure: Database, Reserves	Talent: Artists & Staff	Tuition Assistance & Outreach
\$959,000	\$970,000	\$315,000	\$256,000

## How Funds Will Be Raised

Lead Gifts	Left to Raise
\$834,000	\$1,667,000

## Donor Recognition as Our Partners

As the design plans come into focus, so will the opportunities to recognize the profound investments made by both philanthropists and the broader community. They will include **named studios, classrooms, meeting rooms and public gathering spaces, as well as fixtures throughout the school, and a donor recognition area.** As you are our partner in this and we are still in the early stages of the campaign, we are open to your creative input!

## Gage by the Numbers

34

Years delivering art education excellence to the Seattle community

3,000

Students enrolled in classes every year

8,000

People attending community events, lectures and exhibits, many of which are free, annually

50,000

Adults trained in art classes over the past 34 years

7

Distinct ateliers for immersive, mentored training with an esteemed artist and a community of dedicated peers

600

13- to 18-year-olds engaging with art each year at our weekly free Teen Art Studios in three locations





”

**"Our process utterly transforms our drawing, how we understand what we see... We are able to see new things. Those new things inform our sculpture."**

**-MIKE MAGRATH, FACULTY CHAIR AND DIRECTOR OF SCULPTURE ATELIER**

# About Gage Academy of Art



At Gage Academy of Art, we believe artists are made, not born, and that high-quality accessible art education is an essential part of a strong, flourishing community. We offer a wide range of classes and events for beginning and experienced artists in painting, drawing, sculpting, printmaking, and digital media.

## Mission

Gage educates, enriches, and transforms our community through the visual arts.

## Vision

Gage envisions a world where the visual arts are valued as a vital human endeavor

## Art Education Values

- Gage subscribes to the belief that artists thrive under personal mentorship and skills-based studio instruction delivered by brilliant teaching artists.
- Gage welcomes curious newcomers, professional artists, working creatives, and/or retired passion-seekers.
- Gage values accessibility by providing free and low-cost lectures, demos, and community events, as well as scholarship and tuition assistance
- Gage subscribes to an all-inclusive model where everyone, regardless of race/ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, country of origin, physical or cognitive abilities, as well as cultural, political, religious, or other affiliations, can thrive in a vibrant and diverse learning environment.

**Gage is committed to Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion.** Gage adheres to the policies and practices conducive to a welcoming, diverse, inclusive, and accessible learning community by ensuring that differences are respected and encouraged. The pursuit of equity is rooted in serving a diverse community of students, instructors, staff, volunteers, and trustees. Our pursuit of inclusion means we strive to remove any physical and psychological barriers to promote the participation of all community members.

Learn more ► [gageacademy.org](https://gageacademy.org)





Terry Furchgott



Sandy Bricel Miller



Nicholas Enevoldsen



# About Gage Academy of Art



## Adult Programs

**ATELIERS** are our seven immersive, multi-year study programs (full- and part-time) for artists who want to deepen their craft through mentorship by esteemed artists and as part of a community of dedicated artistic peers. In person and online.

**CLASSES & WORKSHOPS** for a range of ability levels in drawing, painting, sculpture, and printmaking with a shared focus on strengthening foundational skills and nurturing creative expression.

**PUBLIC LECTURES** on campus and at Town Hall deepen understanding of art history and contemporary art topics. Free or low-cost.

**OPEN STUDIO** sessions welcome all artists to experience drawing a live model

**PARTNERSHIPS** with workplaces such as Amazon and Wizards of the Coast enhance their employees' proficiency in creative problem-solving directly applicable to their job duties. Gage also partners with Antioch University so students from multiple campuses and degree programs can take Gage art classes to satisfy the fine arts credits.

## Youth Programs

**CLASSES & WORKSHOPS** in a range of media and techniques are offered to youth ages 6-12, and teens ages 13-18. In person and online.

**SUMMER CAMPS** combine artmaking with movement activities such as parkour, capoeira, yoga and dance for ages 7-11. Teen summer programs provide in-depth and focused art study for serious, emerging artists.

**TEEN ART STUDIO (TAS)** is a free drop-in program for ages 13-18 every Friday evening in three locations: Capitol Hill, South Park, and Bellevue. TAS provides high-caliber artmaking experiences within a supportive and inclusive community of peers.

## Board of Trustees

**Connie Mao**, President

**Barry Jennings**, VP/Treasurer

**Rock Hushka**, Secretary

**Nirupa Shah**, Immediate Past President

**Mary Fisher**, Trustee

**Christine Gedye**, Trustee

**Anastasia Kim**, Trustee

**Gaylene Meyer**, Trustee

**Patricia Pugsley**, Trustee

**Grant Ray**, Trustee

**Sarah Strachan**, Trustee

Learn more ► [gageacademy.org](https://gageacademy.org)