

**MEDIA ADVISORY
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**FROM INCARCERATION TO INSPIRATION: PRISON ARTS SHOW 2024
ELEVATES VOICES THROUGH ART**
Community Partners in Action Presents its 44th Annual Prison Arts Show



IMAGE: Marces Marcado, *Scents of Freedom*

WHAT: Community Partners in Action (CPA) proudly presents the **44th Annual Prison Arts Show 2024** at **CT State Manchester Community College**. This powerful and inspiring exhibition, displaying the creative talents of Connecticut’s incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals, **opens on Thursday, Sept. 26, 2024, at the Hans Weiss Newspace Gallery and runs through Nov. 13.**

WHO: Beth Hines, Executive Director, CPA; Jeffrey Greene, Prison Arts Program Manager, CPA; Artists who were formerly incarcerated.

WHEN: Opening Reception | Thursday, September 26, 2024, | 6PM—8PM

WHERE: CT State Community College Manchester, Hans Weiss Newspace Gallery, AST Building, Great Path, Manchester, CT (For GPS, use 60 Bidwell Street Manchester, CT)

Exhibition Dates: Sept. 26—Nov. 13, 2024

Closing Reception: Saturday, Nov. 9, 2024, 12PM—2PM

Admission: Free and open to the public

Gallery Hours: Monday—Thursday: 9AM—9PM; Friday: 9AM—5PM; Saturday: 8:30AM—2:30PM

WHY: Since 1978, the Prison Arts Program has transformed Connecticut’s prisons by fostering artistic expression and providing a platform for incarcerated individuals to share their stories. The Annual Show not only dignifies the efforts of these artists but also strengthens the connection between the prison community and the outside world, offering a powerful reminder of the humanity we all share. This year’s show features a diverse array of artworks, including drawings, paintings, sculptures, and carpentry projects. The exhibit celebrates the creativity that flourishes behind prison walls, with works

crafted from traditional materials as well as inventive ones like soap, woven paper bags, and food packaging. The show brings together accomplished artists, first-time exhibitors, and everyone in between, offering a rare glimpse into the lives and experiences of those impacted by the criminal justice system. This event is more than just an art exhibit—it is a vital community gathering, offering families a chance to connect, heal, and celebrate the creative achievements of their loved ones. Do not miss this extraordinary opportunity to witness the transformative power of art in action.

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Press Contact:

Adam H. Brill
(Cell) 860-996-1660
abrill@cpa-ct.org

About Community Partners in Action

Community Partners in Action, formerly known as the CT Prison Association, is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit agency that builds community by providing services that promote accountability, dignity and restoration for people affected by the criminal justice system. Our model for impact blends direct services, community action and restorative justice advocacy, offering essential services including transitional housing, reentry and resettlement support, workforce development and coaching, as well as partnerships with mental health and addiction services. Comprised of community leaders in Greater Hartford, Greater Waterbury and other cities and towns in Connecticut, we help bring together nonprofits, city departments, state agencies and other partners to ensure all the needs of people in our care are met. To learn more about Community Partners in Action and its advocacy initiatives, please visit <https://cpa-ct.org>.