



For Immediate Release

Contact: debra@fordandcompany.com
281-415-0673

For 48 years, 30 Right Brains Have Elevated Local Art in Houston

Archway Gallery Thrives as Texas' Oldest Artist-Owned Gallery

Houston, Texas ...Capturing the essence of a city is an art form in and of itself and the 30+ artists that make up Archway Gallery, Texas' longest running, artist-owned gallery, have been doing just that for more than 48 years. The gallery's longevity illustrates that passion and creativity can be a thing of beauty indeed, as more than 30 right brains have managed to fuse collective genius to not only inspire others and to support many community charitable events but also to thrive as a business and a communal gathering spot for over four decades. Each month this Montrose gallery is an ideal place for all to celebrate Houston's collective creative spirit.

The History

In 1976, when America celebrated its Bicentennial, Archway Gallery opened its doors for business when a handful of local artists decided to take charge of marketing and selling their own artwork. 48 years later, Archway Gallery is thriving. In the past few years when many galleries shuttered and closed, Archway Gallery is thankful to be flourishing. This success thrills the diverse group of creative minds who have found a penchant for fusing creativity and business acumen. Archway Gallery has succeeded in giving Houstonians a place to not only view local art, but also to become immersed in it through a very approachable manner. That approachability is what sets this gallery apart and has become a moniker of sorts for Archway. After all, art is unique. It only makes sense that the experience is also unique.

Local art matters to a city much like its master plan for green space and roadways. It's a reflection of Houston's history and of its diverse landscape. Having an active local art community is not only important for residents, but it also helps to attract new talent. John Slaby, who served as the Gallery Director for many years and is still active at Archway Gallery, explains this further, "If I walk into a gallery and the work features art from another city, it will be informed by the experience of that city. If there is no local art, then there is no voice for us. It would be as if we never existed. And this is true in all art forms and why it's good to have, for example, local bands or our own symphony. In the distant future if people can experience our art, then they will have a sense of what it's like to have lived here. We leave a legacy. And the deeper the art, the deeper is that legacy," urges Slaby.

There is always an artist on site at Archway Gallery which allows visitors to have access to the creator's brain if they so desire. The open communication and physical connection between artist and collector, or first-time art viewer or buyer, provides an environment that is inviting and free from judgment. Archway Gallery is a place where visitors feel less like strangers and more like family. It's inspiring to meet someone in your own community who gives you the sense that creation is possible for all. Successful businesses must relate to their audience in a way that makes them feel valued and appreciated. At Archway Gallery, this is the daily mission.

Artists Never Retire

Creativity never retires, and passion knows no age. Each Archway Gallery artist is assigned unique operational roles that allow the gallery to operate 6 days a week as a seamless work of art. The 30+ artistic partners of Archway are constantly reinventing the gallery and themselves; proving that art is a timeless learning experience that is never outgrown. Do what you love, and you will never work a day in your life. Let your work inspire others, and your business will thrive for decades.

Gallery curators change exhibitions every 30 days, so there is always something new to discover at Archway. Each month one of the artists takes center stage in the gallery's front exhibition space, hosting a monthly reception. Throughout the year, Archway Gallery supports a number of charitable organizations through events like Empty Bowls and the gallery's own Juried Art Exhibition in July which not only gives local artists a chance to shine but also supports a local not for profit. The gallery is also available for private functions such as wedding receptions, and corporate events. The calendar is organized years in advance and all events are given a special level of attention that is reflective of Archway Gallery's commitment to quality. Current Gallery Director Harold Joiner reflects on how much the gallery has changed over the years, "Archway Gallery's evolution and progress over the years is utterly amazing. To know that the original small group of artists has now expanded into a group of 30+ creatively eclectic minds who are still succeeding despite a current world transfixed with technology and rapid change is astounding!" Joiner continued with a smile, "The artists of Archway are like a family who share their warmth and friendliness with all who visit the gallery. Being a part of the Archway family has been rewarding beyond measure."

Art is a life-long journey of learning and discovery that is made possible through reflection and exploration. Archway Gallery provides an endless supply of artistic imagination and varying mediums. The changing gallery reflects art's ability to evolve and inspire, all while encouraging visitors to return for inspiration again and again. Being able to hold a place in a community for 48 years is remarkable.

Make plans to visit Archway Gallery throughout the year for a variety of music and dance events, poetry and literary readings, figure drawing workshops, and much more. For a list of upcoming exhibitions click here [list of events](#) and the work of [artists here](#).

The artists at Archway Gallery have dedicated themselves to sharing their artistic passion with Houston and everyone who walks through their doors. Like an ever-evolving palette, Archway Gallery and its artists are as unique as the city they reflect. Decades from now, their works will provide an inimitable perspective on Houston's evolution as an artistic and creative mecca. And, hopefully, along the way they will each have inspired a new generation of local artists.

###