

"We provide and support inclusive, life-enriching options through person-centered programs and advocacy."

What's New at UDS?

December 2023 | Issue 22

Painting the Halls of UDS with New Art



The work of artist **Katherine Klimitas** has been selected to receive this year's Gail Willmott Art Award. Her work appeared in issue 86 of *Kaleidoscope* magazine and her pieces *Leopard* and *Crested Cranes* now adorn our halls. Living with osteogenesis imperfecta--a condition that causes an individual's bones to easily break--Klimitas lies on her side while she paints, laying mere inches from the paper.



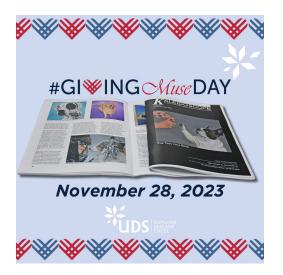
The **Gail Willmott Art Award** was established in 2019. Since then, every year UDS has purchased art created by an artist with a disability. This is all made possible thanks to those who contribute to the art award. Gail Willmott was a former editor for *Kaleidoscope* magazine, and the award aims to commemorate her work and achievements. We invite you to stop by UDS to view Klimitas' work as well as the work of others whose art has been featured in *Kaleidoscope*.

Support Our Artists with Giving MuseDay

November 28 was Giving Tuesday, or **#GivingMuseDay** as we like to call it. All donations received through Giving MuseDay go directly to support the work of the writers and artists published in *Kaleidoscope* magazine.

This year, we **exceeded our \$1,000 goal**, and it was made possible thanks to the generosity of our donors. Your contributions will continue to amplify the voices of those within marginalized communities.

Though Giving MuseDay has now passed, it's not too late to donate. Simply visit our official



donation page and make sure to designate your donation for*Kaleidoscope*. Your continuing support of the magazine is greatly appreciated.



Welcome to Team UDS!

Join us in welcoming our newest direct support professional to our team, **Melissa Cole**. She has more than 20 years of experience working with people who have disabilities. Cole has worked at both the Summit County Board of Developmental Disabilities and Woodridge Schools. She is married with three children and three grandchildren.

We'd also like to congratulate **Jim Acton** for his promotion to director of Transportation Services and **Katie Wallis** for her promotion to transportation supervisor. Great job, team!

If you know of someone who would be interested in joining our team, UDS has several available positions. Visit our **current open positions** page for more information or to apply.

Toy & Resource Center Closed for the Holidays

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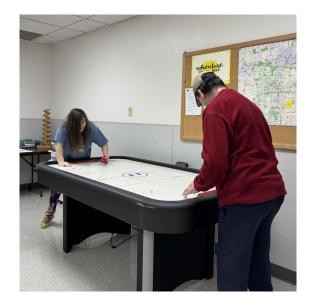
Our Toy & Resource Center will be **closed from December 19 through January 2** for the holidays. We'll see everyone next year! While you eagerly wait for us to reopen, remember that a Toy Center membership makes a great gift for anyone with a child in their life. The Toy & Resource Center provides access to over 4,200 developmental toys and resources that keep children learning and growing all year round!

If you have an interest in gifting someone with a membership to the Toy Center or are interested in picking up one for yourself, visit the **membership page** on our website for more information.

Low Vision Services Offers Plenty of Christmas Gift Ideas!

Looking for that perfect gift for someone with low vision in your life? Low Vision Services has exactly what you need! From large-print calendars, to specialty reading lights and other accessories, our clinic has anything you could need for that special someone in your life! Call today to schedule an appointment to view our selection: 330-762-9755.





Friends of UDS Deliver Fun for Our Team!

Our CHAMPS and SociAbilities lunchroom received a fantastic surprise from one of our families--a new air hockey table! Folks are enjoying playing a quick game while they wait for their transportation to arrive. Thank you again for your contribution!

Check us out on social media!



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