Zaha Hadid envisioned the Lois and Richard Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art as an immersive place where the space of the viewer merges with the space of the art. When our building opened in 2003, the 6th Floor Sara M. and Patricia A. Vance Education Center—The UnMuseum™—changed the expectation for educational spaces within museums. It offered the ability to learn through play using interactive works of art by contemporary artists and focused on multi- and intergenerational learning.

As the CAC’s programming grew, so did the need for an updated education space. The 6th floor’s lack of a classroom and updated technology made the demand for renovation more pressing. The new Creativity Center and UnMuseum™ enables us to engage learners of all ages, offering programming for all by inspiring creativity, curiosity, and critical thinking. Contemporary artists are teachers—they are a voice in the world we live in. Through interaction with the UnMuseum™, visitors will learn more about contemporary society, broaden their perspectives, develop problem-solving, creativity, and empathy along the way.
Creativity Center Artists

**Flourish**
Julia Lipovsky

Julia Lipovksy is a local artist who uses artmaking as a vehicle for self-exploration and community healing. Her work is playful, process-oriented, and often collaborative.

*Flourish* is a garden-like resting place for visitors to sit and daydream among hand-painted flowerbeds that cover the Creativity Center’s welcome bench. The installation is meant to activate the visitor’s imagination, immerse them in the space, and give space to rest, reflect, and be kind.

**Flight of Fancy**
Michelle D'Cruz and Christopher Glenn

Michelle D'Cruz is a multidisciplinary designer who approaches storytelling through an inclusive and community-centered lens. She is an artist by nature, creative strategist by profession, and advocate for equitable outcomes by necessity.

Christopher Glenn is an interdisciplinary motion designer who uses light, motion, and digital technology to breathe life into narrative.

*Flight of Fancy* activates the wild imaginations of the youngest CAC visitors—inviting them to contribute ideas and drawings, and bringing those ideas to life via an immersive, holographic storybook experience.

**Soft Bones**
Garrett Goben

Garrett Goben’s practice as an artist is driven by the playful exploration of our everyday surroundings, ridding materials of their everyday connotations and adapting them for use outside the studio. His work exists as a record of these experiences, paying homage to both place and play.

*Soft Bones* is a collection of sculptured gameplay materials that encourage visitors to redefine the places they assume they know and to activate their significance. Visitors can set their own objectives when participating with the work, with each piece speaking a secret and playful language.
Printmaker Terence Hammonds’ work is informed and inspired by the struggles and determination of Blacks seeking equality during the civil rights movement of the 1960’s, fusing imagery from that era with soul, funk, rap, and punk music.

*The Funk is Within You* highlights the rich history of hip-hop, rap, and breaking—developed as part of Black and Brown culture as a creative rebellion against the mainstream society from which they felt excluded. The installation dance floors and wallpaper show images of the founders of these movements. In many ways, this exhibition is a monument to people who make societal changes through their art.

**Sunny Side Up: A Community Mural**

Anissa Lewis and Local High School Team

Anissa Lewis is a teaching artist whose work often focuses on her childhood and current town of Covington, KY, the changing social fabric, concepts of identity, impermanence, and collaboration.

*The Community Mural* is a recurring installation in the UnMuseum™ focusing on collaboration and the theme of belonging. This year’s mural brought together Lewis and six high school students who considered the way we shape our community and how our community shapes us. They created a scene inspired by Lewis’ work and filled an empty lot with vibrant, imaginative dreams, and possibilities. The artists found they all wanted deeper connections to nature and hope for the future.

**Buoyant**

Karen Saunders

Karen Saunders is a multi-disciplinary artist who hopscotched across the Midwest before landing in Cincinnati, where she’s spent almost three decades as an art educator. Saunders is inspired by large-scale projects and is ever-challenging her own expectations while growing her ongoing practice.

*Buoyant* explores the idea of how to be resilient in our ever-changing world. How do we as humans find ways to rise above during difficult times? Inhabiting the uppermost reaches of the sixth-floor landing, where the sky meets the museum, the installation’s animated sculptures will invite your senses to rise, float, and be buoyant.
Pam Kravetz is a celebrated local artist affectionately known as the unofficial Cincinnati “monarch,” due in part to her exuberant style during public appearances, but also because of her generous service to her community.

You Belong Here is an interactive welcome arch that greets visitors at the entrance to the new Creativity Center. The installation is filled with joyful discoveries for visitors to uncover and embraces the whimsy and wonder that creativity can bring.

Abby Peitsmeyer is a Cincinnati artist exploring contemporary object design and fabrication through playful studies of color, material, form, and arrangement.

Land of Pasta-ilities is a wondrous and inclusive space for joy and play that celebrates neurodiversity and welcomes uninhibited individuality. Visitors are encouraged to experience the vibrant yet minimal play land, an immersive space to take your time and indulge your senses with whimsical sights, textures, and sounds.

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