

www.beyondican.org

Beyond I CAN GALLERY & GIFT SHOP



MISSION

The *Beyond I CAN* program is dedicated to enriching the lives of individuals with special needs through the experience of running their own business, from artistic design and production to marketing and sales. Enhancing the quality of their lives due to self-confidence built on real abilities, the artisans become productive citizens in their special way.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Beyond I CAN has as its purpose the creation of jobs and experiences that allow individuals with special needs the opportunity to operate a business with assistance from seniors, volunteers, college students, parents and teachers by providing an integrated workplace where respect has an opportunity to grow. High school and post high school individuals with special needs are welcomed as they learn to operate the gallery, gift shop, and create a quality line of products.

Many of the participants have graduated with a certificate of completion from local high schools. When attempts are made to secure employment they have been told they will need a GED in order to be hired. These individuals with special needs are easily discouraged and develop hopelessness concerning employment, they often sit at home and no longer look for employment, feeling they really don't fit in anywhere. One can observe *Beyond I CAN* participants making great strides in self-sufficiency and self-esteem as they work in the gallery, gift shop, and assembly areas. Pride in work accomplishments and giving to their community helps to create young people that continue to grow and contribute in their own special way.

COMMUNITY GIVING FROM *Beyond I CAN*

- Toys for Tots
- ABC Quilts
- Camp Summersault
- Adopt A Lab Indiana
- Riley Hospital
- Liberty Village



"ZOTARTZ" Wheelchair Art

Beyond I CAN uses tools designed by "ZOTARTZ" for creative expression through arts and mobility. Wheelchair art happens when artisans attach different apparatus to their wheelchairs and roll them around on the floor covered with paper. This form of creative expression allows for improvement in mobility skills, coordination, and self esteem.



REFLECTIONS FROM LESLIE

“Hi...My name is Leslie.”



I work in the *Beyond I CAN* program. I have designed a line of greeting cards that are all my own design. I work on a light table with colored pencils, drawing and coloring designs. A light table is what ‘real’ artists use. My specialized card line sells very well.

I LOVE MY WORK!” *Leslie*

REFLECTIONS FROM LESLIE’S MOM

“Hi...I’m Leslie’s Mom.”



I am so pleased Leslie has the opportunity to attend *Beyond I CAN* where she has a special job created just for her. The job meets her needs so well.

Leslie was injured and suffers from traumatic brain injuries that cause her hands to shake and has had problems finding a job that’s right for her. Actually, her teachers have been working for the past several years to find something special she can do where she has ownership, pride and enjoyment.

I am so thankful for *Beyond I CAN!*” *Leslie’s Mom*

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ARTISAN SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Many have inquired about ways they can support and help *Beyond I CAN*. To accommodate these requests, a sponsorship program has been designed to enable individuals, groups, and/or corporations to sponsor *Beyond I CAN* artisans – one artisan or a group of artisans.

How does the *Beyond I Can* sponsorship program work?

Individuals, groups, and/or organizations can become sponsors by pledging a monthly or annual amount of money to be directed to either the *Beyond I Can* group or to an individual artisan.

COMMUNITY SPONSORS

- Altrusa Club
- Community Foundation
- Deb Fetters of Creative Framing
- Gannett Foundation
- George and Frances Ball Foundation
- Kiwanis
- Mark and Diana Gray
- Muncie Sunrise Rotary
- VSA Arts of Indiana
- Sams Club

How can one acquire more information and /or become a sponsor?

Please contact:

Beyond I CAN Gallery & Gift Shop
Nancy Barnett, Director
1510 S. Burlington Drive,
Muncie, IN 47302
Phone: 765-282-9335
E-mail: nancy@beyondican.org
Website: www.beyondican.org



PRODUCTS

Beyond I CAN products sold online, in the store, and marketed to museum and gift stores include:

- *Paper Weights*
- *Greeting Cards*
- *Pens*
- *Journals*
- *Teacher Gifts*
- *Handmade Jewelry*
- *Wheelchair Art*



TEACHER WORKSHOPS

Beyond I CAN has many individuals interested in starting similar programs and welcomes inquiries. Teacher workshops are held to help acquaint teachers with methods and resources.

