

MEDICINE WHEEL



*Art as Threshold*

# Medicine Wheel

Moving beyond diversity to inclusion, building community from the inside out, using art as a threshold.

# 25 Years of Art and Healing

- ⊗ Video Link to 25 years of art and healing
- ⊗ <https://vimeo.com/170235029>
- ⊗ Video link to Hand in Hand/ Police Youth creating together
- ⊗ <https://youtu.be/veRwGnLVSpM>
- ⊗ Video Link to Public Art, Our Common Path
- ⊗ [https://youtu.be/qcJSi\\_ha538](https://youtu.be/qcJSi_ha538)

# 50 Liberty Fan Pier

- 🎬 You can't impress your neighbors unless they have some faith in you. You've got to build relationships. You've got to let people know you. You've got to do a lot of listening, and you've got to realize that nobody has a monopoly on new ideas...”  
-John Joseph “Joe” Moakley



## 25 years of addressing cultural equity

- ⦿ Cultural equity embodies the values, policies, and practices that ensure that all people—including but not limited to those who have been historically underrepresented based on race/ethnicity, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, socioeconomic status, geography, citizenship status, or religion—are represented in the development of arts policy; the support of artists; the nurturing of accessible, thriving venues for expression; and the fair distribution of programmatic, financial, and informational resources.
- ⦿ Americans for the Arts

# SPOKE GALLERY

- ⦿ **Spoke Gallery/ Flexible Performance Exhibition Space**
- ⦿ Medicine Wheel Productions is actively shaping a new dialogue about the role of art in society and culture. The organization believes strongly that art's main purpose is to bring people together. MWP creates opportunities, places, and spaces where art and artists of all disciplines are central to building communities and to enriching the lives of individuals of all ages and backgrounds.

# Ifé Franklin



Photo: Craig Bailey

As a working Boston artist, who happens to be African American and lesbian, it has at times been difficult for my voice to be heard, because my work deals directly with the enslavement of my ancestors. It has been difficult to get my work shown, not a problem at “the Wheel” as they welcome diversity, seek it, as a real way to effect change.



Photo: Craig Bailey

# Dell M Hamilton



I have no doubt that Medicine Wheel's interventions in social justice, art and collaboration have changed the trajectory of the lives of young people who have worked closely with the organization..... I would like to note that there was also an additional reason why I jumped at the chance to perform at Medicine Wheel. When I moved with my Mom and brothers to Boston from New York in the early 1980s, South Boston was still considered a place that no African American person could ever visit for fear of encountering racist behaviors. For me to feel comfortable walking the streets of Southie was something that I never thought I would experience. This is why I believe that Medicine Wheel can and does play a crucial role in transforming Boston for the better.



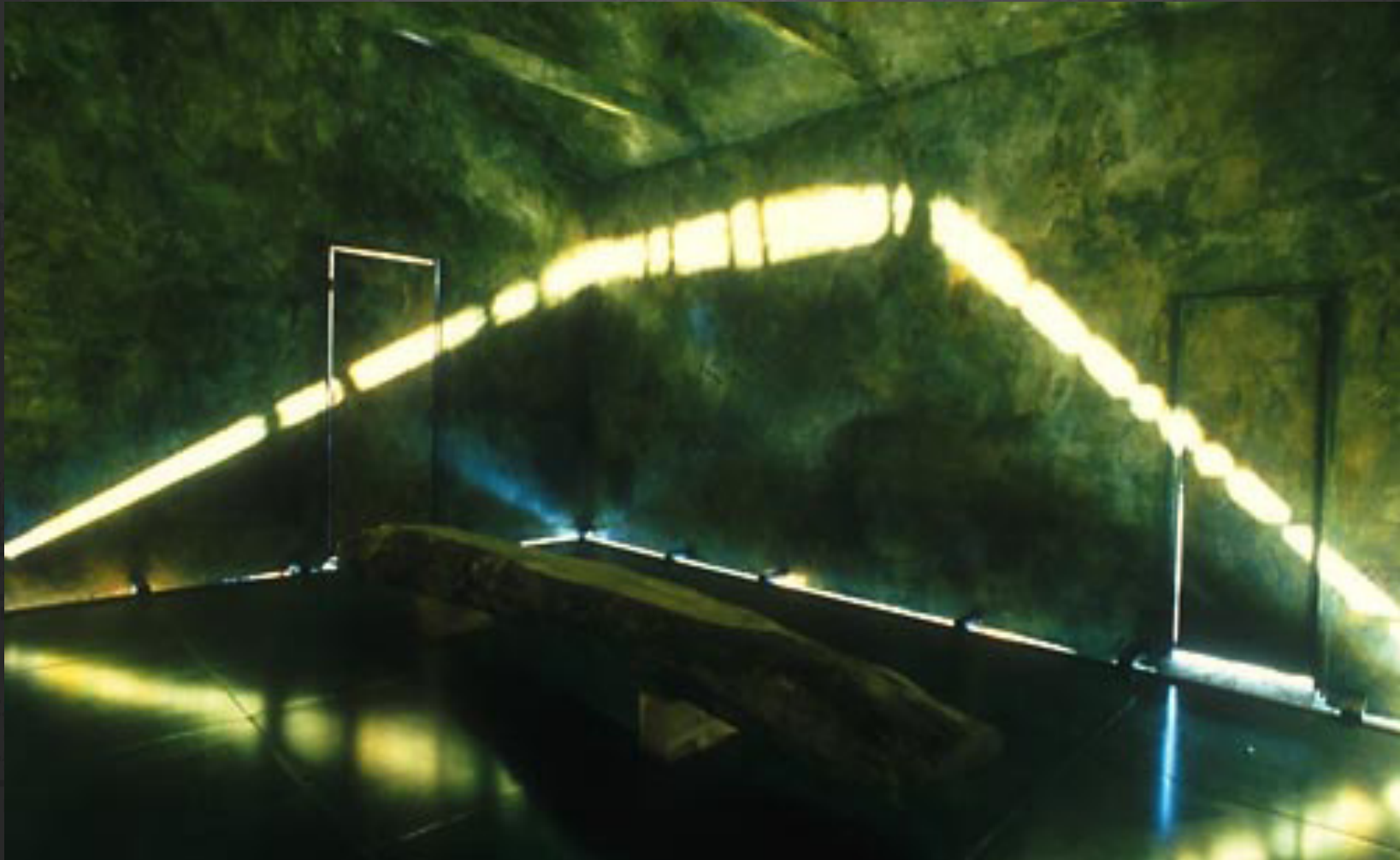
# Linda Burke



Medicine Wheel has been a home for so many marginalized kids, and there, they find the affirmation they need to be productive and caring citizens. Medicine Wheel has always validated their efforts and connected them to the community. It is an amazing program.

# Meditation Room

Detail from *Conspire*, by Laura Baring-Gould and Michael Dowling in partnership with the ICA and Boston National Historical Park



# Benefits

- ⊗ **The creation of an Urban Meditation space that has synergy with Fan Pier Park, The Public Green, Harbor Walk Fan Pier's water transportation terminal and other water dependent marine activities and uses is at the core of Medicine wheel's Mission.**
- ⊗ There is a 21<sup>st</sup> century trend to create mindfulness or meditation spaces in the workspace. It is well known that meditation lends itself to being more productive. We see a real benefit to the residents of the property and to the public at large. Some of the benefits are.
- ⊗ Reduces stress
- ⊗ Recharges energy
- ⊗ Enhances creativity
- ⊗ Improves focus and memory
- ⊗ Better team work
- ⊗ Encourages empathy
- ⊗ Helps prioritize

The South Boston Association of Non-Profits seeks to inspire a collective and powerful voice among the leadership of South Boston's non-profits to influence change and build healthier community for all of our residents and neighbors. We Are South Boston: We Stand for Inclusion, We Stand for Unity, We Stand for Fun, We Stand for Opportunity, We Stand for Respect, We stand for Community.



Founded in Boston, the South Asian Arts Council is a pioneering organization working to share the rich heritage of South Asia with the modern global world. We connect local and global communities through innovative educational and cultural arts programming.

# SOUTH ASIAN ARTS COUNCIL




# S.P.U.N. Gallery

## Silent People Until Now

- ⊗ The Gallery on the second floor will focus on young and emerging artists as a laboratory to help close the 'Cultural Equity Gap' that currently exists in the city and country.





**Shane:** Dr. MLK had a dream that all races would come together and be one. Don't look at our differences; look at our similarities. You like music, I like music - let's get together and dance. You like art, I like art - let's get together and create things til we can't no more. Before I'm Black, I'm human. We should all live by that.....

photo credit: Craig Bailey

# Untold Stories Gallery

stories so old they have no words



“All My Friends Are Dead” Joshua Greaves



# Second floor will also house

- ⦿ Administrative offices
- ⦿ Maker spaces
  - ⦿ Painting studios
  - ⦿ Wood shop
  - ⦿ Dance studio
  - ⦿ Community room
  - ⦿ Ceramic studio

# Mission and Vision

- ⊗ **Our mission** is to transform communities from the inside out by inviting all members to participate in the healing and transcendent power of public art. We are forging a Common Path—one of inclusion and civic engagement—using art as a threshold to help individuals gain awareness of self, community, and the human condition.
- ⊗ **Our vision** is that one day, all individuals will feel included and engaged in strengthening their community. They will recognize that art is not just a commodity. Instead, they'll recognize art as a guiding tool that frees them to express their voice and to participate in their community.
- ⊗ **The objectives of MWP are to:**
  - ⊗ 1) Launch intimate and large-scale public art projects that respond to the needs of the community,
  - ⊗ 2) Engage young people and adults in community building activities and discussions around inclusion,
  - ⊗ 3) Offer young people year-round employment opportunities in the creative sector, and
  - ⊗ 4) Be a leader in redefining the role of art in culture.

# Beacon to the Dream



oto credit: Craig Bailey

Tír na nÓg was a temporary public art installation by two internationally acclaimed artists: Caoimhghin Ó Fraithile (Ireland), “South of Hy-Brasil” and Michael Dowling (Boston-US/Ireland), “Well House”



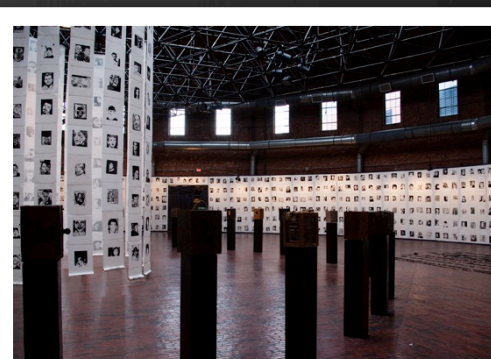
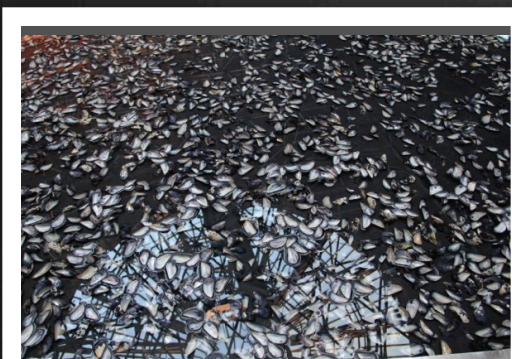
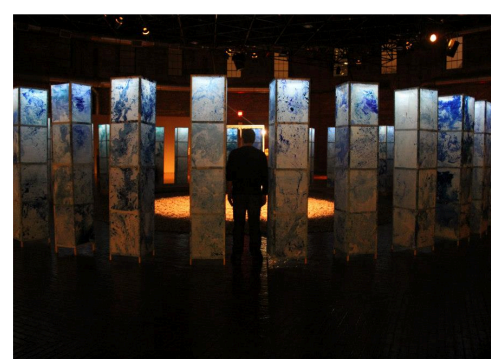
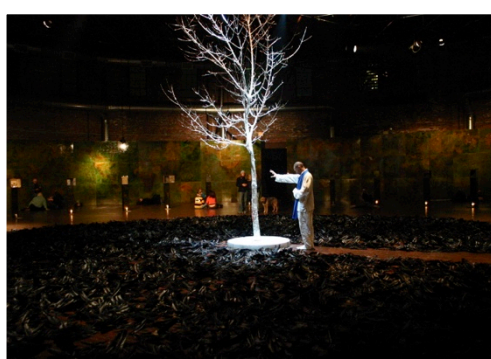
Liberty Tree Project in partnership with REV 250  
and five community groups

Ostiguy High School, Boston Asian: Youth Essential Service, St. Francis House, South Boston  
en Accion and the Museum of African American History



**WORLD AIDS DAY VIGIL** **Day Without Art** (DWA) is an annual event where art museums and other organizations organize programs to raise awareness of AIDS, remember people who have died, and inspire positive action. **Day Without Art** began on December 1, 1989 as the national day of action and mourning in response to the AIDS crisis. Over 1000 visual artists and 250 performance artists participated last year!





# Hand in Hand

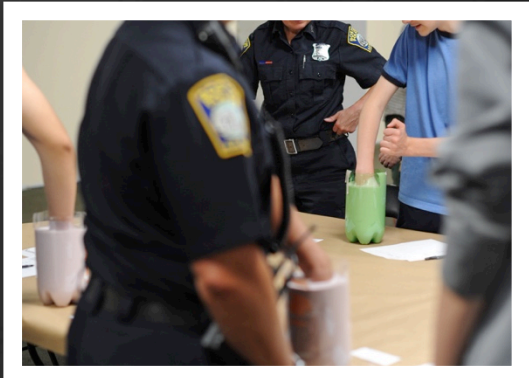
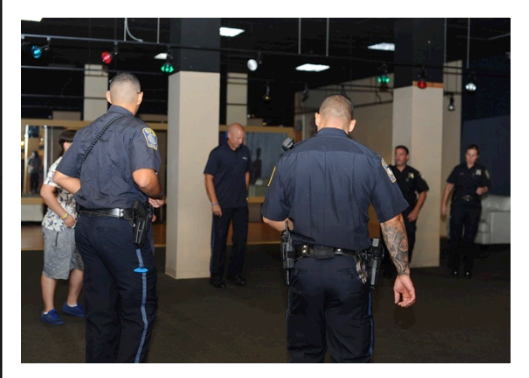




- ⊗ Hand in Hand is a new model of inclusion that uses cultural action to facilitate moving from resistance to reconciliation by creating public art together. This work explores and challenges the capacity to humanize “the other” in our lives. The result of this experience is the recognition of our common stories. This project will create bridges between populations, which typically experience conflict with one another. The current focus of the Hand in Hand project is bringing Boston Police officers and young community members together in an all-day workshop. Each participating young person is paired with a police officer for the day. To date we have worked with 200 officers and 200 young people across the city.

## Hand in Hand at Veronica Robles Cultural Center





Workshop

# The Water Project

Women, Wonder, Whaling, World, Waiting

- ⊗ **The Water Project 2019**
- ⊗ **Produced by The Mama Project in partnership with Medicine Wheel**
- ⊗ 1. Connecting personal stories from women across racial, socioeconomic, cultural and geographic areas in Cape Town, South Africa and Boston, Massachusetts.
- ⊗ 2. Creating a sister city relationship between two coastal cities on the Atlantic ocean as they face climate change and the effect on water—Day Zero, drought and scarcity in Cape Town, Flooding and rising seas in Boston.
- ⊗ 3. Sharing deep, local, community-based stories to illuminate and explore a shared global issue through art.
- ⊗ 4. Engaging the public in each city in a public art project that is experiential, cumulative, and reflective, building relationships, uncovering public issues, exploring solutions, and responding to our world community through art, culture and creativity.

## **The Water Project 2019**

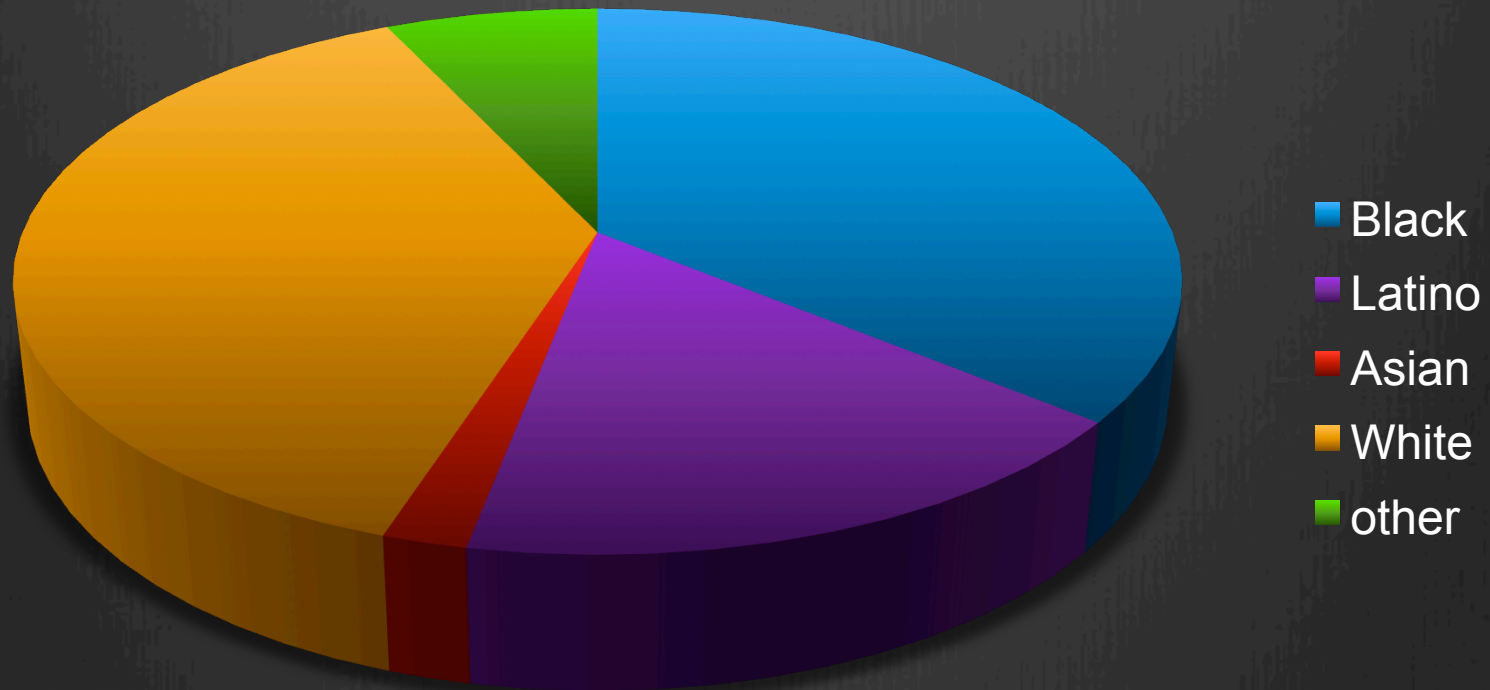
The week Day Zero videos hit the international news, Boston was again experiencing flooding during a snow storm, and local news was covering Boston's rising oceans, the newly named flood zones for the Boston area, and Mayor Walsh's conservation and prevention proposals. We share one sea, and we have deep relationships in place across both cities. The idea then emerged to create The Water Project for 2019, a sister city-based, public collaborative art project between and in both Boston and Cape Town, created and produced by The Mama Project and Medicine Wheel. This has the potential to connect and expand to other cross-cultural communities in other countries and cities. The Mama Project and Medicine Wheel have relationships with Helen Zille, Premier of Western Cape & Marty Walsh, Mayor of Boston, as well as both higher education and faith based relationships in both cities. There is potential for a powerful Sister City artistic collaboration around this critical global issue and its effects locally.



- ⊗ 27<sup>th</sup> World AIDS Day Vigil December 2018
- ⊗ 50 Years after Stonewall 2019
- ⊗ The Water Project Phase I, 2019
- ⊗ Launch of Untold Stories Gallery

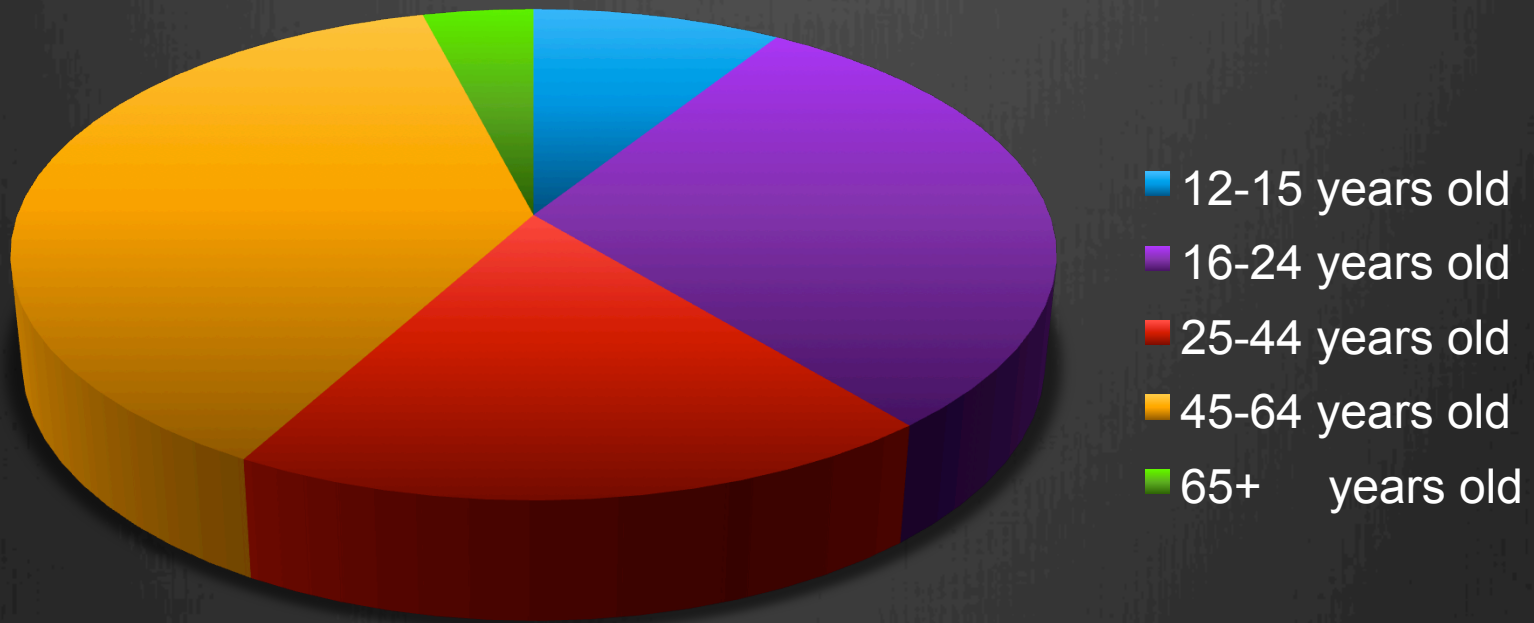
# Populations served

## Demographics



# Ages served

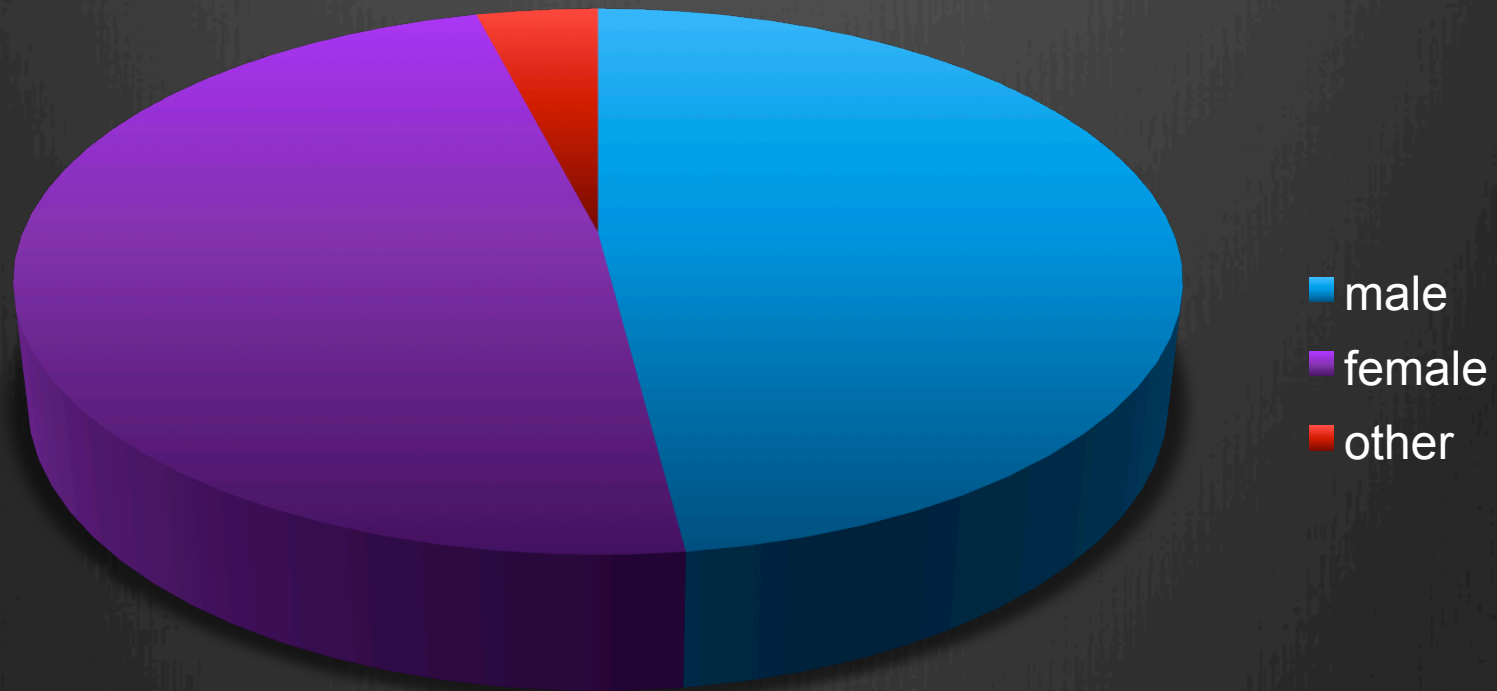
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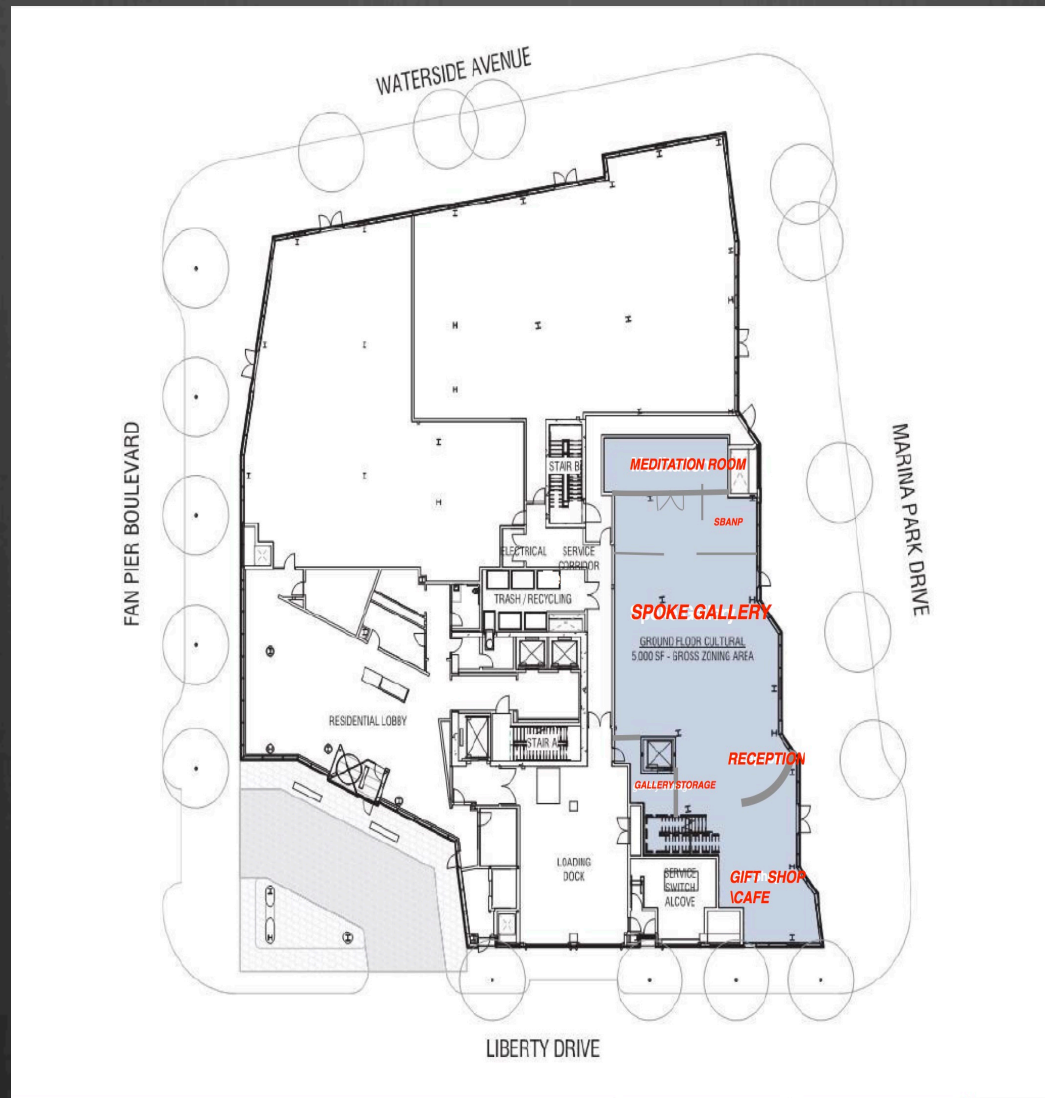


# Demographics by Gender

Gender



# FIRST FLOOR



# SECOND FLOOR

