Renewal Webinar Series
Fitting into Facilities:
Using Art Carts to Bring Art to the Bedside

with Paula Most, Arts Coordinator
Lifespan/Hasbro Children’s Hospital
Elaine Sims, Director, & Kathleen Talley, Arts Coordinator
Gifts of Art Program, University of Michigan Health System

*Presented by the Society for the Arts in Healthcare*

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Let's get rolling - The Nuts & Bolts of a Hospital

Art Cart program

Bringing the world of art & music to the University of Michigan Health System
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Gifts of Art

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University of Michigan Health System
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Art Cart program

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Welcome

- Elaine Sims, Director
- Kathi Talley, Visual Arts Coordinator
- Margaret Nowak, Art Therapist
Core Programming

- Nine rotating Exhibit Galleries
- Free Weekly Public Performances
- Life Sciences Orchestra
- Bedside Music Program
- Artist-in-Residence Program

- Art Cart Program - 900+ bed facility with adult and pediatric art carts
Why a lending library of framed poster art?

- Offers patients the opportunity to select new art work for their rooms
- Positive distraction
- Help relax patients and enrich the aesthetic environment
- Opportunity for patients to personalize their rooms
- Social interaction
- Offers patients and families power over their environment where they may have little or none
Successful Poster Selection

- Landscape & Seascapes
- Recognizable Images
- Great Masters & Museum Works
- Local Familiarity
- Sensitivity to Cultural, Religious and Gender Differences
- Surveys
- Patient Feedback!
Most Requested Images

- **Adult**
  - Seaside & Beach
  - Water
  - Sports
  - Animals
  - Children
  - Patriotic/Eagles

- **Pediatric**
  - Teens
  - Dogs
  - Sponge Bob...

- WWII Ships & Planes
- Lighthouses
- Angels / Spiritual
- Cars
- Native American Art
- Fireworks
- The White House
- Norman Rockwell
- Movie Posters
- U of M Sports
- Holiday Themes
- Fictional Characters
- Historical People
- Lance Armstrong
- Castles
- Sailboats
- Fall Colors
- African American Art
- Loons
- Sunshine
- Spring
- Summer
Less Successful Poster Choices

- Abstract works
- Color red
- Very busy
- Too much detail
- Too dark
- Patient Feedback!
Cart Fabrication

- UM Plant Department
  - Custom Built
- Each Cart holds 25 - 30 pcs
Poster Vendor Information

- Lieberman’s - Depends on Supplier - Posters from 200 vendors
- Barewalls - 50% off retail - orders of 50+ posters
- Bruce McGaw Graphics - 25% off retail - orders of 50+
- Graphique de France - 80% off retail - orders of 25+
- New York Graphic Society - 50/50% off retail - orders of 50+
- Image Conscious - 50/50% off retail - orders of 50+
- The Art Group - 50% published / 25% non-published - orders of 50+
- Vargas Art Prints - 50% published / 10% non-published
- Art.com
Poster Specifications

• **Frame**  - Neilsen #5 - frosted silver #02

• **Laminate** - 3.5 mil, vinyl, luster finish
  - Cold laminate or thermal mount
  - Vendor must supply technical specs

• **Substrate** - 3/16” structural panel of rigid polystyrene
  - Cold laminate or thermal mount
  - Vendor must supply technical specs

• **Wire & Wire Placement**
  - 30# weight, plastic coated
  - Wire placed 8” up from center of image

• **Posters**  - Standard poster sizes, example 20x24”
  - Minimum size 18x24”

• **Service Needs** - Itemized invoices
  - Vendor must supply poster catalogs
  - Supplies must provide stated guarantees of quality
Volunteers

- 30+ volunteers
- Each floor is covered twice a week
- New volunteers each semester
- Volunteers Services Department
- Training Manual

- Exemplary communication & active listening skills
- Compassionate & comfortable working with patients
- Able to lift 20# and maneuver cart
- Good organizational skills
Operating Logistics

- Room Evolution - “Prime Real estate”
- Strong Relationships with clinical teams & facilities managers
- Room Precautions - check with your facility
- Cleaning Posters - Infection Control
Keeping Records

- Shift Sheet - Daily Statistics
- Special Requests
- Monthly Stats
- Yearly Stats
- Purchase Requests
“Maybe in some small way it makes a hospital room a little more like home or maybe brings a little beauty and spark of light into a very sick and dark world.”
Thank you

Bringing the world of art & music to the University of Michigan Health System