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## Inner-City Arts youth exhibit at UCLA gallery, May 16-24

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (May 2024) — Inner-City Arts' Work of Art program is pleased to present two concurrent student exhibitions, **Parts: the spaces that intertwine us** and **Codependent**, which explore human connections through a range of mediums tailored to each artist's unique perspective. The exhibitions will be on view at the Untitled Gallery at UCLA's [Broad Art Center](#) May 16-2024, 2024.

**Parts: the spaces that intertwine us** started with plaster body casting as the central medium, and the artworks uncover the vulnerabilities of relationships — familial, cultural, and environmental. The exhibition includes sculptures that integrate elements such as plaster, resin, clay, fabric, wood, paint, foam, and found materials. The six teen artists featured in the show (Allia B., Esa, Evasofia H., Max P., Rios R., and Allison R.) created its thematic statement:

***"Using parts of our physical bodies in our work, we are sharing another layer of insight to ourselves, our art, and what we want to communicate to the world."***

The exhibited sculptures are a continuation of a body of work that began with large-scale self-portraits in the Work of Art program at Inner-City Arts, a two-year internship designed to empower and prepare teens with the skills, training, and real-world experience necessary to succeed in creative careers. Over the past year, the young artists have created a series of artworks that critically engage themes of identity, gender, relationships, and self-expression through their experiences as emerging artists in Los Angeles.

**Codependent** features large-scale artworks by two Work of Art students, Aiden G. and DanYa W. The pieces include self-portraits and other autobiographical representations of the artists' friends, family, and communities. The artists employed a wide range of mediums, including graphite, charcoal, acrylic and oil paint, pastels, clay, and found objects. They produced the artworks throughout the second year of their Work of Art internships at Inner-City Arts.

Aiden's group of mixed-media works depict his subjective experiences with people in relation to his own psyche. Having struggled with mental illness throughout his life, Aiden finds solace within community and family bonds. **Codependent** highlights the transparent experiences he has with people in his everyday life. DanYa's four artworks are related to self-reflection and the identification of varied aspects of her life that are essential to the woman she has become today. Either through enhanced emotional and mental understanding, physical changes, or direct inspiration from personal experiences and environmental influences, each piece correlates to things she has experienced or wants to call attention to in her lifetime.

**Parts: the spaces that intertwine us** and **Codependent** will be on view May 16-24 at the Untitled Gallery at The Broad Center at UCLA. An opening will take place Thursday, May 16, 5-7 p.m. Visitors should park in Parking Lot 3 on the UCLA campus.

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**ABOUT INNER-CITY ARTS**

Founded in 1989, Inner-City Arts is a learning oasis in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles. Under the guidance of professional teaching artists, Inner-City Arts' students find a safe and supportive environment where they engage in a variety of visual, media, and performing art forms in a studio setting. Services include core classes during the instructional day for grade K-8 students, after school and weekend workshops for teens, and professional development training for educators. Children who attend Inner-City Arts develop crucial skills for life and work such as collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking. [INNER-CITYARTS.ORG](#)