

**STEVE FENBERG**

**President**

State Senator

200 E. Colfax Avenue  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
Capitol: (303) 866-4872



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Legislative Council

Vice Chair, Legislative Council

## President of the Senate

April 1, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,

As President of the State Senate of Colorado, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's request for Community Project Funding for their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder is a valuable organization within the City of Boulder and beyond. Their work to make participatory arts programs affordable and accessible to all has made a measurable difference for Colorado and the Boulder community.

Economically, Studio Arts Boulder's expansion will add over \$2.2 Million annually to our economy, support over 81 FTE jobs in our community, and contribute \$1.6 Million to local household income. Having a new center for community art education within Boulder will also spark growth and innovation across sectors by building a more creative problem-solving workforce, by fueling tourism and cultivating more patrons for other local businesses, and by forging connections between people from diverse industries and backgrounds.

Beyond economics, participatory arts programs have measurable impact on the lives of Colorado residents. Young people who have regular hands-on art programs do better in school and develop 21st-Century job skills. Older adults who participate in the arts experience less social isolation and are less likely to develop dementia. Studio Art Boulder is already improving the mental, physical, and social health of community members every day. This facility will dramatically

increase their impact across the Front Range.

There's no facility like this in Colorado and few in the country – a custom-built facility for community education in five studio art mediums. I strongly encourage you to choose Studio Arts Boulder's project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for Boulder and be a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Fenberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter being a large, stylized 'S'.

**Steve Fenberg**  
Senate President



# Board of County Commissioners

April 11, 2022

The Honorable Joe Neguse  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Neguse:

On behalf of the Boulder County Board of County Commissioners, I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Studio Arts Boulder's (SAB) capital project request to be considered for Community Project Funding.

Studio Arts Boulder has been a vital source of programming to support historically marginalized and underserved members of our community. Last year, they worked with over 2,620 people through free and pay-what-you-can classes. In free outreach classes, nearly 60% are children in low-income households, 27% are adults and kids with disabilities, and 14% are seniors and older adults. Across all paid, pay-what-you-can, and free programs, roughly 65% of SAB's students are from low-income communities.

The impact of participatory art programs cannot be overstated -- the work Studio Arts Boulder is doing has a direct impact on the physical, mental, and social health of community members throughout Boulder County. After facing a pandemic, a mass shooting, and a devastating wildfire, the need for community programs in Boulder County is at an all-time high.

Expanding Studio Arts Boulder's capacity will bring more healing and connection for our local community in the aftermath of these events, at a time when it is most needed. The capital expansion proposed in the SAB submission will multiply their capacity five-fold, dramatically increasing their reach and impact across the Boulder community and throughout the Front Range.

Boulder County fully endorses this project, and we urge you to include it in your FY23 requests for Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder County and be an important addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Marta Loachamin  
Chair

**Matt Jones** County Commissioner    **Claire Levy** County Commissioner    **Marta Loachamin** County Commissioner

Boulder County Courthouse • 1325 Pearl Street • Boulder, Colorado 80302 • Tel: 303.441.3500 • Fax: 303.441.4525  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 471 • Boulder, Colorado 80306 • [www.bouldercounty.org](http://www.bouldercounty.org) • [commissioners@bouldercounty.org](mailto:commissioners@bouldercounty.org)

Aaron Brockett  
Mayor, Boulder City Council  
1777 Broadway  
Boulder, CO 80302

April 5, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,

Though my role as Mayor is one that provides me a front row seat to the Boulder community, it is in my personal capacity that I am writing to encourage your support for Studio Arts Boulder's (SAB) request to be considered for the Community Project Funding for their community art center.

SAB's capital project supports several priorities and strategies of Boulder's Community Cultural Plan, including engaging our youth, creating a supportive environment for artists and creative professionals, and enhancing venues and studio spaces.

Studio Arts Boulder consistently contributes to Boulder's Sustainability & Resilience Framework by providing programs that directly improve residents' mental well-being and social connectivity. Through their paid programs and free Outreach Programs partnering with numerous local non profits, SAB gathers children and families together in collaborative coursework with impact now especially critical in creating community cohesion.

Their project will further Boulder's Climate Goals by incorporating clean energy systems such as geothermal ground-source heat pumps, energy recovery ventilation, daylighting, and solar power. This will be a model project for other organizations and groups in how we move forward together while prioritizing the environment and the safety of our communities.

Finally, by creating a welcoming community center and expanding programs with historically marginalized populations, this facility will help Studio Arts Boulder be a bigger partner in advancing the City's Racial Equity Plan. I wholeheartedly support this work.

I strongly encourage you to choose this project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder and be an important addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,



Bob Yates  
Boulder City Council  
1777 Broadway  
Boulder, CO 80302

April 1, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

<sup>JOE</sup>  
Dear Congressman ~~Neguse~~,

While I am a member of the Boulder City Council, I write this letter in my personal capacity. In that capacity, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding to support their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder has been a valuable partner of the City of Boulder for several years, working to bring hands-on art programs to our community.

This capital project supports several priorities and strategies of Boulder's Community Cultural Plan, including engaging our youth, creating a supportive environment for artists and creative professionals, and enhancing venues and studio spaces.

Studio Arts Boulder consistently contributes to Boulder's Sustainability & Resilience Framework by providing programs that directly improve residents' mental well-being and social connectivity. This project will also further Boulder's Climate Goals by incorporating clean energy systems such as ground-source heat pumps, energy recovery ventilation, daylighting, and solar power.

By creating a welcoming community center and expanding programs with historically marginalized populations, this facility will also help Studio Arts Boulder be a bigger partner in advancing the City's Racial Equity Plan.

There's no facility like this in Colorado and few across the country – a custom-built facility for community education in five studio art mediums. I strongly encourage you to choose this project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder and be a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Bob

Bob Yates, Member

Boulder City Council

April 1, 2022

United States Representative Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, Colorado 80302

**Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding**

Dear Congressman Neguse,

As President and CEO of the Boulder Chamber, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project funding of their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder is a valuable organization within the City of Boulder, bringing economic vitality and innovation to the Front Range business community.

The ongoing economic impact of Studio Arts Boulder's new facility will be over \$2.2 million annually, supporting over 81 FTE jobs in our community, and contributing \$1.6 million to local household income. Beyond the organization's own impact, Studio Arts Boulder's growth also will expand their legacy of launching emerging artists who become creative entrepreneurs in their own right, furthering the cultural vibrancy and economic vitality of Boulder County.

Additionally, having a new community art education center based within Boulder will spark growth and innovation across industry sectors by fostering an even more creative problem-solving workforce, fueling tourism, cultivating more patrons for other local businesses, and building connections between people from diverse industries and backgrounds.

There is no facility like this in Colorado – a custom-built facility for community education in five studio art mediums - and few across the country. I strongly encourage you to choose Studio Arts Boulder's innovative project as a recipient of Community Project funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents and businesses of Boulder and serve as a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,



John L. Tayer  
President and CEO



Boulder Community Health  
Foundation  
*Over 40 Years of Community Impact*

April 1, 2022  
United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,

As President of Boulder Community Health Foundation, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding to support their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder is a valuable new partner with Boulder Community Health Foundation, working to bring hands-on art programs to our community and within our oncology department.

After facing a pandemic, a mass shooting, and a devastating wildfire, the need for community programs in Boulder is at an all-time high. This funding will expand Studio Arts Boulder's capacity and bring healing and connection to local residents at a time when it is most needed.

Studio Arts Boulder's partnership with BCH has already brought so much to women recovering from breast cancer, helping them relieve physical symptoms, build meaningful social connections, and boost immunity and mental health, all of which improves clinical outcomes and reduces healthcare costs.

There's no facility like this in Colorado and few across the country – a custom-built facility for community education in five studio art mediums. I strongly encourage you to choose Studio Arts Boulder's project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder and be a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

*Grant Besser*

Grant Besser  
Vice President of Community Health & Engagement, Boulder Community Health  
President, BCH Foundation

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FOUNDATION**  
BOULDER COUNTY

INSPIRING IDEAS. IGNITING ACTION.®

Tatiana Hernandez, CEO  
Community Foundation Boulder County  
1123 Spruce Street  
Boulder, CO 80302

April 12, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,

I am writing in support of Studio Arts Boulder's (SAB) capital project request for Community Project Funding.

Studio Arts Boulder has been a vital source of programming to support historically marginalized and underrepresented members of our community. Last year, they worked with over 2,620 people through free and pay-what-you-can classes. In free outreach classes, nearly 60% are children in low-income households, 27% are people with disabilities, and 14% are seniors and older adults. Across all paid, pay-what-you-can, and free programs, roughly 65% of SAB's students are from low-income communities.

Participatory art programs are incredibly meaningful experiences -- the work Studio Arts Boulder is doing has a direct impact on the physical, mental, and social health of community members throughout Boulder County. After facing a pandemic, a mass shooting, and a devastating wildfire, the need for community programs in Boulder County is at an all-time high. Expanding Studio Arts Boulder's capacity will bring more healing and connection for our local community in the aftermath of these events, at a time when it is most needed.

Studio Arts Boulder's pay-what-you-can model and free programs help to make the arts affordable and accessible to all. Studio Arts Boulder already provides over 60,520 program-hours with more than 3,580 unique members of our community each year. This capital expansion will multiply their capacity five-fold, dramatically increasing their reach and impact across the Boulder community and throughout the Front Range.

I encourage you to choose this project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder County and be an important addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Hernandez".





United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Representative Joe Neguse,

I write this letter in support of federal funding for Studio Arts Boulder's capital expansion. Studio Arts Boulder is an essential resource for the Boulder County community. In the United States, we are undergoing a mental health crisis that impacts all ages. According to a recently published CDC report "in 2021, more than a third (37%) of high school students reported they experienced poor mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic, and 44% reported they persistently felt sad or hopeless during the past year." Studio Arts Boulder provides a sense of belonging and connectedness against a backdrop of stressors such as social isolation and climate change. To disengage from social media and have a creative and tactile experience with clay is a rewarding and soothing experience for many.

Many art organizations are embracing their care-giving responsibilities. Through paid, pay-what-you-can, and free programs at 45 sites across the community, Studio Arts Boulder already provides over 60,520 program hours with 3,580 unique individuals each year. Studio Arts Boulder works with these populations by providing cultural nourishment. The need will be even greater as Boulder County is entering a senior population boom. 69% of people over the age of 65 report having a disability and many experience severe social isolation. In a city known for its wealth, many families continue to live below the poverty line. Studio Arts Boulder already has an impressive track record of working with seniors and youth from low-income families. This capital expansion will multiply their capacity five-fold and dramatically increase their ability to serve the community, especially the most vulnerable.

Sincerely,  
Sandra Firmin  
Director, University of Colorado Boulder Art Museum



University of Colorado at Boulder

Department of Art & Art History

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UCB 318

Boulder, Colorado 80309-0318

(303) 492-6504 FAX: (303) 492-4886

4 April 2022

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing in support of Studio Arts Boulder as they seek federal funding for their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder has been an incredible asset to the City of Boulder and the surrounding communities for over 50 years, and has been a model for other programs nationwide. While there is no official partnership between my workplace—the Department of Art and Art History at CU Boulder—and Studio Arts Boulder, their presence in our community has provided a great deal of enrichment that supports our work, and us theirs. I have taught many of their teachers, and many of our students have gone on to use their studio as a place to continue their work as artists with the facilities provided by Studio Arts Boulder. SAB has provided an important transitional studio space, supporting emerging artists who have become creative entrepreneurs and professionals in their own right.

The first ceramics teacher at Studio Arts Boulder was Betty Woodman, who later became a world-renowned ceramicist, and the first living woman to have a solo exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and who later came to teach at CU Boulder. Indeed, Studio Arts Boulder is part of the incredibly rich legacy of art and artists in our city. The remarkable history of SAB, and the impact it has had beyond our city, demonstrates that it is deserving of support as it continues into the century and beyond.

As managers of the historic Pottery Lab program, SAB operates the oldest city-supported community pottery studio in the country. They have a proven track record of success, resilience, and innovation. The expansion will capitalize on that experience to provide even more programs in ceramics, as well as opening up opportunities to explore new art forms.

There are no other facilities like this in Colorado, and few in the country, where local residents are welcomed into an art education program outside of an academic institution. SAB has a demonstrated commitment to making art education accessible through their pay-what-you-can and free programs.

I am a believer in the power of art to transform individual lives and communities. Studio Arts Boulder is a powerful force in our city and our state, encouraging all of our citizens to explore what art may offer.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can be of any further assistance.

All good wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeanne Quinn". The letters are cursive and fluidly connected.

Jeanne Quinn

Professor and Chair

Department of Art and Art History

March 29, 2022

The Honorable Joe Neguse  
United States House of Representatives  
Second Congressional District of Colorado  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300, Boulder, CO 80302

Dear Representative Neguse,

I'm writing to ask for your support through the Congressionally Directed Spending process for approximately \$1 million in federal funds to construct a new facility for Studio Arts Boulder. Studio Arts (formerly known as The Pottery Lab) is a key arts institution for the City and County of Boulder, and its new facility on the Diagonal will allow the organization to offer fully accessible pottery classes to many more people than before. I'm familiar with Studio Arts' many contributions to the community, having been a member of the Boulder Arts Commission for the past six years, and chair for the past two years, though I write today as an individual and not on behalf of the commission.

In a highly competitive grants process, the Boulder Arts Commission selected Studio Arts for multi-year General Operating Support because of their excellent focus on the community's priorities and needs, especially those outlined in Boulder's Community Cultural Plan. An example of Studio Arts' service to the community: Last fall, they offered 40 free outreach classes to underserved community members in partnership with dozens of local agencies. People who otherwise would not have had access to pottery lessons included low-income youth and families, seniors at Boulder Housing Partners, unhoused teens, adults and children with disabilities, and those recovering from breast cancer and mild traumatic brain injuries. Studio Arts' new pay-what-you-can fee model has helped provide 290 students access to regular paid pottery classes they otherwise couldn't afford.

After facing a pandemic, a mass shooting, and a devastating wildfire, the need for community programs is at an all-time high. Expanding Studio Arts Boulder's capacity will bring more healing, more connection, and more beauty and hope to our community when it is most needed. This capital project will support numerous long-term community priorities for arts and culture by amplifying the vibrancy of Boulder's cultural destinations, engaging our youth, enhancing the creative economy, and increasing accessibility for historically marginalized community members. As a public funder of Studio Arts Boulder through the City's arts and culture grants program, I've witnessed their track record of consistent dedication to providing real community impact, integrity in using public funds, and resilience in meeting the unprecedented challenges of our time.

Thank you for your consideration of federal funding to expand Studio Arts, and for your service to the community. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards, Kathleen  
Kathleen McCormick, Chair  
Boulder Arts Commission  
303.817.2088; fonthead1@gmail.com



March 31, 2022

United States Representative Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

RE: **Letter of Recommendation for Studio Arts Boulder**  
Application for Community Project Funding

Dear Representative Neguse:

It is with pleasure that I write this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder for Community Project Funding. Studio Arts Boulder is recognized for its work in bringing the arts to the Boulder community and *cultivating the artist in each of us*. As you well know, Boulder has recently faced a series of challenges. Through thoughtful leadership, Studio Arts Boulder has strategically navigated these challenges, continuing to serve the community with creative programming as a source of healing and respite.

Recently I attended an evening program in Studio Art Boulder's historic Fire Station #2 that has been adapted into a vibrant space to create art. The program attracted diverse participation from the community, each of us growing creative skills throughout the evening. The event demonstrated the thoughtfulness Studio Arts Boulder invests in every program and the power of the arts to connect across the community and generations. Boulder continues to see increasing demand for these types of events and the Fire Station is currently at capacity. Studio Art Boulder's planned expansion with a new building at Diagonal Crossing will allow Studio Arts Boulder to bring more capacity to programs that foster healing, connection, beauty, and hope to our local community at a time when it is most needed.

I have seen Studio Arts Boulder support and further develop the Boulder's Community Cultural Plan through a consistent record of using City of Boulder Cultural Grants to provide real community impact and resilience in meeting the unprecedented challenges of our time. Their capital project will support long-term community priorities for arts and culture by amplifying the vibrancy of Boulder's cultural destinations, engaging our youth, enhancing the creative economy, and increasing accessibility for historically marginalized community members.

I encourage you to support of this application to further Studio Art's Boulder outreach to the community and for your service and advocacy for the Boulder community. We know your support of the arts and Studio Arts Boulder will be used to provide direct support to our community.

I am member of the Boulder Arts Commission, a funder of Studio Arts, but with this letter of recommendation I am not representing the commission. Please contact me if I can respond to any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Maria Cole

Digitally signed by Maria Cole  
DN: C=US,  
E=m.cole205@gmail.com,  
CN=Maria Cole  
Date: 2022.03.30  
16:54:28-06'00'

Maria E. Cole, AIA  
Studio Cole Architects  
[mariacole@studiodcole.org](mailto:mariacole@studiodcole.org)  
303-949-9095



Providing Homes, Creating Community, Changing Lives

4800 N. Broadway, Boulder, CO 80304  
Phone: 720-564-4610  
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Hearing Assistance: 1-800-659-3656

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, Co 80302

3/31/2022

Dear Representative Neguse,

Boulder Housing Partners appreciates the opportunity to write a letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder as they apply for funding for their capital expansion project through Community Project Funding. Boulder Housing Partners (BHP) is the housing authority for the City of Boulder. We are the largest provider of affordable housing in Boulder.

BHP and Studio Arts Boulder have partnered since 2018, including throughout the Covid pandemic. These no-barrier onsite programs provide residents with opportunities to strengthen relationships with their neighbors while learning a therapeutic skill that has benefits for both mental and physical health. Last year alone, Studio Arts Boulder hosted 20 classes at 2 different BHP communities with 27 unique participants. These opportunities to safely connect with neighbors helped to decrease the negative impacts of social isolation that were so impactful for older adults throughout the pandemic.

Testimonials from participants:

*"I loved it. We should do it every week... I have never, but always wanted to use, clay. Good therapy. Very forgiving material... Can't wait to see this one fired and get started on the next one."*

*"I reluctantly attended a Pottery Class hosted by Studio Arts Boulder (thinking I was just not a 'crafts type' person). The truth is, I really have enjoyed it and continue to attend! What is offered is very special, the classes are satisfying for beginners and more advanced students alike. I love that I have learned to love the often crude but very useful pottery I have made."*

While these onsite opportunities are impactful for BHP residents, classes offered at the Pottery Lab are open to the larger community. The new proposed expansion would increase the types of classes that could be offered and the quantity of classes, which would increase opportunities for healthful engagement for the entire Boulder community.

Thank you,

Lyndall Ellingson  
Resident Services Program Manager



Angela Lauridsen  
Boulder Valley School District, Community Schools  
P.O. Box 9011  
Boulder, CO 80301

April 1, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,


As a member of Boulder Valley School District's Lifelong Learning Enrichment team, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's request for Community Project Funding to support their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder is a valuable new partner for BVSD's Lifelong Learning Enrichment programming, working to bring hands-on art programs directly to our students throughout the year.

After the unprecedented challenges families and teachers have faced from the pandemic, the value of community partnerships is even more critical to bolster the educational opportunities, social connection, and wellness of our young people. Studio Arts Boulder works to bring the healing power of hands-on art programs to over 2,000 children across our community each year.

Studio Arts Boulder's new partnership with Lifelong Learning is already gaining momentum as word-of-mouth spreads to more and more kids. This capital expansion will bring even greater capacity, additional artforms, and unique experiences to share with families across the school district.

There's no facility like this in Colorado and few across the country – a custom-built facility for community education in five studio art mediums. I strongly encourage you to choose this project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder and be a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,



Angela Lauridsen,  
Lifelong Learning Enrichment Program Coordinator



**City of Boulder  
Housing & Human Services  
Older Adult Services**

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

April 4, 2022

Dear Representative Neguse,

City of Boulder Older Adult Services (OAS) is writing to express our support for Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding to build and expand their services into a second facility in Boulder for community art education. Since September 2021, OAS has participated in a very successful partnership with Studio Arts by co-hosting monthly pottery classes for older adults 60+ at our West Age Well Center. Each monthly class has filled to capacity and participants have expressed appreciation for the clear, helpful and friendly instruction, the variety of materials available to use, and the support the entire class provides for each other.

In January 2022, OAS expanded our partnership with Studio Arts to include a second monthly pottery class designed to serve older adults with neurodegenerative diseases, including dementia, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, where participants are accompanied by their caregiver or partner. This new class is also very successful and the attendance continues to grow.

Studio Arts Boulder reports that studies on aging show that regular participation in hands-on art programs reduces social isolation, improves cognitive function, and keeps older adults actively engaged in their community longer. Studio Arts has reported serving between 500 – 1,000 older adults each year that includes program fees, sliding scale and free programs, and have offered free classes with older adults at Boulder Housing Partner sites as well as several assisted living facilities throughout the area.

City of Boulder Older Adult Services is very excited to support Studio Arts Boulder's vision to expand these valuable offerings in our community through Community Project Funding. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Maureen Dobson, MSW (*She, Her, Hers*)**  
**Programs Manager, Older Adult Services**  
[dobsonm@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:dobsonm@bouldercolorado.gov)

West Age Well Center 909 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO 80302

<https://bouldercolorado.gov/older-adults>

cc: Eden Bailey, Older Adult Services Manager





### Letter in Support of Studio Arts Boulder

On behalf of the Emergency Family assistance Association (EFAA), I would like to express our enthusiastic support for work Studio Arts Boulder is doing in our community, in particular with children from the most vulnerable households.

EFAA is a non-profit community-based safety net and family resource center serving residents of Boulder County for over a hundred years. We provide basic needs support like food and financial assistance, wrap around services and referrals and deeper family development work to help residents move out of poverty over the longer-term. We also provide temporary housing and intensive case management (up to 2 years) for families with children experiencing homelessness. EFAA serves over 5,000 people per year, including hundreds of the most vulnerable children and youth in our community.

EFAA has been working with Studio Arts Boulder for two years to bring arts through our after school programming to children living in EFAA housing. Studio Arts boulder's engagement has been virtual as well as in person on EFAA Housing sites. Our staff and volunteers report that they have been wonderful to work with. They teach the children and youth of Kids Club the basics of building pottery by hand. For many of the children and youth as well as parents that attend, this is very soothing and relaxing. They feel that their stress is being alleviated. IT also provides a creative outlet so important to the mental health challenges we have all faced during COVID. We look forward to continuing and expanding our partnership with Studio Arts Boulder to enrich the lives of the kids we serve.

Sincerely,

Julie Van Domelen  
Executive Director, EFAA



April 1st, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Dear Congressman Neguse,

TGTHR is thrilled to write a letter of support for Studio Arts in Boulder for their application to the Community Project Funding to support capital expansion and provide additional programming throughout our community.

TGTHR has been partnering with Studio Arts since 2017. Last year, Studio Arts held 45 classes at TGTHR with a total attendance of 158 young people. We estimate that's around 47 unique individuals.

Studio Arts has been a critical partner in serving youth and young adults experiencing homelessness. A major piece of adolescence and young adulthood is engaging in creative play and fun, which unfortunately many of our program participants have not had the opportunity to do. Studio arts has taken the time to learn in-depth about our population and their needs, and has created tailored experiences where youth can challenge themselves to learn new skills while having fun. These types of experiences are the foundation to creating healing and growth in our community. Studio Arts helps to create safe spaces where our program participants feel seen and understood, and where they can challenge themselves.

Studio Arts instructors and volunteers run pottery programs biweekly at two of our locations, The Source emergency shelter and drop-in center and 1440 Pine Street, our supportive housing apartment building. They also host classes at their studio where participants from all of our programs can experience the joy and challenge of throwing pottery on the wheel. Their instructors are warm, thoughtful and open to the needs of our population, and all of the program participants report having positive interactions with Studio Arts instructors and peers.

TGTHR is profoundly grateful to studio arts for sharing their many invaluable resources and talents with our youth, and look forward to many more opportunities to collaborate.

Sincerely,

Claire Cronin, PhD LPC NCC RPT-S

Director of Behavioral Health and Wellness, TGTHR



Tim Russo  
KGNU Community Radio  
4700 Walnut Street  
Boulder, CO 80301

April 1, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

**Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding**

Dear Congressman Neguse,

As Station Manager for KGNU Community Radio, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding to support their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder is a valuable asset to the Boulder community and beyond.

Studio Arts Boulder is committed to people and serving the people in our community in particular. The new facility envisioned by Studio Arts will add a much needed community center for local groups and nonprofits that can be used as flex and gallery space for meetings, events, and exhibitions. Community studios, by nature, provide a welcoming environment for people from all backgrounds, in turn inviting collaboration, connection, friendship and a sense of community.

Studio Arts Boulder has established itself through its history, as a consistent, reliable partner for many groups, offering quality and accessible art education programs that foster an inclusive community.

Studio Arts Boulder provides over 60,000 program-hours (hour per participant) with more than 3,500 unique individuals annually. Their larger facility will increase their capacity five-fold, allowing them to provide significantly more free programs, new art forms, and more opportunities to partner with groups and organizations based in our community.

I strongly encourage you to deeply consider the positive impact on the Boulder community represented in the selection of this project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder while providing a vibrant community arts model for the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Tim Russo  
Station Manager  
[manager@kgnu.org](mailto:manager@kgnu.org)  
KGNU Community Radio  
88.5 FM Boulder, 1390 AM Denver, 93.7 FM Nederland, 98.7 FM Fort Collins, 99.1 FM Englewood



## **Boulder Parks & Recreation**

To whom it may concern,

I'm Alma Garcia and I work for the City of Boulder in Parks and Recreation building afterschool and summer programs for underserved youth. We've been a partner with the Boulder Pottery Lab for a long time and it has been a great partnership. The Pottery Lab recognizes the barriers our participants face and accommodate us in any way we need.

Pottery isn't something common for our group's demographic to experience. It can be expensive and otherwise seen as a luxury. Our participants get to experience the relaxing and creativity effects of pottery at no cost. During the worst of the pandemic, I did virtual program and Katie from the pottery lab gifted our group pottery home kits so that we could do pottery virtually. It brought such a sense of normalcy in a time where it was very scary for the kids.

They bring all the materials and staff necessary to teach our group wherever we are in the city. We have 4 uniquely different youth and teens programs serving around 120 unduplicated participants, and the pottery lab works with all of them. Some of our programs have transportation and we're welcomed at their studio, but some don't have transportation and they're ready to bring the studio to us.

On behalf of our program Youth Services Initiative, City of Boulder, I would like to offer this letter of support to the Boulder Pottery Lab. I believe the people at the pottery lab have been building community and opportunity for Boulder and their expansion will be a great asset to the community.

Sincerely,

Alma Garcia  
Boulder Parks and Recreation



TYES, Inc.  
[tyes.help@gmail.com](mailto:tyes.help@gmail.com)  
(303) 351-2044

April 7, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,

I am writing as parent and board member with TYES (Transgender Youth Education & Support) a Colorado statewide parent-volunteer group supporting all gender expansive youth and families. It is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's (SAB) request for Community Project Funding for their capital expansion project.

TYES began its partnership with Studio Arts Boulder in 2019. We have found their pottery classes are a fun and calming way for our families to join together. Forming a community in support of our children is such an important aspect of our mission and the classes SAB offers help us achieve this.

Studio Arts Boulder is a valuable organization within the City of Boulder and surrounding communities. Their arts program is an important vehicle for us to encourage bonding and connection within our families. Research shows that 64% of transgender youth who have supportive parents report high self-esteem and parent support is one of the largest factors in positive outcomes for our kids. These courses help us foster a supportive environment.

The Studio Arts Boulder expansion project will increase their capacity to offer even more programs with partners like TYES. There's no facility like this in Colorado and few in the country – a custom-built facility for community education in five studio art mediums. I strongly encourage you to choose Studio Arts Boulder's project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for Boulder and be a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Brianna Titone, Board Treasurer

Joshua Gruber, Board Secretary  
Brian Resch, Board President



Safehouse Progressive Alliance  
for Nonviolence

April 5, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,

As Executive Director for Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN) in Boulder, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's (SAB) application for Community Project Funding to support their capital expansion project. SAB is an important partner with SPAN in providing meaningful and effective resources that support adults and children impacted by interpersonal violence.

At a time when our community is experiencing higher domestic violence rates than national and state averages, the pottery classes SAB provides to our families are vital in the healing process we support. We value our partnership with SAB.

Studio Arts Boulder has established itself as a consistent, reliable partner for many groups throughout Boulder County and beyond by offering quality art education programs that foster inclusive community. SPAN started weekly programs with SAB in 2018. Though we needed to pause during parts of the pandemic, we've served over 190 unique residents in this partnership, SAB's larger facility will increase their capacity five-fold. SPAN is excited to benefit from the new artforms and programs this new community art center will facilitate.

I strongly encourage you to choose this project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder and be a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

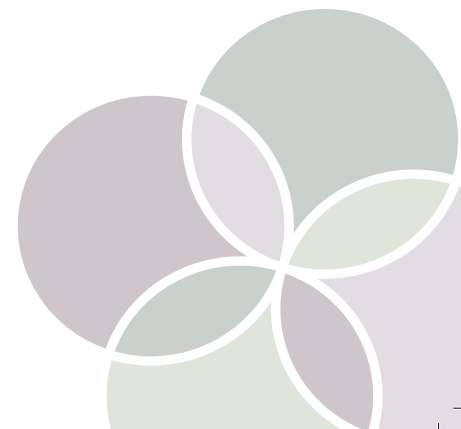
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne Tapp".

Anne Tapp  
Executive Director

---

835 North Street, Boulder, Colorado 80304  
**Crisis Line: 303.444.2424** | Outreach: 303.449.8623  
[www.safehousealliance.org](http://www.safehousealliance.org)





To whom it may concern:

Studio Arts Boulder is an amazing organization and community partner and we are very excited to hear about their potential new community center, which we know will give our communities access to amazing art programs. We have worked closely with Studio Arts Boulder the past several years to provide free pottery sessions to our LGBTQ+ youth groups.

We first began our journey of collaboration with Studio Arts Boulder for our annual LGBTQ+ Youth of Color Leadership Retreat. This retreat consisted of three days of identity, community building, and advocacy workshops for LGBTQ+ Youth of Color ages 13-18. The goal of the leadership retreat is to offer a space for LGBTQ+ youth of color to explore and celebrate all facets of their identity. LGBTQ+ people of color face unique challenges due to the racism we experience in the predominantly white LGBTQ+ spaces and with homophobia and transphobia present in our communities of color. One of the workshops for our leadership retreat was led by Studio Arts Boulder. The theme we focused on was self-care and “filling your cup”. Studio Arts Boulder provided a facilitator who identified within the LGBTQ+ community and all the materials and supplies. Our youth were taught how to hand build mugs, cups, or bowls. Our youth had an amazing time, some of whom had never engaged with pottery before.

Since then, Studio Arts Boulder has come into our weekly LGBTQ+ youth support groups to offer several free pottery sessions. Our weekly support groups see between 20-30 youth per week who identify as LGBTQ+ and are between the ages of 11-18. Studio Arts Boulder has provided these youth with a fun and welcoming opportunity into an art medium that is typically expensive and sometimes homogeneous in the identities of the participants. In this way, Studio



Arts Boulder is aware of the unique challenges and access issues for marginalized communities, and works to do outreach to bridge these gaps. As we know from data, LGBTQ+ communities, especially youth, are four times more likely to attempt suicide than their peers. Data also shows that the arts provide protective factors for people's mental health. I believe that giving access to several art mediums at the new community center, including pottery, black smithing, printmaking, etc. would have a positive effect on individual community members' mental health, but also in our collective community health, especially after our county has seen an incredibly difficult few years. I also believe that the new community center for Studio Arts Boulder would enable them to expand their impressive outreach and help bridge the gap even more for our marginalized communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jenna Howerton, LSW, MSW

Youth Program Manager

Out Boulder County





Francea Phillips  
President and CEO  
Meals on Wheels of Boulder  
3701 Canfield Street  
Boulder, CO 80301

April 1, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,

As President and CEO of Meals on Wheels of Boulder, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding for their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder is a valuable partner with Meals on Wheels of Boulder, serving a number of the same populations. They will also be our neighbor once their new facility is complete and we cannot wait to work more closely with them.

Meals on Wheels of Boulder is dedicated to helping Boulder residents age in place and remain healthy and connected to their community. Studio Arts Boulder serves between 500 to 1,000 older adults each year across paid, pay-what-you-can, and free pottery programs. Specifically, they provide free classes for seniors at the AgeWell Center, Boulder Housing Partners sites, and several assisted living facilities throughout the area. Free Outreach Programs are the largest growing segment of their organization.

This larger facility will help increase their capacity five-fold, bringing more free programs, new art forms, and more opportunities to partner with other organizations. Studies on aging compiled by Americans for the Arts show that regular participation in hands-on art programs helps reduce social isolation, improves cognitive function, and keeps older adults actively engaged in their community for longer. I view Studio Arts as a vital organization for the health and wellness of communities throughout Boulder County.

I strongly encourage you to choose Studio Arts Boulder's project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder and be a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francea Phillips". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being particularly prominent.

Francea Phillips  
President and CEO

**Bringing health and humanity to the table.**

phone: (720) 780-3380 • fax: (303) 441-4146  
3701 Canfield St., Boulder, CO 80301  
info@mowboulder.org • mowboulder.org



Molly Collins  
Imagine!  
1665 Dixon Avenue  
Lafayette, CO 80026-2790

March 31, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Dear Representative Neguse,

My name is Molly Collins, and I work for the non-profit Imagine! in their School Age Services department. Our department strives to provide therapeutic, inclusive, and community-based experiences for children who identify within the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Community. Our mission at Imagine! is to create a world of opportunity for all abilities. Two of our primary principles are (1) to embrace a culture of support and creativity and (2) to inspire a positive and inclusive community.

I am writing in support of Studio Arts Boulder's candidacy for the Community Project Funding request for their Capital Expansion Project. Working with organizations such as Studio Arts Boulder is vital to our work at Imagine! and the lives of the children and families with whom we work. Our kids attend a weekly hand-building pottery class and are currently working towards a collaborative pottery piece to be displayed at our annual School Age Services art show. I am immensely thankful for the flexibility, creativity, and inclusivity each Studio Arts Boulder staff member and volunteer brings to each class. They constantly and consistently strive to engage the kids and accommodate the kids' varying support needs. The people of Studio Arts Boulder are exemplary models of how there are many ways that everyone can interact with their broader communities, with art, and with each other. Everyone at Studio Arts Boulder does a tremendous job of listening, adapting, and finding creative ways to support and encourage our kids.

I wholeheartedly agree with Studio Arts Boulder's purpose to "improve the lives of local community members by fostering the mental, physical, and social benefits of hands-on art," and I can personally attest to the benefit of community-based pottery classes. I've watched as our kids have explored, experimented and created. I've watched as they have acquired new skills and bolstered their confidence. I've watched as they've sharpened their fine motor skills, developed greater sensory regulation, and improved their mental focus. Some might see a mere pottery class, but I see growth, connection, and self-exploration. For these reasons, I strongly support selecting Studio Arts Boulder as a recipient of the Community Project Funding. If you have any further questions about Studio Arts Boulder's qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact me at 931-319-7280.

Warmly,  
Molly Collins, CTRS (She/Her)  
Imagine! Therapeutic Specialist, School-Age Services  
mcollins@Imaginecolorado.org



April 4, 2022

Dear Granting Committee,

We are very honored to have the opportunity to write this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder in their endeavor to expand their facilities to meet the growing need for arts education. Their commitment of expanding the arts to people of all ages and abilities and exposing them to high-quality, hands-on classes in five studio art mediums is of critical importance during this time when the arts in public schools is being defunded. The need for continued support to community organizations, like Studio Arts Boulder, ensures arts education is available to all.

The I Have A Dream Foundation has a long-standing partnership with Studio Arts Boulder. They provide under-resourced communities across Boulder County the opportunity to “cultivate the artist in each of us by inviting creative collaboration in the study, practice, and advancement of the studio arts”.

We are enthusiastic about expanding our partnership with Studio Arts Boulder. Since the start of this collaboration, Dreamer Scholars have been exposed to a variety of hand-building techniques, using tools, textures, stamps, and molds. Our collaboration started with 1 group in 2017 and has grown to over 7 groups in 2021, 43 pottery classes and over 512 Dreamer Scholars being served through this unique experience.

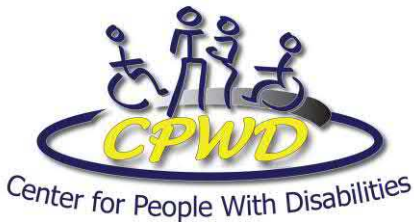
It is our hope that through the support from the Congressional Directed Funding, Studio Arts Boulder will be able to expand their much needed space and programming to continue serving the community in positive ways.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Kind regards,

*Perla Delgado*

Dr. Perla Delgado  
CEO/Executive Director  
I Have A Dream Foundation of Boulder County  
303-444-3636



# Center for People With Disabilities

*Overcoming barriers to Independent Living since 1977*

March 31, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Dear Representative Neguse:

I am writing a letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder and their application for federal funding for a capital expansion project through the Congressionally Directed Spending process.

Studio Arts Boulder has the rare opportunity to build a 12,500 sq. ft. facility custom-made for community art education. There is no other facility like it in Colorado – a place where people of all ages and abilities can take high-quality, hands-on classes in five studio art mediums.

The new facility will be of greater service to the community beyond supporting studio arts as it will be in a highly visible location along a gateway corridor in Boulder. The surrounding neighborhood includes sculpture pads that Studio Arts Boulder will curate, bike path connections, a restaurant, market- rate and affordable apartments, and a new facility for Meals on Wheels.

Many of our consumers with disabilities have experienced integrated learning and sharing through Studio Arts Boulder, and a successful capital expansion would bring benefit to the entire Boulder community, people with disabilities, students, older and retired adults, and many others.

Please support this project, and our community, through Congressionally Directed Spending.

Many thanks,

Maria Stepanyan, Executive Director  
Center for People With Disabilities  
Maria@CPWD.org

---

**Boulder**  
1675 Range Street  
Boulder, CO 80301  
Ph: (303) 442-8662  
Fx: (303) 442-0502

**Longmont**  
615 North Main Street  
Longmont, CO 80501  
Ph: (303) 442-8662  
Fx: (303) 772-5125

**Broomfield**  
6 Garden Center  
Broomfield, CO 80020  
Ph: (303) 442-8662  
Only Open Mondays

**North Metro**  
10317 Washington Street  
Thornton, CO 80229  
Ph: (303) 442-8662  
Fx: (303) 792-0317



2601 SPRUCE ST, UNIT B  
BOULDER, CO 80302

COMMUNITYCYCLES.ORG

Sue Prant, Executive Director  
Community Cycles  
2601 Spruce Street, Unit B  
Boulder, CO 80302

April 1, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,

As Executive Director of Community Cycles, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding for their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder (SAB) is a valuable, environmentally conscientious organization committed to sustainable and innovative practices.

I am thrilled that the new facility will be located along a key corridor, with better access to multi-modal transportation options, including cycling! SAB has included short- and long-term bike storage as part of their building design as well as EV charging stations in the parking lot. The project will also help further Boulder's Climate Goals by incorporating clean energy systems such as geothermal ground-source heat pumps, energy recovery ventilation, daylighting, and solar power.

Additionally, I would like to share that Studio Arts Boulder offers an inclusive and welcoming pay-what-you-can fee model for classes in addition to their free Outreach Programs with partner organizations throughout the Front Range and Denver. Their Art for All approach is a gamechanger for many families regionally. 57% of their free courses are with youth from low income households while 65% of all students report household income below the median. From 2017 to 2021, SAB's Outreach Programs have increased from 2 to more than 40 free classes monthly. This larger facility, for which they are requesting funding, will help increase this capacity five-fold, bringing more free programs, new art forms, and more opportunities to partner with other organizations.

There's no facility like this in Colorado and few across the country – a custom-built facility for community education in five studio art mediums. I strongly encourage you to choose Studio Arts Boulder's project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder and be a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Sue Prant, Executive Director



CONSERVATION MADE EASY

Neal Lurie  
President and CEO  
Resource Central  
6400 Arapahoe Road  
Boulder, CO 80303

April 1, 2022

United States Representative, Joe Neguse  
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300  
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding

Dear Congressman Neguse,

As President and CEO of Resource Central, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for Studio Arts Boulder's application for Community Project Funding for their capital expansion project. Studio Arts Boulder is a valuable organization within the community, and I applaud their level of commitment to the environment as shown in the type of building they've designed and in their day-to-day operations at the Pottery Lab.

Studio Arts Boulder is a conscientious steward of resources, using environmentally-responsible studio practices and reusing materials whenever possible. It is astounding that they recycle nearly 1,000 lbs of clay each week!

I've also learned that they recently switched to lower-temperature glaze firing practices which reduced their gas consumption by half and that they use and teach water-saving strategies throughout the Pottery Lab. Their new facility will also further Boulder's Climate Goals by incorporating clean energy systems such as geothermal ground-source heat pumps, energy recovery ventilation, daylighting, and solar power.

There's no facility like this in Colorado and few across the country – a custom-built, energy efficient and sustainable facility for community education in five studio art mediums. I strongly encourage you to choose Studio Arts Boulder's project as a recipient of Community Project Funding. It will bring measurable benefits for the residents of Boulder and be a vibrant addition to the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neal Lurie", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Neal Lurie  
President and CEO