

ARTS AT THE GRACE - TORONTO GRACE HEALTH CENTRE

Department of Volunteer Resources

Toronto Grace Health Centre specializes in providing health services to complex continuing care, palliative care and slow paced rehabilitation patients. In addition to maintaining a high standard of clinical excellence, the Grace also supports the creative interests and spiritual needs of our patients.

Arts at the Grace, established in 2003 by Volunteer Resources, is a multifaceted initiative focusing on the enrichment of the environment and the lives of patients and their families. The program is made possible by the support of a variety of volunteer artists from the community who partner with us. Arts at the Grace encompasses landscaping, a concert series, dance performances and art shows.

At the core of these activities is encouraging engagement and participation in the creative experience. Through an understanding of the unique needs of individuals, our artists often adapt performances and activities to make them accessible to the physical and cognitive capabilities of our patients. Friends, family members and staff also enjoy the benefits of these programs and the unique connection artists bring through their presence in the Grace community.

Arts at the Grace provides a forum to:

- partner with artists who enjoy sharing their talent and enthusiasm for their art form with Grace patients
- provide hope and inspiration through expanding social contacts and engaging in normal activity
- include all patients regardless of their means, language, culture or physical/cognitive abilities

Our first musical event was held in 2003 and was enthusiastically received by patients, family members and staff. Two talented musicians, a jazz singer and pianist, got the concert series off to a great start. Since that time we have been organizing a range of concerts and dance performances on a regular basis throughout the year.

If you have a creative talent to share, can recommend an artist, or would like to learn more about how you could support this program, please contact Wendy Campbell, Arts at the Grace Coordinator or Michael Fliess, Director of Volunteer Resources for further information.

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