



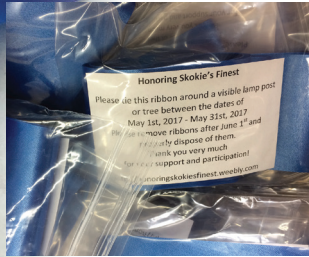
A Newsletter from The Douglas Center :: SPRING 2017

## Proud to be a Part of Honoring Skokie's Finest

The Douglas Center was awarded the project to assemble and package the red and blue ribbons to "Honor Skokie's Finest and Bravest" for the village-wide event hosted by the Skokie Chamber of Commerce. From May 2nd to May 31st, residents, businesses, houses of worship and schools in the Skokie area are asked to place ribbons in their front yards, trees and lamp posts, to recognize Skokie's first responders.

Prior to beginning this project, participants of The Douglas Center were informed about the purpose of the "Honoring Skokie's Finest and Bravest" campaign. Program Participants of The Douglas Center's *Young at Heart* Seniors, Developmental Rehabilitation and Work Programs have been involved

in various steps of the process. While many participants are able to perform all of the packaging and assembly steps, some are not, due to mobility and/or dexterity issues. One such participant discovered his role in the process as the person that held the ribbon in place for the person cutting the ribbon. Each individual took great pride in their contribution.



**BE SURE TO DISPLAY  
RED & BLUE RIBBONS IN MAY  
TO HONOR OUR FIRST RESPONDERS**

Ribbons will be distributed by sponsors or may be picked up at any of the sponsor locations.

### IN THIS ISSUE

Ribbons for Skokie's Finest	1
New Vendors for Art From The Heart	2
Reflection #GivingTuesday	2
Art Opening	3
Allow Good Nomination	3
Swell Gallery Artist Market	3
Electronic Recycling	4
Manufacturing Opportunities	4

### CLOSING SCHEDULE

In Service Day	May 12
Memorial Day	May 29
In Service Day	June 16
Independence Day	July 3 & 4

**“Our program participants have taken great pride in doing their part for this wonderful and historical event.”**

*– Rifath Khan*



**The Douglas Center**

*A ray of light for individuals with special needs*

## New Retail Partners for the “Art From The Heart” Creations®



“We are thrilled to welcome them into our family of retailers.”

– Rifath Khan

The Douglas Center *Art From The Heart Creations*® is delighted to welcome our newest retailer partners: **Lurvey Garden Center** of Des Plaines and **Homesoul** in Chicago. Lurvey Garden Center is dedicated to helping people improve their outdoor surroundings by providing quality landscape products and exceptional customer service. Featured in their display of *Art From The Heart Creations* is an assortment of mosaic flower pots and mosaic necklaces. Lurvey Garden Center is located at 2550 E. Dempster in Des Plaines.

At Homesoul of Chicago you will find a blend of inspiring new home accessories, unique vintage finds and original art from local artists. Our display at homesoul features an assortment of mosaic flower pots, mosaic mirrors, coaster sets, and greeting cards. Homesoul is located at 4526 North Lincoln Avenue, Chicago, Illinois “We are honored and very appreciative for the support of Lurvey Garden Center and Homesoul,” stated Rifath Khan, CEO.

Spread the word and visit these retailers to purchase our *Art From The Heart Creations* works of art.

*Art From The Heart Creations* is a program participant-based business that provides “hands-on” experience in the creation, production and selling of their own products. Each beautiful piece is made from the heart by participants of The Douglas Center living with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities. A portion of the proceeds of each piece goes directly to the program participant that created it.

## 2016 Reflection



#GIVINGTUESDAY™

## Double Impact

The Douglas Center received an extraordinary opportunity from The Coleman Foundation for a second year – matched donations. All new donations made on November 29, 2016, otherwise known as #GivingTuesday, were fully matched and past donor contributions were matched on the amount of increase over their 2015 donation. Kicking off the season of charity, #GivingTuesday has become a movement that celebrates philanthropy throughout the world. The donation challenge is meant to boost the impact of funds raised by individual contributors focusing on using social media as a catalyst for giving. The Douglas Center is pleased to announce that we witnessed a 24% increase in donations over 2015 and doubled the amount of people that donated on that Tuesday. We are so grateful to everyone that supported, donated and shared our posts to raise awareness and funds to support the programs and services of The Douglas Center.

24%  
INCREASE

“We are grateful for the support of our donors, especially on #GivingTuesday, when their contributions made double the impact to the programs and services provided at our center”

– Rifath Khan

YOU ARE INVITED...

# Spring Fling

OPEN HOUSE ART SHOW & SALE

at The Douglas Center • 445 Howard Street, Skokie



Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

12:00 – 4:00pm

*Just in time for Spring planting and Mother's Day gift buying. Come see our selection of mosaic pots & mirrors, paintings, cards, jewelry, coasters, inspirational plaques and more. Partial proceeds go to the artist that created the work.*

## The Douglas Center Nominated for Grant Competition

The Douglas Center has been selected to compete for a grant awarded by the Northwestern University chapter of Allow Good. Allow Good connects with local high schools to educate youth about the social challenges facing their communities, equip them with the tools to effect change and engage them in taking action for social good. Students from Niles North High School in Skokie nominated several non-profit organizations to participate for potential funding. Each class is given \$1,000 to grant to a non-profit organization in their community. The Douglas Center recently received notification that we were nominated by two classes.

The Douglas Center has submitted the required grant application and will make brief live presentations before each class on Friday, April 21st. Students of Niles North High School will make their



decision on May 5th and will notify the nominees. Students will award the grant to their chosen recipient at an award ceremony during the week of May 15th.

“We are thrilled to have been nominated by the youth in our community for this competition,” commented Rifath Khan, Chief Executive Officer. “We look forward to making our presentation before the Niles North students and raising awareness on the challenges and talents of individuals living with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities. We are grateful for the opportunity to inspire today’s youth to be engaged in making change for the social good.”



## Happy Returns at the Swell Gallery

For the second year, the **swell gallery** invited The Douglas Center to be a part of the gallery’s *Return of Spring Art Market*. The market is opened weekends throughout April. The “Art From The Heart” Creations® exhibit featured pieces created by several program participants of The Douglas Center including paintings, coasters and mosaic pots with plantings.

Swell Gallery is a gallery located in the lower level of a historic building in the heart of downtown West Dundee, Illinois. The gallery hosts several workshops and holiday markets. **swell gallery** is operated by local artists, Kim Tibbetts and Nikki Hollander. [www.swellgallery.com](http://www.swellgallery.com) for details.

“We were delighted to have been invited to return to Swell Gallery,” stated Rifath Khan, Chief Executive Officer. The excitement, satisfaction and self-esteem that comes with earning an income by the creation of your own hands is something that we all value and aspire to. For individuals with special needs this is both extremely challenging and rewarding.” We are so grateful for the opportunity.



**The Douglas Center**

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(847) 674-1921 Phone | (847) 679-1823 Fax  
[www.thedouglascenter.com](http://www.thedouglascenter.com)

**OUR MISSION**

The Douglas Center serves to assist adults living with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities in improving their independent living skills and enrichment of their quality of life.

**We ACCEPT**

The Douglas Center is accepting the following electronic items for recycling:

- Computers  
*(But NOT CRT monitors)*
- Laptops and Tablets
- Motherboards
- Heat sinks
- RAM
- Wires and Cables
- DVDs and Floppy Drives
- Hard drives

**Dispose Your Electronic Items Safely and Responsibly with The Douglas Center**



Safely dispose of your old electronics by donating them to The Douglas Center. Recycling electronics saves landfill space and protects our environment. In keeping with our mission, the recycling program provides work skilled training and employment opportunities. Each participant is trained in the recycling process providing them with an opportunity to work in the growing field of sustainability. Your Donations Provide Job Opportunities!

**We DO NOT Accept The Following Items:**

- Monitors
- Televisions
- Printers
- Fax Machines

Or any electronics not listed in the above list of items accepted

Electronic items for recycling may be dropped off at The Douglas Center: 3445 Howard Street, Skokie, Illinois from Monday through Friday, 9 am to 3:30 pm. For more information please contact us at 847-674-1921.

**Find out how we can help you save on manufacturing and fulfillment costs.**

**A FEW OF OUR SERVICES:**

- > Poster Rolling
- > Labeling
- > Commercial/Industrial Sewing
- > Packaging
- > Sort & Collating
- > Custom Specialty Projects
- > Assembly
- > Shrink-wrapping

**Call for a Quote 847-674-1921**

ENGAGE & stay connected

