

Session W31:
Opening Minds through Art-OMA

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- Objectives:**
- Participants will:*
- *Have a general understanding of the Opening Minds through Art (OMA) philosophy and methodology*
 - *Identify what is still possible when people with moderate to advanced stages of dementia are given creative self expression opportunities*
 - *Identify key principles for designing effective visual arts program for people with dementia*
 - *Identify organizational benefits and challenges in implementing art programming for people with dementia*

Opening Minds through Art -OMA

A Scripps intergenerational art program for people with dementia

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OMA
Opening Minds through Art

OMA's Mission

Building bridges across
age and cognitive barriers through art




OMA's Goals



1. To promote the **well-being of PWD** through creative self-expression.
2. To foster close relationships between **staff/volunteers** and PWD.
3. To educate the **public** about the creative capacities of PWD.
4. To contribute to the **scholarly literature** on dementia.

Program Overview


- Weekly intergenerational art program, 1:1 ratio
- 2 facilitators
- Everyone trained
- Scripps Gerontology Ctr., Miami Univ. OH
- LeadingAge award 2011



Photos by Kerrie Matthews & Buffy Hanna

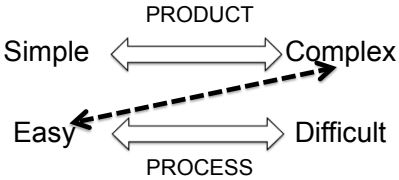
Three Elements that set OMA apart

- How we design the projects
- How we design the process
- How we treat the elders




How we design the projects

Art that is complex but easy to do



OMA Process

- Follow the same 12 step process every session
- Work 1:1
- Offer creative choices
- Respect the choices and the process



OMA Philosophy-How We Behave

- **Illness-centered perspective:**
Person with **dementia**

- **Person-centered perspective:**
Person with dementia

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