

Wende Correctional Facility Showcases paintings at Deaf Art Show

The Wende Correctional Facility recently hosted its first ever “Deaf Art Show” featuring five years’ worth of art pieces created by Wende’s Deaf inmate population. In addition to Wende staff and inmates the workshop was attended by deaf facilitators from local colleges along with renowned Deaf artist, Nancy Rourke, whose own work served as the inspiration for several of the inmates’ paintings.

The workshops were originally designed as an outlet for the Deaf population to express, through their artwork, how it feels to be deaf and incarcerated. It has since become a way to show Deaf pride as well as acceptance into the hearing world. The program has amassed a wide collection of art pieces from current as well as former inmates.

Also on display were examples of artwork that adorns the walls of Wende’s Deaf resource room/sign language class.

