



CRU ARTS &
CULTURE

A 5 DAY PROJECT WITH
FILTER OF HOPE



FILTER OF HOPE

FOR FIVE DAYS IN JANUARY, ARTISTS WITH CRU ARTS AND CULTURE SERVED ALONGSIDE THE PEOPLE OF CUBA TO LEARN ABOUT THE NEEDS AS WELL AS THE BEAUTY OF THEIR CULTURE. AS SAFE DRINKING WATER IS LACKING FOR MANY, IT WAS AN EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT TO WORK WITH THE NGO FILTER OF HOPE TO OFFER INDIVIDUAL FILTERS FOR HOMES. AS WELL, THE TRIP OFFERED THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT THE MARVELS OF THIS ISLAND, INCLUDING THE FOOD AND THE HOSPITALITY OF THE CUBAN PEOPLE. IN THE MIDST OF THE WONDERFUL LAND OF CUBA, WE ALSO EXPERIENCED THE IMMENSE FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS THAT MANY PEOPLE FACE. FINALLY, WE WERE INCREDIBLY INSPIRED AS WE MET LOCAL CUBAN ARTISTS AND BUILT RELATIONSHIPS THAT WE KNOW ARE JUST THE START OF LEARNING, EXCHANGE AND COLLABORATION.



CLEAN

WATER

BRINGING IN THE FILTERS





Photos by: Amanda Pelton





Photos by: Dennissa Young (left) and Amanda Pelton (right)

LOCAL

ART & ARTISTS

GETTING INSPIRED



Photos by: Amanda Pelton (left) and Madison Corder (right)



Photos by: Dan Butkwoski (left) and Amanda Pelton (right)





Photos by: Amanda Pelton (left) and Dan Butkowski (right)



THE BEAUTY OF
CUBA

EXPLORING THE CITY



Photos by: Amanda Pelton (left) and Dan Butkowski (right)



Photos by: Amanda Pelton (left) and Dan Butkowski (right)



Photos by: Amanda Pelton



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CRU

ARTS & CULTURE

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS



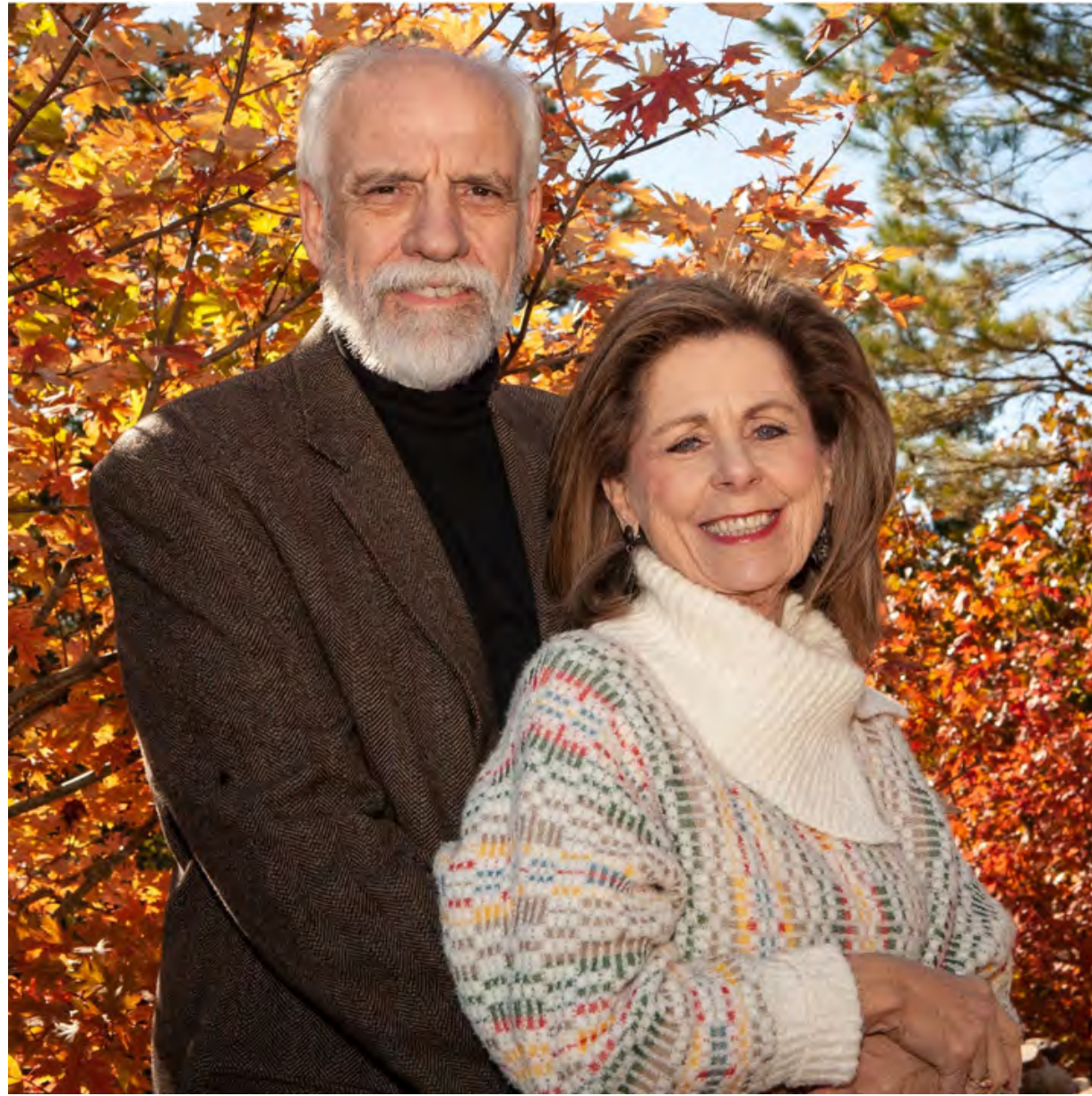
Suzy Schlie

has had the joy of living her passion in Paris and Toulouse, France for 17 years with her husband, Joe, three daughters, and gifted, multi-cultural teams. She helped to launch Agape Art and participated in numerous collaborative exhibits in Paris. She loves connecting with people of different cultures and learning and creating in community. Her artistic work is inspired by the intersection of personal reflection, encounters with people and stories while living in a multicultural world. She currently resides in the Chicagoland area.

Jadie Meprivert

is a Brooklyn-based artist and was born in the Dominican Republic. She has taught high school while showcasing her work at Hunter College, Wall-works, The Lower East-side Girl's Club, Online Galleries with the Bronx ArtSpace and The Lehman College Gallery. She has also performed at The Apollo's Amateur Night. More recently she was showcased in BuzzFeed's article "13 Latino Artists Creating Impact Within Their Culture" for Latin heritage month.





Dan and Nancy Butkowski

are with Cru Art & Culture, Little Rock, AR. Dan has worked as a Ceramic artist for 50 years creating decorative pieces and functional ware intended for everyday use. He says, “For me, creating and using ceramics touches our humanity as we are but precious, one-of-a-kind, jars of clay.” The two of them enjoy bringing individuals together for a “Raku” experience where they create in community. Nancy has an elementary Education degree. She and her five daughters had a mother/daughter ministry for many years growing in her passion to author Bible studies for teenage girls.

Mandy Pelton

lives in Chicago with her husband, Brandon, and three kids. Born in Midwestern Indiana, she has been profoundly shaped by many years spent living in Mexico, New Mexico, Florida, and now the wonderfully diverse city of Chicago. Believing that the creativity of God is on display all around us, she is passionate about seeking it out and reflecting it through photography and many other creative endeavors.





Dennissa Young

is a Native New Mexican with Spanish and Native-American heritage. She is a Chicago artist based out of the Zhou B Art Center in the Bridgeport community. She is passionate about getting to know other artists in the Chicago area and collaborating with anyone and everyone will have a conversation with her. You can learn more about her work at www.dennissayoung.com and follow her on social media at @relationallydennissa.

Madison Corder

is married to Jarrett Corder. They have two doggos named Bailey (left) and Hope (middle). She graduated from Wake Tech Community College with my Associates in Arts degree. Her grandmother on her dad's side of the family was extremely artistic and gifted in art. She was involved in the musical arts in her elementary years through high school and admire artistic talent in all genres!





Alyssa Rodriguez's

gifting in art has impacted social change in human trafficking relief and revealing the beauty of the Gospel through hope. Alyssa developed programming and continues to research using art to prevent sexual abuse in children and adolescence, as well as to bring restoration for those already abused. Her work has been done not only in the United States, but also in India and Mexico. Alyssa, her husband, and son Caleb currently reside in the mountains of Colorado.

A collaborative zine by Cru Arts & Culture curated by Katie Henson

Cover photos by: Amanda Pelton



www.cruartsandculture.com

Instagram: [@cruartsandculture](#), [@k80sfieldnotes](#)