

# Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
9 A.M. EDT, November 16, 2009

**SCPA STUDENTS SPEAK OUT ABOUT OVER-THE-RHINE AND THE DROP INN  
CENTER ON DECEMBER 8 FROM 6-8 PM**

CINCINNATI, OH, NOVEMBER 16, 2009: SCPA creative writing students voice their opinions about the state of Over-the-Rhine in images and words after exploring the neighborhood around Washington Park throughout the Fall. Their work will be publicly displayed at the Miami University Center for Community Engagement at 1300 Vine Street on December 8 from 6-8 pm.

Twenty one SCPA students participated in Prairie's New Voices program which brings together disparate groups to create dialogue and understanding through art making activities.

Beginning in August, 2009, SCPA students learned basic photography and set out to explore the neighborhood surrounding the location for the new SCPA building on the South side of Washington Park in Over-the-Rhine. Key to this exploration was a collaboration with members of the Drop Inn Center's dependency program who participate in an ongoing creative writing program. SCPA students engaged in a

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dialogue with the Drop Inn Center by producing photographs in response to writings by members of the dependency group. The work will be presented on displays fabricated by the Design Build Studio of the Miami University Department of Architecture and Interior Design.

To flesh out their experience of the neighborhood surrounding Washington Park, SCPA students also visited several sites under development through the efforts of the Cincinnati City Center Development Corporation (3CDC) which has invested significant time and energy in creating the vibrant Gateway District in Over-the-Rhine. Students visited the Belmain on Main Street, the 1400 Block of Vine Street and City Home on Pleasant Street among other sites. Students produced extensive portfolios of images during their visits. This work is also published on the project web site [www.cincinnati.newvoices.com](http://www.cincinnati.newvoices.com).

The show will also be open to the public after the opening on December 9-11 from 2-5 pm and December 14-18 from 2-5 pm. Prairie is an arts education and engagement organization located in Cincinnati, Ohio. It runs ongoing programs for youth ages 9-18 involving photographic education and immersion in specific community organizations and issues.

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