

TalkTalkConvo Art Ventures Proposal Statement

We communicate at every moment. Whether or not we say a word. The bigger question: what are we saying?

There are 4 primary types of communication; written, verbal, visual, and non-verbal. Only 7% of a receiver's understanding of a message is based on words; 38% is based on speech tone, pace, and volume, and 55% is based on body language. This is already a precarious balance.

The past two years our interactions have deteriorated due to pandemic quarantines and political division. These events have irrevocably changed how we interact. We continue to subdivide into smaller factions. TalkTalkConvo, explores reestablishing human connections, how we communicate and how we can understand each other better.

The proximity to the Bible Belt, three military bases, alongside the compelling mix of people who relocate from other areas make Northeast Florida the overlapping Venn diagram for the topics that manifest in my artwork.

As an artist, I focus on concepts that potentially connect us all: faith, metamorphosis, the nomad storyteller, redemption and rebirth. I utilize a variety of media to express my observations. Origami, video, collage, and paper mache symbolize pieces and layers that correlate to how our lives might serendipitously come together. I reveal history and renewal when incorporating vintage and recycled items. My design sensibility brings together printmaking and bookbinding skills while the remainder of the tools I employ resemble languages; I determine when to use one or some amalgamation of them all. I appreciate the complexity of combining these techniques. No matter what type of media I implement, human connection is the core of my work.

Goals for TalkTalkConvo will be executed in three phases:

- I plan to use the Art Ventures grant to create connection opportunities with the public at three public spaces. I will use funds to create a situational environmental installation where I will have short one on one conversations. These conversations will be documented by a professional videographer. The purchase of services to appropriately and professionally document TalkTalkConvo interactions is essential. To document such nuanced and intimate work in a polished way is fundamental to general understanding and creating conceptual context for posterity.
- I will purchase supplies to create a 5 piece series based on TalkTalkConvo interactions.
- Grant monies will fund an event to encourage authentic interaction similar to the initial events. Administrative materials (photocopies, promotional items) will also be purchased.

My primary goal is to give people more arts exposure outside galleries, museums, and theaters. This grant will be the impetus for my work to reach a different level of interaction in places where art of an interactive nature isn't traditionally experienced.

Please partner with me to facilitate my growth to another level of interactive artworks. I am committed to continuing to advocate for arts access through the use of nontraditional spaces and highlighting what unites us as humans.