

Materials for the Arts

Field Trip Guide - **ONLINE!**



Materials for the Arts started with the simple idea of sharing resources. We connect people and companies, who have things to **donate**, with people who need materials for education or the arts, and we teach people how to think differently about the objects and materials in their lives.

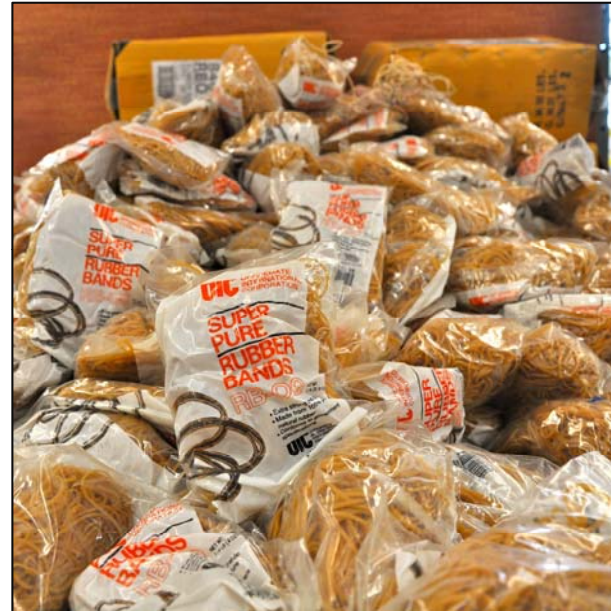


Donate means to give away for free. MFTA takes in donations from people and companies, like Netflix, JetBlue, or Marc Jacobs. We then store all the donations in our 35000 square foot warehouse.

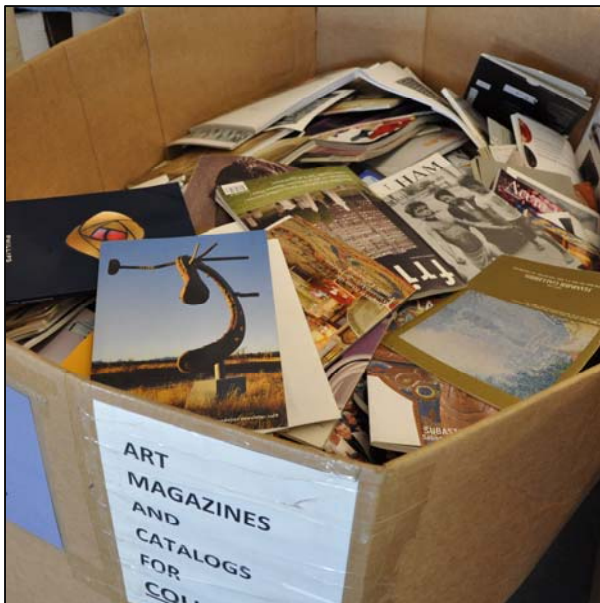
fabric



office
supplies



magazines



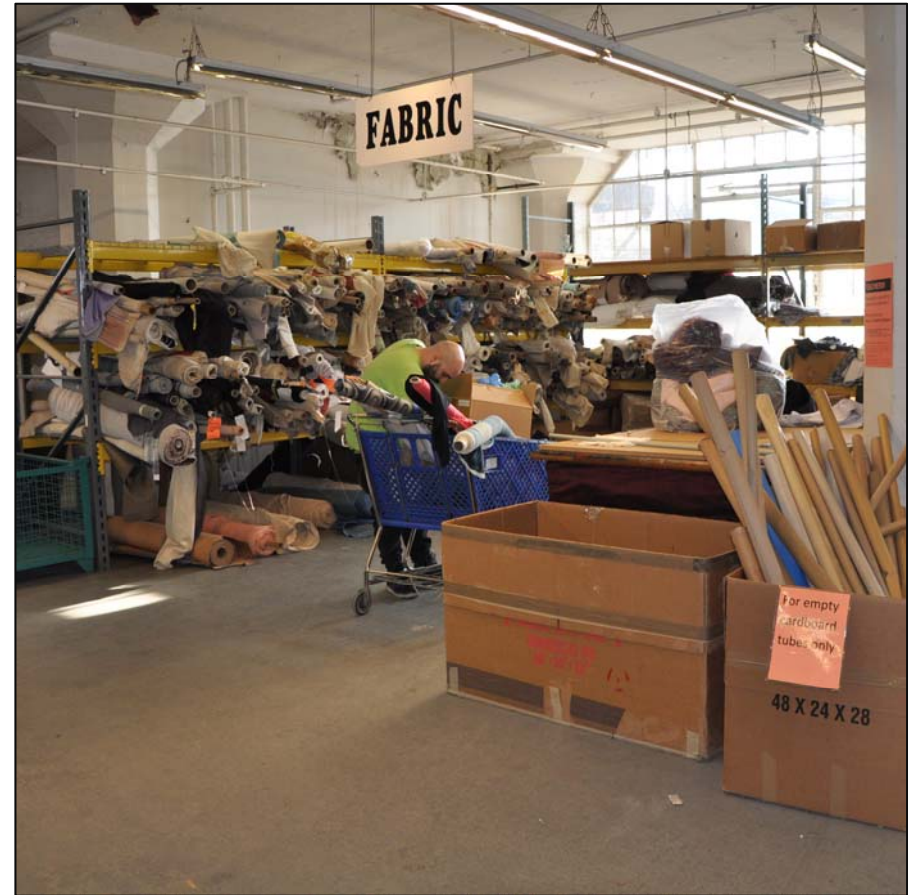
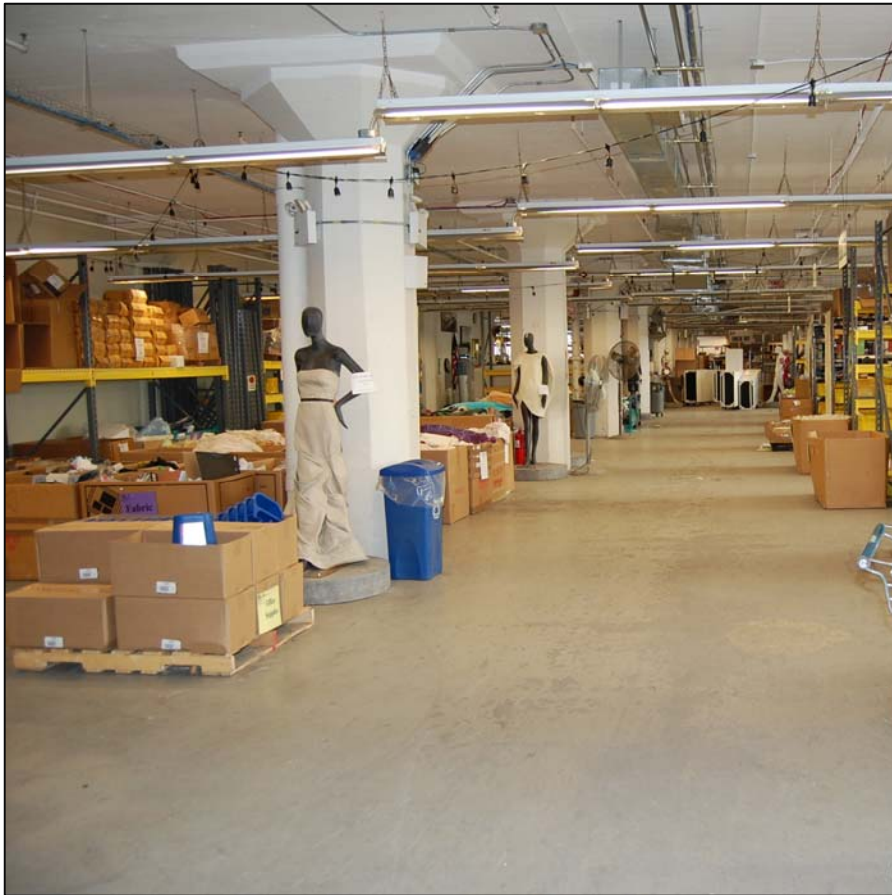
paint



At Materials for the Arts, there are bins and shelves of paper, buttons, fabric, hardware, household goods, office supplies - a lot of great stuff that some people and companies no longer have use for – but people or organizations really need!



MFTA then gives them away for **free**, to organizations that need supplies (and that apply for a membership to shop!). This includes NYC Public Schools, Arts or Cultural Nonprofit, and City Agencies. **We try to help businesses that help others or that support the arts.**



By taking donations and giving them away, MFTA also keeps trash out of **landfills**: a place where we bury garbage in the ground.

In New York, we need landfills for things that no one wants to use or keep: dirty diapers, dirty paper, old napkins, or dirty plastic bags. If we bury it, we don't have to smell it or see it, or think about it.



But there are big problems with landfills.

Landfills aren't safe for animals and insects but these creatures can't tell the difference between nature and man-made spaces. Animals will live in landfills, eat garbage thinking it's food, and some get hurt by the things we throw away.

Landfills also pollute the environment. The garbage that we throw away can contain dangerous chemicals. When rain falls on a landfill, it can wash the chemicals out into nearby lakes, rivers, and streams. These are the places where animals live or where humans get our drinking water.

Landfills also make it impossible for materials to be reused. Once we put something in a landfill we can't use it again.

It's ok to throw things away, but we need to reduce the amount of trash we put into landfills. That's why donating, recycling, repurposing, and reusing are so important

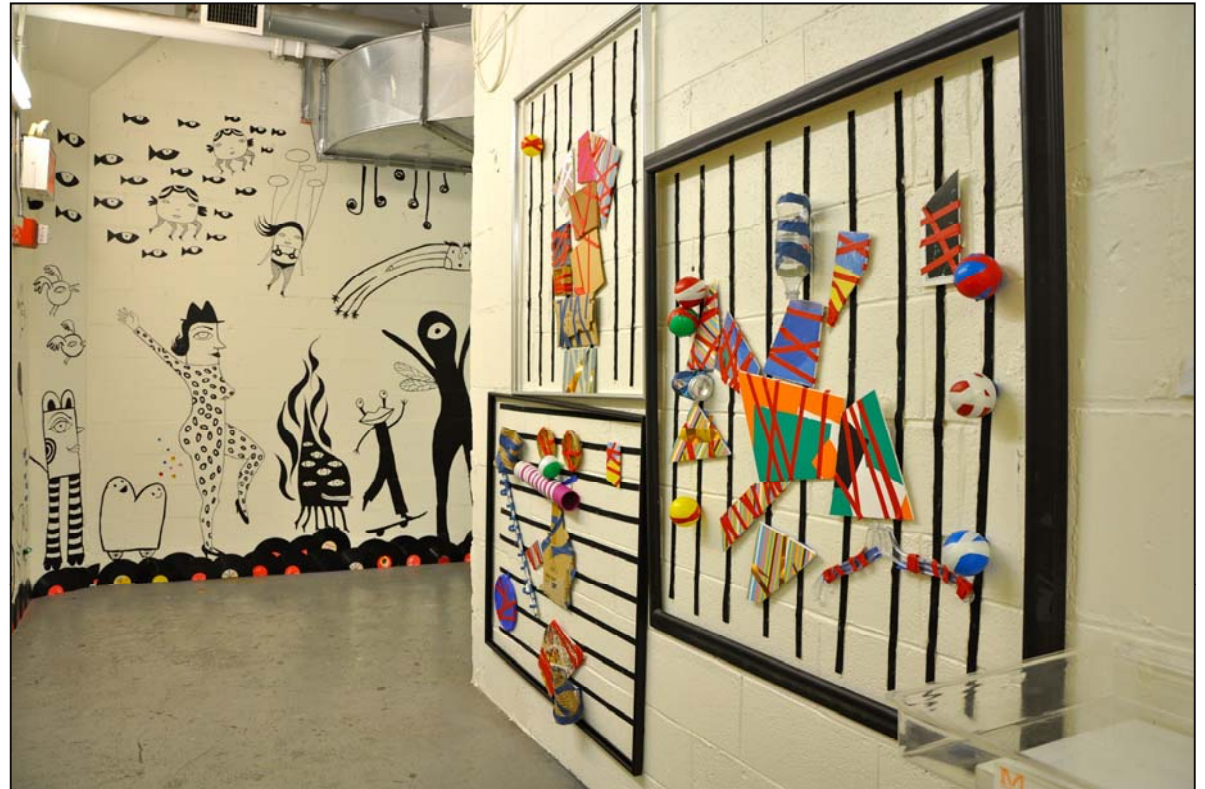
This is why Materials for the Arts teaches others about how to **reduce** your waste by using your powers of **Creative Reuse**.

Creative Reuse: taking unwanted materials and turning it into art.



We also use our gallery to support artists who **repurpose** and **creatively reuse** materials.

Repurpose: is to take something that isn't useful or needed and change it into another form with more value, like art.



*On your Online Field Trip at MFTA,
you'll experience the following:*



Take a Video Tour of MFTA:
including the Gallery and Warehouse

A Hands on Art Activity:
using found materials in your space.

But before we start, you'll need the following things:

Your Teacher's Email Address.

A quiet comfortable place to work.

A photo taking device.

Once you have those things, you can begin your field trip.

Click on the following link to begin:

<https://www.materialsforthearts.org/for-educators/field-trips/online/>

We're excited you're coming to
Materials for the Arts.

You'll learn ways to help keep our planet
healthy by being a responsible recycler,
repurposer and artist too.



See you soon!