“The arts enhance the healing environment, but they also invite people to visit the hospital when they are well. If patients and families are familiar with the hospital, they will feel more comfortable in a time of need.”

Michael Karpf, MD
Executive Vice President for Health Affairs

Arts in HealthCare

Creating a healing environment with art
“Our mission is to create an environment of care and to focus on the spiritual and emotional well-being of our patients, families, caregivers and staff. The program recognizes the arts and the artists as powerful and positive forces in the healing process.”
Several signature pieces located in primary public spaces solicited designs from many artists around the world.

The visual, literary and performing arts have existed in western and eastern health care systems since the beginning of recorded history. A growing body of research, both qualitative and quantitative, indicates that the arts serve patients and caregivers as powerful aids in times of emotional vulnerability and bring beauty into a stress-filled, health care world. The arts touch spirits that seek solace and encouragement.
The Arts in HealthCare program will include art in all its forms - from the whimsy of folk art, to the textural richness of glass, wood and ceramics, to the soul-moving sounds of a musician or vocalist, to the stillness of a dancer in repose. Every visitor will find art that is accessible; that resonates with their individuality or opens the door to experiencing art for the first time.

THE PROGRAM’S SCOPE

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“The increasing interest in arts in health care is a manifestation of a global acceptance of the movement. Arts in health care are complements to medical science rather than substitutes. The creative arts help people reclaim power over their lives and their health.”

Dr. John Graham-Pole

“Restoring lives, restoring selves. The arts and healing.” International Journal of Arts Medicine
Aside from internationally commissioned pieces in key public locations, the core collection will feature artists who work in all media that have a Kentucky connection, many of which have achieved national and international reputations.
The University of Kentucky Arts in HealthCare program is supported solely by private funds. Many individual gifts and collected proceeds from the 2007 Groundbreaking Gala have provided the support to begin the program. Future gifts and collaborations with community art groups will bring the program to full fruition.

DONOR DRIVEN

Mark Cowden
Autumn Triptych (detail)
courtesy of B. Deemer Gallery

Warren Seelig
Gingko
Arts in HealthCare Core Collection

David Caudill
Breath of Music
Arts in HealthCare Core Collection
“At the deepest level, the creative process and the healing process arise from a single source. When you are an artist, you are a healer; a wordless trust of the same mystery is the foundation of your work and its integrity.”

Rachel Naomi Remen, MD
Author of My Grandfather’s Blessings and Kitchen Table Wisdom: Stories That Heal
The Arts in HealthCare program is only limited by our imagination and the dedication of our volunteers. There are many ways you can help create a healing environment with art.

If you would like more information about the University of Kentucky Arts in HealthCare program, please contact Jacqueline Hamilton

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To make a gift, please contact Victoria Myers, Chief Development Officer

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