



recollection

a memory loss awareness project

Recollection: A Memory Loss Awareness Project was developed to invigorate a conversation about the impact Alzheimer's and dementia has had on our local communities in Central New York. The exhibition series began in early 2014 in Tyler Art Gallery on the SUNY Oswego campus and has toured around CNY since that time. The exhibition features creative works by students artists and designers at SUNY Oswego in collaboration with the community.

Student designer Stephanie Armour-Dobrowolski developed the logo of the project. The logo symbolically captures the complexity of dementia and its human impact. Bridges bring people together. Bridges facilitate change. Bridges often act as metaphors for memory or connections between past and present. Bridges support. The logo represents the bridge we need to build to educate/raise awareness and improve the lives of those impacted by dementia in our community.



THE PATHWAY

25 Double-sided cards in a Grid. Designed by students Katelyn Cardone, Sean Gnau, Tong Lu and Alan Wisniewski under the direction of Prof. Rebecca Mushtare.

The Pathway juxtaposes facts and statistics about Alzheimer's and dementia with the lived experiences of those impacted including patients, family, friends and caregivers. This juxtaposition attempts to humanize the science and statistics that can reduce people to numbers. By providing insight into the very human experiences of those impacted in our community, the installation begins to frame our shared unique local story, rather than isolated cases or generalizations that are often captured in mainstream media and can feel distant from our own experiences.

This project was initially funded by Entergy Corporation and the Anne B. and Leon J. Goldberg Foundation and supported by Tyler Art Gallery and the Art Department at SUNY Oswego. A special thank you to the brave staff, residents and family of St. Luke Health Services in Oswego and the students, faculty and staff of SUNY Oswego for allowing us to record their stories to share.



CARDS FOR COMPASSION

50 Greeting Cards with Sound Modules. Designed by students Tim Ano, Mallory Eckert, Katie Morelli, and Evander Russ under the direction of Prof. Rebecca Mushtare.

Cards for Compassion is a collection of fifty greeting cards that embody Alzheimer's/dementia by weaving together the words, wisdom and personal experiences of those locally impacted by the disease. Residents, their family members, and staff at St. Luke Health Services in Oswego, NY were interviewed in addition to faculty and students at SUNY Oswego for this project.

The butterflies on the cards are a symbol of the butterfly effect, or the idea that one person's actions can change the world. Sharing stories and recognizing that we are not alone in our experiences has the potential to make a difference in the lives of those diagnosed and those that support them.

DEAR ALZHEIMER'S

Postcards in collaboration with the local community.

Dear Alzheimer's is our invitation to you to contribute to the story of memory loss in our community. It's an opportunity to speak directly to Alzheimer's disease. What pain has it brought? What joy? What surprises? What worries? How have you been brave? Who supports you? What is most stressful or anxiety inducing? What is your priority? What do you want to see change?

Your personal experience is important to understanding the real impact on our community.

DIGITAL ILLUSTRATIONS

Diptychs and Triptychs. Illustrated by SUNY Oswego students under the direction of Carla Senecal, Amy Bartell, and Cynthia Clabough.

Students researched the psychological, cognitive and emotional tolls of Alzheimer's and dementia and were asked to translate their research and experiences into visuals that transform a viewer's understanding of the disease. Students were asked to view themselves as allies and ambassadors, striving to raise the awareness of the general public without doing damage to the community living with Alzheimer's. Their role was to give voice to difficulty without glorifying or sensationalizing the hardships the disease can bring.

