



**Inspiring all people
to explore and create
by engaging our community
in art-making experiences
with reuse materials.**



Explore + Reuse + Create

UpCycle Creative Reuse Center is a materials resource center and a creative making space that encourages creativity, critical thinking, innovation and environmentally sustainable behavior; and is one-of-its-kind in the northern Virginia and DC area. At UpCycle, we help the community rethink the notion of waste by collecting cast-offs from residents and businesses to serve as creative art materials. Our inventory of materials is affordable, dynamic and changes constantly, providing ever-changing inspiration and outlets for creativity.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

COME TO A PROGRAM

Tinker Time, Materials Playgroup, After School Enrichment, In-School Programs, Camps, Adult Workshops, Community Events

SHOP FOR MATERIALS

Unique and affordable materials including: paper, fabric, paint/mark making, jewelry & beads, yarn, vintage items, household cast-offs, and much, much more!

DONATE MATERIALS

Give new life to unneeded materials. Donations made by appointment.

BECOME A MEMBER

Annual supply memberships are available for teachers, schools and nonprofit organizations.

VOLUNTEER



Facilitating Artistic Expression

UpCycle engaged the community through social media art challenges, as well as by hosting a Reuse Flower Garden exhibit outside the Durant Arts Center. UpCycle also safely operated its reuse center, which is full of materials that supplied artists and crafters who worked creatively at home. When it was safe to do so, UpCycle resumed some in-person programming.

UpCycle's Accomplishments from the Past Year

Supporting Equity, Inclusion and Access for the Arts

UpCycle provided local schools, nonprofits and Virtual+ partner programs with materials so that children had access to artistic and enrichment supplies while learning from home during the pandemic. Once students returned to schools, many teachers sourced individual sets of supplies from UpCycle so that students could safely create at school.

Collaborating with Local Organizations

UpCycle teamed up with ACT for Alexandria and Volunteer Alexandria to create and distribute 500 mask-making kits using materials from its reuse center. UpCycle also partnered with Art on the Avenue, SOHO and Volunteer Alexandria to provide more than 1,000 art kits so that children could create while staying safe at home.



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