## The Magic of the Zhen Xian Bao: Chinese Thread Box April, 2024 At The Southside Art League

This is the Culminating Event / Exhibit of the Creative Aging Program for older adults, 65 and older held at SALI in February and March. This class was taught by Sonja Lehman.

Here is a summary of the purpose/goals of the Creative Aging program:

The purpose/goal of this 8-to-10-week sequential Creative Aging Program sponsored by the Indiana Arts Commission and Lifetime Arts - A National Leader in Creative Aging Program Development, and Dalton & Co., Inc. was to provide a forum for persons 65 and older to gather and build a community of fellowship through shared interests and creative problem-solving, learning or advancing knowledge and practice of (new) creative processes, enhance feelings of accomplishment and confidence, and offer social engagement with each other, adding value to the quality of life.

Here is the program description from my course:

My creative program, "The Magic of the Zhen Xian Bao: Chinese Thread Box," teaches participants of the centuries old Chinese Folk Tradition, the Zhen Xian Bao: Chinese Thread Box, Chinese women made and decorated to store their sewing tools and thread. Participants create their own ZXB with the paper boxes, trays, and folders they make each week throughout the 8-week program. This sequential program lends well to engaging with peers, learning skills that build from week to week and encourages critical thinking and development of design skills.

I filled my class with 8 lovely ladies! I think this was a *most* successful program accomplishing all the goals of the program!!

Please join Sonja and her students for the Opening Reception on April 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

This will also be the opening of SALI's Spring Exhibit "You Are My Sunshine".



