

The journey to 100 portraits



Photos by Peter Korchnak

Former Astoria English teacher and coach Roy Sanchez is experimenting with art on a nontraditional canvas. **BELOW LEFT:** Sanchez draws portraits of people he knows. **BELOW RIGHT:** Sanchez enjoys the challenge of creating portraits on the limited space Post-its provide.

BY PETER KORCHNAK

Artist Roy Sanchez wants no Post-it to go to waste.

Since September, he has been drawing portraits on the little 3 by 3-inch squares with a flair pen, aiming to complete 100 by year's end.

His models are people he knows personally, friends or followers on social media, and even people from online stock photos.



traditional art.

"It's a creative constraint, if you limit yourself to 3 by 3 inches, you're going to learn how to do things, like composition," he said. "You really have to work hard to figure out how to make it work."

'A creative explosion'

The learning curve is just another in a series for Sanchez. He is the new program director of the Miss Bea Johnson Fund, an Astoria Visual Arts program that partners with Astoria and Knappa high schools to help teens create art. The role is an extension of Sanchez's previous career as an English teacher and coach at the Astoria high and middle



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See Roy Sanchez's art

Instagram: @roysanchezart

RoySanchez.art

"About a quarter are actually animals because people started asking me to draw their pets," Sanchez said.

Why make art on Post-its?

"Somehow I inherited stacks of these," Sanchez said. "There's so much waste with art supplies and office supplies, I wanted to see what I can do with them."

Sanchez added that Post-its are easy to carry around, and push the boundaries of