Illegal Art, founded in the summer of 2001, is a collective of artists whose goal is to create participatory-based public art to inspire self-reflection, thought and human connection. Each piece is presented or distributed in a method in which participation is simple and encouraged. Their projects have been installed throughout the United States and South America, Europe and The Middle East. The results of their project, Suggestion Box, were published by Chronicle Books (Suggestion, August 2005). Suggestion Box has also traveled to three continents, activated by individuals and groups in their local communities, collecting suggestions from tens of thousands of people, in numerous languages.

Illegal Art's work has been featured by such media outlets as National Public Radio, WNYC Radio, American Public Radio, The New York Times, New York Magazine, The Los Angeles Times, The Boston Globe, Entertainment Weekly, Flavorpill, The Public Art Review, Dwell Magazine, International Herald Tribune, Ad Age, The Guardian, including three times being featured on the New York Times Op-Ed page (01.01.06; 09.03.07; 12.31.09).

They were a featured presenter at 2008 College Art Association Conference in Dallas, Texas as a part of the session, "The Contemporary Collaborator in an Interdisciplinary World". They have also spoken, presented and installed their work at numerous institutions such as University of New Hampshire at Durham, The New School University in New York City, Minerva School in Berlin, Germany, Jersey City Art Museum, and were part of a visual arts exhibition sponsored by the Ford Foundation called, "Difficult Dialogues" at Clark University in Worchester, Massachusetts, to name a few.

In 2014, their project, What Color Are You?, was part of the Passport, a New Yorker Promotions event sponsored by Delta Airlines in the Lower East Side of Manhattan at the Manny Cantor Center. They were first artist-in-residence at the 2013 SXSW Festival in Austin, Texas and have been awarded residences at Vermont Studio Center, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Webb School of Knoxville and others.

Their work was featured at the South by South Lawn (SXSL) festival of ideas, art, and action at The White House in October 2016 (Obama Administration) and at the pop-up museum, Wonderspaces in San Diego, California, in both 2017 and 2018, and in 2019

will be featured at their exhibitions in Phoenix, Arizona and Miami, Florida. Cofounder Otis Kriegel recently spoke about Illegal Art's work at the TEDx Manhattan Beach in October 2018. Illegal Art also collaborates with other groups and institutions such as the architectural collective, 1319, based in Buenos Aires, Argentina and The Museum of Urban Art of Rome. Their work has been published in numerous catalogs throughout the United States and Europe.

For more information, please visit <u>www.illegalart.org</u> or on Instagram at @illegalart2001 Or contact them at <u>info@illegalart.org</u>.

Illegal Art is Otis Kriegel and Michael McDevitt.