



Art Revealing the Gunfire Epidemic.
SoulBoxProject.org
MAKE A BOX. SEND IT IN. IT COUNTS.

BOX-MAKING GATHERINGS

Box-making gatherings can be a meaningful, fun experience. Gatherings are a time to talk about the issues, share stories and find healing through taking action. Some participants will know victims who have been killed or injured by gunfire. You can also find names of victims at sources such as gunmemorial.org. Share your Box-making story and photos on social media (such as our [Soul Box Community on Facebook](#)) or email them to us (along with any questions/suggestions) at SoulBoxTeam@gmail.com.

Here are a few tips to help your Soul Box-making gathering be satisfying to those who attend:

- Include the SoulBoxProject.org link in your announcement and **ask people to watch [the instructional video](#)** before they arrive to make Boxes. You can also [print our flyer and instructions](#); one for each participant so they can take them home.
- Have some well-made Box **samples ready to show** - some very simple, some more complex. Beautiful Boxes commemorate a unique life lost, but protest is appropriate as well. Blank Boxes hold space for victims whose names we'll never know.
- The first key to a successful gathering is having the **paper pre-cut to 8 1/2" square**. This cannot be overemphasized. At least have a paper cutter available. **Boxes not made to this size will be difficult to include in display modules.**
- Slightly heavier stock makes a sturdier box. **Use a "credit" card** as a creasing tool, otherwise the folds will be faint and hard to distinguish.
- You should have **someone who knows how to make Boxes well for teaching every three or four beginners**. It's easy - but not the first or even second time. People get discouraged and do not want to continue if they are not successful. What we want is for them to really get into making these Boxes to keep them pouring into the Project.
- Not every gathering is appropriate for collaging Boxes, but it's a creative and inspiring. When announcing your gathering, ask people to **start collecting images** and text from magazines, mail or printed from the Internet. Remember when decorating, these Boxes get a lot of handling.
- **Old phone books and magazines** are perfect for applying paste to collage pieces. Just turn the page for a non-sticky surface. Two *crumpled* pages, gluey or not, are perfect for stuffing Boxes. (See below.)
- Please **stuff the Boxes**. A firmly stuffed box with a well-fitting lid is very sturdy. One piece of letter paper from the recycle bin works. If the Box flexes when gently squeezed, it needs more stuffing (but not so much that it pops its top!).
- Put a jar out and **ask for small donations to help cover the cost of materials and shipping**. Your friends will be glad to help.
- Check our website for **drop off locations in Portland**. Those out of the Portland area can **mail Boxes to PO Box 19900 Portland, OR 97280**. It is surprisingly inexpensive if you choose ground delivery rather than Priority Mail. See our website.

(If you are in the Portland, OR area, **SCRAP** on SW 13th and Alder is an inexpensive source for various papers. If you need a large amount for a big event, contact us at soulboxteam@gmail.com.)