

“I approach literature from the perspective of a person who cannot read or who does not have access to written material,” says Eric. “By combining the logic embedded in language with the irrationality of thinking without words, my art work engages questions about how we understand the world.”

Reading for the Blind and Dyslexic (RFB&D) helped provide the resources that Eric needed to overcome the roadblocks to his education. He found RFB&D when he was struggling to find audio versions of his middle school textbooks. The Library of Congress, which was unable to meet his needs, directed him to RFB&D. “It was a place I could count on for the textbooks I needed.... They gave me independence – I no longer had to count on my dad to read all my books to me.”

In conjunction with his exhibits, Eric is often engaged to speak about the process of making art and about the perseverance, advocacy, and hope that dealing with his disability has taught him. He uses his own work to illustrate and punctuate his presentation, delivering informative, engaging stories about making positive choices when facing life’s difficulties. As a student in college and graduate school, ““RFB&D was a life-saver for me, once I wasn’t living at home. They gave me a way to take control over my own education.”

In addition to his career as a working artist and speaker, Eric has worked as a college professor and as public art coordinator for the City of Dallas. He currently lives in Lewisville, TX with his wife Heather and son Keegan. His art and life as a dyslexic are the subject of the documentary film *Access Denied*, produced and directed by Leah H. Bell.