The study showed that despite a number of obstacles hindering full social inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities, owing to the presence of art created by them in the public, mainstream space, it is possible to create a “social laboratory” of practices and attitudes toward these people (cf., Hall, 2010). If people with intellectual disabilities are recognised as individuals capable of conceiving their own artistic message, the field of the arts will become a space where they can be seen and heard. As a result, people with disabilities gain “the right for their expression to be recognised as socially meaningful” and thus their message goes beyond pure aesthetics and becomes a political manifesto (Godlewska-Byliniak, Lipko-Konieczna, 2016, p. 15).

In conclusion, in this research studying the subject of artistic work (the arts) has become a laboratory of social practices toward people with intellectual disabilities. The solutions created in the realm of the arts may serve as an example for establishing a normalising model of support for adults with intellectual disabilities in other areas as well.

References