

ARTSPACE TO ANNOUNCE UTICA ARTS MARKET SURVEY RESULTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 8 November, 2017

Artspace is returning to Utica to discuss the results of the Utica Arts Market Survey they conducted in August and the next steps for a potential \$20 million arts development project in the city. The survey, which received 520 individual responses, was critical to help them gauge the level of regional interest in live/work spaces and to determine the specific commercial space needs of the area arts community. A public presentation has been scheduled for:

When: Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Time: 7:00pm

Where: 4 Elements Studio, 730 Broadway (Westminster Church – entrance door in alley across from City Hall)

Who should attend: Artists and arts organizations who are interested in learning more, individual artists, arts advocates, community members and downtown Utica stakeholders.

Participants must RSVP for the event to: Michelle Truett at michelle@484design.com or 315-534-0067. There is also an eventbrite event to RSVP online – link is available through the Utica Artspace Facebook page or: <https://uticaartspacesurveyresults.eventbrite.com>

The Utica Artspace initiative has been spearheaded by the City's Utica Artspace Committee and Cornell Rust to Green Urban Studio with funding support from the New York State Council of the Arts (NYSCA), Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties Inc., and the City of Utica.

What is Artspace?

Artspace is America's leading developer of arts facilities and the nation's leader in artist-led community transformation specializing in building safe, affordable creative communities. They offer Property Development, Asset Management and Consulting Services and operate 46 projects across the country, representing a unique \$600 million investment in America's arts infrastructure. Current Artspace projects operating in New York State include Artspace Buffalo Lofts, El Barrio's Artspace PS109 in New York City and Artspace Patchogue Lofts on Long Island.

Artspace projects transform communities by:

- creating affordable, appropriate space that allows individual artists and arts organizations to be more artistically productive and increase their revenue
- animating deteriorated historic structures and underutilized spaces, bringing them back on the tax rolls
- Fostering the safety and livability of neighborhoods without gentrification-led displacement
- Helping anchor arts districts • Expanding access to the arts • Attracting artists, businesses and organizations to the area • Creating jobs, safe streets, sustainable development and a more cohesive society

Artspace housing units are maintained by Artspace as affordable artist housing to households earning at or below 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI). To date, the national Artspace organization has completed nearly 2,000 affordable live/work spaces for artists and their families as well as more than a million square feet of non-residential space for artists and arts organizations to use their expertise to support, promote, present and/or teach their art form – and market their skills and work. Artspace projects are typically developed in one building and have been transformational to downtown business districts across the country.

What defines an artist?

An artist can be broadly defined by much more than painting, drawing, sculpting or photography. Artspace defines an artist as a person who has a commitment to and/or participation in the arts and not simply as a hobby. An artist may work in or is skilled in any of the fine arts (painting, drawing, sculpture, book art, mixed media, print-making, etc.). Artists create imaginative works of aesthetic value (film, video, digital media, literature, costume design, architecture or music composition) and functional art (jewelry, rugs, furniture, pottery, toys, quilts, etc.). Some are performers (singers, musicians, dancers, actors or performance artists) and others are involved in culturally significant practices, including designers, technicians, tattoo artists, hairdressers, chef/culinary artists, crafts persons, teachers and administrators, using their expertise to support, promote, present and/or teach their art form through events, activities, performance, classes and retail spaces.