

Dear Artists and Crafters of the New Bethlehem Area:

As you are probably aware, for many years, the New Bethlehem area has hosted art and craft events throughout the year. And, as in many small towns across this country, there has been a renewed energy in New Bethlehem to see its main street, once again, be a site where small businesses prosper and grow. Within the many areas for attention that Redbank Renaissance and its Economic Restructuring Committee have targeted, are the acknowledgment of art diversity within our community, and the potential need for a place/situation to pull it all together. With that in mind, we're asking for a bit of your time to answer some questions regarding the feasibility of an artists' cooperative (or collective or consortium) to include crafters, and about its structure, in New Bethlehem.

The survey below is only seeking your input, suggestions, and questions regarding an art cooperative. It is not looking for any form of commitment on your part to being a member of a co-op. Please feel free to let your ideas flow and be as generous with your thoughts as you feel compelled to be. We want and value your ideas, in order to get a true sense of the needs of the art community in our area. No idea is too "wacky" and no question is dumb. We need it all. Please feel free to share this survey with friends in the immediate and surrounding areas. Your answers to these questions will remain with us and be kept confidential. Thank you in advance for sharing your ideas with us. We request that you return the survey by Oct. 15th, but later returns will also be welcomed.

Sincerely,

New Bethlehem Area Art Co-op

***Next meeting: Thursday, Oct. 15, 5:30 PM at the New Bethlehem Public Library.
Watch the community calendar at www.redbankren.org for future meetings.***

New Bethlehem Area Art Co-op Survey

Part 1:

1. Do you perceive a need for an artist's cooperative in New Bethlehem?

_____ Yes _____ No

2. What inclusions would you suggest that would best represent an ideal cooperative structure?

_____ Exhibition space

_____ Gallery sales space

_____ Information space

_____ Workshop space

_____ Studio facilities

_____ Gathering/Meeting place

Other, please describe _____

3. What type of operating management structure would you prefer?

An artist run organization

An on-site director

A combination of both

Other, please describe _____

4. What should the hours of operation be?

5 days/week, 9AM-5PM

5 days/week, 12PM-7PM

Weekends only

Other, please describe _____

5. How should membership be determined?

Open Membership

Through a voting process

Other, please describe _____

6. What type of physical structure would be best for a cooperative?

An existing storefront on Broad St

A structure with a New Bethlehem area visitor's center or other public entity?

Other, please describe _____

7. Would you use a group studio if that were an option? Yes No

8. Would you participate in workshops, if offered? Yes No

9. I would be willing to volunteer to work in the cooperative space if it was:

1 to 2 times per week

1 to 2 times per month

1 to 2 times per year

No interest in working in the cooperative

Other, please describe: _____

10. Supporting exhibit and retail space involves shared overhead expenses. What type of financial participation would you prefer? Please explain your choice.

Annual membership fee? _____
 Percentage of sales? _____
 Share purchase? _____
 A combination of some of these? _____
 Other? _____

11. Would you consider teaching a workshop in your area of expertise?

Yes No Area of expertise: _____

12. Would you assist in coordinating classes or workshops? Yes No

13. Would you help with organizing openings of shows in the gallery? Yes No

14. Would you consider serving as a professional consultant for frequently asked questions about technique, studio operations, materials, and methods? Yes No

15. Most importantly: **What ideas, needs or wishes would you like to see addressed by an artists' co-op?** Please include any questions and suggestions you feel will be helpful. Feel free to add additional pages or use the reverse side of this page.

Part 2: Please take a minute to tell us about yourself. Your answers to these questions will be kept confidential and are merely asked for our data in determining our artist base and needs. Thank you.

Name: _____

Contact information: Mailing address : _____

Telephone #: _____

E-mail address: _____

Do you currently have studio space? Yes No Have retail space? Yes No

What media of art do you work in? (Please list all)

We're excited about the possibilities! Please return this survey by October 15, 2009 to:

Carol Wahl, 261 Kelly Estates, Fairmount City, PA 16224

If you have questions, please contact Carol at rjwahl@windstream.net or 814-764-6086. More information about the cooperative and upcoming meetings can be found at www.redbankren.org and its community calendar.