






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## Developer polling artists for needs Artspace considers live-work spaces on Gaines Street

By Tabitha Yang  
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Artists in Tallahassee may have new options for affordable housing if the nation's leading arts real-estate developer decides to include live-work spaces in its new Gaines Street project.

Artspace, based in Minneapolis, partnered with the Council for Culture and the Arts to introduce affordable housing possibilities earlier this week. Wendy Holmes, the Artspace vice-president of consulting and resource development, told her audience of local artists about Artspace's reputation for creating successful arts centers around the country. Holmes said Artspace projects typically take three to five years to complete, are fully funded when they open and are self-sustaining.

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"Artists have an amazing way of beginning to transform neighborhoods and blocks," Holmes said. "(Gaines Street) is a potential catalyst for economic revitalization."

Artspace would like to include live-work spaces on Gaines Street, but before making the final decision, its staff need to measure the community's level of interest. A market survey, launched Tuesday, will help do that by asking artists to submit information about their housing needs, income levels and other data indicating whether or not they would qualify for affordable housing. To qualify for affordable housing, artists must be at or below 60 percent of the area median income, or \$28,080 for a two-person

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household.

Many in the crowd of over 125 artists present at Tuesday's event thought affordable housing was very much needed in the arts community. Terry Galloway, a local performer/director, said she knows of artists who would be interested in affordable housing units.

"I'm enthusiastic about this because I know so many people who make their living making art - which means they don't make much of a living," she said.

Others at the event were looking forward to having a new creative center for the arts. Henry Hernandez, artistic director at the Tallahassee Ballet, said "I think the project is so exciting; every way we look at it, it's a win-win situation for everyone involved."

**For more information or to take the survey, visit [artspacetallahassee.org](http://artspacetallahassee.org).**

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