



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SURVEY LAUNCHES TO ASSESS NEED FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND WORKSPACE FOR ARTS, CULTURAL AND CREATIVE COMMUNITIES**

FORT COLLINS, Colo., April 25, 2017—Individuals, organizations and businesses in the arts, cultural and creative communities are invited to participate in an affordable housing and workspace survey that launches today. The online survey, conducted by Artspace, a nonprofit real estate developer, is available at [focoartspace.org](http://focoartspace.org) to residents of Fort Collins and surrounding areas.

The survey is the next step in a process the City of Fort Collins, Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority and Bohemian Foundation began when they invited Artspace to visit Fort Collins last October. The three partners assembled a core group of community arts leaders to help plan and facilitate Artspace's Preliminary Feasibility Visit. During this preliminary visit, Artspace conducted a series of community meetings and focus groups to assess the feasibility of creating an affordable housing, studio and workspace project designed for artists, musicians and other individual creatives and organizations/businesses. Based on the findings from this Preliminary Feasibility Visit, Artspace recommended conducting an Arts Market Study to provide an in-depth analysis of the space needs of the local arts/creative community.

The Arts Market Study will consist of two versions of an online survey where respondents can answer questions about their space needs as a member of the creative community. One survey is an individual artist survey, the other survey is for leaders of arts and cultural organizations and creative businesses. All in the arts, cultural and creative communities in Fort Collins and surrounding areas are encouraged to participate in the surveys, which will remain online for eight weeks, closing on June 19.

The surveys will provide data about how much housing and work space the local arts community can use and what design features and amenities are desired. Resulting data can help attract funders, encourage the creation of space by private developers and advance a possible project. In addition, survey responses will influence the location and type of new spaces, design features, amenities, programs and affordability.

About the Partners

The [City of Fort Collins](#), [Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority](#), and [Bohemian Foundation](#) are the three partners that invited Artspace to Fort Collins to explore the potential of developing affordable spaces where artists/creatives of all disciplines may live and work and arts/cultural organizations and creative businesses can thrive.

About the Core Group

The partners assembled a Core Group of community arts leaders who helped facilitate Artspace's Preliminary Feasibility Visit and who continue to engage artists and creatives in next steps.

About Artspace

Artspace is the nation's leader in artist-led community transformation, with 46 projects in operation across the country and another dozen in development, representing a \$600 million investment in America's arts infrastructure. With headquarters in Minneapolis and offices in Denver, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Seattle and Washington D.C., Artspace is America's leading developer of arts facilities. To date, Artspace has completed nearly 2,000 affordable live/work units for artists and their families as well as more than a million square feet of non-residential space for artists and arts organizations. For more information about Artspace visit [artspace.org](http://artspace.org).

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