



NORTHFIELD ARTS GUILD
304 Division Street · Northfield, Minnesota 55057
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MEMO

To: Nate Carlson, Economic Development Coordinator, City of Northfield
From: Michael Johnson, Executive Director, Northfield Arts Guild
Date: 12/30/24

Northfield Arts Guild seeks to expand programming at 411 Water Street

Emerging artists, like all entrepreneurs, benefit from affordable shared space to collaborate and incubate their ideas. Unfortunately, access to these types of spaces are in short supply and still financially out of reach for too many in our community. The Northfield Arts Guild is committed to addressing the needs faced by these emerging creative entrepreneurs and sees 411 Water Street as an ideal location for artists to both make, store, and sell their products.

In addition to renting out private and shared studios, we envision establishing a retail environment for participating artists that builds on the Guild's existing brand and business model at 304 Division Street. Additional services will include mentorship and training programs as well as community-building events designed to support youth. In order to scale-up the initiative, the Arts Guild plans to seek additional grant support and in-kind donations that would allow us to subsidize rents and invest in shared studio supplies. However, we do not believe this initiative is dependent on obtaining those resources.

Thank you for considering this partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Michael Johnson".

Michael Johnson