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Karcher Artspace Lofts Ribbon-Cutting & Grand Opening Celebration Scheduled for June 29

Free Event Features Open Studios, Live Performances

Artspace announced the schedule for the June 29 ribbon-cutting and grand opening celebration of the new Karcher Artspace Lofts at 405 Washington Street in Waukegan, IL. The event marks the official opening of the project, a renovation of the historic Karcher Hotel that features 36 units of affordable live/work space for artists and their families, plus more than 2,500 square feet of non-residential and community space for arts-friendly businesses and nonprofit organizations. The celebration begins at 11:00 am.

Representatives from Artspace, the City of Waukegan, elected officials, and others from the community will offer brief remarks at 11:30 am.

The celebration continues after the remarks with free performances by local artists, open art studios, food and refreshments. Scheduled performers include Ivy Ford and "The Cadillacs" Blues Band, Cara Dunning and Benito Gomez. Food is being provided by Big Ed's Bar and Grill and The Green Town Tavern. This event is made possible in part through contributions from AAA Tent Masters and Professional Beverage Service, and with generous sponsorships by Raymond James, Chase, and IFF. Members of the community will have the opportunity to tour Karcher Artspace Lofts from 12:00 to 2:00 pm as resident artists open their studios to guests at the event.

Karcher Artspace Lofts is fully occupied and features numerous amenities for its resident artists and is expected to be a catalyst for further development in downtown Waukegan.

“We’re thrilled to celebrate the opening of Karcher Artspace Lofts the same week we celebrate the opening of the Elgin Artspace Lofts in nearby Elgin,” said Artspace President Kelley Lindquist. “Artspace is dedicated to creating and preserving affordable space for individual artists and arts organizations, and both of these projects are wonderful assets for the artists and residents of both communities.”

About Artspace

For more than 30 years, Artspace has brought its hard-earned expertise to more than 200 cultural facility planning efforts from coast to coast. Of these projects, 33 have been developed and are owned and operated by Artspace itself, representing a unique, $600 million investment in America’s arts infrastructure. With headquarters in Minneapolis and offices in Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Seattle and Washington D.C., Artspace is America’s leading developer of arts facilities. To date we have 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. Additional information is available at www.artspace.org.

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