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Artspace Closes on Dearborn City Hall Property

Construction Begins Immediately on Affordable Live/Work Project for Artists

The Artspace development team and its local partners are pleased to announce that the financial closing on the City Hall Artspace Lofts was completed on December 30. Construction on the affordable live/work facility for artists in Dearborn, Mich. begins immediately.

The Minneapolis-based nonprofit real estate developer is planning the City Hall Artspace Lofts, a $16.5 million arts campus project that includes 53 units of affordable live/work housing for artists and their families, along with non-residential space for working studios, incubator space, galleries and creative businesses. The City Hall Artspace Lofts complex consists of three buildings: the City Hall Building, the West Annex Building, and the Concourse. The historic City Hall and West Annex buildings will house the residential units and corridor art galleries. The Concourse Building, built in 1980, connects City Hall and the West Annex and will provide collaborative, creative incubator space, art galleries, artist studio space and community meeting space.

“We’re excited about Artspace beginning the Dearborn project. We know the transformation of City Hall will be a catalyst for attracting more people to the east Dearborn downtown, and to explore opportunities throughout our entire town,” said Dearborn Mayor Jack O’Reilly. “It will spark additional creativity and energy, and bring new activities, visitors and customers to the

district, and to experience all we have to offer. And it will preserve City Hall, so the Artspace project reflects both tradition and innovation, a perfect combination of our community."

Multiple sources of funding are contributing to Artspace's first project in Michigan, including Low Income Housing Tax Credits from Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) and other state and federal funds, financing from Bank of America, and private philanthropy from the Ford Foundation, among others.

"Artspace is thrilled to be working on this transformative project in Dearborn," said Heidi Zimmer Kurtze, vice president for properties at Artspace. "Dearborn's national reputation as a leader of innovation and creativity is a perfect complement to this project. We are thrilled the renovations are underway and that City Hall will soon be home for local artists and their families.

With construction currently underway, the project is slated for completion in early 2016. Several public information sessions for interested artists will be scheduled in 2016. Dates, times and locations will be announced as they are set and will be posted on our website at www.artspace.org/Dearborn.

About Artspace

Artspace is the nation's leader in artist-led community transformation, with more than 35 projects in operation across the country and another dozen in development, representing a unique, $500 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 and has served as a consultant to hundreds of communities and arts organizations nationwide. 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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