ARTSPACE
HIAWATHA LOFTS

843 Hiawatha Place S., Seattle, WA 98144
artspace.org/hiawatha

PROJECT DETAILS

Owner/Developer Artspace Projects, Inc.
Architect Stickney Murphy Romine Architects
Financing City of Seattle Office of Housing, 2002 Housing Levy; Impact Capital; National Equity Fund; U.S. Bancorp; Washington State CTED Housing Trust Fund; Washington State Housing Finance Commission
Funders 4Culture; Building for the Arts; The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation; The Seattle Foundation; U.S. Bancorp Foundation; Washington Mutual Foundation

Number of Units 61
Total Area 88,843 sq. ft.
Commercial Area 4,975 sq. ft.
Total Development Cost $17.1M

OVERVIEW

The resounding success of the Tashiro Kaplan Artist Lofts whetted Seattle's appetite for a second Artspace live/work project. The result was the Artspace Hiawatha Lofts, a 61-unit building in the Jackson Place neighborhood on the southern fringe of downtown Seattle and just a block from the light rail line. Built at a cost of $17.1 million, the Hiawatha is a four-story building with an expansive exterior courtyard and a large community room that accommodates a variety of uses, including performances and lecture/demonstrations by Hiawatha tenants.

Designed to recall the industrial buildings that formerly dominated the northern end of the Rainier Valley, it has large windows, high ceilings and durable surfaces that accommodate a wide variety of creative uses. It has 4,975 square feet of ground floor commercial space facing Hiawatha Place; among the tenants are Artspace's Seattle office, Café Weekend and My World Dance & Fitness. The Hiawatha meets
the Seattle Office of Housing’s SeaGreen Standards — equivalent to LEED certification — for energy efficiency.

Located a block from the proposed east link light rail line scheduled for completion in 2020, and a short walk from Seattle’s lively International District, the Hiawatha is a welcome addition to a neighborhood with many cultural assets, including the Pratt Fine Arts Center, home to glass-blowers, sculptors, jewelers and printmakers; the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center; and the Japanese Cultural and Community Center.

“If you think about it, every community has artists and designers. They are an asset, usually a grossly undervalued asset, for kickstarting momentum in our communities. And in this economy, it’s hard to imagine why any community wouldn’t deploy every asset it has for success.”

— Carol Coletta, Director, ArtPlace