

ARTSPACE UPTOWN ARTIST LOFTS

723 Franklin Street, Michigan City, IN 46360

artspace.org/uptown



PROJECT DETAILS

Owner Artspace Projects, Inc.

Development Partner Michigan City Preservation & Education Foundation

Architect Kil Architecture + Planning

Total Area 67,000 sq. ft.

Commercial/Community Space 5,600 sq. ft.

Number of Units 44

OVERVIEW

Located on the shore of Lake Michigan, Michigan City boasts a long, beautiful beach with a view of the Chicago skyline. The nearby Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore attracts eight million visitors a year. A commuter railroad, the South Shore Line, links the community to downtown Chicago with a dozen trains daily. The City's engaged community leaders have spent years planning a downtown redevelopment strategy that centers on the arts.

As a result, the Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce invited Artspace to visit the community. Artspace's attention soon focused on the Warren Building, a six-story office building dating from 1927. The tallest building in the nationally-designated Franklin Street Historic District, it is a substantial structure with terrazzo floors, high ceilings and large windows.

Now the Warren Building is on track to become the Artspace Uptown Artist Lofts, a mixed-use project

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with 44 affordable live/work units for artists and their families with a ground-floor classroom, studio and commercial space. It will be the centerpiece of the new Uptown Arts District, a six-block stretch of The Franklin Street Historic District that is already seeing signs of arts-driven economic renewal.

“We are behind this 100 percent. The addition of Artspace would be a great boon for the community and bring a lot more jobs and people to Michigan City.”

— *Doug Waters, La Porte County
Convention & Visitors Bureau*

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AMERICA'S LEADER IN ARTIST-LED COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

Artspace is a nonprofit organization that uses the tools of real estate development to create affordable places where artists can live and work. Artspace consistently develops these projects in ways that support stable, healthy communities, anchored in existing assets. Because Artspace owns each of the projects it develops, they are able to ensure that the spaces remain affordable and accessible to artists in perpetuity. With 50+ projects developed over the last three decades, Artspace has supported artist-led community transformation, representing a \$653 million investment in America's arts infrastructure. While embracing the value the arts bring to individual lives, Artspace has championed the once-radical idea that both artists living with financial hardship, and chronically underfunded arts organizations, can leverage fundamental social change. With headquarters in Minneapolis and offices in Denver, 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.

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