The Harrison Center FOR THE ARTS is a 65,000-square-foot, three-story historic building located on 16th and Delaware Streets on the near northside of Indianapolis. It is a haven for working artists and a gathering place for urban and suburban residents. Its purpose: to support the careers of fine artists, cultivate emerging arts patrons, and promote a sense of culture and community.

ANATOMY OF THE HARRISON CENTER FOR THE ARTS:

FIVE ART GALLERIES: The Harrison Gallery, Speck Gallery, City Gallery, Hank and Dolly’s Gallery, and Underground Atelier

24 ARTIST STUDIOS housing more than 36 artists

A full-sized, historic GYMNASIUM

DELAWARE COURTYARD: a sprawling outdoor greenspace for events and installations

Roughly 72,000 ANNUAL VISITORS
The Harrison Center for the Arts not only makes art accessible and available to a wider audience; it also eliminates the barrier that too often separates artist and audience. It’s a communal and open space where both parties can talk, learn from one another, and enjoy a sense of shared understanding.

A vibrant arts and culture scene is not only essential to a healthy city—it’s a powerful tool for improving a community’s health and quality of life. With that in mind, the Harrison Center for the Arts promotes the growth and sustainability of arts and culture in Indianapolis by connecting local artists with an audience of emerging patrons.

Why?

**1. PROVIDING STUDIOS AND WRAP-AROUND SERVICES FOR LOCAL FINE ARTISTS.**

**2. HOSTING ART EXHIBITS AND EVENTS THAT ARE FUN, INCLUSIVE, AND PARTICIPATORY.**

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We bring patrons and artists together for inspiring, inclusive, and lively arts and culture events in our sprawling historic building.

For visitors, we provide a thoroughly unpretentious and welcoming opportunity to experience a dizzying variety of local art among a large and diverse group of people. It doesn't just create community—it is community. At the Harrison Center for the Arts, people of all ages and from all types of communities come together, converse, and connect.

For artists, we provide not only exposure to patrons, but also affordable studio space, professional development opportunities, grant writing assistance, promotional support, and even childcare. Moreover, we foster an environment of mutual admiration and friendly competition among artists, challenging them to grow and improve in their craft.
Additionally, the annual Independent Music + Art Festival (IMAF), hosted by the Harrison Center, is one of Downtown Indianapolis’s most anticipated annual art events.

As an anchor institution in its Old Northside neighborhood, the Harrison Center for the Arts has hosted countless neighborhood events, raised awareness around community issues, and spearheaded projects to improve neighborhood life.

The impact is clear: In the past 15 years, the Old Northside and its surrounding neighborhoods have become home to thousands of new residents, spurring unprecedented economic development in the surrounding area.

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**The Harrison Center FOR THE ARTS**

Our monthly First Friday gallery exhibits are among the best-attended and most admired art events in Indianapolis. They connect people with artists, build community, and create dialogue in a way few other events do.

The Harrison Center has helped make Indianapolis a city that loves art and its artists.

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**SINCE ITS FOUNDING, THE HARRISON CENTER FOR THE ARTS HAS SUCCESSFULLY:**

- Created a more equitable and vibrant arts community in Indianapolis.
- Established a stable and supportive environment for local artists to develop their careers.

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Today, the Harrison Center FOR THE ARTS is a national model for urban arts organizations looking to build a bridge between artists and patrons.

And, as our events and programming evolve, the bond between our own artists and Indianapolis patrons will only grow stronger.

In the years to come, the Harrison Center for the Arts will continue, along with the Harrison Center for the City, to use the arts to deliver innovative cultural solutions to civic problems.

Our artists will work not only inside our walls, but beyond them, bringing their craft and passion to Indianapolis’s core neighborhoods and connecting directly with the people who live there.
Cultural development. Creative placemaking. And much more.