



Engaging Imaginations. Enriching Lives.

Jacoby Arts Center is a 501(c)3 whose mission is to nurture & promote the practice & appreciation of the arts through Education, Exhibits, Cultural Programs, and Community Outreach Initiatives.

Dear Artists and Supporters of JAC,

For more than 40 years, our organization has been enriching and connecting our community through art as the Madison County Arts Council. Since being donated the Jacoby building, by the Jacoby family, for use as a community art space in 2004 we have provided those connections as the Jacoby Arts Center.

We are a small nonprofit with a big community impact. We were built by volunteers, artists, and community members who sanded, scraped, painted, planned, and created this community art space. We share our time, energy, and money because we believe the arts make all of our lives better, our neighborhoods richer, & our community stronger. We provide free and affordable programs in alignment with our mission to provide affordable access to the arts and to support our local artists.

[Click here to view our impact in numbers.](#)

This year is our 20th anniversary, and we are at a critical decision point.

The Jacoby building was purchased in 2018 and is being rehabbed by owner and developer AltonWorks. Jacoby Arts Center has been presented with various plans for the building and Jacoby Arts Center throughout the years by AltonWorks. On May 15th, 2024 AltonWorks presented JAC with options for the construction phase and the future proposed footprint for Jacoby Arts Center in the Jacoby Building.

The Jacoby Art Center board of directors and I are currently reviewing options and want to share what information we have.

What We Know

- The Jacoby Arts Center will need to end programming at our building by Aug. 31, 2024, and move directly after.
- This includes everything - the basement artist studios, pottery studios, the classrooms, the darkroom, the Artist Shop, the Main Exhibit Gallery, and East Performing Arts Gallery, all of it.
- We have a couple of interim spaces offered by Alton Works to consider. We have not made any decisions, however, none of the proposed interim solutions will allow us to continue all programming.
- The future proposed Jacoby Arts Center space in the current building would be 2,553 sq. ft., which is 80% smaller than our current footprint in the building. We

would not be able to provide artist studios, classes, events, programs, or services other than a small gallery space.

- The proposed rent for the new space is expected to be out of our budget for a non-revenue-generating gallery space with no programming capabilities.

What We Don't Know

- We do not know the future plans for the current Jacoby building outside of the proposed Jacoby Arts Center.
- We do not know (yet) where we will move in the interim or future.

Your feedback is critical right now as the board of directors makes decisions about the future of Jacoby Arts Center. [Please take this short survey](#) to provide input as we plan the future of Jacoby Arts Center.

We have no additional information at this time, but if you have questions about Jacoby programming you can contact Rachel@jacobyartscenter.org.

If you have questions about the future of the Jacoby building please reach out to AltonWorks.

Thank you,
Jacoby Arts Center

[Board of Directors & Rachel Lappin, Executive Director](#)