



CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

MICHAEL S. YENNI
Mayor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW KENNER RIVERTOWN ARTS COUNCIL NOW ACCEPTING MEMBER APPLICATIONS

Kenner officials are looking for artists or others dedicated to the arts eager to join the inaugural Rivertown Arts Council.

The establishment of the Arts Council comes on the heels of the exciting news that state officials have designated Rivertown as one of just 36 Main Street communities in the state. That makes state and federal resources available, as well as training materials and expertise, to guide the continued growth of the historic district.

“This is an exciting time for Rivertown because everything points to a vibrant future that I believe will inevitably transform Rivertown into one of the premier destination locations in the city,” Mayor Michael Yenni said.

One of the main goals of an Arts Council would be to set up an Artist Co-op at Exhibition Hall in Rivertown. A co-op of artists would not only operate an arts market but also could hold workshops and other events to promote the arts.

Members of an Artist’s Co-op would be able to take advantage of the Cultural District status recently awarded to Rivertown by state officials. That allows artists within the district to sell their artwork tax-free.

“Establishing a Rivertown Arts Council is just another step toward emphasizing the arts in Rivertown,” Mayor Michael Yenni said. “Eventually, we envision Rivertown as the place to go for people looking for artwork for their homes and businesses.”

Anyone who is an artist, art teacher or has a significant connection to the arts can apply for a spot on the Arts Council. Nomination packets are available online and require a resume, CV and a brief statement explaining the individual’s interest in joining the council. The nomination period ends April 21.

The nominations will be narrowed to the top 20 candidates by a committee that includes Yenni, the council member from District 1, a member of the Planning Department and a member of the Arts Council of New Orleans.

The mayor will make the final decision and the Arts Council will be officially recognized by the City Council as an authorized city commission.

“This is just another piece of the puzzle that will eventually result in a vibrant Rivertown where people can go to buy art, stop by a satellite state Motor Vehicle office, have a great meal and enjoy top quality theater or a comedy show,” Yenni said.

Nominations to the Rivertown Arts Council can be emailed to rivertownartscouncil@gmail.com or delivered in person at the City of Kenner Planning Department, City Hall Building D, 1610 Reverend Richard Wilson Drive.

For more information, contact Mike Ince with the Kenner Planning and Zoning Department, 468-7280. To learn more about Rivertown’s new designation as a Main Street Community, go to http://www.kenner.la.us/pages/section_27_360.asp.

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