

Information and Discussion

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

Bellevue Arts Commission

1E-113 or Zoom Meeting, 4:30 pm

City of Bellevue, WA

BelRed Arts District Community Alliance Update

At today's meeting, staff & board from the BelRed Arts District Community Alliance will provide an informational update on how the organization supports cultural practitioners in Bellevue.

Code and bylaw support: This item is presented to the Commission as it is supported by City Code 3.56.070 items A: "Keep the city council informed and represent the community's interest in matters of art;" C: "Seek to enlarge the art consciousness of the city and its citizens; and G: "Establish a long-range plan for the development and operation of a cultural center."

Background

First recognized in 2023 as a 501(c)(3) in the State of Washington, the BelRed Arts District Community Alliance is a nonprofit organization committed to leading the strategic and sustainable growth of the BelRed Arts District in Bellevue. We unite artists, creative businesses/organizations, and community partners to elevate the District's visibility, fuel local economic vitality, and shape a lasting cultural destination on the Eastside. Our mission brings together the power of arts, culture and innovation to build a vibrant Arts District that will inspire and thrive for generations.

OUR FOCUS

- **Advocate for affordable artist housing and affordable commercial spaces:** Without artists, there is no Arts District. The Community Alliance is working with developers to share our vision of affordable artist housing and affordable commercial spaces to keep our working artists and the 60+ arts businesses and organizations in the area.
- **Build a sustainable community for future generations:** The Arts District is a three-decade plan in the making, and we want our vision to last. The Community Alliance is working with local businesses and organizations, residents, community partners and stakeholders to build a vibrant and sustainable Arts District for the next generation.
- **Activate the BelRed Arts District Through Placemaking, Programming and Events:** The Community Alliance is at the helm of activating the Arts District through various creative placemaking, programming and events that provides creative arts experience for the community, contribute to the city's economy and builds brand recognition for the Arts District.

The BelRed Arts District Community Alliance has taken a major step by opening the BelRed Arts Studio, a new community arts and cultural facility in the BelRed Arts District. The community space features five affordable artist studios and welcoming gathering area designed for art classes, workshops, programs and cultural events. By opening this studio, we have gathered important information from local artists, and creative organizations/businesses about how vital it is to have accessible and affordable arts and cultural facilities in Bellevue. Without these spaces, cultural practitioners do not see a way they can form a creative community in the area.

Next Steps

YR1 - 2023	ENTITY FORMATION
YR2.5 - Oct. 2025	DISTRICT ANCHORSHIP
FUTURE	CREATIVE DISTRICT CERTIFICATION
FUTURE	BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA ESTABLISHMENT
FUTURE	BRIDGE HOUSING & SU DEVELOPMENT ARTS & CULTURE HUB COMPLETED

BELRED ARTS DISTRICT
MULTI HUB CAMPUS



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