

**H A V E N**

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PRESS RELEASE

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Ventura County Arts Council Receives Commitment for a New Arts Center from Haven Ventura

Haven Ventura is a finalist in the City of Ventura's Cannabis Business Permit Process

VENTURA, CA – The Ventura County Arts Council (VCAC) and Haven Ventura unveil a new community partnership that would result in a new arts center and administrative offices for the arts organization and arts community in Ventura. Haven Ventura has committed to donating the adjoining suite next door to its proposed retail cannabis establishment in perpetuity, in addition to paying for all renovations to the proposed arts center.

A formal unveiling and community announcement will take place at VCACs and Haven Ventura's Open House event on Thursday, June 23rd from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the proposed space, located at 1981 South Victoria Ave, Ventura.

"This extraordinary and generous community partnership will allow the VCAC to create a sense of place for our artists to express their creativity and engage with the community," said Carolyn Mullin, President, Board of Directors for the Ventura County Arts Council. "The potential for a new arts center is something truly groundbreaking that our residents, our artists, and the Ventura community deserves. This is an unprecedented opportunity to create a lasting and vibrant venue for the arts."

The Ventura County Arts Council used the proposed space for a storefront window arts exhibition, Reflect 2020, in May 2021.

"Haven Ventura and our local owner, Peter Goldenring, wanted to do something truly special for the community. We listened to various stakeholders and the one thing we heard constantly was a need to invest in the local arts community. Making a meaningful impact in the communities where we do business is part of Haven's ethos," said Johnnie Hernandez, Head of Retail and Community Relations, Haven. "This partnership could very well change the landscape and the expectations for the industry at large."

The new arts center will be a designated space for VCAC offices, direct programming, and meetings. This space will create innovative solutions to our cultural depression. Haven, the Goldenrings and the VCAC are proposing something truly groundbreaking that our residents, our artists and our arts organizations deserve. This is an unprecedented opportunity to create a lasting and vibrant venue for the arts. Haven will cover all costs of the lease and the lease will mirror that of their own to provide VCAC with a long-term solution. Each window along South Victoria Avenue will be filled with rotating art displays for public viewing, therefore beautifying the streets and creating community.

About Ventura County Arts Council:

The Ventura County Arts Council (VCAC) advances the arts in Ventura County by providing arts education and opportunities in schools and other creative settings, by advocating for local artists and arts organizations, and by creating partnerships among artists, arts supporters, businesses, foundations, and county organizations. It embraces diversity and equity, striving to reach low income, marginalized, and

communities of color with programs that offer equal access to the arts. VCAC was formed and incorporated as an independent 501(c)3 non-profit arts organization in 1997. It has been designated by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors as the local partner of the California Arts Council (CAC), with a mandate to serve the county's citizens in partnership with CAC.

For more information on VCAC, please visit <https://vcartscouncil.org/>

About Haven:

HAVEN is focused on being a positive force in the communities that we serve. From inviting storefronts to knowledgeable and dedicated staff, HAVEN looks to forge a connection with all of our neighbors rooted in progress and respect. Whether it be in our dispensaries or in our communities, HAVEN's mission remains the same. To create a safe space welcoming all to explore the bounds of cannabis. This is who we are. This is what we care about. This is why we exist.

For more information on Haven, please visit <https://myhavenstores.com/community/>

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