

# A Look Inside Warren's Creative Community

## *Summary of Survey Results*

*A Report Prepared by:*  
Warren Arts Initiative, a working group of the  
Warren Economic Development Board



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# Executive Summary

The state of Rhode Island has designated nine “Tax-Free Arts Districts” aimed at helping to revitalize cities and towns by offering tax incentives for artist to live and work in specific areas, of which the Town of Warren is one. When initially setup in 1998, the General Assembly declared: “the development of an active artistic community, including ‘artists in residence’, in [these areas] would promote economic development, revitalization, tourism, employment opportunities and encourage business development by providing alternative commercial enterprises.” [RIGL §44-18-30B(6)]. The Rhode Island Council on the Arts (RISCA) interprets this legislation as: “The state giving communities the tools and incentives to develop a portion of its community by helping artists live, work and contribute to community life, and for art galleries, exhibition spaces to help contribute to the economy of the state and local community.”

In a 2009 “American Life and Culture Survey”, the Rhode Island state addendum, stated 97.7% of survey respondents agreed or strongly agreed that arts and cultural organizations help keeps the local economy strong. And in a 2009 Arts and Business Council of Rhode Island Survey, respondents indicated they attended arts or cultural activities more often than going to a sporting event or the movies. And 90 % said they were likely to eat out while attending an arts event (52% said they would have drinks and 34% said they would shop). This supports the theory that arts activities and events can stimulate a local economy. Also in 2009, Roger Williams University Institute for Public Policy conducted a survey of Warren residents that showed 57 % of residents felt art gallery and art space growth/development in Warren should be promoted.

In early 2011, the Town of Warren’s Economic Development Board formed a working group to look into the town’s creative community with the aim of fostering relationships that are mutually beneficial to the town, its people, businesses, artists and tourists. The Warren Arts Initiative, as the group is formally called, developed the following mission statement:

*Warren Arts Initiative is a resource for residents, artists, businesses and tourists that aims to enhance the cultural and economic health of Warren by:*

- *developing and maintaining a network of artists to work in partnership with businesses and organizations in advancing the arts and arts contributions to community life,*
- *advising the Economic Development Board and the Warren Town Council on initiatives that will attract artists to live, work and invest in Warren, a state-designated Tax-Free Arts District, and*
- *assisting Town Council (to promote public and private partnership) on arts-based aspects of infrastructure projects.*

In the initial stage of addressing its mission statement, WAI volunteers developed an online survey of artists who live or work in Warren (Appendix B) in an effort to collect information

about these artists' current activities and potential future initiatives that could bolster an economic benefit to the Town of Warren. An URL link to this survey was emailed to 135 known artists in the community. 70 people completed the survey, attracting a response rate of 52% – well above industry average. However, the WAI committee does recognize that this overwhelming response still does not capture a complete view of Warren's creative scene.

The results of the survey indicate that the Town of Warren's creative community is perhaps more diverse than previously realized and is mainly made up of well-established, middle to mature-aged people who derive a significant portion on their income from their creative work, and attract tens of thousands of tourists to the town annually (a figure that does not include tourists attending the Walkabout and Quahog festival). This result could indicate an opportunity for the town to develop a branding program that focuses on the unique features, opportunities and activities of this solid creative group.

Major findings include:

a. Visual artists, though the largest group identified by discipline in this survey, made up only 20% of respondents. Design Arts (9%), Photography (7%), Media Arts (7%), and Music (6%) were also well-represented groups among a list that also included advertising, crafts, dance, folk life, food, humanities, literature, multi-disciplinary, and theatre. This diverse group is an asset to the Town of Warren, which through fostering mutually beneficial relationships will have an even greater benefit to the community at large.

b. 80.4 % Derived revenue from their creative work, indicating there is demand for their creative work. Nearly 40 % of Warren artists rely solely on their creative income.

c. At least 20,000 people annually attend arts and cultural events in Warren, according to 5 organizations and 12 businesses that participated in this survey. These businesses and organizations employ 15 full time staff, 2 part time, 1 seasonal and 17 volunteer positions.

d. "A creative community" was the number the most common reason artists chose to live or work in Warren (78 %). Access to bike path and natural resources (57 %), affordable rent (52%), proximity to major cities (52%) tax-free district (52%), and historic architecture (41%) were also popular reasons to be here (respondents were asked to select their top five reasons). Local opportunities, access to clients and town officials were chosen by fewer than 3 % of respondents.

e. 84.6 % of Warren Creatives surveyed were aged 35 or higher. People in this age group are more likely to purchase property, have families and spend money locally.

f. It was noted that Warren does not have a non-profit organization that offers artistic opportunities for youth. Also, the survey did not attract responses from local arts agencies, artistic foundations, or government, indicating either gaps or potential future opportunities within the Warren community.

g. Warren’s creatives believe there is a lot to be gained from publicity programs that are aimed at attracting other creative people to the town and for businesses and tourists looking for the services of creative people.

h. An online directory of Warren creatives was labeled the highest priority by respondents, followed closely by a branding program and staging regular arts events. Public arts initiatives also attracted a high response (47 % yes, and 37 % said it should be a high priority).

i. Warren artists believe that the arts community faces a number of challenges ranging from the state of the economy, lack of town support for the arts, and attracting tourists, to maintaining affordable housing, studio space and losing its current “true” identity if marketing programs tried to transform the town making Warren indistinguishable from neighboring towns.

j. 77 % of respondents have never received or competed for a Rhode Island Council on the Arts (RISCA) grant, indicating Warren artists could benefit from increased awareness of RISCA grants.

# Introduction & Methodology

In late June 2011, Warren Arts Initiative (WAI) volunteers invited 135 known artists who live or work in Warren to participate in an online survey. The list of known artists was compiled in the previous two months using existing lists, word of mouth sources and names obtained from hosting an artist's reception on May 25, which attracted nearly 100 local artists. Online survey invitees were asked to respond using the online survey tool by a certain deadline – July 10, 2011.

The survey objectives were:

- Determine number of events and jobs involved in offering openings, exhibits and performances in Warren
- Determine what made Warren a great place for a creative person to live and work.
- Determine what distinguished Warren from other cities, towns and communities in Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts.
- Determine what are the challenges Warren's creative community.
- Collect public directory information regarding artists who live or work in Warren.
- Identify who these people are by artistic discipline, age, hours spent on creative work and whether they derived creative income.
- Determine how the WAI could work with artists and art organizations and businesses to advance artistic endeavors in Warren.
- Determine the level of support Warren creatives received from RISCA.

This report presents the findings from the survey. For a full copy of the survey, see Appendix B .

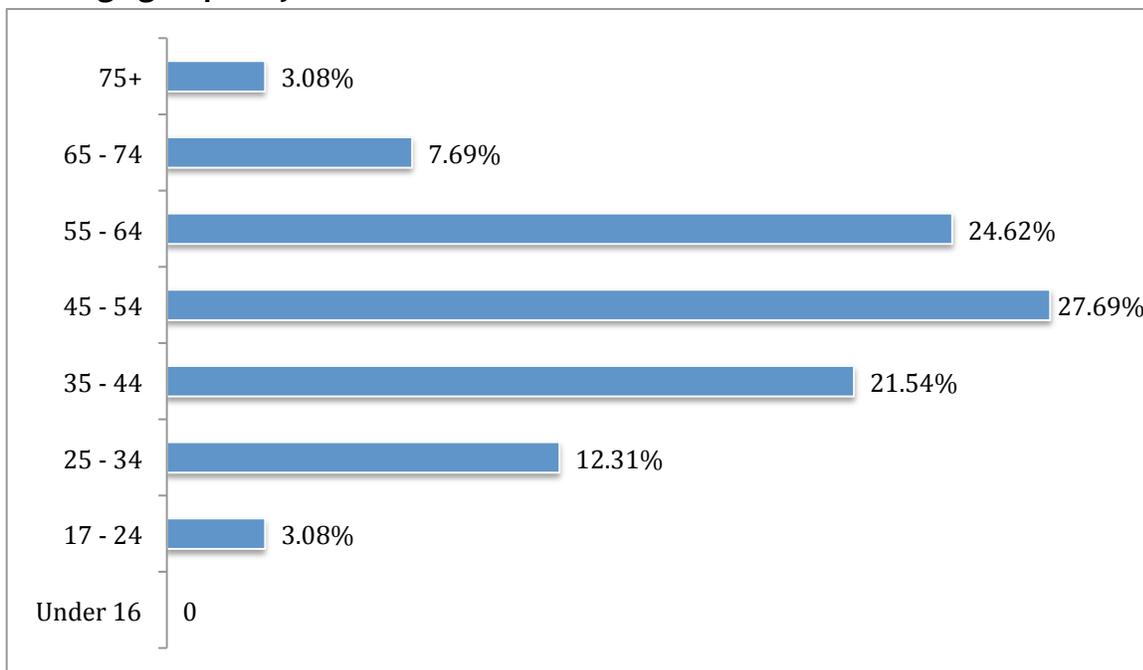
# Survey Results

**Question 1** asked survey respondents to fill in information to be included in a Public Directory of Warren Artists (see Appendix A).

**Question 2** asked respondents to provide non-public contact information. This information is on file with WAI volunteers and is not part of this report.

## Question 3

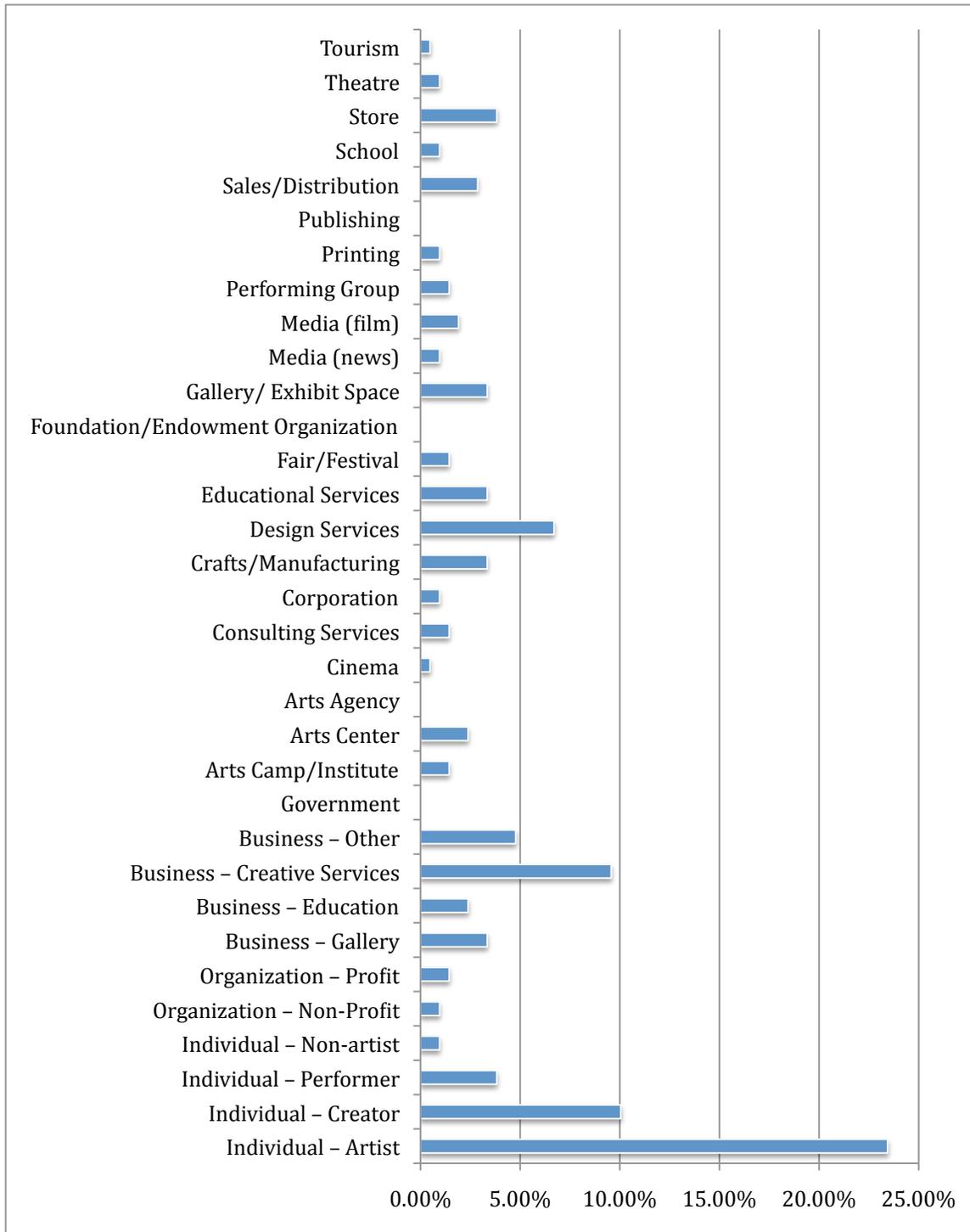
**What age group are you in?**



The above result shows that 84.6 % of Warren Creatives surveyed were aged 35 or higher. People in this age group are more likely to purchase property, have families and spend money locally.

## Question 4

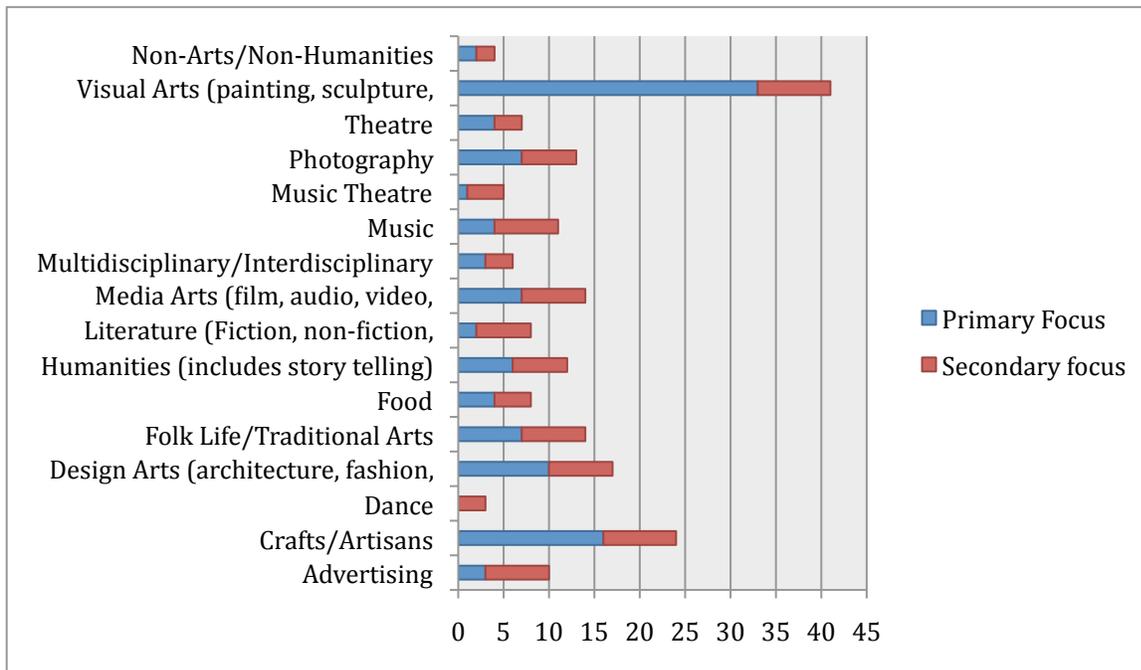
**What type of organization, business or individual are you? (check all that are relevant)**



It was noted that Warren does not have a non-profit organization that offers artistic opportunities for youth. Also, the survey did not attract responses from local arts agencies, artistic foundations, or government, indicating either gaps or potential future opportunities within the Warren community.

### Question 5

What disciplines are you or your organization active in? (check all that are relevant):

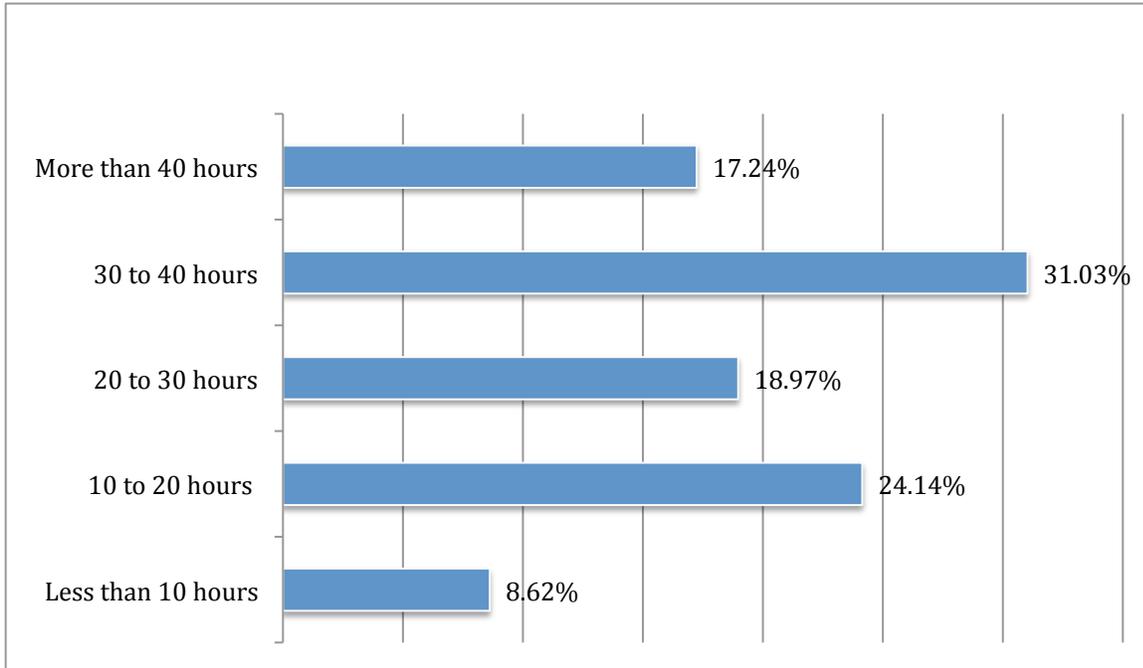


\*\*\*Other disciplines included: event creating, jewelry making, retail, arts education, web, arts supporting and paleontological reconstruction.

Visual artists, though the largest group identified by discipline in this survey, made up only 20% of respondents. Design Arts (9%), Photography (7%), Media Arts (7%), and Music (6%) were also well-represented groups among a list that also included advertising, crafts, dance, folk life, food, humanities, literature, multi-disciplinary, and theatre. This indicates that Warren’s creative community is quite diverse.

### Question 6

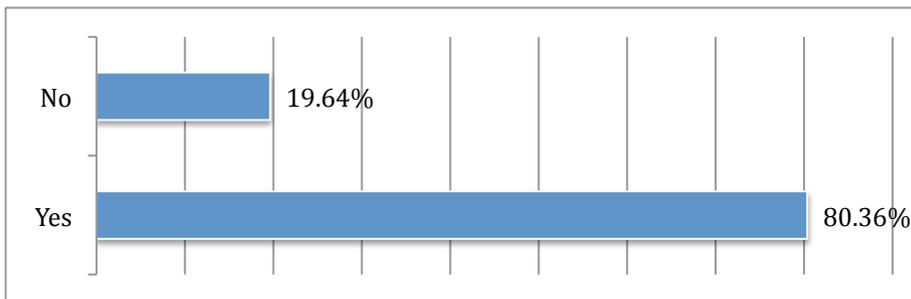
For individuals: How many hours per week do you spend working on your creative work?



This result indicates nearly half of the survey respondents devote a significant amount of time (30 hours or more per week) to their creative endeavors.

#### Question 7

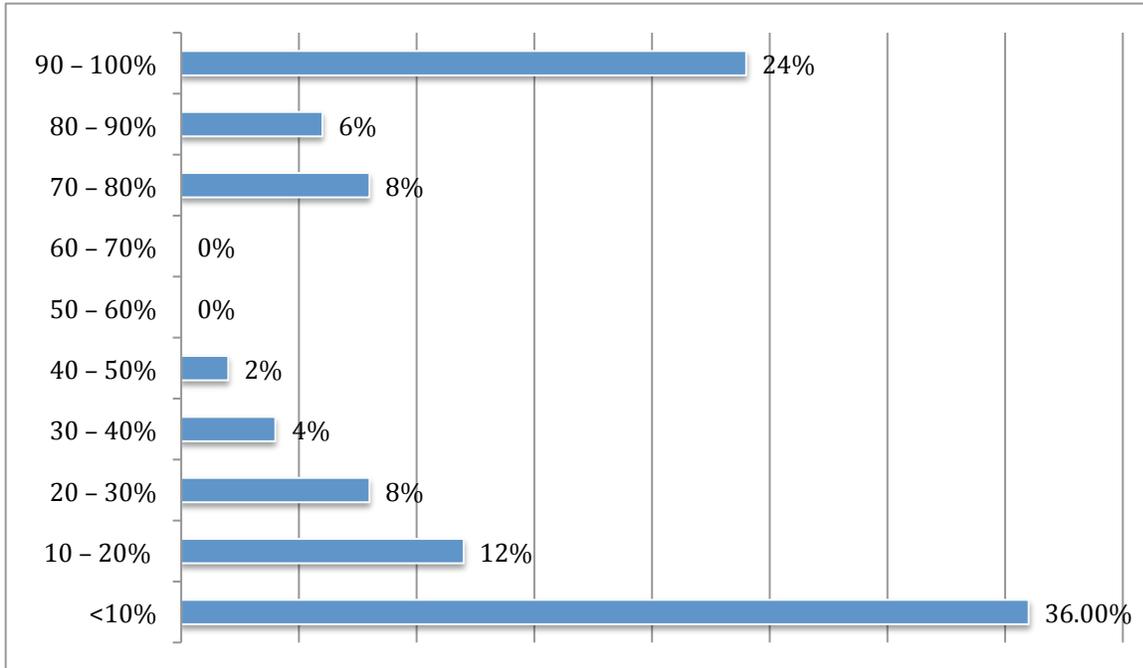
**For individuals: Do you currently derive revenue from your creative work?**



The overwhelming majority of respondents (80 percent) derive income from their creative work, indicating there is economic demand for their creative work.

#### Question 8

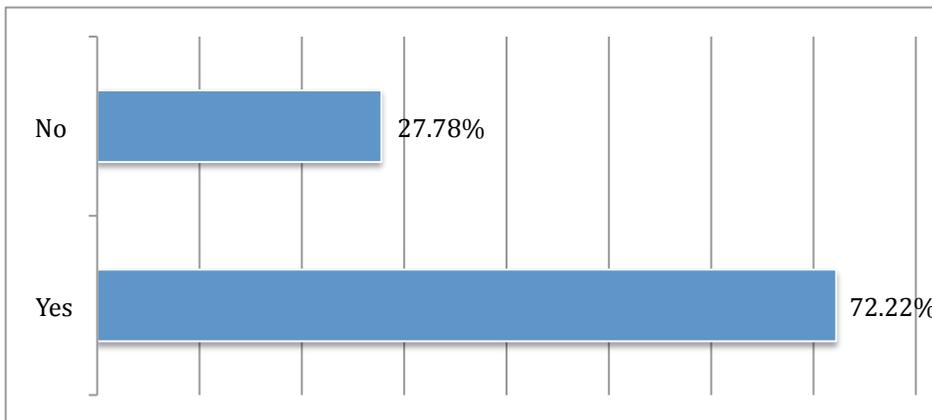
**What percentage of your annual income is derived from your creative work?**



This answer indicates that 38 percent of survey respondents derive the majority of their income from their creative work. Almost a quarter of respondents rely solely on their creative income.

**Question 9**

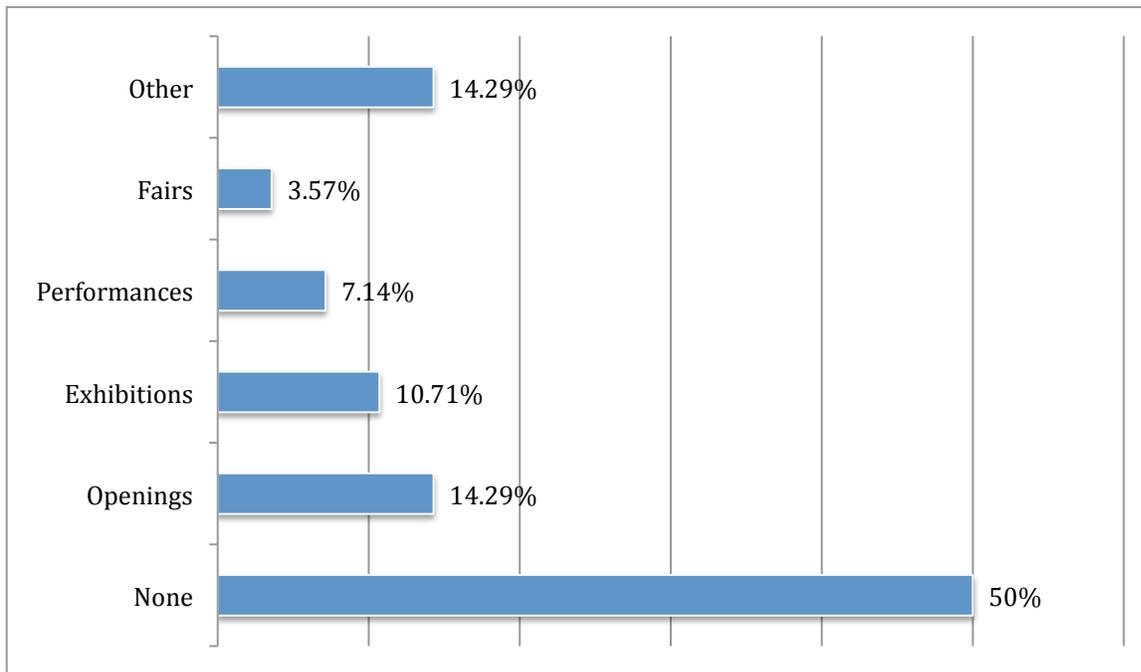
**In the future would you be willing to participate in an anonymous survey relating to your creative income?**



The majority of survey respondents said they would be willing to participate in an anonymous survey relating to their creative incomes.

**Question 10**

**For organizations: Do you currently organize arts or cultural events?**



\*\* Other events included: mini events, combinations of the above and storytelling.

Half of the organizations that participated in this survey currently organize arts or cultural events. Perhaps a future survey could determine if there are opportunities for the 50 % that are not holding events.

**Question 11**

**For organizations/businesses: How many employees to you have?**

Full time	Part time	Seasonal	Volunteer
0	0	0	3 -5
1	0	0	0
0	3	0	0
10	6	0	0
0	1	0	0
2	0	0	0
0	0	0	3
1	1	1	0
0	0	0	5 - 10
1	0	0	0
0	0	0	2
0	1	0	0

This indicates that survey respondents who are businesses or organizations in Warren collectively employ 15 full time positions, 12 part time positions, 1 season position and 17 volunteer positions. These results indicate that art-related business activities have created jobs locally and are contributing to the health of the local economy. And when you combine this date with that in question 13, it indicates that every full time position within a Warren arts organization attracts at least 1000 people to the community each year.

The fact that only one position is seasonal indicates that, from a business perspective, artistic activities in Warren are year round ventures and are not seasonally based.

**Question 12**

**For organizations/businesses: How many people participate in your activities (per event)?**

0 – 20
25 – 100
2
12
13 – 14
Few
80
3
1
50
5 – 10
300
10 - 12
100s each year
0
It varies
50
2
n/a
3 - 5

This question was aimed at gauging event size. The survey collected 20 responses varying from 0 to 300 people attending each event.

**Question 13**

**For organizations/businesses: Each year (annually), how many people attend in your arts/cultural activities?**

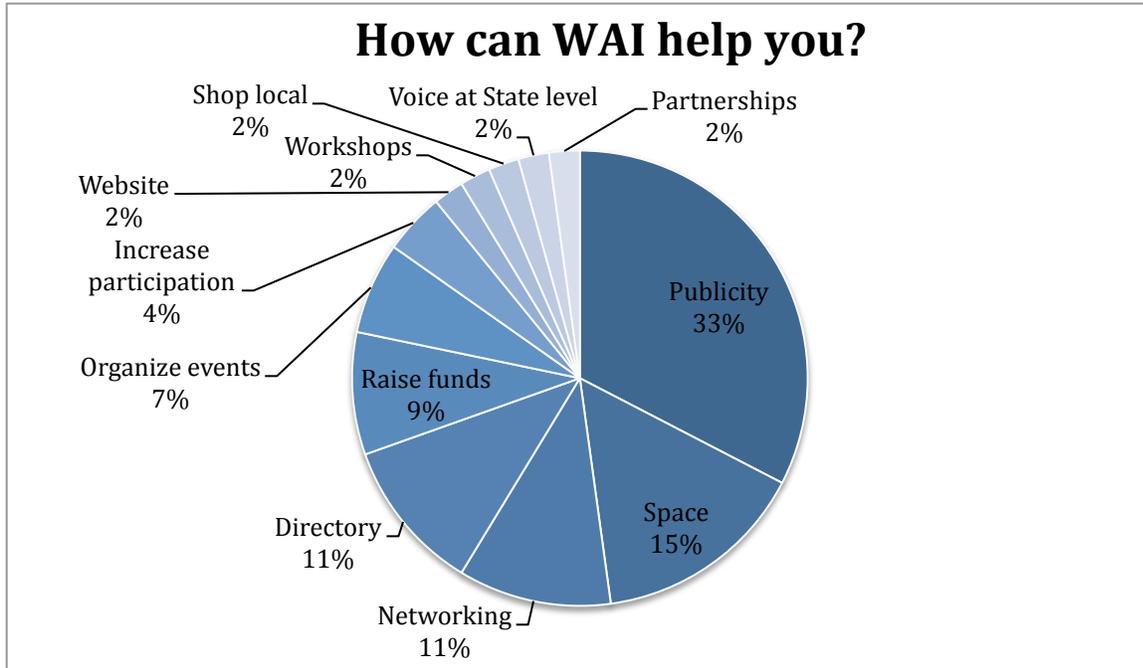
100 – 200
300+
2
1000
200 – 400
Few
15,000
Don't know yet
500
300
300
100s a year
0
It varies
50
100

The survey collected 16 responses varying from 0 to 15,000. In totaling the attendees from all 16 responses, more than 20,000 people attend arts and cultural activities in Warren staged by the respondents to this survey. (Note: this figure does not include Walkabout or Quahog festival attendees, as these organizers were not among the survey respondents).

**Question 14**

**The Future: What could the Warren Arts Initiative do to help you, your organization or your business?**

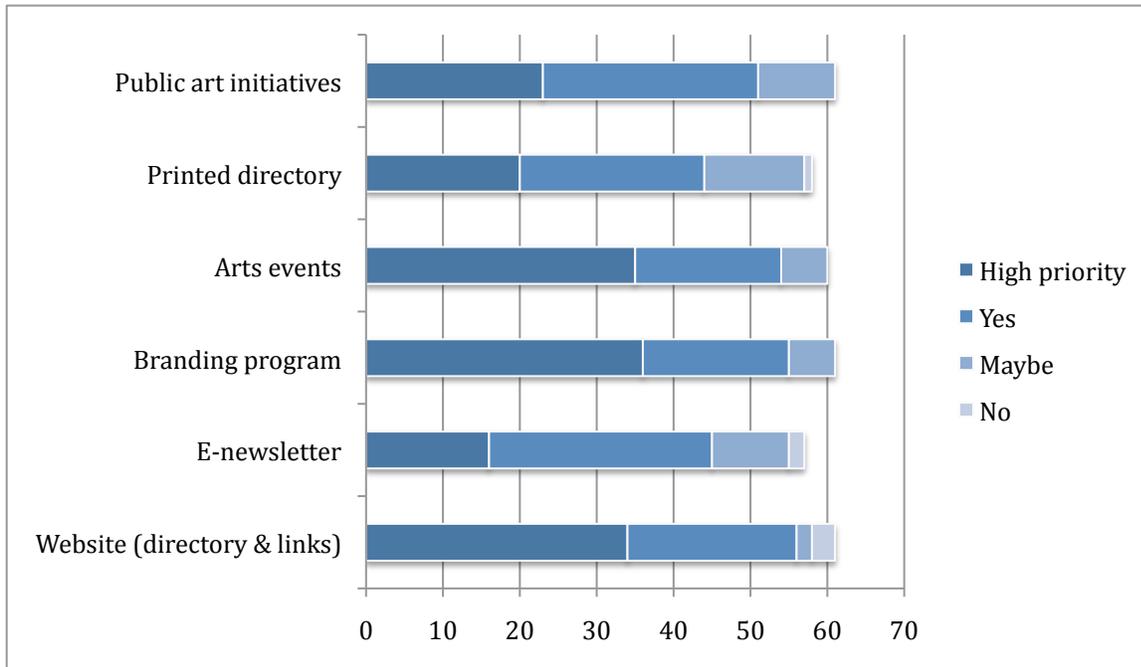
This question attracted written answers from 42 of survey respondents (60%).



In summarizing the responses, recurrent themes emerged. Generating publicity was by far the most common suggestion – mentioned in 14 (or 33 %) of the 42 written answers. Other popular suggestions included: organize gallery and studio space opportunities (15%), networking opportunities (11%), create a Warren artists directory (11%), raise funds for artists and non-profits (9%), organize events (7%), and increase artist participation in the community (5%). Encourage people to shop local, create a website to advertise an artist directory, provide workshops, and give Warren artists a voice at the state level, were mentioned once in the written responses. For a complete list of answers see Appendix C.

**Question 15**

**Here is a list of several initiatives currently being considered. Please indicate how important each activity is to you, your business or your organization.**



\*\*\* Other initiatives suggested by respondents include: events that catalyze arts thinking, revolving artist demonstrations (in schools, senior centers), invitational guest speakers, and provide live/work space.

The above table indicates that among the suggested initiatives, creating a website, developing a branding program and creating arts events are seen as the highest priorities for WAI to undertake in order to help enhance the arts Warren.

### Question 16

**What other efforts do you think would be useful to support you, your organization or your business, and the arts in Warren?**

This question attracted 17 written responses (25% of all respondents) and there was only one recurring theme in the answers provided: the suggestion of holding regular gallery night/open studio/tours, mentioned by 4 of the 17 respondents. Other suggestions included:

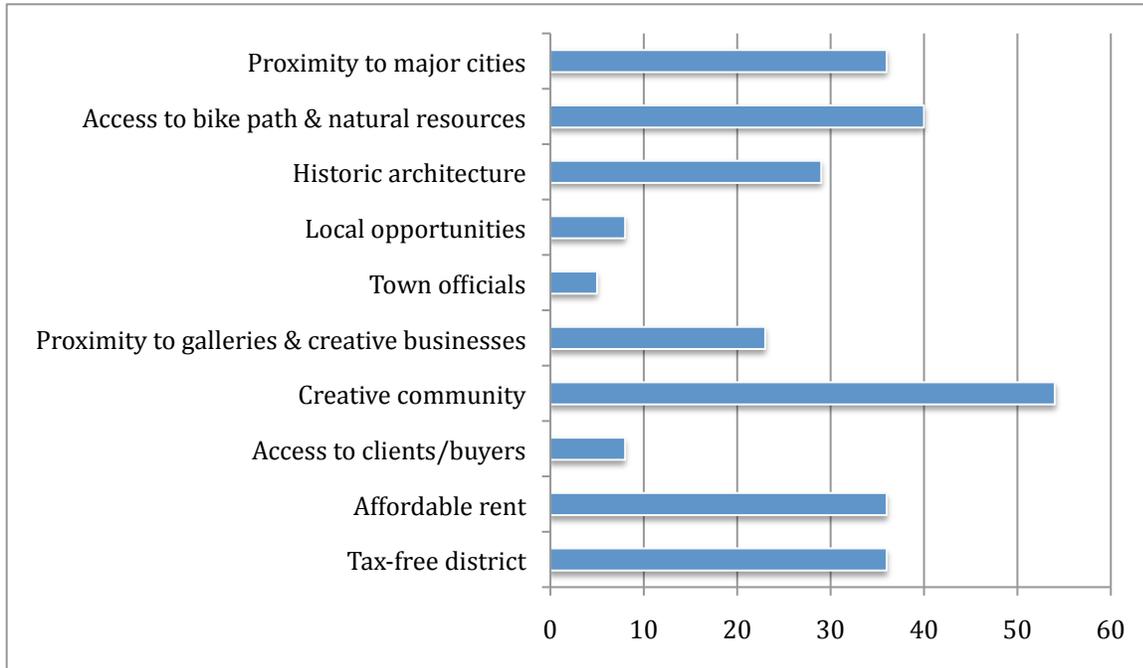
- offering group health insurance
- artist discounts at local businesses
- create a visible pathway from Main Street to 30 Cutler
- collaborate with Hail Library programs
- reduce property tax for artists
- list local art lessons on the WAI website
- business development workshops for artists
- work with local schools
- food choices that appeal to artists
- create networking opportunities
- provide trolley transportation between art venues in Warren
- create a arts co-op

- Use the gazebo at Del's to publicize events

For a complete list of written answers, see Appendix D.

**Question 17**

**What is it about Warren, RI that makes it a great place to work/live as a creative person? (tick only your top 5 reasons)**



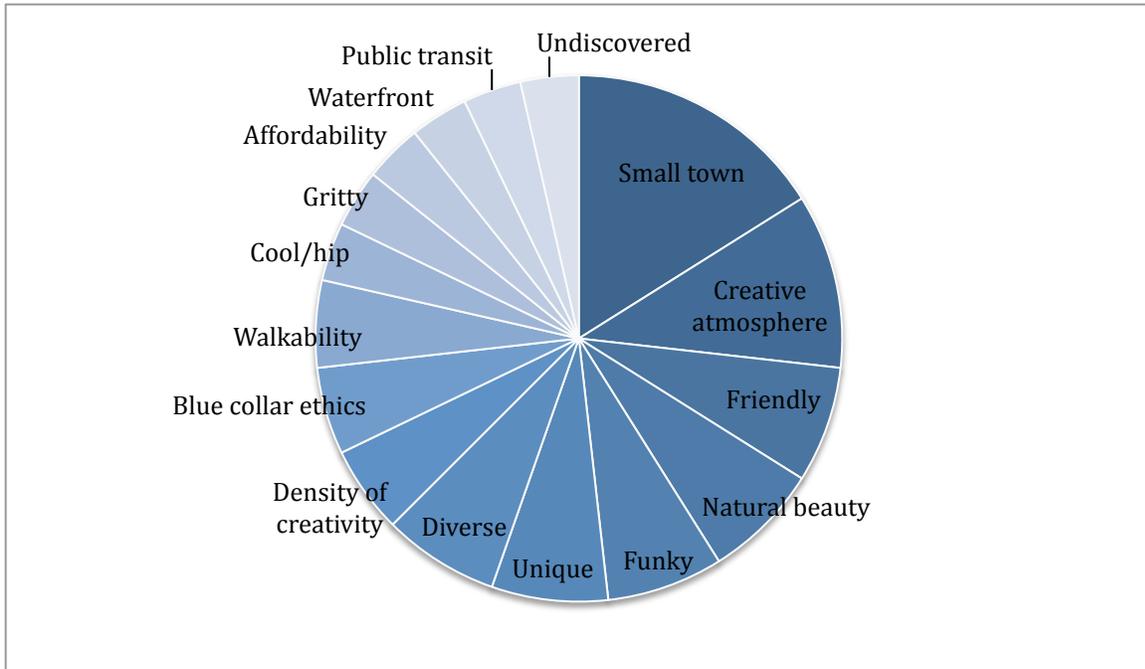
\*\*\* Other attractive characteristics include: “a funky je ne sais pas”, diverse population and community, inspirational and supportive people, proactive people generating wonderful action, and creative and manufacturing resources.

Results from this question show that 54 of the 70 respondents (78%) believe that a “creative community” makes Warren a great place to live or work as a creative person. Other characteristics such as proximity to major cities, access to bike path and natural resources, affordable rent and Warren’s tax-free district rank high with creative people. Perhaps surprisingly, few creative types chose local opportunities and access to clients as reasons for living or working in Warren. This information could prove valuable in developing marketing materials designed at attracting creative people to Warren.

**Question 18**

**What distinguishes Warren from other communities in Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts?)**

This question attracted written answers from 38 of survey respondents (54%). Several characteristics were repeated in numerous answers and are displayed in the chart below.

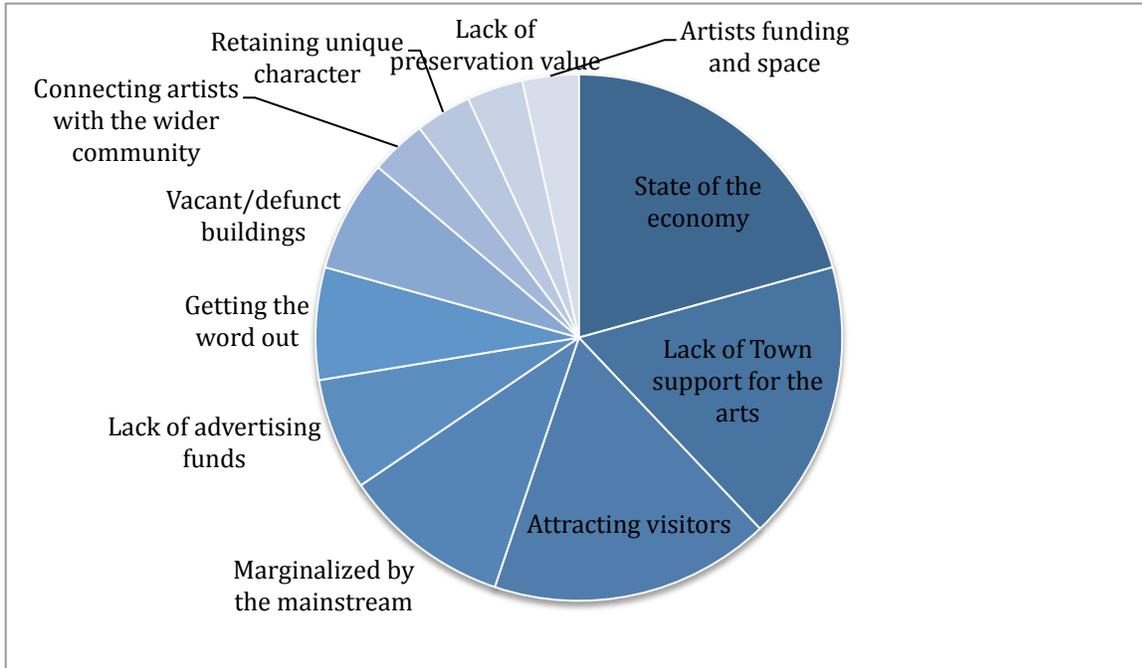


A significant number of respondents reported that it is a combination of these characteristics that makes Warren unique to other communities. For a complete list of answers see Appendix E.

**Question 19**

**What do you see as the biggest challenges the Warren arts community faces?**

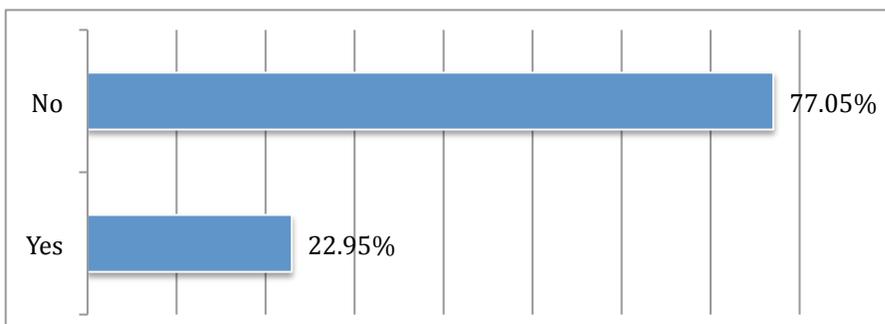
This question attracted written answers from 39 of survey respondents (56%). Key words from the written answers are displayed in the chart below.



Warren artists believe that the arts community faces a number of challenges ranging from the state of the economy, lack of town support for the arts, and attracting tourists, to maintaining affordable housing, studio space and losing its current “true” identity if marketing programs tried to transform the town making Warren indistinguishable from neighboring towns. For a complete list of answers see Appendix F.

**Question 20**

**Have you ever received or competed for a RISCA grant?**



This answer indicates that the majority of survey respondents have never competed for a RISCA grant. This could indicate missed opportunities or an opportunity to increase awareness among Warren artists as to the funding programs offered through RISCA.

# Conclusions

a. Warren artists are a diverse group. Visual artists, though the largest group identified by discipline in this survey, made up only 20% of respondents. Design Arts (9%), Photography (7%), Media Arts (7%), and Music (6%) were also well-represented groups among a list that also included advertising, crafts, dance, folk life, food, humanities, literature, multi-disciplinary, and theatre. This diverse group is an asset to the Town of Warren, which through fostering mutually beneficial relationships will have an even greater benefit to the community at large.

b. 80.4 % derive revenue from their creative work, indicating there is demand for their creative work. Nearly 40 % of Warren artists rely solely on their creative income.

c. At least 20,000 people annually attend arts and cultural events in Warren, according to 5 organizations and 12 businesses that participated in this survey. These businesses and organizations employ 15 full time staff, 2 part time, 1 seasonal and 17 volunteer positions.

d. “A creative community” was the most popular reason artists chose to live or work in Warren (78 %). Access to bike path and natural resources (57 %), affordable rent (52 %), proximity to major cities (52 %) tax-free district (52 %), and historic architecture (41%) were also popular reasons to be here. Local opportunities, access to clients and town officials were chosen by fewer than 3 % of respondents.

e. 84.6 % of Warren Creatives surveyed were aged 35 or higher. People in this age group are more likely to purchase property, have families and spend money locally.

f. It was noted that Warren does not have a non-profit organization that offers artistic opportunities for youth. The survey did not attract responses from local arts agencies, artistic foundations, or government, indicating either gaps or missed opportunities within the Warren community.

g. Warren’s creatives believe there is a lot to be gained from publicity programs that are aimed at attracting other creative people to the town and for businesses and tourists looking for the services of creative people.

h. An online directory of Warren creatives was labeled the highest priority by respondents, followed closely by a branding program and staging regular arts events. Public arts initiatives also attracted a high response (47 % yes, and 37 % said it should be a high priority).

i. Warren artists believe that the arts community faces a number of challenges ranging from the state of the economy, lack of town support for the arts, and attracting

tourists, to maintaining affordable housing, studio space and losing its current “true” identity if marketing programs tried to transform the town making Warren indistinguishable from neighboring towns.

j. 77 % of respondents have never received or competed for a Rhode Island Council on the Arts (RISCA) grant, indicating Warren artists could benefit from increased awareness of RISCA grants.

# Recommendations

Based on the results of this survey, the Warren Arts Initiative, in fostering relationships that are mutually beneficial to the town, its people, businesses, artists and tourists, should focus it's initiatives on the following priorities:

Within the next 12 months:

1. Develop a branding program to attract artists and tourists to the Town of Warren.
2. Build an online directory of Warren artists to be used as a resource for tourists, businesses, the community and networking artists. (This online resource could also be a venue to publicize arts events, classes, venues and opportunities).
3. Form an arts events subcommittee that will coordinate and publicize arts events in Warren.
4. Seek funding from the local and state levels to support arts programs in Warren.
5. Hold quarterly networking opportunities for artists and local businesses. (could be combined with developmental workshops/guest lectures).
6. Create a long-term action plan for arts and cultural-related tourism initiatives.

One year to two years from now:

1. Stage one large-scale annual WAI event aimed at attracting new tourists throughout the region to the Town of Warren.
2. Work with landlords to utilize empty space.
3. Develop initiatives that partner with upcoming Public Works projects.

Other considerations for the Town of Warren:

- Group Health Insurance
- Shop local discounts for Artists
- Collaborate with local schools
- Collaborate with George Hail Library programs
- Ask the town to offer business and property tax breaks for artists
- Arts co-op
- Visible pathway from Main Street to the artists' studios at 30 Cutler Street.

## Appendix A

# Public Directory of Warren Artists

	<b>Last name:</b>	<b>First:</b>	<b>Business:</b>	<b>Description:</b>
1	Aber	Kristen	This is Warren	Blog: writing and photography
2	Ackley	Jeanne		Painting
3	Anderson	Ben	Ben Anderson Studios	Sculpture and ceramics
4	Andreozzi	Butch		
5	Aguiar	Jason		Web design, development and animation
6	Albaugh	Richard	Dragonfly Designs	Oils, tempera, pinstriping, guitars, sign lettering, corgis
7	Antaya	Martha		Painting/Ceramics
8	Arthur	Jeanne		Painter, oils, acrylics, watercolors, pen & ink
9	Aubrey	Mark		Actor/Videographer/Photography
10	Ayres	Allison		Stained glass, photography & others
11	Baronas	Deborah		Artist/Designer
12	Barrow	Robert	18th century and contemporary furniture	
13	Benton	Mary	Mary Benton Design	Altered Digital Photography and Painting
14	Bertness	Janette A.		Ukrainian Easter Eggs
15	Betts	Don		Wooden Boats
16	Blomgren	Ellen	Mudstone Studios	Ceramic sculpture
17	Blomgren	Rebecca		Clay & stained glass
18	Boland	John	John Boland Pottery	Ceramics
19	Bolster	Davison		
20	Brennan	Diane		
21	Brownlie	Gibb		2 & 3D Art
22	Bryan	Valerie		Oil, Acrylic and photography
23	Bush	Jim		
24	Casselman	Juliette		Painting, murals, portraits, stained glass, puppets, masks
25	Casselman	Izabella		Mixed media, clay, print making
26	Charleson	Jen	Inkling Graphics	Graphic designer
27	Clarke	David		
28	Cole	Pamela	Pamela Cole Designs	
29	Collins	Eileen S.		Studio art
30	Conterio	Kimberly		Fiber artist
31	Cronin	Prescott		Musician
32	Culora	Jill	Husking Bee Art & Media	News & Features Writer, Video Producer, Publisher & Mosaics
33	Culora	Tom		Painting
34	Dalbec	Kristen		Healing arts, singer, photography
35	Daniels	Cynthia		Photo, Oil
36	DeBiasio	Donna L		Photography / Painting

37	Dee	Mike		Musician
38	Dennis	Karl		Fine woodworker
39	Depasquale	Joe		Photographer
40	Depoto	Tony		Signmaker/Painter/Musician
41	Difrenna	Linda	Studio 67	Painting, photography and mixed media constructions
42	Dionne	Karen		Graphic artist
43	Dixon	Candis		
44	Dondero	Mary		Photography, Painting, Graphic Design
45	Egge	Jay		Painting in pastel, oil, encaustic, egg tempera and other mediums.
46	Emidy	Holly		Surface design & textile design
47	Esson-Dawson	Rose		Ceramics/sculpture
48	Faulkner	Elizabeth		Metal?
49	Fayan	Joanne		Actress
50	Ferrin	Ellen		Artist and designer
51	Ferro	David	Ferro Weathervanes	Metal sculptor
52	Francis	Charlie		Photography
53	Glatt	Jonathan	O & G	Furniture, interior design
54	Going	Debra		Sculpture, painting---student
55	Gotauco	Jade	Go Studio	Oil painting and photography
56	Greenbaum	Mark		Music - blues
57	Guida	Rosemary		
58	Hanssen	Betty	Betty Hanssen	Glass
59	Hanssen	David	Lampwork Beads	Woodturning, metalsmithing
60	Harney	Brendan	Hanssen Studios	
61	Harrington	Betty		Musician
62	Harrington	David	Studio 67	Painting
63	Harrington	Rhea		Pottery
64	Harrington	Rhea		Dancer
64	Healy Jamiel	Mary	Mary Healey Jamiel	Documentary filmmaker
65	Herried	Leann	Individual Icons	
66	Hicks	C.		Jewelry
67	Hinman	Doug		Illustration & Graphics
68	Horton	Diane		Musician
68	Horton	Diane		Writer/painter
69	Ironfield	Richard		
70	Israel	Judi		Clay sculpture
71	Jainschigg	Nick		Painting, animation, illustration
72	Kaiser	Richard		
73	Kaplan	Tamara		Multi media (clay, letterpress, printmaking)
74	Katzberg	Joyce		Singer
75	Kenyon	Jessica		Clay
76	Kiepert	Elizabeth		Jewelry
77	Kiepert	Matthew	Matthew Kiepert	Musician
78	Kittell	Kathy	Don's Art Shop	Painter
79	Lamb	David	Brown Bird	Musician
80	Legato	Lisa		

81	Lichatz	Christine	Gardenworks llc	Garden media, mural painting, sculpture and Performance, aka mixed
82	Lippincott	Steven E.		Oil painting, portrait landscapes genre
83	Loewenstein	Jeanne		Ceramic Earthenware
84	Lombardi	Butch	East Bay Images	Nature, Wildlife, Landscape, and creative photography.
85	Lundin Barker	Sally	Photography	Painter
86	MacDonald	Karen		Painting/Jewelry
87	Maloney	Caitlin	Caitlin Maloney	Wedding and portrait photographer
88	Marinosci	Angelo	Photography	Painting/Musician/Photographer
89	Marshall	Michael		Web designer
90	Mathison	Scott	Scott's Woodworks	Custom woodworking
91	Mayhew	Eileen		Painter
92	McAloon	Ed		Stained glass and kiln formed glass
93	McComb	David		Woodworking
94	McDonnell	Karen A.		Jewelry Designer, Oil Painter, Cartoonist
95	Medeiros	Leigh		Screenwriter, Reporter, Filmmaker
96	Megathlin	Linda		Photography and assemblages
97	Melchers	Karen		Graphic arts, hand made knits, writing
98	Miller	Debbie	Debbie Miller Painting	Oil painting
99	Moen	Todd	Sweet Trade	Leathercraft, composites, woodworking
100	Morin	Matt	Johnny Animation Inc.	
101	Mouse	Warren Church		Environmental Art
102	Newsome	Allison		
103	Ossana	Sara		Furniture design
104	Otterbein	Kim	The beadhouse	Jewelry making & metals
105	Pagnozzi	Nicole	Oracle Studios	Signs, canvas, oil, sculpture, murals, clay, multi-media
106	Pfanstiehl	Natalie K.	Pfanstiehl Studio	
107	Pfanstiehl	Nina Hope		Ceramics, jewelry & sculpture
108	Primiano	Don		Painting
109	Prindeville	Katie	Kathleen Prindiville	Jewelry Design and Painting
110	Rantilla	Ron	Ron Rantilla Rowing	
111	Rathburn	Ellen	Systems	Forward facing rowing systems
112	Read	Otis	Writer	
113	Read	Otis	Musician	
114	Ritoli	Vinny	Imagery Studio	Web and interactive design
115	Rosato	Melissa		Studio Art Bachelor's Degree
116	Rossi	Anne Marie		Oil & multi media
117	Rumpler	Lenny		Personalized acrylic, painted plaques and jewelry holders
118	Santos	Leah		
119	Scanlan	Cathleen		
120	Scriven	Michael		Painting
121	Schaff	William		Multimedia
122	Scolar	Sabrina		Photography
122	Sevigny	Lynn		

123	Shea	Ed		Actor
124	Siegler	Rodie		Ceramic Sculpture
125	Silva	Sarah J.	Unique Pottery by Sarah J. Silva	Ceramics
126	Spencer	Erin		Oil painting
127	Stover	Roger		Poet
128	Sylvia	Scott		Photography
129	Thayer	Freyja		Handbags - leather & canvas
130	Tierney	Bridget	The Greenery	Floral
131	Tracy	Adam		Painting
132	Trant	Loren		Ceramics
133	Tucker	Angel	Angel Tucker Photography	Photography
134	Warwick	Pat	Pat Warwick Tiles	Ceramics Surfaces
135	Weed	David		
136	Wells	Ian		Illustration & Design
137	Whitely	Rupert		Photographer
138	Wholey	Mark		Sculpture, Painting, Inventor
139	Winn	Sherry		Dance
140	Winsor	Mark		Watercolors, woodworking, boats
141	Yeomans	Donald		
142	Zingg	Chris	In Your Ear Records	Music Appreciation

### Art Groups

Newsome	Allison	Warren Clay Works	
Bush	Julia	Warren Art Spot	Children's Art Studio

### Businesses

Stone	Terry	Bradford Mercantile The B.R.A.S.S.	Retail shop
Volino	Sara	Dish Ganesh's	Women's Clothing and Accessories
Estrella	John	Gob Shop Graphics Hopes Unlimited Imago	Screen Printing and Embroidery Art and design
Poor	Lane	Hwang Bishop Design Main Street Gallery M&M Furniture Restoration	Lighting and furniture Photography
Kiefert	Elizabeth	MUSE Old Mill Signs	All types of signs Manufacturer and distributor of educational toys
Zago	Karen	Pockets of Learning Red Elephant Gallery Silktone Graphics	Signs and graphics Aspirational spaces with a contemporary edge
Sara Tierney	Hotterbein Bridget	StudioSeven7 The Bead House The Greenery	Gift shop/florist

Griffin	Doreen	The Meeting House Valerie's Gallery	
Bonniol Dickson	Andrea N. Kate	Whimsie's Wooden Midshipman WTRG, LLC (Empyrean/Aural Fix Nation)	Painting and local art
Casala Collinson	Candace A. Lynne	Your Finders Keepers Inc 2nd Story	Theatre

**Friends of Warren Artists**

Felag	Walter		Senator
Bergmark	Jane		Yoga
Boland	Cynthia		Spouse
Wescott	Clark		Mill manager
Lombari	Mark		Mill Owner
Weed	Sarah		Spouse
Blomgren	Rebecca		CT Organist
Hayes	Ted		Warren Times Gazette

**Neighboring Artists**

Ethier-mullen Martinuzzi- DeSano	Jyll Paula	Tides to Destiny	Illustrator, Painter Expressive Arts Photography, writing, teaching, design, poetry, set design Music: Composer, Guitarist, Copyist, Arranger
McConnell	Arnie		
Kohler	Jay	Jay Kohler Music	

## Appendix B

# The WAI Survey:

We ask that you take this short survey so that we can learn more about what initiatives would offer the greatest benefit to you and to the town of Warren.

The survey is aimed at artists/creators, organizations and businesses who are directly involved in arts in Warren.

This survey is confidential. Results will report findings as a whole, and not for specific individuals or organizations.

If you would prefer to fill out a paper version, please email [warrencreatives@yahoo.com](mailto:warrencreatives@yahoo.com).

Please forward this to anyone who might be interested in participating.

Thank you for your time.

<next>

## WAI Survey

### Question 1 -- PUBLIC LISTING

(This information will be used in a public listing. Please leave blank the information that you do not want to share publicly.)

Please fill in the following basic information:

Business Name or Organization:

Individual or Contact Name:

Title (if any):

Artistic Discipline:

Mailing Street Address:

Town:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Alt. phone:

Website:

Email:

Alt. email:

Please provide a short description of your work / business / organization: (can be cut and pasted from Word)

Question 2 -- IDENTIFICATION

(This confidential information is for our use only to and will be used for you to receive communications from us from time to time on various topics such as artist opportunities.) This information will not be shared with any third party.

Please fill in the following basic information:

Business Name or Organization:

Individual or Contact Name:

Title (if any):

Artistic Discipline:

Mailing Street Address:

Town:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Alt. phone:

Website:

Email:

Alt. email:

Do you work in Warren, RI?

Do you live in Warren, RI?

Preferred method of communication?

Question 3 -- What age group are you in?

Question 4 -- What type of organization, business or individual are you? (check all that are relevant.)

Individual – Artist

Individual – Creator

Individual – Performer

Individual – Non-artist

Organization – Non-Profit

Organization – Profit

Business – Gallery

Business – Education

Business – Creative Services

Business – Other

Government

Arts Camp/Institute

Arts Center

Arts Agency

Cinema

Consulting Services

Corporation  
 Crafts/Manufacturing  
 Design Services  
 Educational Services  
 Fair/Festival  
 Foundation/Endowment Organization  
 Gallery/ Exhibit Space  
 Media (news)  
 Media (film)  
 Performing Group  
 Printing  
 Publishing  
 Sales/Distribution  
 School  
 Store  
 Theatre  
 Tourism

Question 5 -- What disciplines are you or your organization active in? (check all that are relevant):

	Primary focus	Secondary focus
Advertising		
Crafts/Artisans		
Dance		
Design Arts (architecture, fashion, graphic, industrial, interior, landscape, urban)		
Folk life/Traditional Arts		
Food		
Humanities (includes story telling)		
Literature (Fiction, non-fiction, playwriting, poetry)		
Media Arts (film, audio, video, technology, experimental)		
Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary		
Music		
Music Theatre		
Photography		
Theatre		
Visual Arts (painting, sculpture, graphics, experimental)		
Non-Arts/Non-Humanities		
Other (please specify)		

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION (The information in this section will not be made public. This information will assist us in determining the impact that the Artistic community within our broader community.)

Question 6 -- For individuals: How many hours per week do you spend working creative work?

Less than 10

10 to 20 hours  
20 to 30 hours  
30 to 40 hours  
more than 40 hours

Question 7 -- For individuals: Do you currently derive revenue from your creative work?

Yes  
No

Question 8 -- What percentage of your annual income is derived from your creative work?

<10%  
10 – 20%  
20 – 30%  
30 – 40%  
40 – 50%  
50 – 60%  
60 – 70%  
70 – 80%  
80 – 90%  
90 – 100%

Question 9 -- In the future would you be willing to participate in an anonymous survey relating to your creative income?

Yes  
No

Question 10 -- For organizations: Do you currently organize arts or cultural events?

None  
Openings  
Exhibitions  
Performances  
Fairs  
Other (please specify)

Question 11 -- For organizations/businesses: How many employees do you have?

Full time  
Part time  
Seasonal  
Volunteers

Question 12 -- For organizations/businesses: How many people participate in your activities? (artists, performers, exhibitors, students, etc.)

---

Question 13 -- For organizations/businesses: Each year, how many people attend your arts/culture activities?

---

Question 14 -- The Future: What could the Warren Arts Initiative do to help you, your organization or your business?

Question 15 -- Here is a list of several initiatives currently being considered. Please indicate how important each activity is to you, your business or your organization.

High priority      Yes      Maybe      No

Website

(online directory, individual listings and links to your website)

E-Newsletter

(a periodic e-newsletter to the general public providing info on events and activities)

Branding program

(positioning Warren as an Arts community and destination)

Arts Events:

(Events that celebrates the arts in Warren)

Printed directory

(a tourist info guide to artists in Warren)

Public Art Initiatives (town and business partnered arts initiatives)

Question 16 -- What other efforts do you think would be useful to support you, your organization or you business, and the arts in Warren?

Question 17 -- What is it about Warren, RI that makes it a great place to work/live as a creative person? (tick only your top 5 reasons)

Tax-free district

Affordable rent

Access to clients/buyers

Creative community

Proximity to galleries and creative businesses

Town officials

Local opportunities

Historic architecture

Access to parks, bike path, & other natural resources

Proximity to major cities

Other:

Question 18 -- What distinguishes Warren from other communities in Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts?

Question 19 -- What do you see as the biggest challenge the Warren arts community faces?

Question 10 -- Have you ever received or competed for a grant from RISCA?

YES

NO

Thank you for your time and effort in taking this survey.

For more information about the Warren Arts Initiative or to sign up for the directory go to: <http://warrencreatives.blogspot.com/> or email: [warrencreatives@yahoo.com](mailto:warrencreatives@yahoo.com)

**Please mail your completed survey to:**

**Warren Arts Initiative  
P.O. Box 515  
Warren, RI 02885**

## Appendix C

### **Question 14 of the WAI Survey (What could the Warren Arts Initiative do to help you, your organization or your business?), 42 written answers:**

- I believe the Warren Arts Initiative will prove itself to be valuable in its ability to increase the traffic and popularity of all of its participants. It is my hope that the WAI will increase my personal participation in the growing artistic community of Warren through their support. I believe over time the WAI will increase traffic and popularity of the town, in turn, generating business for all established artists.
- Keep people informed of the art venues and opportunities available in the town.
- Networking, put out a directory of artists in town, website
- Provide more space for studios/artists to work!
- I like to be listened to soberly and taken seriously the first time.
- Could not say right now
- Help with information on events, shows, festivals; encourage partnership and groups of artists to share ideas, advice, introductions and critiques, have some fun with this ART STUFF and some laughs, make some music. Perhaps organize time and space to sell art and not sacrifice 30% to 50% to galleries.
- Keep the designated arts district, as well as provide affordable living and workspace for the arts.
- Supply us with a list of artists willing to consign or show their work at mini events hosted on the lawn during the summer months. Hopefully these events over time would be able to expand into possibly larger events or expanded interior space for consignment space for rental by artists and craftsmen to have their wares exposed to the public without the expense of having their own storefront. Primarily looking for artists that work in the primitive folk art style but willing to consider other types.
- Continue to promote Warren as an artist community and "hot spot" for emerging artists. Work with Providence and Boston to offer opportunities for low taxes/rent for artist studios. Encourage "open studio" events to bring in revenue to the town. This is a great place to be and we at Imago love being here.
- I think it is a welcomed opportunity to bring the community together in a very positive way.
- Promotion, marketing, etc.
- Help get the word out!
- Work with the Town to actively promote Warren's art scene to the whole region. Provide low/no cost "Business for Artists" workshops. Keep us posted about grant and moneymaking opportunities.
- Raising funds to assist artists and non-profits arts organizations in Town
- We moved to this area a year ago, drawn by the vibrant arts community and the local and nearby resources. I was very impressed by the artists' happy hour a few weeks ago and by the support that the community shows for the arts. We go to gallery openings regularly and try to actively participate in the local arts community. I think the Warren Arts Initiative is serving and can continue to serve a valuable purpose by facilitating communication among artists and helping us get to know each other. The Initiative could help coordinate and publicize activities in Warren that would draw attention to the work being created here, which would positively impact business here.
- Get the word out and foot traffic up

- Create gallery/business tours on a regular basis such as the gallery walks in Bristol, or Gallery Night in Providence.
- Connect my business to buyers of fine art and other businesses and individuals looking for our services.
- Keep me abreast of current events and upcoming happenings, as well as telling me about cool things/people in the Town of Warren.
- I think this should be about mutuality - cross promotion, performance & exhibit sponsorships, resource directory, etc. The adage about giving a man a fish vs. teaching him to fish sums up the potentials simmering here in Warren's charming, delicious little bouillabaisse. ...I believe the Warren Arts Initiative and its members will "learn to fish" together and enjoy the process that leads to every catch.
- It would be fantastic to share a common studio space that I could rent short-term for projects or shoots.
- The planned artist directory will be a great resource to find new vendors for the shop or performers for special events. And I imagine that having my business listed as a shop where tourists could find local art would have a positive impact on our sales!
- They could help fund some of the events such as the Warren Walkabout.
- Make more people aware of what we offer
- Keep up the good work!
- Hold expressive arts workshops and opportunities for displaying the work of self-discoverers.
- I would love for organizations such as the Warren Arts Initiative to provide opportunities for creative works to be produced for the public, whether it's through grants/funding, or providing space and promotional assistance. It's important to get the public involved while also providing financial/moral support to the artists.
- Organize events where my work would be displayed and appropriate clients would be invited to...At present, I am a student and this does not apply, The MS society is helping to put me through school...I would like to pay them back with a project dedicated to helping friends, family and work associates of people dealing with invisible illnesses, understand what it's like for these folks to get through a normal day and to expose some of the common feelings they have that are most times unspoken...
- Encourage local and regional businesses to patronize Warren artists and creative businesses
- Hire me to give speaking engagements on the arts or certain aspects of the art.
- By drawing in a greater number of diverse consumers all artists in the area would profit from a greater sales. The WAI would also raise awareness of the growing number of interdisciplinary arts in Warren.
- Publicity and exposure to businesses and individuals who may use the talent in town.
- Give the community a voice at the statehouse in matters relating to arts and business in RI.
- The Warren Arts Initiative can continue to work on making Warren an "arts destination" and advertise the town as one where tourists have a wide array of art/craft/design centers to visit. We can continue to advertise our tax-free art status and make the public aware that Warren has a large, stable arts community which is interested in informing tourists as well as sharing our work.
- Foster increased opportunities for me to exhibit and network with patrons in Warren.

- Publicity about the advantages of the arts to the community.
- ????? You tell me!
- Help promote arts in warren through helping artists band together to make Warren an "Art" destination town.
- Just bring local art to everyone!
- Engage with a larger community of artists living in Warren.
- Publicity

## Appendix D

### **Question 16 of the WAI Survey (What other efforts do you think would be useful to support you, your organization or your business, and the arts in Warren?) 17 written answers:**

- I believe that the above initiatives alone would do wonders for this community. At this point, I couldn't say for sure what I would add to the list of "efforts", but I'm positive over time the creative people involved will be inspired to do much, much more.
- Putting artists hip to the economic fostering and potential advantages that can be attained from participation in the Warren arts scene; adding to those advantages as time goes by. Creating a nonstereotypical relationship between the arts and the commercial players in Warren; moving away from the Big Daddy patronage model and more toward nourishing, sustainable, and ethically legit forms of cooperation. An arts co-op, if you will, that has a center of gravity of its own.
- Once again, could not really say at this time BUT Warren needs more food choices (cafes, bars, rest.) that can cater to a more "art" friendly client(s) that would be useful to bring in support
- Work with other surrounding communities to encourage artist tours/open studios/gallery nights throughout the year for optimal effect. Work with the various public and private schools to encourage the arts in our education systems. Promote the arts as a viable resource in the schools to keep it in the curriculum. Work with artists in the community as a direct resource with kids in the schools to keep them engaged in the education system.
- From above, get the information out that we are a great little town, full of many kinds of artists, galleries and festivals.
- Business bookkeeping and financial training/advisory. Discounts at local merchants to keep our money turning the Warren till. Preventative health maintenance education and a group health insurance program.
- A network of people to support one another's creative endeavors is really important.
- A visible pathway to 30 Cutler Street from the bike path, access to the gazebo next to Del's lemonade for publicizing events, more banners for the telephone poles that could be also utilized for events...
- Good ideas, above. I don't have anything better right now, but if I do, I will let you know...THANK YOU!
- A monthly arts night where an artist shares their story and shares techniques during a workshop. Offer an arts night (on a monthly basis) with trolley transportation to the various galleries and performing groups.
- More opportunities for collaboration and networking between artists as well as more events showcasing up and coming artists.
- I'm finding the amount of help I'm getting as a student, i.e. - (painting classes, sculpturing classes, pottery classes...) is incredible...Someone in my position, as a beginner, would most benefit from a listing of local art lessons offered and maybe even credit or adult education classes offered in the area. Thanks for this survey and good luck with everything!! D.E.Going
- Making property taxes lower. Spotlight an artist and their work each week (or month) in the warren newspaper and the East Pay Projo. Maybe get a local printer (like that fellow on Metacom) to donate their service to create a series of postcards spotlighting different work from different Warren artists to have for free in different shops. Do little video documentaries on different warren artists to be aired on local

PBS and on the web (YouTube and the such, or any Warren Art website)

- Getting the word out about what a great place warren is to live and work
- While I think that sales of artwork is important, I don't think that an obvious sales pitch should take precedence over touting Warren as an art destination.\* In my opinion (with 40 years of experience) people buy what personally appeals them and do NOT buy art because of sales pressure tactics. In this economy I am not optimistic about art sales greatly increasing. Nevertheless, this is a good time to maintain open communication between the art community and tourists/residents and to engage in interactions which will inform. \*I just returned from a trip to Italy and was appalled by the commercial imprint placed on all art objects. Everything was for sale and it was disgusting!
- Assistance and collaboration with the Hail Library with programs.
- Unknown.

## Appendix E

### Question 18 of the WAI Survey (What distinguishes Warren from other communities in Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts?) 38 written answers:

- From my perspective, the town of Warren is home to a rare group of people-- artists and non-artists alike. Upon moving here in 2005, I was immediately impressed with the strong sense of community that welcomed me without question. After having lived in nearly every part of RI, growing up mainly on the island of Jamestown, I felt I had found a buried treasure when I settled here. It seems to me that the general population has a need to learn and a craving to create greatness--be it through sharing smiles or their works of art. To me, Warren is a place people cannot only have easy access to, but also a place to feel safe and welcome. It's historic architecture, working waterfront, community gardens, and it's attempts to better itself as a community in general are only tastes of what this town has to offer.
- It's cooler.
- The creative atmosphere!
- The density of the artist community. The combination of public transit with access to natural environments.
- An excitement that has only begun. (What will touch it off? I've got ideas. Got time for a drink and a sandwich?)
- Everything needs to be painted
- Large arts community
- As of yet it has not distinguished its identity
- Location and undiscovered
- The diversity and quality of creative individuals, walking town close to natural resources, historic architecture, proximity to cities.
- Warren is, quite simply, unique. The Town has managed to maintain its small town feel while embracing a variety of programming from classical to cutting-edge contemporary. Citizens demonstrate their support and pride in having 2nd Story Theatre in town not only through purchasing tickets and subscriptions, and making tax-deductible donations, but in personal ways: calling out good wishes to artists and staff when we walk down Main Street, expressing their opinions in talk-backs, e-mails and notes. Our 10-year residence in the Town of Warren, and the continued high attendance numbers from East Bay audiences, indicates a real need for a "home town theatre". 2nd Story has been honored to fill this need.
- Active, friendly, and engaged arts community. Lots of potential - imagine what this place would be like of if Water Street, Main Street, the side streets, and the Tourister factory could be improved. Of course many of us couldn't afford it if the development didn't progress in a way that would continue to make the community affordable.
- Warren has maintained its identity as a diverse town with strong blue collar ethics.
- We're a real community, not a lot of summer people or students. We're small and friendly. People who don't know you talk to you for no other reason than you're there. It is based in a reality to this seaside beauty that you don't find many other places; on the majority of days, we have compassion for the entire population and don't strive to be some cookie cutter community where everyone has the same house and the same job. The artist tax incentive is helpful, but the way the community cherishes its artistic roots makes Warren unique.
- small town/lots of workspace

- It's cool. It's hip. It's small and homey. And it's friendly (for the most part).
- Warren has the right combination: talented people galvanized with a sense of purpose to create/preserve/manage & maintain Warren's vital success within our shifting economy. All this set in a location full of natural beauty and history!
- It is utterly varied and unique in physical character - there is NO other town like it in RI. It is also burdened with a huge population of low-income housing and halfway houses, along with a very large "rental" population. This is a very big practical disadvantage, as it keeps crime higher here, and the property often looks dingy, unkempt.
- Warren has more of a gritty urban vibe than most "white church steeple" New England towns, mostly due to its artistic community and the creatives that live here. It is amazingly convenient to actual urban centers like Providence, Boston, Fall River, New Bedford, and New York, and other tourist destinations like Newport, Bristol, the South Shore, and the Cape. You really feel like you are living and working in the center of the world.
- Working waterfront, affordability, well developed town center
- A living/working waterfront, mingling between "classes" of people (no cliques), strong artist and small business community, still a little "funky"
- Walkability, large amount of artists, a somewhat diverse population, a mellow non self-important vibe, all in all a wonderful place to be.
- Warren is the only town I know of where only the misfit fit in!
  
- The unique shops and atmosphere on Water St. The close-knit families and friends.
- Small communities offer a better opportunity for smaller and new artists to get noticed. It's hard to find your way into a big city that is very competitive artistically.
- The people's backgrounds are diverse and we try to work together without letting the differences get in the way. There is much more of a supportive and caring quality about the interactions than some neighboring towns, that seem judgmental and cliquey. We are so small that it's hard to stay mad at anyone. It's more like a family that works together to keep everything running smoothly. When there is a squeaky wheel it gets us so annoyed that it consumes our attention and we concentrate all of our energy to get it fixed...or replace the wheel..lol
- Great place to live and work- close supportive community
- Community of artists
- At one time, affordability, but that is becoming less so quicker than my income is rising. I mean Fall River and New Bedford are probably still cheaper, but who wants to live all the way out there?
- The artistic community
- Small enough to be close knit, it is a worry free (mostly) and open place to work and live
- Warren still has a small-town appeal. I love "bumping" into friends, artists and art and the friendly atmosphere of local meeting places, like coffee shops and restaurants. I think that Warren has a lot of charm and retains its flavor as a working-class community, which in my way of thinking provides a natural sense of the town's diversity, a diversity that extends to the art community. I love that Warren is not SLICK!
- Closest to major cities and tax-free areas.
- The people. I feel very privileged to work and live here. It is great to be able to walk to grocery, bank, coffee, post office, etc...
- Affordable and Beautiful!

- Size and ease of getting around, well organized creative community
- Funkadelic Place
- Warren is a hidden gem of natural beauty, funkiness, and old school.

## Appendix F

### Question 19 of the WAI Survey (What do you see as the biggest challenge the Warren Arts community faces?) 39 written answers:

- At this point in time, I think the biggest challenge we are all facing is the condition of the economy and local businesses. Walking, or driving, through Warren you will see countless empty store fronts and not much activity in the businesses that are indeed open. I believe that increasing the activity and income of the town will most certainly be a challenge due to the circumstance. Otherwise, the community is strong. The people have the desire to work and move towards something greater. With that said: bring on the challenge!
- Lack of arts priority among the majority of town government.
- Money and support from the town
- I honestly have no idea.
- ...the cultural fallout from the callousness of our imperial economy.
- Getting people to come visit a town with bad traffic congestion and poor parking, and maybe drawing affluent art buyers to a little village that looks so beat up.
- Sales
- Pinpointing and uniting the vision of the identity
- Keeping all the good qualities (low rent, tax incentives and location) while exploring growth opportunities. We could be a great pocket for the creative arts with festivals and shows that draw attention to the arts. Just don't lose the identity we are nurturing along the way.
- Getting the Town Govt to get on board with promoting artists and small businesses.
- The biggest challenge to artists and arts organizations in Warren, and throughout Rhode Island, is the ongoing weak economy, and the reduction in expendable income. Philanthropic giving has decreased statewide, and grant funds are becoming scarce and more competitive.
- The funky downtown is where it's at, but it's very bad that so many landlords don't seem to care about their properties and so many storefronts are vacant. The guy who buys gold coins advertising as you come into town and the defunct businesses cheapen the area. I would love to fix up a vacant building but can't consider it because I'm afraid I would lose my investment to owners who don't care, and I can't afford to buy one of the places myself.
- Getting better known
- Artists and galleries/shops are not centrally located making it more difficult for tourists to cover everything in a single visit.
- In attempts at improvement, we turn away from the personality and character of Warren. We lose the ability to see multiple forms of beauty and try to emulate our very different neighbors to the north and south.
- The apparent inability of Warren to become a destination - the lack of the town's interest in preserving our historical architectural treasures and encouraging businesses on Main St. to take pride in the presentation in their shops. Water St. seems to be doing a good job - Main St. needs to take a good look at that and follow suit.
- The 'old guard' and its intolerance.
- Entity development and marketing, then organization, management, and funding. The Initiative has begun. What's the plan? And how can we help?

- The biggest challenge the Arts community faces is that it is seen as marginal by the "mainstream", when in fact it is arguably the HEART of the beat of warren. My pie in the sky dream is that the arts community can lead warren out of the economic slump - through attracting new commerce, leisure activity and innovative initiatives.
- In the next few years I imagine Warren will experience quite a bit of growth that will need to be carefully managed. In order to take advantage of public art opportunities (events, incorporating public art into new construction, working with merchants groups to showcase local art) as well as insure that Warren's growth remains smart and positive, a great effort will have to be made to unify the conflicting groups in town that currently manage the town's planning. The biggest challenge will be to see all these new groups working together for maximum effectiveness to promote Warren and the arts and encourage smart growth.
- Lack of funding for advertising. Artists are a huge draw for warren, yet they are among the poorest and least likely to afford advertising.
- Organization
- Community apathy.
  
- Bringing in more tourists.
- Finding funding and space for new artistic works.
- We are challenged by how we choose to grow in a changing world. We need to keep the roots of our historic town from being damaged by decisions made that are not in our best interests: regarding our existing respect for history, integrity, safety and priceless sense of community.
- Lack of promotion and awareness
- Affordability of housing in the town, and not becoming pigeonholed into one particular style of work.
- Attracting buyers from other parts of RI and beyond... creating a "arts destination"
- I haven't found many local families interested in participating in the art classes/workshops/open studios that I've offered. Most of my students come from Barrington and Providence.
- Exposure
- Apathy as to the value of the arts and creative business, lack of foot traffic and customer base
- Spreading the awareness that the arts community is a positive asset to the town's growth. We can continue to work together with town planners and officials as they ponder ways to keep Warren moving ahead, even if only inch by inch. Artists are important and offer so much to all of the people of Warren.
- The economy and increasing the number of galleries in Warren.
- Getting known out there!
- Economy
- Entrenched attitudes
- There needs to be a connect between the arts community and people who would not necessarily identify themselves with the arts. The art scene can be seen as elitist and there are definite ways to connect Warren artists and the whole Warren community.
- Attracting public interest