

# **BOTTLE WORKS** Arts on 3rd Avenue

Dear Art Enthusiasts,

For over 30 years the Bottle Works Ethnic Arts Center has been serving the arts community of Johnstown as a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

We rely heavily on the generosity of community members like you. In thinking about the launch of our annual membership drive for 2025, we have been reflecting on what we have accomplished together over the last 30 years! It's quite astounding that two abandoned factory buildings and two blighted lots have become the campus we have today. The Bottle Works board members, staff, and volunteers have worked tirelessly to collaborate with community members, small businesses, local foundations, and state organizations, to raise the necessary funds to transform our corner of historical Cambria City while ensuring that we pay homage to the heritage of this community. The results speak for themselves. Our campus consists of our legacy "Tulip" building which was the starting point of our organization, the Chestnut Street Garden, the Art Works building, Jackie's Garden Works Rooftop Garden, the FNB Pop Plaza with rain & sculpture garden, and now the brand-new Pop Pavilion! This year we will embark on a transformation and updating of our flagship building as well as an all-new garden area that will be an extension of the pavilion and provide a sensory garden and play area for local children.

The Bottle Works has accomplished all of this while continuing to focus on our organization's mission of inspiring artistic passion, community connectivity, ethnic appreciation, and sustainable practice across generations. We are an incubator for change in the region.

The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts recently announced that Bottle Works C.R.E.A.T.E. Public Art Initiative had been selected for the Creative Communities Initiative. The PCA recognized our commitment to serving and including the community in our public art efforts like the tulip building mosaic, the Steve Ditko murals, and the Cambria County Public Library mural. This initiative will bring over \$200k in public art into local communities beginning with Cambria City over the next four years. Bottle Works has been a Folk & Traditional Arts Partner with the PCA for nearly a decade, driving public engagement with folk & traditional arts and artists in six counties.

The M.I.N.D. Works Initiative is bringing arts, crafts, & mindfulness into local school districts. The initiative combines the tools that mindfulness provides with the arts in order to allow students to identify their own needs and find new ways to express themselves through art. Other opportunities for school-aged children consist of Arts Academy offerings, Camp BW Summer Camps, the Oh, So Artsy Halloween and Holiday Parties, and the Student Works Juried Art Exhibition.

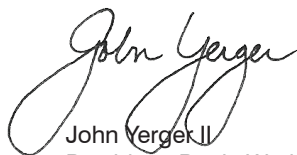
Bottle Works holds adult classes and workshops throughout the year as well, and offers a monthly live model figure workshop. We hold weekly art meetups through Club Works, and work closely with the Allied Artists of Johnstown on two exhibits a year, along with the nearly 20-plus other art exhibits throughout the year featuring local, regional, and national artists. The Steve Ditko Innovators Studio is a permanent display space for the work and life of legendary co-creator of Spider-Man and Johnstown native, Steve Ditko. It features rotating displays, personal items, and tools of the trade that belonged to Mr. Ditko that can't be seen anywhere else in the world!

If you believe in the power that the arts can provide to our community as much as I do, please consider joining our annual membership drive. You will get some great perks from your tax-deductible contribution as well as my assurance that your hard-earned money is going back to work in your arts community!

Sincerely,



Matthew Lamb  
Bottle Works, Co-Director



John Yerges II  
President, Bottle Works  
Board of Directors