



Vermont Crafts Council

Autumn greetings to all of our supporters,

It is no secret that the changes at the national level have caused a great deal of uncertainty for small businesses and the arts community. The dramatic advances in AI technology continue to reshape the role of human workers.

Against this background, we see Vermont arts businesses turning away from national markets and embracing what is near at hand. We've seen this in the huge jump in new participants in our Vermont Fall Open Studio, just concluded.

This underscores the importance of the work the Vermont Crafts Council is doing to support both emerging artists of all ages and established professionals. We need a greater capacity to help our community of small arts businesses. We need more administrative help to onboard new members, create and tailor workshops to strengthen their arts marketing and build local communication networks for individual artists and craftspeople.

Our hardworking (unpaid) board is currently digging deep to assist the VCC part time Executive Director.

We are fundraising \$20,000 to support an additional paid position to help bring VCC up another level.

As this turbulent year draws to a close, I am reaching out to you to ask for your help to meet this goal for the coming year.

**“Art has the power to transform, to illuminate,
to educate, inspire and motivate.”**

— HARVEY FIERSTEIN

What we did in 2025:

- Invested in online subscriptions to **streamline accounting and task management**.
- Added **new benefits for members** on our website, including a page for those who offer wholesale prices and a google map highlighting artists who teach.
- Produced a **free arts marketing day** in partnership with the White River Craft Center.
- **Expanded our Zoom arts business offerings** from six to eight.
- Provided **individual support** to artists new to Open Studio Weekend.
- **Developed new revenue streams**, including creating opportunities for businesses to sponsor our programming.

(continued)

2025 by the numbers:

221

MEMBERS

56

NEW MEMBERS
IN 2025

82

PAINTERS
SCULPTORS
PRINTMAKERS

37

CERAMICISTS
POTTERS

23

WEAVERS
QUILT MAKER
FIBER ARTISTS

19

GLASS BLOWERS
& STAINED GLASS
ARTISTS

12

METAL
WORKERS

32

GALLERIES OR
ART CENTERS

11

WOOD WORKERS

5

MIXED MEDIA
& STONE

22

JEWELRY ARTISTS

114

ARTISTS
WHO TEACH

Spring Open Studio 2025:

- 150 artists at 135 sites
- Google map views: 34,944
- Estimated total visits: 7824

Fall Open Studio 2025:

- 160 artists at 129 sites
- Google map views to date: 26,990
- Estimated total visits: 5672

Vermont Crafts Council:

Number of board members: 8 • One part time staff person
Monthly Rent: \$285 • FY 2024 Budget for all programs: \$85,000

Thank you! Can we count you among our advocates for Vermont's small arts businesses as they adapt and thrive, continuing our state's long tradition of creating excellent work? Please donate today.

With gratitude,

Martha Fitch
Martha Fitch

VERMONT CRAFTS COUNCIL
BOARD MEMBERS

Donna *Peter Evans* *Jerry Zankin* *Christa Campbell*
Katie Houke *Daniel Furse* *Sally Stetson* *BILL COHN*

YES! I would like to give:

- ☐ \$50 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Check enclosed
- ☐ Please charge credit card

CARD NUMBER _____ NAME ON CARD _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____ SECURITY CODE _____ SIGNATURE _____

EASY DONOR LINK



CONTACT INFORMATION:

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LAST NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

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EMAIL _____

Vermont Crafts Council

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