

P.O. Box 1328  
Lancaster, PA 17608  
717-293-9772 • 717-854-0522  
717-233-5558  
editor@flymagazine.net  
a division of Lancaster Newspapers Inc.

### Current Issue

Headlines

### Lancaster Edition

Table of Contents  
Feature Story  
Bar/Club Calendar  
Dining/Restaurants

### York Edition

Table of Contents  
Feature Story  
Bar/Club Calendar  
Dining/Restaurants

### Harrisburg Edition

Table of Contents  
Feature Story  
Bar/Club Calendar  
Dining/Restaurants

### General Editorial

Movie Previews  
Concert Listings  
Live Theatre Listings

### Where can I find the Fly?

Fly Magazine is distributed free to more than 820 locations throughout Central PA. See our [distribution list](#) for a location near you.

### Article Archives

Dining/Restaurants  
Bands/Performers

### Feedback

Letter to the Editor  
Employee of the Month

### About Us

General Info  
Editorial Info  
Advertising Info  
Contact Info

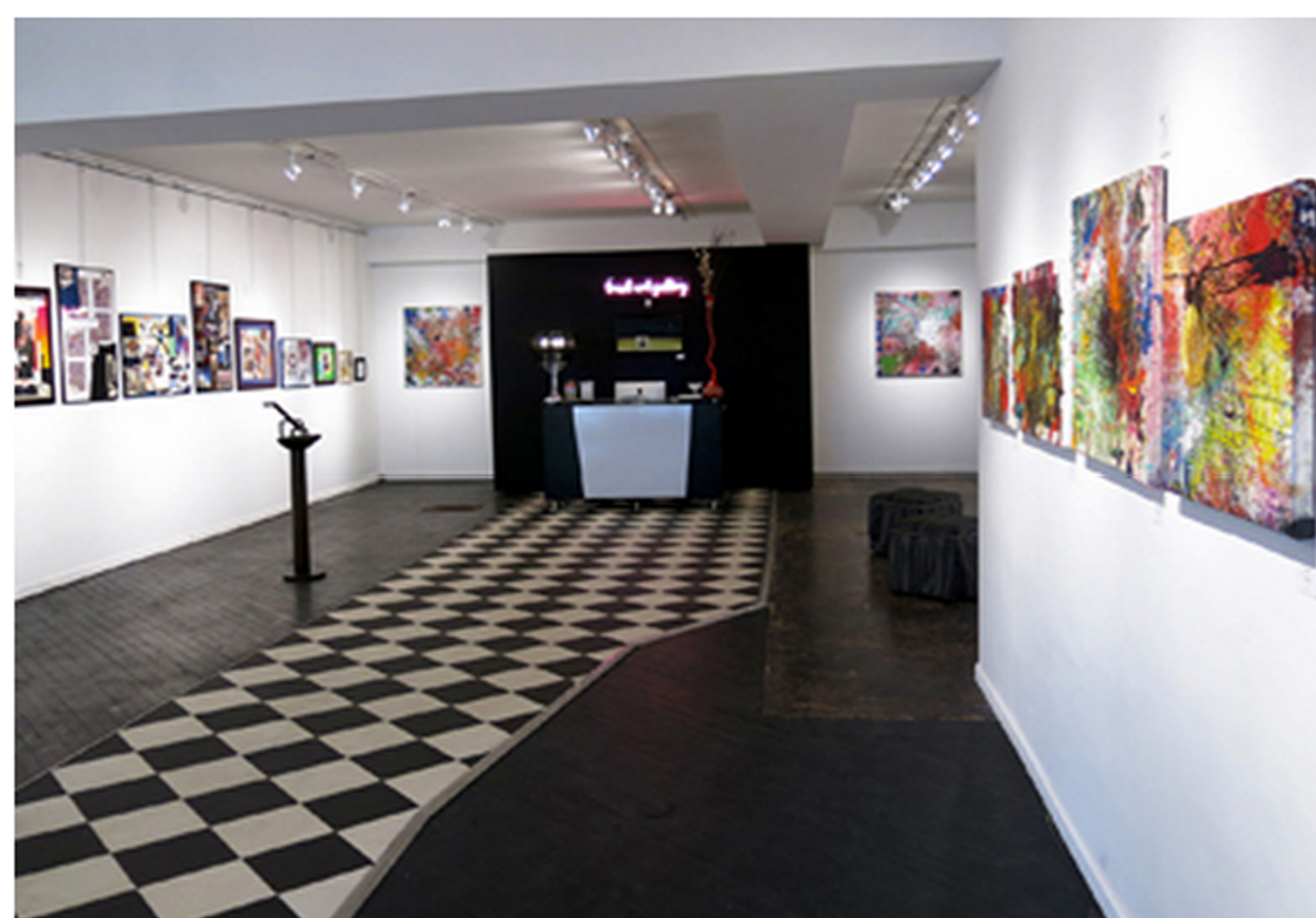
### Links

Bands/Performers  
Area Venues



## At Large

### From this month's print edition



**State of the Art**  
**How do-it-yourself entrepreneurs are merging art and music to turn Harrisburg into a cultural hub**  
By Michael Yoder  
Press Photo

Art can be the lifeblood of a community, helping to turn dilapidated neighborhoods in towns and cities into glistening beacons of culture. It can also help a struggling economy through creative solutions and ingenuity.

As the Capital Region looks for ways to overcome its ongoing economic woes, a dedicated group of local entrepreneurs have been busy creating do-it-yourself artistic venues integrating art, film, music and other imaginative endeavors into one total package rarely seen outside of larger cities.

From rock stars and avant-garde musicians to nationally recognized painters and local outsider artists, the DIY spirit of the venues creators is helping to expose the community to a unique artistic culture and, at the same time, building a new economic model.

#### METROPOLIS COLLECTIVE

On the other side of the Susquehanna River is another venue that has been drawing people from faraway distances to the usually sleepy town of Mechanicsburg.

Local resident Danielle Charette says she had no intentions of opening an art gallery. She was satisfied creating her own contemporary expressionism artwork and doing shows around the country, and she was also contemplating moving back to her home in New York.

But when she was driving down Main Street in Mechanicsburg last April with her husband, Richard Reilly, and her daughter, Emily, a "for rent" sign on a building caught their attention. They immediately called the realtor and rented the spot.

Two months of DIY renovations by Charette and Reilly resulted in Metropolis Collective, an eclectic fine art gallery and performance space at 17 West Main Street. It consists of two galleries and a performance space called The Stage Noir and is equipped with a full recording studio.

Charette says Reilly used his experience working at the prestigious Adelson Gallery in New York and his connections in the music industry from his time in punk band The Victims to enlist an impressive roster of artists and musicians for shows. "Disciplinary artists have a space that can cater to a variety of mediums," Putesky says.

Kostabi, who has been showing his work in the gallery since its June opening, discussed his abstract painting series based off of his experience living through the destruction of Hurricane Sandy. His punk band, The Damn Kids, were also the first band to be recorded live in the gallery during the January show.

"What Richard and Danielle are doing here is great," Kostabi says. "I think this should be happening in every city."

While there may not be a direct correlation, Charette notes that at least 15 businesses have opened in downtown Mechanicsburg since the gallery opened. And it's the intangibles of creating an unconventional destination that can be the impetus to turning a community around.

"We thought if we were going to stay here, we needed to bring a piece of home here and build something around the things and the people we feel comfortable with," Charette says. "And if you build it, they will come."

work and a soundscape audio project he created. His collages - assembled from his collection of vintage magazines - represent nearly 10 years of work, while the accompanying soundscape was a project 20 years in the making.

"Venues like this are invaluable because not a lot of multi-disciplinary artists have a space that can cater to a variety of mediums," Putesky says.

Kostabi, who has been showing his work in the gallery since its June opening, discussed his abstract painting series based off of his experience living through the destruction of Hurricane Sandy. His punk band, The Damn Kids, were also the first band to be recorded live in the gallery during the January show.

"What Richard and Danielle are doing here is great," Kostabi says. "I think this should be happening in every city."

While there may not be a direct correlation, Charette notes that at least 15 businesses have opened in downtown Mechanicsburg since the gallery opened. And it's the intangibles of creating an unconventional destination that can be the impetus to turning a community around.

"We thought if we were going to stay here, we needed to bring a piece of home here and build something around the things and the people we feel comfortable with," Charette says. "And if you build it, they will come."

