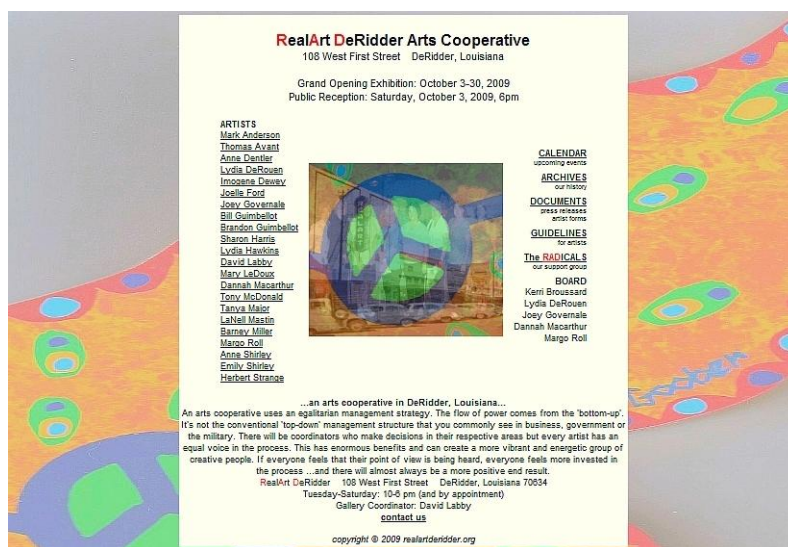


PRESS RELEASE:

RealArt DeRidder Arts Cooperative, Grand Opening Exhibition

Grand Opening Exhibition: October 3 – 30, 2009

Opening reception: Oct 3, 2009 6pm



(RAD) RealArt DeRidder Arts Cooperative

108 West First Street

DeRidder, Louisiana 70634

<http://realartderidder.org>

RAD's grand opening exhibition will include the work of over 25 local and regional artists ...the majority from the DeRidder/Beauregard Parish area. RAD will be a different kind of art gallery. Unlike many art galleries and arts organizations, RealArt DeRidder is a true arts cooperative. Art cooperatives generally have the potential to create a more vibrant, energetic group of creative people than the typical arts group. In addition, RAD's physical space is designed to be unique. RAD features a unique solo exhibition space that will host rotating monthly exhibitions ...side by side with our continuing, year-round exhibition from member artists.

Defining our Cooperative

As an arts cooperative, the heart and soul of RealArt DeRidder (RAD) will be the Artists Board. An arts cooperative puts the power in the hands of all artists equally. Each artist member of RAD automatically becomes a member of our Artists Board and will have an equal vote on major decisions concerning the gallery. The Artists Board controls the focus and direction of the gallery.

An arts cooperative uses an egalitarian management strategy. The flow of power comes from the 'bottom-up'. It's not the conventional 'top-down' management structure that you commonly see in business, government or the military. There will be coordinators who make decisions in their respective areas but every artist has an equal voice in the process. This has enormous benefits and can create a more vibrant and energetic group of creative people. If everyone feels that their point of view is being heard, everyone feels more invested in the process ...and there will almost always be a more positive end result.

More information, including a list of our artists and a calendar of upcoming events, can be found online at: <http://realartderidder.org>

contact info:

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