

Workhouse Studio W-4 Contacts:

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WORKHOUSE STUDIO W-4: THE “HAVE A HEART” PROJECT FOOD DRIVE Items Donated to Become Components of a Live Interactive Art Installation on February 11

Lorton, VA—Workhouse Studio W-4 is putting an artistic twist on the common (and vital) food drive. Their efforts will benefit *Food for Others*, the largest distributor of free food directly to people in need in Northern Virginia. *Food for Others* offers assistance to our unemployed and low-income neighbors. It provides a safety net for those who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or spouse.

Items donated will become components of an interactive art installation, which will open to the public on February 11, 2012 during the 2nd Saturday Art Walk at the Workhouse Arts Center from 6-9pm. Studio W-4 artists Mary Gallagher Stout, John Gascot, Lynn Goldstein and Joan Yi will create a variety of food-centric works in an array of mediums and styles, including a live demonstration. The exhibit aims to not only speak on topics of health, hunger and consumption, but explore the relationship between artist and community. “We feel there is a lot we so-called “starving” artists can do for others.” says Mary Gallagher Stout. “We feel empowered by creativity.” John Gascot agrees. The pair will be painting and creating live in the front gallery of Studio W-4 during the month of January in an effort to engage visitors early on with the project.

The public is encouraged to be a part of this exciting art installation and help Northern Virginians in need. Studio W-4 visitors may donate canned or non-perishable food items during normal business hours; Wednesday through Saturday from 11am – 7pm and Sunday from noon – 5pm. Donations will be welcome through the exhibit’s run. The *Have a Heart* project will be the subject of a documentary by young filmmaker Makeda Thomas.

Follow the *Have a Heart* project and other Studio 4 happenings on their [blog](#) and on [Twitter](#).

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The Workhouse Arts Center, a program of the Lorton Arts Foundation, aims to enrich the lives of all within its reach by creating a vibrant cultural community that fosters a diverse offering of arts, education, social, and entertainment experiences. Set on 55 acres of land in the former D.C. Workhouse and Reformatory, the Workhouse provides a home for more than 100 of the region’s finest professional and emerging artists, classes and arts education programs for people of all ages and artistic abilities, cooperative studios, performance and theatre venues, dedicated gallery and exhibition space, and event facilities. For more information, visit www.WorkhouseArts.org.