



Hello Friend,

Thom and I arrived in Staunton five years ago. While figuring out how to root ourselves in this unique, small but mighty city, we met a constellation of wonderful, wandering souls, all of whom were looking for the same thing: connection.

They were musicians, painters, writers, photographers, performers, filmmakers, tech geniuses, and food geniuses, all eager to share their ideas and absorb each other's wisdom. The collective dream that emerged, is to create a home for these diverse souls.

The [vision](#) for Arcadia Project is to bring people together in the spirit of expanding our knowledge and enacting change: to shape a community, a society, and a world that is better than the one we inherited. We can do this by presenting the work of artists, performers, and thinkers.

Art is not a mirror held up to reality, but a hammer with which to shape it.

-- Bertolt Brecht

It's difficult to put into words the gratitude and awe I feel toward you and countless others who have poured themselves into this project so far.

Together we have accomplished much: multiple programming strands including *Artists Interrupted* and *Music at the Movies*; a new roof, a new façade, a new marquee, mold and asbestos remediation, selective demolition and shovel ready architectural drawings.

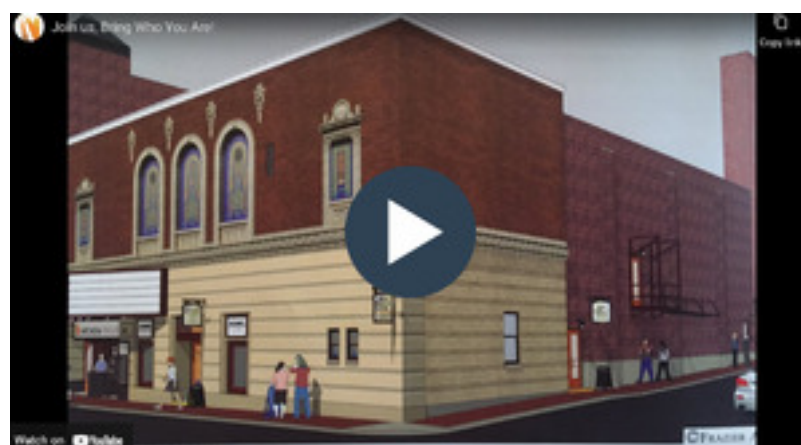
We are now poised to receive a \$1.5 million grant from the Industrial Revitalization Fund – a once in a lifetime opportunity. Your continued support is vital to meet the 1:1 match requirement. By making a gift, you can transform the future of Stanton and create a legacy that will last for generations.

They say you can't do anything in one year, but in ten years you can move mountains and build civilizations. If we've come this far in five years, I can't wait to see where we'll be in another five.

Warmly,

Pamela Mason Wagner
Co-Founder, Arcadia Project
917-621-7660 mobile

P.S. Enjoy this short video about our past, present and future, created and generously donated by local journalist Gary Smith.



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