

**INVITATION TO PUBLIC WORKSHOP – A VISION FOR THE ARTS IN BRISTOL/EAST BAY
February 8, 2012 – 6-9 PM at Reynolds School, High Street, Bristol**

During the fall of 2011 two groups of students from Roger Williams University worked with officials from the Town of Bristol to explore ways in which the Walley School (at the corner of High and State Streets) might be reused, with a focus on expanding the arts in Bristol and the East Bay. As the students and the project Steering Committee completed their work they recognized that the arts are playing a larger role in the cultural and economic life of our community. Within this context, decisions about these Town-owned buildings and coordination of arts development are vitally important to our future.

In order to plan for these buildings and identify elements of a shared vision for the arts in our community, there will be an open Vision and Planning meeting on Wednesday, February 8th. The session will be at the Reynolds School building on High Street, from 6-9 pm. All individuals and organizations interested and involved in arts creation, presentation, development and support are invited to attend, share information and express their opinions.

The schedule for the event will include:

- Pizza, salad, beverages and dessert from 6:00 to 6:30
- Sharing of information on Steering Committee and Roger Williams student work to date.
- Brainstorming to formulate a broad, shared vision for the arts in Bristol (and East Bay as necessary), focusing on its role in the cultural, educational and economic life of the community.
- Formulating conceptual ideas for enhancement, expansion and development of facilities for arts creation, presentation, development and support within Town-owned and other facilities.

This session will be open to the public, especially all stakeholders in the arts communities (performing, visual, arts education and other). The RI State Council for the Arts and Town and East Bay leaders are also being invited to participate. Please feel free to invite any individuals and groups who you think would be interested.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Sue Contente at 254-3683 or scontente@rwu.edu so we can plan for food and seating. If you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Arnold Robinson at arobinson@rwu.edu.