



For those of you who don't know me, I've been involved in some capacity with every art gallery in the county for decades.

It's been several years since the pandemic, and ever since I've had the desire to open an art gallery in Alamance County. Unfortunately, the few properties that have come up were not good fits for the proposed use or were priced inappropriately (not cheap).

Last week Erin Nettles, the Director of Burlington Downtown Corporation, passed along another couple of possibilities. One of them immediately caught my eye. Ian Baultutis, former Burlington mayor and owner of Persnickety Books, had the desire to lease out the loft area of the store to a complimentary business.

Since then, Ian and I have had several meetings, and we are both in agreement in principle with having an art gallery operating in the space. Additionally, Ian has plans to buildout several areas for artist studios.

To operate successfully, such a gallery will require the participation of 10-15 artists – both 2D and 3D – who have an interest in a permanent place to exhibit and sell their work. I'm anticipating having a hybrid model:

- member artists (with some work requirements, modest monthly hanging fees, and substantially reduced (or no) sales commission rates)
- and local/regional non-member artists with modest monthly hanging fees, modest sales commissions, but no work requirements.

If this idea is of interest and/or you have questions, you can email me at [farsidefarms.nc@hotmail.com](mailto:farsidefarms.nc@hotmail.com), or give me a call/text at 336-675-5062.

Thanks...

Lane Watson

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P.S. – please share this with artist friends you think might be interested . . .

