

Vineyard arts Project

Summary of Vineyard Arts Project:

Evolution: When it was built in 2005 it was envisioned that it would be used for ballet for Mr. Melone's daughter and that some of her teachers and contemporaries would participate. Over the ensuing years it grew and in 2008 it was formalized into what is presently there.

Founded in 2008, Vineyard Arts Project is a not for profit educational facility under IRS code 501(c)(3). It provides performing arts residency space that fosters the development of new work in dance and theatre. With a state-of-the-art studio and housing compound on Martha's Vineyard, Vineyard Arts Project provides an unparalleled nurturing environment for creative development.

Vineyard Arts Project's commitment to the development of new work attracts some of today's leading artists. Through in-studio performances and open rehearsals, Vineyard Arts Project enables the community of Martha's Vineyard to trace the progression of these artists' new work.

Vineyard Arts Project also initiates young artist training programs to nurture up-and-coming talent and promote future generations of legendary artists.

Property Details:

*4 lots, 3 are B-II, one (Curtis Lane) is R-5
1.12 acres total*

With 2 buildings. The one fronting Upper Main Street is 8,586 s/f with bedrooms, kitchen, living space, laundry room, and two, 2,000 s/f rehearsal studios as well as a fitness room/Pilates/Yoga studio.

The one on Curtis Lane is 6,229 s/f with bedrooms, kitchen, living space, laundry room and two rehearsal studios. One of approx. 2,000 s/f and one approx. 1,000 s/f.

See attached aerial photograph.

The present uses:

From June - September they bring in various "Artists in Residence" that are world renowned dancers, performers and artists, including:

Musical Theatre Lab: Directed by Broadway veterans Elizabeth Parkinson and Scott Wise, Musical Theatre Laboratory is a two-week musical theatre training intensive for aspiring pre-professional actors, singers and dancers. Students receive individual attention and the highest quality training necessary to propel them into a successful career in the performing arts. Only 26 students, ages 14 - 19, are accepted each year.

New Writers, New Plays: A co-production with ArtFarm New Writers. New Plays. is an annual festival of new works by emerging playwrights. The playwrights, directors, and actors team up for the first time at Vineyard Arts Project to focus on the creation of the new plays. The month-long residency culminates with a three-day festival of public readings. This program is supported in part by grants from the Martha's Vineyard Savings Bank Charitable Fund, a donor advised fund of the Permanent Endowment for Martha's Vineyard, and by the Martha's Vineyard Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA): RADA will bring a company of six newly graduated BA acting students and a senior RADA Director to

Vineyard Arts Project to develop new plays by a selection of US and UK playwrights. RADA shares in Vineyard Arts Project's belief that a creative, nurturing environment is crucial to individual growth as an artist. Together, we remain committed to extending educational opportunities to recent college graduates and pre-professional actors. RADA trains world-class actors, honing their talent, skills and stamina for enduring careers in the creative arts.

They also offer yoga as part of the program (artists are doing it anyway so they thought it made sense to allow the Vineyard community to experience some of the best yoga teachers in the country) on Mon - Sat mornings. There are usually 5- 15 people at each session.

Requested Change of Use:

The present use of the property requires a change of use from its present allowed use of residential to not for profit educational use, which is a permitted use in both the Edgartown B-II zoning district and the R-5 zoning district.