

SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL
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Santa Cruz Art Center To Open Doors In October

A center for artist and craftsman is currently in the planning stages for opening in October in downtown Santa Cruz.

The center will be located in the old A.R. Wood Manufacturing Co. building at 1001 Center St., and will be divided into a cooperative art and craft gallery, a two-dimensional art studio and gallery, a cooperative pottery studio, five to 10 small individual or cooperative studio and sales spaces, a portfolio of slides showing artists works, a multi-use room for classes and shows, an office and a restaurant.

The facility will be operated by the Santa Cruz Association of Artists and Craftspeople (SCAAC). The building is being purchased by Don Starr of Santa Cruz, and he is leasing it to the crafts group.

The first order of business for SCAAC will be to hold interviews to select individuals or groups to fill the studio - sales spaces. These spaces will open onto an indoor courtyard,

and the public will be able to observe work being done, as well as buy the finished products from the occupants.

Artists and craftspeople interested in interviewing for a space should call 429 - 1688 or 335 - 3800 as soon as possible.

After the interviews, SCAAC will select by a jury method works which will go into the cooperative gallery. Applicants should bring at least three and no more than five pieces of their work between 8 and 11 a.m. July 27 to the center. Each applicant will cast a ballot on all applicants work. New juryings will be held every six months. For information, call 429 - 1688 or 429 - 1537.

Starr said he bought the building "with the understanding of creating an arts and crafts center, with the majority of the floor space devoted to crafts making and selling of wares."

Bruce Van Allen of SCAAC reported that the group is currently obtaining all the needed permits from the city.

He said that the center will not be the only art center for the county, but it will provide an arena for the major amount of arts and crafts work in the Santa Cruz area.

He said a major feature of the building will be the slide index of artists' portfolios, so that art patrons, decorators and others interested in selecting local works can have ready access to finding more information in the arts field and what is available locally.