

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

The logo for Flemington DIY is centered on the page. It consists of a black circle containing the text 'FLEMINGTON' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Below 'FLEMINGTON' are the letters 'DIY' in a much larger, bold, white, sans-serif font. The black circle is set against a light green circular background that has a white, irregular shape pointing towards the top right, resembling a speech bubble or a stylized arrow.

FLEMINGTON

DIY

A Community Arts Organization

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WHAT IS THIS PLACE?



Flemington DIY (Do It Yourself) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide an inclusive art space that engages the community with the burgeoning local arts scene, inspires social change, and invigorates the economic development of Flemington, New Jersey.

VISION

- Providing a safe and accessible outlet for community members' expression
- Showcasing socially-conscious ideas and promoting networks between others
- Actively combating sexism, homophobia, racism, and other forms of oppression
- Creating a safer space for everyone

In May 2014, Flemington DIY was founded by a local group of young artists and musicians. With assistance from the Flemington Business Improvement Office, they found a temporary home in the borough-owned 90 Main Building, once a bank, but vacant for years. "The Space," as it's become to some, immediately began hosting art shows, concerts, and film screenings. Since then, Flemington DIY has transformed into a flourishing center for community life for all ages, hosting over 1,500 unique events (240+ in 2025) sustained by generous donations, grants, events, and sustaining members.

In 2022, the organization relocated to a new space in the heart of Stangl's Arts and Cultural District and became an independent entity.



**ALL AGES
NONPROFIT
VOLUNTEER-RUN
COMMUNITY ARTS SPACE**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The art space hosts several recurring groups and programs, some weekly, others monthly. Such offerings include: Print Club, hands-on open hours for screen-printing and printmaking; Fiber Artists, a crocheting and knitting group; Songwriter Circle, Monthly Food Drives, monthly Bluegrass, Acoustic, Classical and Jazz Jams, and more.

All programs are donation-based, and no one is turned away due to lack of funds.

Monthly poetry open mics and Women's Comedy Open Mic have become popular events on the calendar - featuring a wide variety of local participants, with ages ranging from pre-teen to seniors.

In the past, Flemington DIY has hosted consecutive Black History Month celebrations; participated in Teen Arts; and hosted jazz series featuring renowned players from across the globe.



A complete list of past events can be found at flemingtondiy.org/pastevents

STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

FY 2026-2029

In fall 2024, Flemington DIY partnered with Creative Capacity, LLC to chart the next chapter of our work. Our goal: grow our impact, strengthen our foundation, and ensure DIY continues to thrive as an all-ages space for art and radical community.

HOW WE BUILT IT

This plan was shaped by the people who power DIY:

- Two in-depth retreats with our board, volunteer coordinators, and key community members
- A strategic planning committee working closely with Creative Capacity
- Input and insight from volunteers, artists, and members

WHAT IT'S ABOUT

At its heart, our strategic plan focuses on:

- Expanding our impact
- Deepening community engagement
- Strengthening our systems behind the scenes
- Building long-term sustainability

We're building on what already makes DIY unique while making sure we have the structure to support our future.

OUR GUIDING BELIEF

Flemington DIY is a space for everyone

This three-year plan gives us a clear vision and larger goals, with flexibility to adapt as we grow. Specific projects may evolve, but our commitment to creativity, connection, and inclusivity will remain constant.

We're excited for what's ahead and grateful to everyone helping shape the future of Flemington DIY.

STRATEGIC PLAN

GOALS



Goal #1: Broaden and deepen our engagement with our core communities of artists/makers and audiences.

- Diversify the artists and art forms shared at DIY.
- Increase support for artists by way of publicity, financial support, visibility.
- Consistently increase audience attendance.
- Diversify audience participation (race, age), especially from the local Hispanic/Latinx community, as they make up nearly 50% of the Borough population.



Goal #2: Design and implement efficient operational systems that will allow DIY to grow.

- Build a larger, more diverse volunteer corps, where most volunteers participate regularly.
- Strengthen DIY's marketing capacity to build wider visibility among artists, audiences, and potential volunteers.
- Continue to enhance financial systems and develop the grant process.



Goal #3: Enhance the board's structure and practices to support strategic, transparent governance.

- Design and implement a board structure that reflects DIY's mission, values, and do-it-yourself ethos.
- Build a more diverse board that includes a wider range of ages, backgrounds, and skills.
- Build an intentional leadership development pipeline.
- Ensure strong, collaborative relationships between the board, volunteers, and creators.



Highlighting Print Club's
**PRINTER
IN
RESIDENCE**
Program



Flemington DIY's Printer in Residence program supports local printmakers. Meet Mariah McLaughlin, 2025's resident. Her work focuses on screen printing textures onto miniature ceramics. The residency offers studio access and community, culminating in a show. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis for those interested in facilitating Print Club and developing new work.

Learn more about Mariah:
flemingtondiy.org/announcing-new-printer-in-residence-currently-accepting-applicants

If you or someone you know would like to be considered for Printers In Residence, visit flemingtondiy.org/printclub



Continuing...

ART CIRCLE



a vibrant and engaged art making community that shares art experiences in Flemington and Hunterdon County, creating collaborations, programming and opportunities for both viewers and artists.

ONGOING PROJECTS



The **Art Machine**, an interactive performing art piece and Artist Residency, is one of the Art Circle's first projects. The project is courtesy of Sarah Duff (and her family), who picked up this former cigarette vending machine from South Jersey and restored it to working order; preparing it for artists to fill with their tiny art. Jacklyn Karpinski, took the freshly primed machine and transformed it into the colorful Art Machine. Unveiled on May 18, 2024, at the Decade of DIY celebration, the machine offers figurines, buttons, stickers, earrings, necklaces, keychains, tiny framed/ready to hang art, or music codes. Artists have the choice to donate all or a portion of the sales to Flemington DIY.



Mural Battle: Battle of the Walls is a neighborly competition inviting two artists to duke it out with pens and markers for a two hour art-making extravaganza. Our host, OurNaturalState, will choose a theme, and the artists will create something, anything, portraying that theme. Winners get their art placed in a highly trafficked area in Flemington, as well as a "bio post," and other social shout outs to bathe them in their winner's glory.



Art Hangs: By Us, For Us: Art Circle participants volunteer to teach workshops for other Art Circle members and the general community, free of charge.

Want to share something you do? We would love you to teach something you love doing: book binding, printing techniques, fiber arts, mini-pottery, drawing games, comics...

Email arts@flemingtondiy.org to get involved!

less
IS
more #2

The Art
Academy
Student Exhibit

Collective
Liberation
Fiber Arts

3rd ANNUAL
MEMBER &
VOLUNTEER
SHOW

ZINES
in
AUGUST

WHAT IS
AMERICAN?

HUNTERDON
COUNTY
PHOTO
CAPTURE

2025
ART
SHOWS

Art for
Footprints
Of Uganda

4th ANNUAL
TAKE ME
HOME
TONIGHT

Echoes of
Emulsion

Little Fire
Studios
& Evan
Schlomann

SOCIAL INITIATIVES

Flemington DIY ensures a space and platform for social change, often partnering with area organizations to raise awareness and support for various causes. This includes benefits for the [NJ Abortion Access Fund](#), [Jersey Battered Women's Service](#), the [Coalition for Animals](#), [Hunterdon Humane Animal Shelter](#), the [ACLU](#), and [Hunterdon Helpline](#).

Additionally, Flemington DIY has participated in school supply and clothing and food drives, and has been the home of [Music Together](#), [Hunterdon County Anti-Racism Coalition](#), [Moms Demand Action](#) meetings, and [Mini Food Pantry](#) food drives (and other events) with [Flemington QTs](#), a local queer and trans community group.



Since 2014, Flemington DIY has hosted [over 1,500 unique events \(~240 in 2025\)](#), attracting hundreds of people to Flemington, NJ. This space has established itself as an essential mainstay in the New Jersey arts scene, supporting live musical performances, staged theatrical productions, art installations, cultural and historical presentations, and discussions about social issues - all stimulating the vitality and economic growth of downtown.

Flemington DIY has attracted musicians and performers alike from all over the globe - from New Jersey to California, Canada, Scotland, and Argentina, and even Tuva, a small Russian republic in southern Siberia.

COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Flemington-Raritan Baseball Team



In Spring 2025, Flemington DIY sponsored a Flemington-Raritan Baseball (FRB) little league team! Many of us grew up playing on these fields and many of our kids and friends play now!

Past collaborations also include: community beat-making with the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University; a 15-mile group bike ride spear-headed by Party Size Cycling; and hosting a Makers Market with NJAAF benefitting abortion access in New Jersey.

PAST & PRESENT PARTNERS

- ACLU
- Art Venture
- Aunt Mary's Dispensary
- Black Lab Imaging
- Dr. Michael Viega and the David Ott Lab for Music and Health at the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University
- Flemington Free Public Library
- Flemington QTs
- Franklin Theatre Works
- Girls In Gear
- Hunterdon Academy of the Arts
- Hunterdon Central Regional High School
- Hunterdon County Anti-Racism Coalition
- Hunterdon Helpline
- Hunterdon Humane Animal Shelter
- Jersey Battered Women's Service
- Lone Eagle Brewing
- Masterful Mosaics NJ
- Meta Theatre Company
- Moms Demand Action
- Music Together Flemington
- NAACP
- New Brunswick Jazz Project
- Oldwick Community Players
- Party Size Cycling
- Propagate Studio
- Raritan Learning Cooperative
- SAFE in Hunterdon
- The New Brunswick Jazz Project
- The Photographers Group
- True Voice Project
- WDVR
- WPRB
- YOUR NAME HERE!

AWARDS & HONORS

In 2025, Flemington DIY received a \$10,000 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Special Projects Art and History Grant from The Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission (HCC&HC) to support an arts exhibition and accompanying outreach programs exploring themes of identity, indigeneity, revolutionary ideals, origin myths, displacement, migration and connection to land and its resources within the context of the American Revolution.

October 2025 saw the opening of **WHAT IS AMERICAN?**, a juried exhibition marking 250 years since the American Revolution, centered on revolutionary ethos and BIPOC voices, dedicated to countering erasure and expanding the American narrative. Curated by Christianne Ebel.

Learn more: www.flemingtondiy.org/whatisamerican



- **Proclamation from Flemington Borough commemorating FDIY's 10 Year Anniversary, 2024**
- **Senate Resolution from Sen. Andrew Zwicker commemorating FDIY's 10 Year Anniversary, 2024**
- **Proclamation from Governor Phil Murphy commemorating FDIY's 10 Year Anniversary, 2024**
- **Recipient of Downtown NJ's Tools of the Trade Platinum of Excellence Award, 2014**
- **Participants in NJ Future's 10th Anniversary Redevelopment Forum, 2015**
- **Presented on "Public Art in Public Spaces" at NJ Future Redevelopment Forum, 2018**

FLEMINGTON DIY HAS RECEIVED GRANTS AND GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM:

- FLEMINGTON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
- HUNTERDON COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION
- HOLT CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
- MASTERWORK MUSIC & ARTS FOUNDATION
- CHANCY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
- TAPINTO FLEMINGTON/RARITAN
- FLEMINGTON CAR & TRUCK COUNTRY
- AUNT MARY'S DISPENSARY

among others!

WHY INVEST?

When you invest in Flemington DIY, you provide an inclusive space for local artisans, hobbyists, actors, musicians, and students of all ages, races, genders, and abilities to create and present their works.

You afford opportunities to those who otherwise may never have the platform to do so.

Over 100 volunteers make up Flemington DIY's dedicated team to ensure events and programs run smoothly. This hands-on approach allows Flemington DIY to operate within the boundaries of fiscal prudence.



GET IN TOUCH

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Hersch, President & Executive Director
Jeff Cogen, Treasurer
Ellen Gallos, Secretary
Ruth Cooper
Megan Henninger
Leanne McGowan
Joey Novick, Esquire
Justine Rosikiewicz
Judd Roth

MAKE A CONTRIBUTION

flemingtondiy.org/donate

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