

# Kendall Square ArtSpace

650 E. Kendall Street  
Cambridge, MA 02139

August 13, 2018

Community Development Department  
City of Cambridge  
344 Broadway  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
Attn: Ms. Liza Paden

Re: 650 E. Kendall Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Kendall Square ArtSpace (“KSA”) leases and operates the space known as The Laboratory (such space being adjacent to the Café ArtScience) (the “Space”) under Special Permit PB#141 issued on April 17, 1999, as amended (the “Special Permit”). Pursuant to the Special Permit, a written determination by the Planning Board (as set forth below) is required for any uses that are not explicitly authorized under the Special Permit.

The Planning Board, on or about August 6, 2013, specifically authorized the use of the Space for exhibitions and such exhibitions have successfully included visual art and performances of music, theatrical/spoken word, and dance events. At this time, KSA hereby requests that the Planning Board issue a determination that the allowed uses of the space—consistent with the objectives of (i) the PUD-3 district, (ii) the Special Permit, and (iii) the district pursuant to Section 13.42.5 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance—be understood to include performing arts, broadly, thereby explicitly allowing spoken word, dance, theatrical/theatre, cinematic, and musical events to take place in the Space.

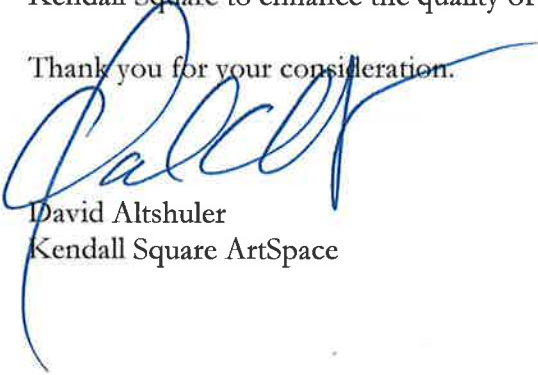
As a general overview of our expanded artistic program, here are additional details:

- Hours/Days of Operations: Expanding upon past years of success and variable operational schedules, operations will be rebalanced to support additional evening performances and exhibitions with such usage generally falling Tuesday through Saturday. The hours of operation will, generally, start no earlier than 10am and evening performances will, generally, end no later than 11pm.
- Capacity of Site: The capacity of the space will vary depending on artistic and other considerations, but generally will range from 40 to 140 attendees for most events.
- Changes to Layout of Existing Space: The basic layout of the existing space will not materially change, however, interior lighting, acoustical treatments, seating, and general upgrades are being planned to enhance the experience of attendees. The overall plan/footprint of the Space will not change. In addition (and only as feasible), we plan to make the glass panels facing the plaza space operable and to provide appropriate lighting for such to allow us to connect to the plaza space for some performances.
- Use of Plaza Space: We would greatly enjoy receiving a determination that we could use the plaza space for exhibitions, events, and performances.

- Alcohol: It is not essential to our intended uses to be able to serve alcohol ourselves, but should the Planning Board deem it appropriate to approve such at this time, it would provide future flexibility.

With the Planning Board's support, we hope to expand the performing arts opportunities in Kendall Square to enhance the quality of life both during the day and in the evenings for all.

Thank you for your consideration.



David Altshuler  
Kendall Square ArtSpace