

HWS and the ARTS at Marks Garage

The ARTS at Marks (**Marks**) is a ten-year-old community arts center attracting over 30,000 people annually to 12 major exhibits and over 150 performances, lectures, screenings, and workshops. It is an incubator for over a dozen performance and visual arts groups, and offers creative classes for neighborhood youth. **Marks** sponsors the creative revitalization of the downtown-Chinatown area through neighborhood relations, the Gallery Walk Map, Art Corps (connecting low-income teens in the neighborhood with business in the area), First Friday, Slow Art Friday, and more.

HWS has been a partner at the **Marks** since its inception in 2001. For many of us that time marks the true beginning of the revitalization of Chinatown and the birth of the Bethel St/Nu`uanu Ave./Smith St. Arts District.

Marks has been a hub of activity throughout the past ten years. Our partnership has provided us with a space to hold our workshops, free demos, exhibits, and even board meetings on occasion. It has provided us with office space, a place to keep a computer, our records, and supplies. **Marks** has given us a more visible presence in the arts community.

Marks has recently undergone some restructuring. The Hawai'i Alliance for Arts Education, the founding sponsor of **Marks**, considers its work complete and has handed the operational reins over to the staff at **Marks**, most notably Rich Richardson. Since the grants that **Marks** has relied on for years are becoming scarce, new fundraising techniques are being developed. As members of **Marks**, the time for us, as members of HWS, to participate in these new ventures is now: **1001 Friends & The Haunted House**.

1001 Friends is: a \$10 per month auto-pay **tax-deductible** donation program allowing our friends to ensure there is a venue in the downtown-Chinatown area to keep our creative lives on O`ahu inspiring. This is a way to empower our community to provide the critical support for our arts and artists. If you prefer, donation checks and PayPal gifts are gladly accepted at any time.

By becoming one of the 1001 Friends, you will be eligible for: \$5 off Friday or Saturday night tickets at **Marks** by Early Bird deadline for Hawai'i Shakespeare Festival (unlimited), two free tickets to one On The Spot show (annually), Quarterly Mixer, your name on The Wall of Friends, free wristbands at Hallowballoo and Mardi Gras/Carnaval.

You are invited to the Kick off Cocktail and Pupu party for 1001 Friends Thursday, September 29 from 6–7:30pm at **Marks**. The new logo and website will be unveiled.

Marks will become a Haunted Garage in October. As partners, we have been asked to be part of the painting brigade to decorate the elaborate rooms. One of the rooms will be a haunted gallery. **Your old frames, easels, paintbrushes, canvas, and other art materials would make great props. Contact Patrice Federspiel with your donations.**

HAUNTED GARAGE is an artistically terrifying attraction produced by The ARTS at Marks Garage. Not just your neighborhood haunted house, HAUNTED GARAGE will transform our entire gallery and performance space, taking inspiration from our partner organizations. Some rooms to beware of: Gallery of Horrors, Starving Artists Attack, Sad Clown/Psycho Clown & Wicked Witches of Shakespeare. Performance dates run from October 26 to October 31.

Help fund Haunted Garage: <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1886656548/haunted-garage-presented-by-the-arts-at-marks-gara?ref=email>