June 18, 2019

Bill Ritsema

Ritsema Associates

3000 Dormax SW

Grandville, MI 49418

Dear Bill,

YOU have made a huge difference for WMCAT and our students. We are thriving in our new home at 614 First St NW, celebrating adult students who graduated this month and our teen artists who just wrapped their spring exhibition.

We want to share some of the wonderful “firsts” that our new space has made possible:

* Creative Aging: New dedicated creative studios give us the opportunity to engage new audiences. And that’s just what we have done. Last fall WMCAT hosted our first Creative Aging series for adults 55+ with a 12-session exploration of Japanese tie-dying and garment construction. Our next Creative Session is this month in watercolors and storytelling.
* The Cyber Hub at WMCAT: In October WMCAT became the fifth Hub on the Michigan Cyber Range, offering training in and support of the cyber security field. The Cyber Hub at WMCAT is a community-based, neutrally-located resource for business and education.
* Daytime residencies: We are inspiring more teens through an increase in daytime partnerships with schools from Kentwood, Northview, Godfrey Lee, and GRPS.
* Phenomenal spaces for community. The new WMCAT features an innovative training room, reception and gallery areas, and multiple classrooms and meeting rooms. We have hosted nonprofit receptions, business trainings, community convenings, and even a prom (thanks Ottawa Hills High School!). In addition to building community, these facility rentals have contributed a steady revenue stream to our mission-based work.

You have made all of this possible. And to make sure we recognize your impact, please confirm the spelling and format for your name on our campaign donor wall. Below is the current information we have. Contact me by June 30 if you would like any changes.

Ritesma Associates

This has been a year of firsts for WMCAT. But one thing remains constant, our deep appreciation for your support in making this next chapter a reality for WMCAT.

Warmly,

Louise “Punky” Edison

Director of Special Projects

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