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Open In

Indiana Magazine

Tapping Into Creativity

How Wendell Lowe
Connects to the
World Through Art

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Indiana

Our Mission

To promote the people, places and events that make Indiana a great place to live, work and visit.

Our Values

Honesty & Integrity

We're committed to conducting ourselves in a respectful and professional manner with all members of our community.

Innovation

We educate entrepreneurs on how to use online resources to better compete in a modern economy.

Supporting Local Entrepreneurs

We provide a welcoming place for entrepreneurs in the community to connect and learn.

Serving Our Community

We support local organizations who serve those in need in our community.

Message for Our Readers

Dear Readers,

While we have decided not to print this issue, we wanted to make this issue available digitally because we want to continue our mission to promote the People, Places & Events that make Indiana a great place to live, work and visit.

Recent events have changed the way small businesses serve their community. Local restaurants are open for carry-out, boutiques and shops have moved to online only and local breweries have switched to making hand sanitizer.

In the coming weeks, we'd like to ask you to continue supporting your favorite local businesses. We look forward to getting back to seeing everyone in person again soon!

Sincerely,



Ryan Henry, Idea Guy

Open In Indiana

ryan@openinindiana.com

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The Hammer & The Hatchet to Release Their Third Album on Vinyl This Spring: Road May Flood

John Bowyer and Jayme Hood have been playing a mix of Bluegrass and Midwestern-Roots inspired music since mid-2014. John was in a group, the Punkin Holler Boys, and had been playing in the Brown County area. One night, they double-booked a gig in Irvington, and Jayme joined John, for the 1st time, appearing as The Hammer and The Hatchet. Initially, Jayme sang while John played the guitar. Shortly after their first show, Jayme began learning to play the guitar, freeing John to be more creative with his playing.

After a well-received show, they put out their 1st album, the self-titled The Hammer and The Hatchet, just 4 months later, in 2015. They took more time to produce their 2nd album, Winter Fires, releasing it in 2016. It is a mix of studio and live performance recordings.

Over the years working together, both John and Jayme have expanded their skillsets. Both talk about their roles as writers, and the act of co-writing all their songs.



Their lyrics come from their own experiences in a working-class life and real-life challenges, figuring it all out. They write about what they know. Their upcoming 3rd album, Road May Flood, addresses such emotional issues as suicide, losing hope, and losing the farm. The recurring theme is "keep moving forward".

Scheduled for release this spring, Road May Flood is the result of what they've learned doing the first 2 albums. In the 3 years since their second album, John and Jayme have updated old songs, and recorded 22 new songs, using different locations to get the sound they wanted. They're releasing the album on vinyl and it will be available through their website, www.oii.fyi/hammer

Read the full article and connect with The Hammer & The Hatchet on social media at www.oii.fyi/hatchet

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Open In Indiana

Drumming Up Memories

Meet Kara Long, owner of The Memory Collective & Lotus Paradigm

Recently, I had the opportunity to interview local entrepreneur, Kara Long, who is the owner of 2 businesses here in our area, The Memory Collective and Lotus Paradigm. Here are some highlights from our conversation.

Ryan: How did you get started?

Kara: A little under a year ago, I guess, I decided to make a pretty big shift in my life. I wasn't very happy at my previous job, and I just decided I needed to do something different. And a series of circumstances led me to find my calling as a memory archivist, preserving people's memories and turning those memories into books.

Ryan: And, you have a 2nd business along side of the Memory Collective. Tell us a little bit about how you got a 2nd business up and running.

Kara: I found this drum online and bought it from a guy in Austin. So I started playing it and I have experience playing many other instruments, like clarinet, drum set, percussion, and I played steelpan in college a little bit. I sing, I play a

little bit of piano, a little bit of guitar, so I'm decently well-rounded. But all of those instruments stress me out to play in front of people, because there is a right and a wrong way to play them. There are expectations, there are études, and arpeggios, and scales, and you can play wrong notes. For whatever reason, I can play great when I'm alone, but the moment that I get in front of somebody, I just tense up. It's performance anxiety. But with this drum that I found, it's the only instrument that allows me to just freely play in front of people because one, most people have never seen it before, so they're more asking like 'what is that?' and more reacting to it than saying 'oh, you're not playing the right technique'.



Listen to the full interview on the Open In Indiana Podcast: www.oii.fyi/lotus



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A man with grey hair and glasses, wearing a blue button-down shirt, is seated at a table. He is holding a small, dark red, glossy sculpture of a cardinal bird. In the background, there is a large, vibrant abstract painting with blue, green, and yellow tones. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Tapping Into Creativity

**How Wendell Lowe
Connects with the World
Through Art**

Wendell Lowe knew from an early age that he wanted to be an artist. “In the 7th grade, my teacher would use my work as an example of how to do what she wanted them to do,” Lowe said.

At the advice of his father, Lowe went to college for graphic design. “My father wanted me to go into a career where I could make a good living,” said Lowe. After graduation, Lowe began a career in advertising where he worked his way up to Art Director, then Creative Director for Simon Properties and the Pacers before starting his own graphic design agency.

“I got out of advertising because I didn't like selling things” Lowe said. “I decided to get serious about fine art.” Lowe opened a studio in the Stutz Building where he sold his own work, primarily landscape paintings.

After three years at the Stutz Building, Lowe took a job with Indianapolis Public Schools where he helped special needs students express themselves through art. Lowe spent 10 years honing his technique in the classroom, helping struggling students identify something they could excel at. “Teaching was my most rewarding job” said Lowe. “Kids come into class sad and leave happy.”

In 2009, Lowe was diagnosed with Parkinson's. “I had to stop teaching; the Parkinson's wasn't making things clear,” Lowe said. “Then, I was diagnosed with stage 3 colon cancer. I just crawled into a hole and didn't want to do anything for quite a while.”

“After a couple of years, I came back to life and hired someone to help me get back into the art scene” said Lowe.

In 2017, Lowe received a Renewal Grant from the Arts Council of Indianapolis and hosted an exhibit at the Indiana Landmarks building, just north of Downtown Indianapolis.

Lowe attributes his art to helping him overcome the depression of his diagnosis. “I just do what I want to do” Lowe said.

“I've tapped into more creativity. It has helped me create art from the soul.”

In February 2020, Lowe opened his studio in the Circle City Industrial Complex (CCIC), 1125 Brookside Avenue in Indianapolis.

From his studio, Lowe creates new art, including drawings, finger paintings and repurposing vintage televisions as art, a series he calls SeaTV.

Lowe enjoys hosting open studio and participating in CCIC's monthly First Friday open house, where he can meet new people and share his art. Lowe's passion for art includes helping others enjoy art.

“Affordable access to art is important to the community” said Lowe. “Art is powerful and everyone should be able to enjoy it.”

To check out Wendell Lowe's recent work, visit www.oii.fyi/wendell or stop by the Circle City Industrial Complex's monthly open house from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM on the first Friday of each month. You can learn more about CCIC at www.oii.fyi/ccic



3 Tips for Better Password Security



Carly Henry, Web Wizard
carly@openinindiana.com

Password security is important for everyone who uses the internet. It can seem overwhelming. Fortunately, we've got 3 simple guidelines to help manage passwords to protect your accounts on the services you use.

Create a new password for every account

By using unique passwords for every service, you can help avoid additional risk if your password on a single service is compromised. If the only service for which you use a given password gets hacked or exposed, then you won't have to change your password on many sites, because none of them are also using the compromised password.

Create complex passwords

Create passwords using upper case letters, lower case letters, numbers, special characters, spaces – as many different options as the service will allow and at least 9-10 characters in length. Longer is better here and many people advocate using passphrases,

such as a string of 4 unrelated words, for their ease to remember and their mathematical complexity. Avoid using any of the following: any real words, proper names, foreign words, or personal information. Some examples of really bad passwords from a recent list include: "qwerty123", "superman", "password1", "sunshine", and "baseball". If you're using any of these passwords, please go change them now.

If it sounds like it's too complicated, keep reading for a better solution.

Start using a password manager

A password manager maintains an encrypted list of your passwords that you protect with a really good password that you keep very secure. It enables you to autofill passwords and look them up as needed. It simplifies the process of using a different, complicated password for every service you use.

Check out the full blog at www.oii.fyi/passwords for more information about choosing good passwords and some resources to get started with a password manager.

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A hand holding a smartphone with a white screen. The screen displays the 'Open In Indiana' logo, which consists of the words 'Open In' in a blue rounded rectangle above the word 'Indiana' in a large, bold, black font. The background of the image is a blurred outdoor scene with a blue diagonal banner in the top right corner.

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