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February 25, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

It is our pleasure to write a letter of support for ARTBLOCK's efforts to establish PLACE in Venice, California. PLACE (Projects Linking Art Community and Environment) is a non-profit venture with an important mission to preserve our community of rich and vibrant artists.

Venice Family Clinic supports PLACE in their endeavor to maintain the artistic character of Venice by creating solutions to keep artists from being priced out of the area which they have largely shaped. PLACE's goal of caring for artists and creatives of all incomes and disciplines is in line with our mission of providing health care to over 23,000 low-income individuals, many of whom are artists themselves.

In 1979, Venice Family Clinic established Venice Family Clinic's Art Walk & Auctions, a fundraising event that celebrates our neighborhood, our patients and the artists who thrive here. This event was the city's first Art Walk. It offers an opportunity for people to encounter art and artists and better understand the creative environment in which they work. This year marks our 37th consecutive Venice Art Walk as we celebrate our long history of sustaining local artists and framing the reputation of Venice as a creative enclave.

Both ARTBLOCK and Venice Family Clinic seek to maintain the artistic vitality of our community. PLACE will aid in this effort by providing affordable live/work apartments that produce an environment for creatives to flourish and be free from volatile real-estate increases. Venice Family Clinic and the residents of Venice have shown decades of pride for our local artists. PLACE will sustain this support by building more opportunities for artists across the income spectrum to contribute to Los Angeles's strong contemporary art scene.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Benson Forer



Executive Director of Venice Family Clinic

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