



PRESS RELEASE

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Corning *apARTment Tour* Sunday, October 25, 2009

The Fourth Annual Corning *apARTment Tour* will be held on Sunday, October 25 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. The tour of upper-level living spaces on Corning's Historic Market Street is hosted by [Market Street Coffee & Tea](#) to benefit the arts-in-education grant program of the [ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes](#) (The ARTS) and the Susan G. Komen Foundation. The self-guided tour showcases a variety of spaces, old and renovated, and generates interest in the preservation of the historic downtown buildings.

The previous three *apARTment Tours* have raised almost \$13,000 for the Local Capacity Building grant program, which provides matching funds to schools for programs that incorporate the arts into the academic curriculum. Pam Weachock, owner of Market Street Coffee & Tea, originated the idea for the *Tour* four (4) years ago. "I'm excited that our store can raise so much money for such great causes with the *apARTment tour*", Weachock stated. "This year we've decided to donate a portion of the proceeds to the Susan G. Komen Foundation as well as The ARTS."

Corning artist Janet Howie, whose apartment inspired the tour, enjoys being a part of the tour. "I'm excited to be a part of the *apARTment Tour* for the fourth year. I find it fascinating to see what other residents/owners have done with their spaces. It's fun to see all the new apartments being added to the *Tour* as more people move onto the street bringing their creativity and vitality."

The *Tour* also emphasizes one of Corning's Gaffer District's strategic planning goals: creating more upper level living spaces on Market and Bridge Streets. "Upper story living and commercial spaces are integral parts of a vibrant downtown district. It's a win-win situation. Apartment residents are looking to centrally live, work and play; business owners are reaping the benefits of increased downtown

traffic; and Corning's Historic District is being revitalized and preserved," states Kristen Stewart, the Gaffer District's Director of Preservation and Design.

Parking is free during the event in the parking garage, city lots, and on Market Street.

Tickets for the **apARTment Tour** are \$15 in advance and \$18 the day of the **Tour** and will be available at Market Street Coffee & Tea, 61 E. Market, and The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes, 32 W. Market. For more information about the tour, please contact Market Street Coffee & Tea at 607-936-3351.