

## ***Your Art, Your Health, Your Clinic***

*The new Artist Clinic at Country Doctor Community Clinic will launch in January 2009!*

*Uninsured low-income artists can apply for a subsidy to help underwrite appointment costs.*

Like all citizens of Washington State, artists need affordable health care. For more than four years, an Artist Trust-led initiative – the Washington Artists Health Insurance Project\* (WAHIP) -- has examined the health care needs of working artists. An important aspect of receiving timely health care is having information about a source of quality care at a reasonable cost. A modest subsidy can help make medical care more affordable for low-income, uninsured artists.

WAHIP, in partnership with The Country Doctor Community Clinic (CDCC) in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood, is pleased to announce the launch of its new "Artist Clinic."

### **How does the Artist Clinic work?**

Starting in January 2009 and running for a 12-month trial period, the Artist Clinic at Country Doctor is offering artist-focused hours every Wednesday from 5:30pm–8:30pm. Artists of all disciplines are encouraged to call 206/299-1600 to make an appointment and efforts will be made to accommodate your schedule.

### **Am I eligible for a WAHIP medical subsidy?**

If you define yourself as an artist, then you are encouraged to participate in the Artist Clinic. Low-income artists that do request subsidy support from WAHIP, are required to complete a short form intended to determine your artistic discipline, percent of income from art practice, time spent on creation of work and education and/or training. WAHIP reserves the right to determine your eligibility.

During this trial first year, there are a limited number of subsidies available on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are eligible, \$75 will be credited toward your Artist Clinic bill from Country Doctor Clinic to a maximum of \$150 per individual artist during 2009.

### **What services can I receive at the Artist Clinic?**

Artists can receive the full spectrum of primary and preventive services provided by the medical professionals of the Country Doctor Community Clinic including:

- Care for all adult illnesses;
- Preventive health counseling and routine health exams;
- Birth control services;
- Sexually transmitted disease treatment and counseling;
- Chronic disease management for such diseases as high blood pressure, diabetes and HIV;
- Immunizations;
- Nutrition counseling;

- Complementary medicine including acupuncture and naturopathic services;
- Behavioral health counseling for patients referred by a CDCC provider;
- Common medications at affordable rates;
- Diabetes education and disease management services to patients referred by a CDCC provider;
- Nutrition counseling to medical clients referred by a CDCC provider;
- Specialty care referral on a sliding scale basis; in most cases. CDCC physicians take care of you in the hospital.

**Where is the new Artist Clinic located?**

The Artist Clinic is a service of the Country Doctor Community Clinic, located at 500 19<sup>th</sup> Ave. East & E. Republican on Capitol Hill in Seattle. See also: [www.countrydoctor.org](http://www.countrydoctor.org) or call 206/299-1600. You can get to the Artist Clinic by bus routes 12, 10, 43, & 8.

**Will I need to do anything else?**

Yes! Mention WAHIP when calling Country Doctor Community Clinic for an appointment and also when at the front desk at CDCC to ensure that you are offered the subsidy option.

**\*What is WAHIP?**

The Washington Artists Health Insurance Project (WAHIP) is an effort to forge new strategies to improve artists' access to health resources in Washington State. More on the WAHIP can be found at [www.wahip.org](http://www.wahip.org). The WAHIP subsidy program is made possible through contributions of WAHIP Coalition Members:

**Leadership Sponsors:** Artist Trust, Seattle Musician's Association, MusiCares

**Community Sponsors:** 4Culture, Seattle Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, Seattle Office of Film + Music

**Community Supporters:** Pratt Fine Arts, Robert Stumberger, Friends of On The Boards, Friends of the Henry Art Gallery

Artist Trust is a not-for-profit organization whose sole mission is to support and encourage individual artists working in all disciplines in order to enrich community life throughout Washington State. Find out more at [www.artisttrust.org](http://www.artisttrust.org).

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