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### **Show of Hands Features Four Local Wheeling Businesses**

WHEELING, W.Va. – June 21, 2023 – Wheeling Heritage announced today that four small Wheeling businesses will be competing for the next Show of Hands event on Wednesday, July 26 at the Wheeling Artisan Center, 1400 Main Street. The final Show of Hands for 2023 will feature four local businesses to showcase the products, services, and business ideas to the community in hopes of taking home the top prize.

At the event, owners of the following businesses will be making presentations:

**YNST Magazine:** Adam Payne, owner of YNST Magazine, or You're Not Seeing Things Magazine, created a print and digital media company dedicated to amplifying the unseen creative voices of Appalachia's arts and culture. With a mission to portray home with a contemporary, colorful lens by capturing the region's vital storytellers, unique designers, impactful photographers, dynamic artists, and underrepresented perspectives, they offer the community of emerging creative professionals in West Virginia and greater Appalachia an unprecedented platform to spotlight their work. If they were to win Show of Hands, the funding would be used toward brand expansion including marketing, vending, and distribution of the magazine.

**Tacet Coffee:** Laura Oswalt, owner of Tacet Coffee, a new pop-up mobile coffee bar, serves craft coffee, espresso, and locally roasted beans. Oswalt personally selects green coffee cherries from all over the world, and then roasts them here in Wheeling to sell and use in her coffee. Tacet Coffee Cart's purpose is to bring small batch third wave coffee to Wheeling and local events, public and private. With funding from Show of Hands, Oswalt plans to purchase a commercial grade espresso machine that can withstand the wear and tear of heavy use.

**Moonlight Intimate Apparel:** Ashley Sutton, owner of Moonlight Intimate Apparel wanted to create a space where people of any size could shop and find items that make them feel confident and beautiful. Her store, located in Centre Market, promotes body positivity and loving yourself in the present. With options of pajamas, lounge wear, lingerie, hosiery and active wear, their goal is to make everyone who comes in feel confident and comfortable. Funding from Show of Hands would help expand Sutton's online business and get more products.

**Ohio Valley MMA:** Johnny Haight, owner of Ohio Valley MMA, works to make the valley healthier and happier at his fight gym. Ohio Valley MMA provides personal training, cardio classes and more, with an emphasis on making people better while providing an encouraging environment to their clients to better



their overall health. Funding from Show of Hands would help make improvements to the facility such as wall mats, new weights, kettlebells, weighted balls and more.

Show of Hands has awarded more than \$116,000 to support small businesses and projects in Wheeling. In addition to program sponsors, attendees pay \$5 at the door to vote on the project they feel is the most worthwhile. The presenter who receives the most votes will be awarded more than \$4,000 from our Friends of Show of Hands, plus door donations, to put toward their project.

This program is generously funded by Orrick, our corporate sponsor, and our Friends of Show of Hands. Orrick donates \$1,000 to each Show of Hands while our Friends of Show of Hands contributes \$250 to each event. Friends of Show of Hands includes Brian Joseph- Touchstone Research Laboratory, Warwood Armature, Kennen & Kennen Realtors, H. Lawrence Jones and Sue Blevins, Rabbi Joshua Lief & Rebecca Lief, Sikora Montessori, Bridgeway Capital, Will and Tracey Turani, Dan and Debbie Joseph, Wheeling VW-Subaru, FXB and Barb & Fuzz LaRue.

If interested in becoming a Friend of Show of Hands, please contact Cassie Minder at [cminder@wheelingheritage.org](mailto:cminder@wheelingheritage.org).

The final Show of Hands event for 2023 is scheduled for July 26 on the third floor of the Artisan Center, 1400 Main Street in Wheeling. Doors will open at 6 p.m. with presentations starting at 6:30 p.m. It is encouraged to arrive early with downtown construction and limited street parking. Parking will be available in the Intermodal Center. Attendees are asked to bring \$5 cash for their opportunity to vote. Online voting will be available at [wheelingheritage.org/vote](https://wheelingheritage.org/vote).

**About Wheeling Heritage:**

[Wheeling Heritage](https://wheelingheritage.org) is a catalyst for the revitalization of Wheeling. Through historic preservation, community development, and the arts, we help to tell Wheeling's story and shape its future. We seek to improve the quality of life in Wheeling by preserving and investing in our city, collaborating with others, and engaging the citizens of Wheeling in our work.