



Contact:

Alex Weld

Project and Outreach Manager

Wheeling Heritage

304-232-3087

[aweld@wheelingheritage.org](mailto:aweld@wheelingheritage.org)

### **Four Small Businesses to Compete in Wheeling Heritage's 'Show of Hands'**

WHEELING, W.Va. – Jan. 11, 2019 – Four small business owners will each make a pitch at Wheeling Heritage's Show of Hands event on Jan. 23. The event, which begins at 6 p.m. at the Artisan Center, 1400 Main Street, invites attendees to vote for the project they feel is the most worthwhile. The winning presenter will leave with about \$4,000 for his or her business expansion.

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

**Clientele Art Studio:** Clientele Art Studio is a new art gallery and studio space in East Wheeling. The business provides a space for local artists to display their work and also rent studio space. While they have not been open for long, the business has already raised over \$3,000 for the Great Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless during a recent art show and auction. While owner Will Wallace has made significant renovations to the building so far, there is still work to be done. Will would use Show of Hands funding for an ADA accessible ramp, ensuring access for anyone who'd like to visit the space.

**Country Roads BBQ:** Country Roads BBQ is a new fast casual BBQ restaurant, located at 56 Carmel Road. However, its owners aren't new to BBQ. Scott and Jill Phair opened Mountaineer BBQ in 2008 in Triadelphia, and then moved to a food truck in Dallas Pike. The family recently rebranded the company and opened a storefront, with daughter Kelly creating recipes and son Kyle working on marketing. Now, they're looking to renovate their food truck so they can hire more staff and set up at summer events and festivals in Wheeling.

**RNR Discovery and Learning Center:** RNR Discover and Learning Center is a new small business that just opened in December 2018. The two-floor, 3,800 square foot building is filled with interactive and educational activities like Legos and robots. The business has year-round programs that promote learning through play and STEM, and they also host parties, field trips and fundraisers. Owners Chris and Kelley McCoy are working hard to expand their offerings. They applied to Show of Hands to get funding for new robots, STEAM education kits, and 3D printers.

**SweetZekes Coffee Company:** SweetZekes is a small micro-roaster of high quality, high-altitude grown coffee. Owners Pamela and John Clark have lived in Pittsburgh for 30 years, but are looking to relocate to Wheeling. They are planning to turn their online coffee roasting business into a community coffee house, with the goal of bringing local people and neighbors together in the spirit of community values over a good cup of coffee. You may have recently had SweetZekes coffee at Wheeling event throughout last summer and fall, as the owners participated in Oglebayfest, the Wheeling Farmers Market and the



Warwood Farmers Market, to name a few events. They'll be presenting at Show of Hands for an upgraded espresso machine and various other supplies as they prepare to open a Wheeling storefront.

**About Wheeling Heritage**

[Wheeling Heritage](#) 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.