

Check this out Freeport Market: <https://freeportmarket.me/pages/our-makers-workspaces-retail-spaces>



<https://www.dezeen.com/2023/10/23/new-store-1-het-nieuwe-instituut-dutch-design-week/>



Virtual window shopping

new approach to the retail store—virtual window shopping. QR codes allow shoppers to make purchases from the window display at any time.



Other example venues:

1. Monsonarts.org: <https://monsonarts.org/>
 - a. They do art exhibitions, residencies, workshops, community/school programs, support writers, photography, and artists. They also partner with local restaurants for meals.
2. The Lupine Coop, Belfast: <https://www.lupinecottage.net/>
 - a. Has a meeting area attached to the building?
 - b. Sells vendors goods, charges fees to the vendors
 - c. Built up slowly over time
3. Center for Maine Crafts, West Gardiner <https://shopmainecraft.com/center-formaine-craft/>
 - a. a retail store and gallery selling and exhibiting the work of over 300 Maine craft artists.
 - b. Hosted in the West Gardiner Service Plaza
4. Eastport Food Pantry
 - a. Did a commercial kitchen with weekly cooking classes on how to prep food from the pantry. They also caught mackerel from the river and showed them how to cook it.
 - b. You could offer the commercial kitchen available as space to rent.

Notes from Tammy:

- Start seasonally a first
- Pop ups through holidays with breads/baked goods for sale.
- Could have a vending machine for healthy snacks for folks who are using the trail to keep the venue selling 24-7, which will drive customers to the venue to learn more. (Bixby, grandy oats, etc.)
- Host a Focus Group to determine what they want to see. Include artisans, seniors, school kids, pantry folks.
- Include signage around location identifying historic locations and other venues in town.

Events:

[Maine Craft Weekend – Statewide Tour of Maine Craft Studios, Breweries, Businesses and Events](#) – sign up to solicit to Bowdoinham to be a host site for this event. This is the first weekend in October. You get lots of free promotion.

Grant resources:

1. CDBG: <https://www.maine.gov/decd/community-development/cdbg-program>

- a. Through HUD, may not be eligible if we are above an income threshold. But if used a Senior Center which is considered to assist low to moderate income it could be eligible. Must be ADA accessible.
2. Maine Outdoor Rec: <https://www.maine.gov/decd/programs/maine-office-of-outdoor-recreation>
3. Outdoor Heritage Fund: <https://www.maine.gov/ifw/programs-resources/grants/outdoor-heritage-fund.html>
 - a. Strategic plan funding and outdoor rec facility funding
4. Enterprise Market Grant MOT: <https://motpartners.com/programs-services/marketing-grants/>
 - a. Grants for Marketing Maine's Designated Tourism Regions, Special Events and Targeted Tourism Efforts
 - b. Due in November
5. Rural Development – Community Facilities Grant
6. Dept. of Marine Resources, Coastal Communities Planning Grants & Small Harbor Improvements Grant (up to \$50k) [Grants and RFPs | Department of Marine Resources \(maine.gov\)](#)