

PRESS RELEASE

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Finchingfield Gallery celebrates first birthday by launching a community creative competition

Art gallery, based in Jamie Oliver's home village, launches community project

Finchingfield, Essex, 28th September 2020.

On the 4th October 2020, local gallery 'Wonky Wheel' celebrates its first year in business. In honour of this milestone, the gallery has launched a Community Creative Competition to raise funds for Freshwell Health Centre, CREAMER Fund, Finchingfield.

Wonky Wheel is an independent gallery and gift shop dedicated to promoting local Artists and Makers, from across East Anglia.

The contemporary, 5-days a week operation opened its doors one year ago on the 4th October. The business has uniquely transformed the way both locals and visitors to the Finchingfield area can browse and buy affordable local artwork and unique gift items. Wonky Wheel is situated in Finchingfield, a popular tourist destination (home to Celebrity Chef Jamie Oliver) and one of the most picturesque villages in Essex.

To celebrate Wonky Wheel's first birthday, it is calling budding artists of all ages to help it to create a community colouring book. The colouring book will showcase designs submitted by members of the community and will be available to buy from the gallery and its website from the 5th December. Profits from the colouring book will be donated to the Freshwell Health Centre, CREAMER Fund, Finchingfield.

Entry to the competition is free and entrants should create their design, drawn in black and white, on the special competition entry form. Entry forms (A4 size) are available now from the Wonky Wheel gallery or on the website www.wonky-wheel.co.uk.

Wonky Wheel owner Mary Turley commented: "I'm so excited about the community colouring book competition and I'm looking forward to reviewing the entries from the community.

Designs should include anything that the owner of the colouring book will be able to colour in. Designs could be, for example: animals, plants or flowers, landscapes, vehicles, geometric shapes or people. The best individual designs will be included in the book. The closing date for the competition is the 15th November 2020.

Winners will be announced on the 5th December from the following three age categories

- 1) 3 years to 10 years – Prize: Colouring Materials
- 2) 11 years to 17 years – Prize: Colouring Materials
- 3) 18+. Prize: Learn how to paint and develop drawing skills with local Artist Helen Wiseman*

*Helen Wiseman will also be appearing in the exciting Instagram Live event hosted at Gallery on Friday 2nd October from 6:30. Full details of Instagram Live are featured on the website.

For the past year, Wonky Wheel has brought a boost to Finchingfield community and its many tourists, during the Pandemic when many UK inhabitants chose a 'staycation'.

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The Wonky Wheel continues to run its popular creative workshops onsite and provides a welcome and important service to the local community, bringing a sense of peace and harmony to support mental health and wellbeing.

Owner Mary Turley is passionate both about art and the local community. She noted: "I wasn't sure what to expect in my first year, but I wouldn't change it. We had a great programme of Workshops pre-lockdown and it was so rewarding to see people arrive all stressed and flushed from their busy lives to then learn a new skill in a relaxing environment and walk away from the workshops all de-stressed. That gives me great joy."

About Wonky Wheel

There is something for all at the Gallery, whether it's that piece of original local artwork that you have been looking for the wall in your home, a present for your sister or brother's birthday, or just a unique gift. When you come into the Gallery and start browsing you will notice the light and warmth of the gallery with plenty of eye-catching artwork on offer.

The gallery was set up to support local artists as there was no avenue for them in the area to display their artwork. They now have a delightful space to display their work in a unique setting overlooking the beautiful picturesque village of Finchingfield in Essex.

Items can also be bought online at the website www.wonky-wheel.co.uk. And for something totally unique the gallery can commission work from their local collection of artists.

So why not pop along to Wonky Wheel Gallery and pick up your free entry form and get drawing? Alternatively, you can go right away to the website and download the entry form without delay. Best of luck to all participants.