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The Providence Journal-Bulletin & The Knight Campus Student Newspaper: Clippings

The Providence Journal-Bulletin

Knight Campus Student Newspaper

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When most people think of Providence for a good time, they plan to go to places like the Living Room, Periwinkles, The Last Call, and so on. However, they seem to overlook one of the city's best kept secrets, the AS-220.

AS-220 is the brainchild of artists Umberto Crenca and Scott Sedboldt. Crenca had been doing performances in galleries from New York to Italy. However, the difficulty of getting into these same galleries motivated him to approach Sedboldt, and with $800, the two founded AS-220. Since day one, they had gone upon the philosophy of "open doors," and immediately drew abstract artists from the area. Since then, the gallery has been growing strong.

Crenca describes AS-220 as "a mini-arts center," with resident artists, regular live performances every Monday, and a gallery which changes each month. As for what one would see, Crenca says, "Everything and anything goes." The center is on the pulse of the area's music/art scene. What lets it stand out is the same "open door" policy. This allows for a wide range of artists. "It's like a test zone for artists," Crenca says, "from here they move on, or back up and try again."

The AS-220 is a non-profit organization made not only for personal growth and fulfillment of the artists, but also a center oriented toward raising awareness of the public emotionally, artistically, and consciously. Crenca feels that art is as important as any known career. A home typewriter, a blender, and even a pen was designed by an artist. However, Crenca's advice to aspiring...