



CREATIVE WASHTENAW HAPPY HOUR (CWHH)

For those who work and/or play in the arts, creative and cultural organizations and businesses and are members of The Arts Alliance*, CWHH is an-easy-no-set-agenda monthly gathering rotating throughout the county.

SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF CREATIVE WASHTENAW HAPPY HOUR



- Principle 1: CWHH should be stress-free.** We have enough meetings that we dread attending. CWHH should not be one of those meetings. So no agenda and few rules. If a CWHH member is hosting at their place, the house may look like crap because the member had no time to clean. That's OK. You yourself may not have time to bring a bottle of wine. That's OK also. Bring whatever snacks you have in your snack drawer or left over from meetings or retreats or bring nothing. And don't worry that you look like someone just ran you over with a steamroller. We look like that by default.
- Principle 2: CWHH should be fun:** Work discussions are fine. You can even trade business cards if you like. But CWHH should be a place for CWHH members to relax, tell jokes, talk about stupid TV shows, get tutoring from other CWHH members on the steps to The Wobble (it's a line dance; look it up on YouTube), etc.
- Principle 3: CWHH should be welcoming:** All CWHH members should feel welcomed, regardless of size of creative practice, business, organization, mission and personal characteristics such as race, religion, class, art form preferences, sexual orientation, sports team preferences, dietary restrictions, art form preferences etc. You can, however, openly make fun of CWHH members who wear skinny jeans, since they look ridiculous. As soon as a CWHH members arrives, they should be greeted with enthusiasm and raised glasses.
- Principle 4: CWHH is only for artists and creatives living, practicing, going to school and or working in Washtenaw County – or who are members of The Arts Alliance.** One free attendance before required membership.
- Principle 5: CWHH should be supportive.** At any time a CWHH members needs to vent that CWHH members should invoke the sacred words "I need to vent," in which case, all conversation must stop and everyone must listen to the venting and offer encouragement. The same sort of support must be offered to any CWHH members who invokes "I need advice" or "I need another drink."
- Principle 6: CWHH is confidential.** This is obvious, but it should be stated anyway: Anything discussed at a CWHH or a CWHH-sanctified event will remain among the CWHH members present. It is a serious offense to break this oath, and any CWHH members who does so, whether intentional or not, shall be cursed for seven years, their creative juices slowed, grant writing yielding no fruit, their annual events doomed with terrible tech, their board all micromanagers.
- Principle 7: CWHH should be free or dirt-cheap for CWHH members to attend.** There are CW gatherings that charge CWs \$5 to \$50 to attend each time. On occasion they have trainings or serve as an opportunity for important discussions. CWHH is not that. If you have an agenda and/or you charge CWHH members to attend, you can no longer use the CWHH name.