

Dear Ms. Bernhard and The National Arts Club Board of Governors:

The Concerned Artists and Members of The National Arts Club (<http://concernednac.homestead.com/>) write to you and the Board of Governors in response to your recent statement in Real Estate Weekly announcing your intention to rent or sell Club-owned apartments for the maximum prices obtainable in the NYC real estate market. According to Club tradition, the apartments were meant to serve as live-work studios for persons in the arts without regard to whether they were writers, visual, or musical artists. This policy changed dramatically over the tenure of Aldon James with no vote or discussion within the membership.

Our group feels very strongly that in order to not fall into the same bad management and cronyistic decision making of the past, the Board needs to put up any new policy for a vote to the membership with full and fair disclosure of all the implications of the options (financial, tax, as well as for the benefit of the artists, and the selection process/criteria).

The Concerned Artists think that there is a need for the Board to conduct a comprehensive investigation of the factual background to the development of the back (residential) building before the membership can decide policy for the apartments' disposition. The Board, as a result of its investigation, should fully disclose past apartment rental practices before the James administration, the original documents outlining their purpose, and the purpose of purchasing the back building. A key objective should be to discover if restrictions have been previously imposed on the use of the back building apartments. At a minimum, an investigation will produce the original documents and those around the back building's purchase and any others concerned with their use.

Sincerely,

Edward (Ted) Andrews

A Spokesperson for the Concerned Artists and Members of The National Arts Club