

## ***Is The Build sustainable?***

***or***

### ***How much time/effort are Build members willing to put into the forum's own future?***

At this point, I don't see that the "membership" of The Build has grown over the last months. This argument is based on the question, "Does the Build have an idea of how many members it needs to be viable?" I recommend discontinuing the music and food budget for the regular Build meetings. It doesn't seem to be making a difference in attendance. Other than The Build/KI people, from my experiences, there are on average <10 others at the meetings.

#### **An idea for the sustainability of The Build**

Every three months, The Build holds an arts showcase inspired by a general theme. After each showcase, a new theme will be announced. All creative persons or entities will be challenged to come up with an original piece of expression--around the theme--that was created in the 3 month period between shows.

Possible forms of art/media are short stories, sculpting, dance, music, graphic art, poetry, food, essays, videos, 1 act plays, clothes/fashion/jewelry, stand-up comedy, puppetry, etc.

"[The arts are] about the sweet balance of human emotion and elevating consciousness around dignity, grace, beauty, elegance, excellence, and a whole lot of fun." -- Carlos Santana

The public will be charged between \$7 and \$10. Sponsorship and grants could be sought. Profits could be put in The Build account for food/dj for the regular monthly meetings and/or the KI account. The presenters will not be compensated; although they could sale their art. Themes could be adolescence, religion, women, religion, kindergarten, the common cold, love & hate, ??...

The showcase would spur artistic expression and center KI as a critical muse inspiring creativity in our city—a city I believe is inherently a vortex of creativity. See my "Vorcreatex" concept at [www.vorcreatex.com](http://www.vorcreatex.com)

"You can walk around Indianapolis for a very long time thinking you're creatively unstimulated and then suddenly realize you have the most committee ability possible in this city."

-- Transcript from caller # 71, *The Manufactured History of Indianapolis*

My argument is that there is something fundamentally unique about Indianapolis. From my perspective, what makes it unique is its level of ignorance. This incapacity challenges all who live here to be creative in order to make sense of this "ignorant-ass" town.

**"It has been about politics; it has never been about talent."** -- Mari Evans

What Mari is telling us is that here artists must exist in 2 Indy's. The resulting complex is filled with the stress of living with conditions that require keeping one's own integrity and sense of identity while living in an ignorant-ass town that sees creativity as the ability to copy the art/style/direction of other artists very well.

The challenge for The Build and KI is to help artists keep their sense of integrity intact while also living in a reality whose esthetics are defined by a status quo covertly determined to use art to maintain its neo-colonial power.

To appreciate the politics Mari points to, I believe The Build/KI must discover, help build, and then showcase talent.

"You can't have social change without art." -- Virgil Boyd, social critic, Indianapolis

Indy's dominant culture knows this and discourages/suppresses any art that lets people see King Indy has no clothes.

The Build has been an inspiration to me. I wrote "Being 'proudly artistic' in Indianapolis: A tale of 2 cities"

<http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Being-proudly-artistic-in-Indianapolis-A-tale-of-two-cities.pdf> and created a new version of the flag of Indianapolis.

