



Dear Friends - We are looking to compile a document of ‘testimonies’ on why this initiative should happen. Please Contact Hazel@ReverseRitual.com

Here are a few examples of replies we have received; we hope you will also respond:

Dear Council, I am writing to express my endorsement for this new initiative and partnership with The Elderberries. I can not think of a more important use of this space in this day and age.

I have been in education for 31 years and Waldorf education for 16. I have a growing sense that the youth are not seeing the relevance of anthroposophy. They must see it alive and working in the world to connect to it; their teachers are growing older, and frankly, many of them are not hearing their needs. I see some elders stuck in dogma, or very busy holding up old structures, that they have not been able to respond to in a timely way to humans directly in front of them. Waldorf graduates have a deep desire to connect to others in meaningful ways; some struggle to find that once they leave the high school. This place could be not only be a hub of connection to each other, and to anthroposophy, but also an incubator for their initiatives in the world.

My own 20 year old CWS graduate, who has never had any interest in returning to the school, read the proposal and lit up. "Very cool! I would be interested in helping that happen!" he said.

For myself, I have been reluctant to join the branch for some of these reasons I have listed. This new initiative would change that I want to support the next generation of Steiner's work in the world. To do that we must meet the youth.

I applaud your vision and openness to this fresh and vital work. Their initial plan seems sound; let us strike while the iron is hot, for "boldness has genius."

Inspired, Karen Hartz

I read all the documents about the cafe and I agree with Hazel. This is what we are meant to do! Melvins offer to lazure the spaces when it gets to finish painting!! We could even run a lazure workshop and charge people a bit to train in and work with us as a way of funding it. I can also envision running a pretty full after school program for neighborhood kids with the handwork and painting that they miss when they leave Waldorf K for public school. Parents can hang in cafe during pick up and drop off! A version of the school store which keeps failing at CWS could probably do very well if situated in the cafe!! Yay!! ~Nancy Melvin

As a teenager the Chicago Elderberries Café is very important to me. I need to have a 'safe place' where me & my friends can go to hang out. I dream of making art & music there & having deep philosophical discussions, perhaps planning political actions or other community actions. As a young person I need to 'find my people'. I am looking forward to helping with the construction to get the space ready & I am excited about the possibility to be able to work there a few days after school. Ultra-Violet Archer – 11th grade at CWS

I have visited Elderberries in LA and would love to see it thrive in Chicago! ~ Stephanie Sack
2048 N Damen Chicago, IL, 60647

Dottie has a real Will force to always Get Things Started. It is powerful for us in the Michael Stream because Dottie and Company are devoted to Anthroposophy. Nothing would please us more than to see the Franchise multiply in other centers, in other countries and become oasis Devachan Star hubs. Streams of undiscovered Michael and Sophia young and old should be able to meet at a kind of Anthro Oasis Star Hub. These Hubs accelerate the living, daily, spin of souls

into the whirl where they may awaken. Navigational Hubs and Oasis that bring different awakenings and expand community interests, connect new seekers is something to be warmly desired. ~Bradford Riley, formally from Chicago

This endeavor is a real human act for the future, that exists to serve now. So much better than an establishment with the main purpose of profit. ~Michael Pinchera
<http://www.michaelpinchera.com/>

May Elderberry Cafes prosper around the world, giving warmth to those who seek to understand how destiny weaves a tapestry of connections over time & space...Sarah Caldwell, Viroqua WI.

It would be great to make others aware of the potential of this great location. It is such a nondescript shell with unbelievable potential. If the café was there it would bring life to the space which seems dead except for the festivals.
There is great style in Steiner's vision and examples, and there is a vitally important statement to be made in the Midwest. I would suggest building in energy efficiency, sharing cutting edge technology. Marry old wisdom with butterfly wings. ~Elizabeth Beunaiche

We remain ever steadfast in our commitment to the needs of this time and the future needs of the unborn. We are giving it our all and will keep striving everywhere and every way we can to be people of our time with what Rudolf Steiner shared would be the most important time for the future health of humanity and earth ~Dottie Zold.