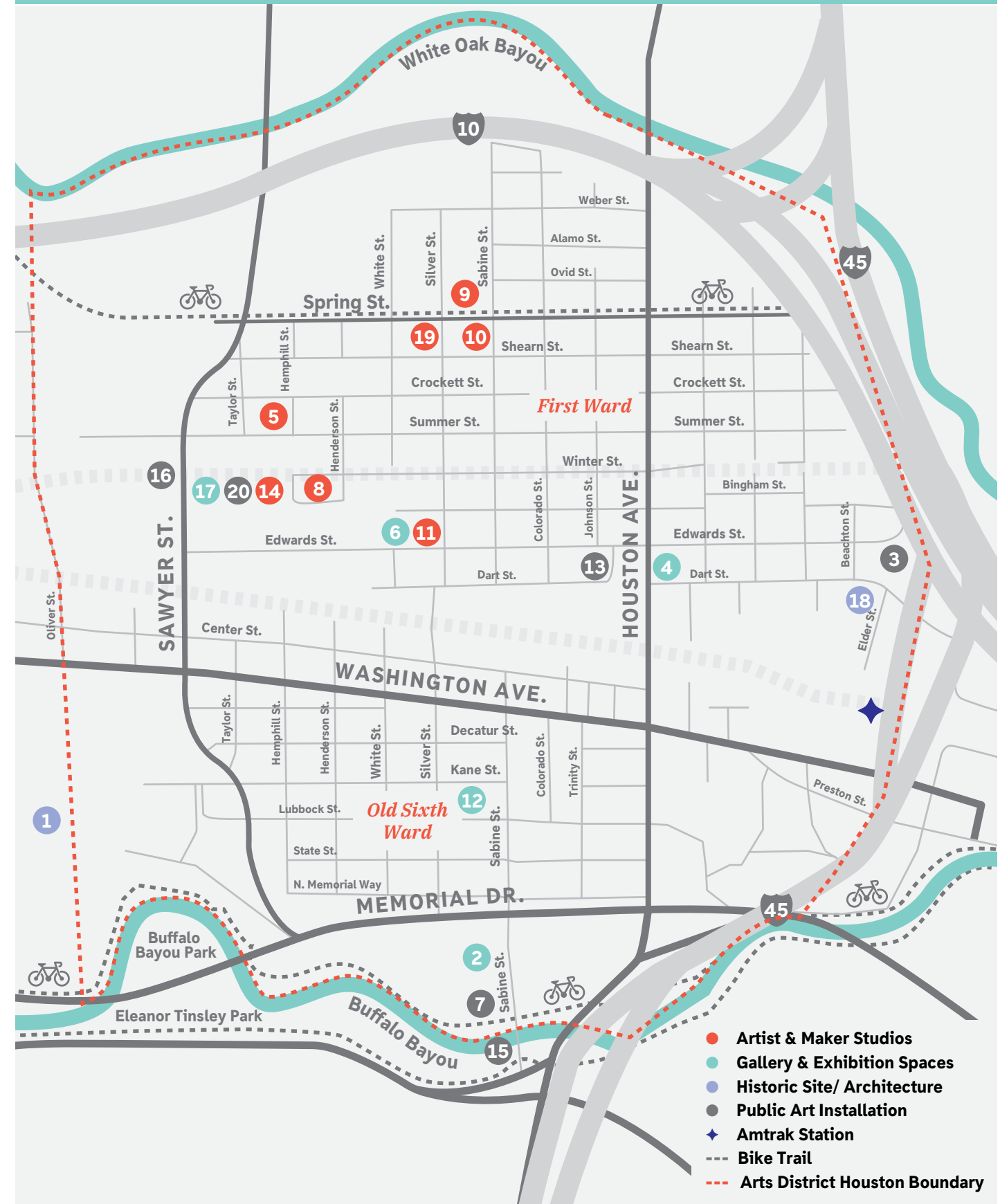




| Art Alley at Sawyer Yards  
Photo by Gisele Parra

Arts District Houston embodies Houston's up and coming creative economy. This colorful, urban, artist-centered community is situated in the city center along the Washington Avenue Corridor and touts the highest concentration of working artists in the state. Visit this lively historically designated area bound by two of the city's bayous and feel the creativity flow throughout the creative businesses, restaurants, artist studios, and reimaged industrial spaces, notably the iconic repurposed rice silos and old Union Pacific rail line that run through it. This state-appointed Arts and Cultural District has a rich history as it encompasses portions of both the First and Sixth Wards, two of the city's oldest neighborhoods.



- Artist & Maker Studios
- Gallery & Exhibition Spaces
- Historic Site/ Architecture
- Public Art Installation
- ◆ Amtrak Station
- Bike Trail
- Arts District Houston Boundary



**PEOPLE** | Arts District Houston is home to 300+ studio spaces for local artists, designers, and makers where you can see firsthand how art gets made.

**HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE** |

Experience art and architecture in the context of the preserved Silos at the Site Gallery and don't miss the opportunity to visit Houston's beautiful historic Glenwood Cemetery where the famed Howard Hughes was laid to rest. Explore a piece of Houston's history by taking a drive through two of the city's oldest neighborhoods, the First and Sixth Wards, where you can check out the charming Victorian, Queen Anne, and Revival style homes from the 18 & 1900's.



**FOOD** | Grab a coffee or a beer at one of the artsy independent neighborhood haunts. Visit [artsdistricthouston.com](http://artsdistricthouston.com) for a full list of options.

**GLENWOOD CEMETERY** 1

*2525 Washington Ave.*

Built in the late 1800's many Houstonians considered Glenwood to be not only a cemetery but a landscaped park. Its design takes advantage of ravines leading to Buffalo Bayou creating a rolling landscape unique to Houston. Glenwood is a lesson in the history of Houston's early movers and shakers as many of Houston's most prominent families are buried here, including the legendary billionaire, filmmaker, and pilot Howard Hughes, Jr. Look out for tours hosted by Preservation Houston: [preservationhouston.org](http://preservationhouston.org)



**MOUNT RUSH HOUR** 3

*1400 Elder St.*

Get a closer look at artist & sculptor David Adickes' combo nod to Houston's freeways & Mount Rushmore. Adickes created four towering 18-ft. tall concrete busts of Stephen F. Austin, Sam Houston, Abraham Lincoln, and George Washington and had them installed here in a freeway-side park overlooking I-10 and I-45 interchange in First Ward.

**GETTING HERE** |

Although much of the district is walkable, you will probably want to have some mode of transportation to explore all that the district has to offer. There is free parking available throughout the district. Uber and Lift are also a great way to get you where you need to go. Bike BCycle also has a paid bike sharing station at 2411 Washington (near Sawyer).

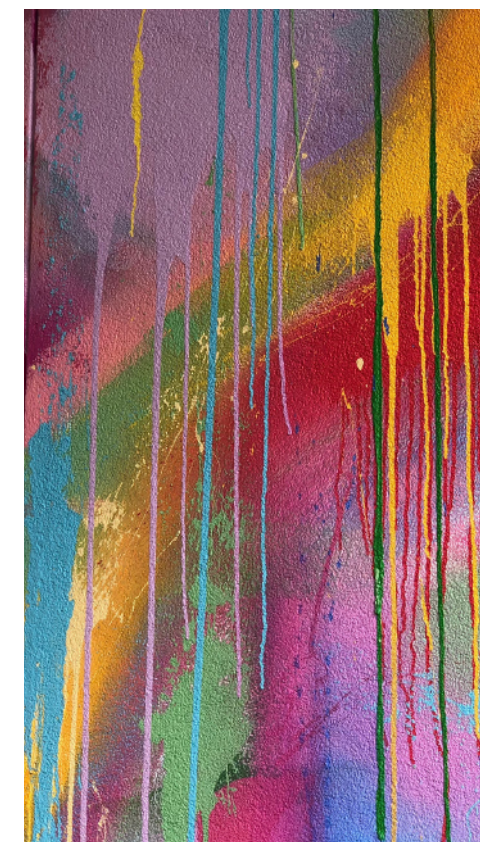
**ART** | Take in the expansive murals at Art Alley at Sawyer Yards, check out an exhibit at FotoFest, MECA, or the Buffalo Bayou Park Cistern which exhibits art in a former underground drinking water facility from the 1920's.



**BUFFALO BAYOU CISTERN** 2

*105 Sabine St.*

Take in an art exhibit, soak in your surroundings with a meditation session, or join a historical tour in what was formerly an underground drinking water reservoir built in 1926. Check the calendar of events and purchase advance tickets at [buffalobayou.org](http://buffalobayou.org)



**+**  
*Market at Sawyer Yards*

**Art Alley**  
*1502 Sawyer Street*  
**11 am - 5 pm**  
**2nd Saturday of the month**  
Here you can find a fun mix of local makers and artists selling their work, wares, crafts and some specialty foods. The market also coincides with open studios at Sawyer Yards when artists open their doors to the public.  
[sawyerstreetmarket.com](http://sawyerstreetmarket.com)



## STATION THEATER <sup>4</sup>

1230 Houston Ave.

Laugh it up at this independent comedy performance space featuring long-form improv, sketch, and stand-up comedy shows. Station offers a full lineup of comedy shows Thursday through Saturday. Show info and tickets at [stationtheater.com](http://stationtheater.com)

## SUMMER STREET STUDIOS\* <sup>5</sup>

2204 Summer St.

A new-ish addition to Sawyer Yards, Summer Street Studios offers 24 one-of-a-kind workspaces for artists, art services, and creative entrepreneurs to create, exhibit, and sell their work.

## FOTOFEST INTERNATIONAL <sup>6</sup>

2000 Edwards St., Bldg. C #2

This Houston-based cultural non-profit org. prides itself on being a “platform for art and ideas” and for “presenting the first and longest-running international Biennial of photography in the U.S.” FotoFest also organizes year-round exhibitions. Check their website for more info. [fotofest.org](http://fotofest.org)

## Yoga at Buffalo Bayou Park

105 Sabine St.  
Check [buffalobayou.org](http://buffalobayou.org) for dates/times

Buffalo Bayou Partnership teams up with local yoga instructors for asanas on the lawn that sits atop the old buried & abandoned City of Houston water system site. Take in the awesome view of Downtown at this uplifting & one-of-a-kind backdrop for yogis of all levels. BYO mat & water.

## OPEN CHANNEL FLOW <sup>7</sup>

Public Art Installation  
103 Sabine St.

If you stop by this 60 ft. interactive fountain on a hot Houston day, use the hand pump and get surprisingly refreshed. Located partially inside the fence of the Houston Sabine Water Pump Station and partly outside the fence in Buffalo Bayou Park, this unique sculpture was created by artist Matthew Geller in 2009 is made of steel, lighting components, and you guessed it... water.

# INTERSECTING ARTS, COMMERCE, AND COMMUNITY



## WINTER STREET STUDIOS\* <sup>8</sup>

2101 Winter St.

Historically home to a furniture factory, Winter Street Studios now holds 77 art studios for over 87 local artists.

## SPRING STREET STUDIOS\* <sup>9</sup>

1824 Spring St.

Formally home to Harris Moving & Storage, the refurbished Spring Street Studios now holds 71 unique studios with an expansive corridor gallery.



## SABINE STREET STUDIOS\* <sup>10</sup>

1907 Sabine St.

Sabine Street Studios is the latest addition to the Sawyer Yards' family of studio buildings. Just steps away from Spring Street Studios, it features 67 studio spaces available to artists, makers, and innovators.

## Cafeza

1720 Houston Ave.

Whatever happened to the arthouse coffee shop? Enter Cafeza. Where an easygoing vibe meets art meets cafeteria. Stop in for an Espresso Cubano, stay for a glass of red, a bocadillo, and some jazz. Cafeza features performances by local musicians most evenings. Check [cafeza.com](http://cafeza.com) for listings.

## SILVER STREET STUDIOS\* <sup>11</sup>

2000 Edwards St.

Silver Street Studios was originally home to the Silver Eagle distribution warehouse and later converted into an event space + artist studios in 2014.

## 1st Fridays Art Market @ Holler Brewing Co.

2206 Edwards St., Suite A  
5-9 pm

Grab a cold one and shop this new local artist & makers market. Expect to find original art, handmade jewelry, vegan bath & body products, local produce/eats, vintage tees & accessories and more.



## MECA <sup>12</sup>

1900 Kane St.

MECA is a community-based non-profit committed to the healthy development of underserved youth and adults through arts and cultural programming, academic excellence, support services, and community building. MECA also offers multicultural artistic performances and events to over thousands of students and their families each year. Check [meca-houston.org](http://meca-houston.org) for upcoming events.

## FIRST WARD IS BLOOMING <sup>13</sup>

Public Art Installation  
1417 Houston Ave.

This community art project was led by artist painter, upcycler, and sculptor Carol Simon. The installation engaged over 200 teens in transforming 10,000 recycled water bottles into flowers that compose what is now a vibrant sculpture lining a fence in First Ward.



## THE SILOS AT SAWYER YARDS\* <sup>14</sup>

1502 Sawyer St.

Business & art intersect at Houston's most iconic silo buildings, once part of the Riviana complex. The Silos at Sawyer Yards features 97 workspaces for over 100 artists and offers retail, gallery, and office space for creative entrepreneurs. P.S. FreshArts lives here.

## DOWN PERISCOPE <sup>15</sup>

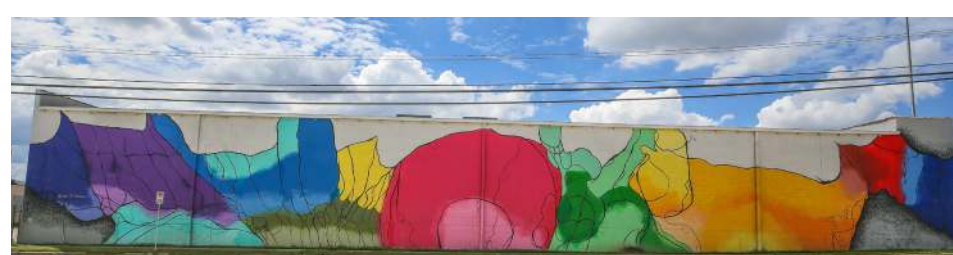
103 Sabine St.

If you can't make it into the Cistern, experience this intriguing cavernous space from the park above it, under a jade arbor mind you. This made possible by the artist Donald Lipski who, in 2015, installed a periscope outfitted with technology that allows you to control a camera inside the space and see around inside.

## Jerry's Artarama

Art Supply Store  
2201 Taylor St.

Need new brushes or just like to gawk at or Instagram beautiful arrays of paint colors artfully grouped together? Jerry's has you covered. Extra credit: there is always a cool mural to see out front.



## THE RAIL TO THE SEA <sup>16</sup>

1505 Sawyer St.

This colorful wall was created by international, now Houston-based artist Janavi M. Folmsbee. The 5,000 sq. ft. piece was inspired by her love of the sea and uses bright color and abstract marine characters as a metaphor for the diverse and vibrant arts community that is Arts District Houston.

Made possible by FreshArts and its sponsors. For information about partnerships and inclusion in future Insider's Guides contact [info@fresharts.org](mailto:info@fresharts.org).

For a more comprehensive list of artists and businesses visit [artsdistricthouston.com](http://artsdistricthouston.com) | #artsdistricthou  
Get Social @artsdistricthou



## ELDER STREET LOFTS <sup>18</sup>

1101 Elder St.

This site was originally a cemetery in the 1840s, then later the Jefferson Davis Hospital. Today this brick building, in the Classical Revival style, is an artist community housing 34 live/work spaces, views of downtown and green roof. Many of the building's original features including terrazzo floors, high ceilings, and large windows were retained in the 2005 renovation. Note: Check out Elder Street for its fascinating architectural and historic relevance. Open studios are only occasionally available.

## MEEK STUDIO & GALLERY <sup>19</sup>

1903 Spring St.

Bill Meek is an original resident of the Arts District who creates iconic glass sculptures, furniture, fountains, lighting, and custom installations. His studio is open to the public by appointment, visit [meekgallery.com](http://meekgallery.com) for more info.

## ART ALLEY AT SAWYER YARDS <sup>20</sup>

1502 Sawyer St.

Fourteen artists along with the Arts District worked tirelessly on this 800-foot-long mural. Each artist was granted 40 feet of wall space to create their pieces. Artists include Anat Ronen, Ani Varadaraju, Daniel Anguilo, Edu, Eye Sore, Jessica Rice Art, Jose Cordova, Luisa Duarte Art, Michael C. Rodriguez, Nicky Davis, Pilot FX Crew, Royal McGee Art, Tarbox, Vincent Fink. Art Alley is also home to various art markets throughout the year including Market at Sawyer Yards.

## Henderson and Kane

715 Henderson St.

Thank goodness general stores are still a thing. Henderson and Kane is the perfect mix of old fashion charm and modern amenities featuring local art and serving up artisan coffees, locally sourced produce and goods, plus a huge beer selection including growlers to go! Did we mention the BBQ? [hkgeneralstore.com](http://hkgeneralstore.com)