

Dear Mr. Winkleman,

On behalf of the Art Entrepreneurship class at Bucknell I would like to thank you for showing our class the Pajama Factory. The facilities that you have there are beautiful, and you are right when you say that there is no competition for real estate in the surrounding areas. I think that with more word of mouth business that your Pajama Factory has the ability to uplift the surrounding community of Williamsport, and that the art within your building could work with the community to create a better economy in the surrounding areas.

It was a pleasure to meet you and have the opportunity to get a personal tour of the Pajama Factory from the owner himself. Thank you so much for taking the time out of your schedule to be with our class.

The Pajama Factory is one of the most unique buildings I have stepped into. The numbers themselves don't show people how huge the place is until they get there! It was so cool to see right upon entering a hallway lit up with a small coffee shop, confectionary cake place, and more. I never would have thought of the idea of renovating an old factory building to have it be a home to all kinds of artists and small businesses, which is what makes it such an entrepreneurial feat. I commend you for taking on such a project and having such success with it already. I am sure the planned addition and renovations will take it to a whole new level, and the town of Williamsport will definitely notice it. The Pajama Factory can make a town like Williamsport come to life in regards to the arts, and I hope that the community becomes an even more integral part of your business.

It was inspirational to see the mix of culture, art, and business people have been able to create with the space and community the Pajama Factory provides. It was clear the Pajama Factory has fostered a sense of community which has allowed artists to thrive.

It is amazing what can be done with a space. The atmosphere of the factory was calm and relaxing and I was amazed at the views and spaces of the lofts and apartments that you showed us. I found the entire space beautiful and special and I think that what you are doing is really an amazing thing. Thank you so much again.

It seems that the Pajama Factory is uplifting the city, reminding the community how important art is. Thank you again for bravely taking on this challenge and doing such an excellent job in implementing it.

But I must say, I absolutely had no idea that these types of communities existed, and it was really cool to see the different studios and businesses inside the Pajama Factory. It reminded me of how we have residential colleges on campus, which is essentially a hall where everyone that lives there is either dedicated to or has an interest in something (i.e. social justice, art, environmental science). But I think we should definitely have more communities like the Pajama Factory around the country (or are there a lot more I just have not heard of yet?), whether it is for art or social justice, because I think we would benefit more as a society in the community atmosphere instead of always being separated from one another and in competition.

I strive to work in a professional community which is creative and productive, and after touring the Pajama Factory, it seems you have perfectly balanced the two.

The studio spaces are so beautiful. I loved that each hallway is lined with pieces from artist involved. There was such a sense of community, and celebration of art. I was very impressed by the individual studios we saw. Each had their own flare to them. Some were decorated with more eclectic furniture pieces, while some were more airy, allowing for the artist to paint or draw freely. Each room had their own style, yet everything tied together harmoniously.

I was particularly moved by what you said about how there are undiscovered artists in all pockets of the country, and that all it takes for them to showcase their work is knowledge of a particular event dedicated to exposure of new art work. This statement reminded me of the importance of never underestimating any area of the country or of the world that may produce great art work. I feel that there is a common misconception that the only large art climates exist in coastal cities; however, looking around at all of the stunning pieces in the Pajama Factory made by local artists made me realize that art really is everywhere. Furthermore, I think that it is very smart of you to not only focus on the Pajama Factory as a showcase for visual art, but also for fashion design and photography. I think that the influx of various types of art will attract more and more artists to the Pajama Factory, realizing the absolutely exquisite and spacious working environment that it provides.

Thanks so much again for the tour and information – I will definitely be thinking about it in the future when I try to start my own artistic business endeavor.

Sincerely,

Bucknell Class of 2017