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CATV (Community Access Television, Inc.) is now **JAM**

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CATV launches fall season under new name: JAM – Junction Arts & Media, reflecting evolving role as the Upper Valley’s community center for media arts

For immediate release: September 13, 2022

CATV kicks off a fall of immersive media arts opportunities in a new home under a new name reflecting its growth: JAM – Junction Arts & Media. JAM builds upon CATV’s trusted role as the Upper Valley’s non-profit public access media organization, now supporting local content creators across the full media spectrum and through in-person media arts exhibits, activities, and events.

CATV’s transformation received a boost in July when it exceeded its crowdfunding campaign goal of \$15,000 to earn a 2:1 match through the Vermont [ACCD’s Better Places](#) program, which aims “to create inclusive and vibrant spaces”. This grant is enabling the expansion of JAM’s offerings and new walk-in media arts space in White River Junction, VT (in the former Newberry Market). JAM is now open daily as a gathering place for the public to acquire multimedia skills, meet collaborators, be inspired by media arts installations, and connect with audiences through in-person events designed to build community through media arts.

“JAM” reflects a significant identity shift since CATV’s origins in 1992. Against the backdrop of corporate cable’s media domination, the non-profit CATV (Community Access Television, Inc.) was formed to steward two Upper Valley “PEG access” (Public, Education, and Government) cable TV channels dedicated to local free speech and transparency in government. CATV has served this mission for 30 years through continuous coverage of local government meetings, air-time for local creators, and media education programs in its service area of Hanover and Lebanon, NH and Hartford, Norwich and Hartland, VT (on cable providers Comcast and VTel). In that time, CATV has responded to the revolution in media formats and habits to serve the Upper Valley across an ever-expanding range of platforms that include web-based content streaming, a web-based On-Demand video service, YouTube, and, during the pandemic, Zoom integrations of hybrid public meetings. In the fall of 2021, CATV added podcast production capability and streaming for local creators to harness audio’s popular storytelling appeal and importance to the cultural dialogue. New podcast creators from Hartford Dismas House; indie

booksellers Norwich Bookstore, Still North, and Yankee Bookshop; and others have already leapt at the chance, with new podcasts dropping weekly on JAM's website (uvjam.org/listen).

CATV/JAM is also entering the second year of a partnership with the Briggs Opera House to support community arts performances with multimedia production and live-streaming. Rooted in aligned missions to build community through the arts, the partnership recognizes the merging of arts and media in new forms catalyzed by the pandemic. Upgrades to audio, control booth, and camera installation made by Technical Director Chico Eastridge have increased the versatility of the storied venue for artists and arts organizations, including We the People Theater, White River Indie Films Festival, Here in the Valley Musical Revue, Junction Dance Festival, JAG productions, and others in year one.

At street level in our new space, "JAM" now invites the public to come enjoy rotating in-person media arts installation exhibits, screening events, media workshops ("JAM Labs"), storytelling and scriptwriting groups, film and media contests, youth film and media programs and to check out circulating media production equipment and receive post-production support, free-of-charge. JAM Camps will return for kids over school vacations and summer break, including a recently piloted Journalism camp for high school students. Striving to foster an inclusive creative community for all Upper Valley residents through the media arts, JAM is open for walk-ins weekdays 9am-5pm and by appointment.

JAM Fall activity highlights and programming themes:

(schedule subject to change, check uvjam.org for latest)

September: *Our Town*

- **Now through Sept. 24 during walk-in hours (weekdays 9am-5pm)**, come find yourself, your community, and our shared histories in JAM's "**CATV RetroTECHtive**" **media arts exhibit** of newly digitized archival material and browse our robust collection of physical media from our first 30 years.
- **Friday, Sept. 23 5pm-7pm: JAM Launch Party** at 5 S. Main Street, 1st Floor in White River Junction, VT to celebrate our collective past and kick off the fall season.
- **Sunday, Sept. 25 2-3pm: DJ Academy Demo Class** free (ages 12+) with DJ Sean, in partnership with Upper Valley Music Center
- **Tuesday, Sept. 27 8am: AmeUP Creative Entrepreneurs Networking Coffee with Matt Dunne, founder & CEO of Center on Rural Innovation** free and open to public

October: *Timelapse*

- **Saturday, Oct. 1 6pm Media Arts Exhibit Opening: Moving in Stillness, Stillness in Moving, by Carla Kimball** runs through Oct. 22 at JAM
- **Mondays starting Oct. 3 6:30-8pm JAM Scriptwriters' Group** free and open to public

- **Tuesdays Oct. 4-25 JAM Media Lab: CAMERA, with Will Freihofer** register at uvjam.org (free waiver or discount available)
- **Wednesdays Oct. 5 through Dec. 7 3:30-5:30pm JAM Film Club** youth grades 6-12 register at uvjam.org (free waiver or discount available)
- **Friday, Oct. 7 5-7pm First Friday Music Jam** free and open to the public
- **Thursday, Oct. 20 6-7:30pm StoryJAM – Bi-monthly Storytelling Circle** free and open to public
- **Saturday, Oct. 22 10am-2pm JAM Media Lab Weekend Intensive: Directing the Actor & Camera, with Samantha Davidson Green and Richard Waterhouse** register at uvjam.org (free waiver or discount available)
- **Saturday, Oct. 29 5-7:30pm Halloween-o-thon Film Contest Showcase** enter at uvjam.org (free waiver or discount available)

November: *Drawn to You*

- **Friday, Nov. 4 4-8pm First Friday Music Jam & White River Zine and Comic Fair** in partnership with the Center for Cartoon Studies
- **Tuesdays Nov. 8-29 JAM Media Lab: SOUND, with JAM staff** register at uvjam.org (free waiver or discount available)
- **Saturday, Nov. 12 10am-2pm Kids' Animation Pop-Up** free and open to the public
- **JAM Podcast Launch Party (time/date TBD)**
- **Mondays 6:30-8pm: JAM Scriptwriters' Group**
- **Wednesdays 3:30-5:30pm: JAM Film Club**

December: *Light*

- **Friday, Dec. 2 5-7pm First Friday Music Jam**
- **Saturday, Dec. 3 10am-2pm JAM Media Lab Weekend Intensive: Painting with Light - Making Video Art & Cinema Lighting** with Chico Eastridge and other (TBD) register at uvjam.org (free waiver or discount available)
- **Mondays 6:30-8pm: JAM Scriptwriters' Group**
- **Wednesdays 3:30-5:30pm: JAM Film Club**
- **Saturday, Dec. 31 5pm-12am LIGHT River Junction** outdoors, free and open to the public

Visit: uvjam.org for more information

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Peggy Allen, CATV Board of Directors Chair

Location: JAM – Junction Arts & Media (CATV)

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