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General Economy Exquisite Exchange (G.E.E.E.)

April 8 – October 1, 2011

Big Dig Gig: Friday, May 27, 4-7 pm

Rooftop and North End Project Space

Gallery Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 10am – 8pm

Friday – Saturday: 10am – 5pm

Sunday: 12pm – 5pm



G.E.E.E. at the
Hyde Park Art
Center, 2011,
photography
courtesy of
Patrick Thornton

Chicago, IL (April 2011) – The Hyde Park Art Center and Cream Co. introduce *General Economy, Exquisite Exchange (G.E.E.E.)*: A Post Retail Shop from April 8 until October 1, 2011. *G.E.E.E.* is a public project that brings to life an alternative and sustainable currency system. Traditional neighborly exchange has become the operative legal tender and creative bartering the dominant economy.

G.E.E.E. includes a seed library, plant exchange and rooftop vegetable garden and provides a locale for the exchange of a variety of material and immaterial items: homespun, indoor and outdoor gardening materials (seeds, trellises, houseplants, etc.); immaterial support (dialogue, advice, recipes); and inanimate pleasures (collectibles and books). For example: knowledge might be exchanged for seedlings, and seeds for a good story, zinnias might be exchanged for tomatoes, and a glazed pot for some cucumbers or for a rusty but still worthy trowel. Enjoy an evolving array of plants and neighborly gifts including, during April, seeds, seedlings, houseplants, herbs, Amish Friendship Bread starter and homemade tomato soup, and, during May and June, shrubs, perennials, annuals and herbs. Visitors are invited to bring items traditionally shared with a neighbor such as plants, home-made baked goods, re-giftables, gardening books, cookbooks, and recipes.

G.E.E.E. operates on an honor system and exchanges can be made whenever the Art Center is open. Everything is available for equal exchange; items *G.E.E.E.* receives for free will be available for free including thousands of seeds donated by Seeds of Change through the Sowing Millions Project. For person-to-person exchanges, *G.E.E.E.* members will be available during April and May on Fridays and Saturdays from 11 to 4. Discover how local abundance supports a general economy. More information is available at the *G.E.E.E.* blog: <http://generaleconomyexquisiteexchange.blogspot.com/>. Questions? Plants? Contact: info@creamco.net. Special thanks to The Rebuilding Exchange and Seeds of Change.

G.E.E.E. will operate from April 8 until October 1, 2011 at the Hyde Park Art Center, 5020 South Cornell Avenue, Chicago, IL, 60615; 773.324.5520 and www.hydeparkart.org. Exhibitions are always free and open to the public.

The Hyde Park Art Center is at once an exhibition space, learning annex, community resource, and social hub for the art curious and professional artists alike -- carrying out its mission to stimulate and sustain the visual arts in Chicago. The Art Center is funded in part by the: Alphawood Foundation; Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts; Chicago Community Trust; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; David C. and Sarajeon Ruttenberg Arts Foundation; Field Foundation of Illinois; Harper Court Arts Council; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Irving Harris Foundation; Joyce Foundation; Leo S. Guthman Fund; Lloyd

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