



Design & Wine started in October 2014 as a small canvas class, traveling to homes and hosting painting parties. Owner and founder, Laura Doyen, worked to expand their offerings and now four and a half years later, their offerings include wood pallet workshops, string art, and specialty workshops. Starting with one employee, Design & Wine now employs five part-time instructors.

With the extended stay-at-home order, Design & Wine has had to work with hosts to reschedule workshops and classes as well as causing her employees to go without the supplemental income they gain from instructing at Design & Wine. Doyen described how COVID-19 has affected her business stating, "My business is all about social gathering and interacting. We host events that have anywhere from 6-32 people per class...that is \$35-\$65 per person. Our income when from a few hundred dollars an event to zero overnight."

With uncertainty around how long the stay-at-home order and social distancing will last, Design & Wine is hopeful that once restrictions are lifted people will be ready to get back in the studio to create. Doyen stated, "I think there will still be a lot of people that are fearful. I don't think it is going to happen quickly." However, despite these concerns Design & Wine has found ways to reach their customers by going online and offering take home crafting kits that are available for shipping or curbside pick-up. Scheduling future events is also available.

Wondering how you can support Design & Wine during this unprecedented time? **Do what you can.** Design & Wine offers take home kits and online classes as well as gift certificates. Doyen shared, "Even just sharing our posts help. We realize so many people are in the same situation as we are and cannot financially support small businesses. Just sharing our posts helps tremendously. We appreciate that so much!"

For more information visit

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