

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Transform1060 signs new lease for long time San Francisco kink venue

(San Francisco, California - January 1, 2022)

California public benefit corporation Transform1060, Inc. finalized a new lease for the leather, kink, and fetish community space at 1060 Folsom Street, in San Francisco’s South of Market District, taking effect on January 1, 2022. The space, previously known as “Alchemy” and later “SF Catalyst”, served as an event space serving a variety of sex-positive affinity groups for more than a decade.



(Photo: Christopher Wood, 2021.)

Transform1060’s lease is a crucial element in the transition process begun by the location’s previous managing organization, the San Francisco Bay Area Leather Alliance. In August 2021, the Alliance put forth a “request for proposals” seeking individuals or organizations willing to take over ownership and oversight of the space. The RFP included an expectation that the successful bid would include the assumption of an estimated \$68,100 in rent debt accrued during the space’s COVID closure.

On October 21, 2021, the Leather Alliance voted unanimously to accept the sole proposal, offered by a team that included members of the space’s existing operations team as well as community stakeholders invested in its future success. After the successful vote, the proposal team began the process of formalizing as Transform1060, a California public benefit corporation with a goal of certification as a federal 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

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Transform1060's newly signed lease is for both the 1060 Folsom Street space and the "Russ Street addition", an expansion into a connecting space in the same building. The Leather Alliance added the Russ Street space in 2020, early in the COVID-19 pandemic.

To mark the new ownership, the venue has been renamed "Transform1060." The name is a nod to both the previous names ("Alchemy" and "SF Catalyst"), which evoked change and transformation, and to the ownership transition process. While the ownership transfer is still being finalized between the two organizations, the lease represents significant progress in that process.

"This new lease ensures that kinky folks from all of our communities will continue to have a safe space in SF to gather, play, teach, and learn," **said team member Christopher Wood**.

"The pandemic has had a profound impact on our community's need to reconnect in person — socially and intimately. With the closure of similar spaces in the Bay Area over the past few years, 1060 Folsom Street has become even more crucial," **said team member Leigh Ann Hildebrand**, stressing the critical role that physical gathering spaces play in the health of leather and kink community members.

To assist with retiring the rent debt expediently, Transform1060 has announced a "Founding Stakeholder" capital campaign. The campaign's donation goal is \$100,000 by the end of the first quarter of 2022.

Contact:

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Further information at <http://www.transform1060.org/>.

Resources:

The San Francisco Bay Area Leather Alliance's Request for Proposals can be view via this post: <https://www.facebook.com/LeatherAlliance/posts/4394827133896346>.

Transform1060 Capital Campaign: <https://www.transform1060.org/home/donate>