

## Shopkeepers, professionals turning to live/work spaces.

By Carlos Harrison  
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Emily Michot / Miami Herald Staff

South Florida's live-work devotees are part of a growing national trend. Nationally, the 2010 American Community Survey reported that about 4.1 percent of the nation's labor force (about 5.7 million) worked at home and 2.8 percent (about 3.9 million) walked to work. That's a significant increase in the number of at-home workers over the past decade, up from 4.2 million to 5.7 million; and a small increase in the number of walkers, from 3.8 million in 2000 to 3.9 million in 2010.

Some of the best-known live-work spaces in the region came about through Artspace, a national nonprofit dedicated to creating affordable living spaces for working artists. The 37-unit Sailboat Bend Artists Lofts provides reduced-rent lofts only to residents who fall within specific income limits.

Photographer Jeremiah Jenner waited two years after applying before a unit became available. He left his crowded Coral Springs one-bedroom apartment and moved to a 1,100-square-foot loft three years ago.

"Most studios are sort of rent on top of your regular rent," he says. "It's a substantial savings for us. We can invest back into our art, buy materials."

The benefits, he says, extend far beyond the financial savings. The complex also offers a three-story gallery where the residents can display their work, and invites the public in for monthly art walks. It also puts him in the heart of a like-minded arts community.

"We're surrounded by great minds here that think alike," he says. "That's a big plus that I like. We're all on the same page. We're all musicians, artists, photographers, painters, poets — a lot of the same sort of mind-set, which is great."

[jeremiahjenner.com](http://jeremiahjenner.com)  
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Inside Jeremiah Jenner's live / work space / gallery. Photos: Jason Aponte

