ArtForce presents Art Force Academy

by Josh Blanc

Art Force has started Art Force Academy. Art Force is a premier provider of artwork services, with more than 500 completed projects placing 30,000 pieces of artwork for more than 150 clients in 42 states and Canada. Art Force (formerly known as Corporate Art Force) started in 2009 and moved to the Steven Fabrics Building in Northeast in the spring of 2010. They work with hundreds of artists, focused on healthcare, corporations and education.

The Art Force Academy has three programs: Artist Consultants, Art Enthusiasts, and Art Enthusiasts. According to the website of artforce.academy, enrollment is free for the first 200 potential art consultants, free for artist entrepreneurs during a beta-test period and always free for consumers in the Art Enthusiasts, free for artist entrepreneurs in the first 200 potential art consultants, and Art Enthusiasts.

The Art Enthusiasts program features a series of interviews with two artists each month from the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District. The interviews are also available as podcasts and many of these artists learned their craft and were inspired to create their work.

The Art Enthusiasts program offers professional advice on how to be an artist: how to approach galleries, develop portfolios, marketing, etc.

The Art Force Academy’s Art Consultant program offers a path to certification as an art consultant to help people get involved with selling artwork. With 800 artists in the Arts District, there is a need and want for art consultants. Some initial qualifications are applied. The Art Enthusiasts program is a learning community designed to fit any schedule. This program provides weekly updates on Artists of the Month, newsletters, updates, webinars. White papers, events, interviews, tutorials and resources are also available.

If sometime in the future you decide that the Art Consultant Certification or the Artist Program is a good fit for you, you can join either program and begin your training. For more information: www.artforce.academy.

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Tom Dunnwald joins Arts District Board

Tom Dunnwald describes his experience as working mostly in criminal defense law, serving as an Eastside Co-op Board member, and working with city zoning laws. He has extensive experience working with various groups of people in community organizations. Dunnwald comments, “Sustainability is a static concept. Do we always have to get bigger?” He adds that zoning laws, not ethics, rule property value. “We have a lot of powers and forces in our neighborhoods: some are very strong. We need to encourage extended engagement in the Arts District.”

Please join us in welcoming Tom Dunnwald to the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District Board of Directors. Here is the current board roster:

Josh Blanc, Chair
Heriman Miligan, Treasurer
Karen Wilcox, Secretary
Leslie Palmes-Ross, Michael Rainville, Betsy Gabber, Jennifer Young, Tom Blomquist, Tom Dunnwald, Mary Cassidy

Fringe Festival at Northeast venues

The Ritz Theatre Proscenium, Ritz Studio Theater, and Strike Theatre all will be hosting a selection of Fringe Festival shows through August 14. The non-juried, randomly selected nature of the Fringe gives new and established theater companies and individuals the opportunity to try out new work that shows last typically an hour or less. Among the titles showing in Northeast:


At the Ritz Studio Theater:

An Accidental Organist, Evil Twin, 55 Minutes of Sex, Drugs and Audience Participation: Flying Solo: A Chronicle from the Absolute at Large and Saving Our Supermarkets. Living with Roaches, No Limits, Seeing Self, The Right Words: Stories of Justice Served and Justice Thwarted, There’s No Coffee in Heaven. Vegetables Got It Easy, It’s a Man’s World, I Don’t Want to Be a Cat Woman: Relections on Human Rites of Passage.

At Strike Theater:


For the timing of shows at these locations and others around town, see www.fringefestival.org.

 ---compiled by Margo Ashmore