

Northeast Arts Insights



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Major art buildings in the district are in black, current page sponsors in red; both, in red and black icons and listing. For sponsorship info call Margo at 612-788-9003.

Candidate forums raised arts awareness

by Northeast A.D. Board Members

On the stage of the Ritz Theater six candidates for Minneapolis City Council addressed an audience of 65 on Oct. 16, and six candidates for Mayor spoke to 95 gathered Oct. 17 for questions from the arts district community.

The questions were about how to keep artist work space affordable, how, if they take office, they plan on leveraging the arts district to reach its full potential and how to support and implement Arts Action Plan 2. They told why they are running and their personal experiences with arts.

One of the values of putting on these forums for the candidates is to let them speak about their specific goals in reference to the arts community and Northeast.

The arts district has become a huge financial contributor to the city. Many recognize that but few really know how it ticks. The forum raised consciousness with the candidates that the arts district is an unrecognized tool that the city could more fully leverage.

The candidates all expressed



there is a long way to go and praised the community for its work so far. The Northeast A.D. in fact is an economic and political engine and won't allow ourselves to be overshadowed or taken for granted.

Forums like this make that clear to the candidates and future elected officials. Whereas it's easy to take the arts for granted as not a commodity, this demonstrates clearly that the opposite is true.

Mary Cassidy Holmers, Northeast resident and small business owner, said she is conflicted about the diffi-

culty of getting info that would make her "feel good about any of them," and that education and affordable housing are all issues closely connected with arts issues.

Indeed, voters would be wise to look at candidates' websites, attend other events, and read up as various publications print candidate information in the week before Nov. 7.

She's already looking to the future, that "runoff voting has diluted the power, there's not a mandate of leadership. How are we going to unify" after the election?

Debbie Woodward, for 21 years the manager of the Northrup King Building, attended both forums though she's not a resident and would not be able to vote here. She commented that through the forum she saw and met people "who have enough of a voice, and ideas, that I would like to connect with, whether or not they're elected, and help make some of these things happen."

The candidates made that connection with many deeper thoughts on how they will engage and work with the arts community. This bodes well for the Northeast A.D. and overall community that after the election we will have two strong council members and a mayor who really see the value of the arts district.

Note: The entire mayor forum can be viewed at TheUptake.org.

Photo by Damian Kussian

The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District

OPEN DISTRICT

Explore studio buildings, acquire original art, and meet the artists who make Northeast one of the top Arts Districts in the nation.

Northeast A.D.'s Premier

OPEN DISTRICT

Friday - November 3
5-10PM

Saturday - November 4
12-8PM

Sunday - November 5
12-5PM

For more info Visit:
www.NortheastMinneapolisArtsDistrict.org

Art Attack Northrup King Building
Open Casket Casket Arts Building
Art This Way Solar Arts Building
California Dreamin' California Building
Rogue Buddha Gallery 13th Ave NE

The ARTS at work

NE Calendar

One hundred fifty-five images came in response to the joint effort by the Northeast Community Development Council and the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District (Northeast A.D.) to involve artists in the Northeast Calendar. The partnership vastly increased the number compared to previous years. A jury of three Northeast artists, Nick Harper, Aldo Moroni, and Annie Hejny selected the images that represent the 14 neighborhoods.

Sneak peek: The cover image is a watercolor of 13th Avenue near the Ritz Theater.

See winning images during Open District

While the calendar is away at the printer, curious folks can get a slide show preview of the winners by stopping in to Studio 110 at the Casket Arts, 681 17th Ave. NE.

AutumNE arts show

During Open District, AutumNE, Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association's members show will be open in the 3rd Floor event space at the Solar Arts Building. People's choice voting is open, and see who the jurors chose. For gallery hours, see www.nemaa.org.

OPEN DISTRICT FALL CRAWL

NOVEMBER 2ND, 3RD, 4TH & 5TH
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711 15TH AVE. NE

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SAT 12 - 8
SUN 12 - 5

6 FLOORS OF ART IN THE HISTORIC CALIFORNIA BUILDING
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NOVEMBER 3RD-5TH

@casketArts

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