Karen Gustafson: Botany as metaphor for diversity

Karen Gustafson’s machine-embroidered drawings of plants inspired by a 2,000-year-old botanical textbook are more than mere art. The thread used in the embroidery affords the viewer a window into the past, allowing one to contemplate the evolution of life over the centuries. "Foraging for Sustenance," Gustafson’s current exhibit at the Fine Arts Center, invites the viewer to ponder the importance of plants and the ways in which they have evolved over time. The exhibit is a celebration of the beauty and diversity of plant life, and a reminder of the crucial role that plants play in sustaining life on Earth.

Tickets, $40, for First Glance, $30 for the First Glance, $20 for the Northeast Community Development Corporation’s Northeast Calendar was underway as this edition went to press. Twenty-six artists submitted more than 120 images, and 11 applied to be commissioned to illustrate the 14 neighborhoods in Northeast Minneapolis. The free calendars will be available in early November.

Northeast Calendar

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State Fair Preview

Several Northeast artists report they’ve passed the first hurdle and were asked to bring their art for in-person jurying at the fairgrounds. If the entire fair experience is not yet open, you can see the diversity of fine art submissions from all over the state at a quieter, easier to access venue this Saturday, Aug. 21.

Tickets, $40, for the First Glance, by invitation event, 5-6:30 pm are available for purchase at mistfounda-
tion.org or by the phone at 651-430-2503. There’s also a free event Aug. 21 for the general public, 7-9:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. For further information, call 651- 288-4417.