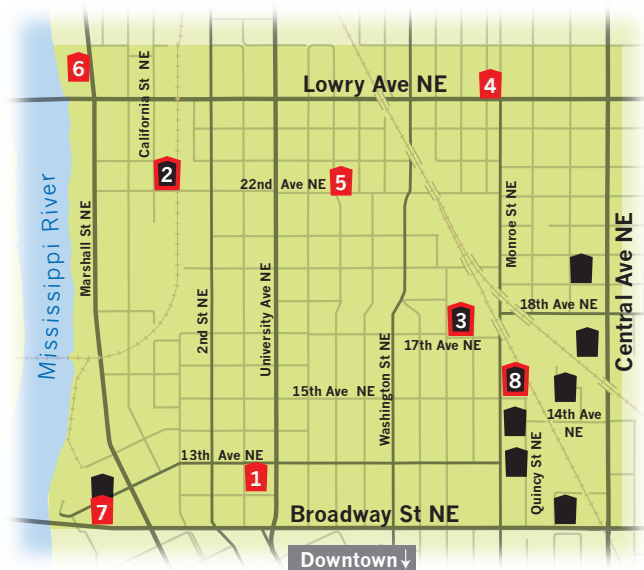




# arts INSIGHTS

A page about artists and The Arts at Work by the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District in collaboration with the Northeast.



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## NE SCULPTURE | Gallery Factory brings new energy

In an exciting new initiative taking place in the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District, a who's who in the world of art in the public realm have formed NE SCULPTURE | Gallery Factory, based at the Casket Arts Building. The steering committee consists of Alyssa Baguss, Neal Cuthbert, Ben Janssens, Mary Johnson, Ronald Kopeska, Andrew MacGuffie, Herman Milligan Jr., Peter Morales, Christine Podas-Larson, William Ransom, Peyton Scott Russell, Carissa Samaniego, Xavier Tavera, Amy Toscani & Jennifer Young.

The group's leaders tell us they were attracted to Northeast partly by the generosity of Casket Arts building owners John Kremer and Jennifer Young, but more importantly the existing network, the concentration of artists producing work in the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District.

The steering group met April 5 for a visioning session in which more than 20 career artists and long time arts advocates mapped out ambitious goals for sculpture in Northeast to be a substantial component of the Arts District, a concept that's been part of neighborhood plans, the Arts Action Plan and Central Avenue plans for many years.

This is a very welcome evolution of the Arts District. It will instantly attract and retain talent of skilled artists and art advocates. Sculpture is one of the most visible art forms in the public forum. People can see it 365 days a year in spaces all around the world.

While there are many sculptors in the Arts District, the collaboration of these artists is what is significant. Collaborating is the spirit of what created the Northeast artist community.

Equity is a big part of their discussions and NE SCULPTURE's mission. Many different voices with respect to gender, race and age were included in the process.

From their early notes an injection of excitement and experimentation is on the top of their list to accomplish. There is also a strong component of entrepreneurship and public/private partnerships. We look forward to seeing their work develop.

—by Josh Blanc, chair of the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District Board of Directors

Meet NE SCULPTURE | Gallery Factory during Art-A-Whirl® at an event called Northeast Grand Prix, at Casket Arts 'Factory' Building 1781 Jefferson St NE Friday, May 17th, 7:00 – 8:53 pm with fire performance at sunset organized and curated by Alyssa Baguss and Andrew MacGuffie, featuring their shared love of competition, spectacles and all things that make life worthwhile. Brought to you, in part, through the generous support of the California Building Company.

Northeast Grand Prix is a strange brew of ongoing amusement fea-



Photos: Group photo includes Mary Jayne Mansfield, Andrew MacGuffie, Alexandros Lindsey, Peyton Scott Russell, Peter Morales, Tasha Hock, Philippe Gallandat, Amy Toscani, Tina Tavera, Xavier Tavera, Joan Vorderbruggen, Mary Johnson, Herman Milligan, Jennifer Young, John Kremer, Alyssa Baguss and Ronald Kopeska. Holding the sword, their version of a talking stick, is Northeast resident sculptor Amy Toscani.

(Photos by Amber White)

turing multiple racetracks, parade fanfare, musical performances, sweepstakes prizes and a closing ceremony.

Marching bands include: Chaos Combat Marching Band, The Magnificent Edison High School Alumni Marching Band and the Silver Lake Symphonic Woodwinds Walking Band.

Northeast Grand Prix is accompanied by an exhibition featuring The artwork of Mary Jane Mansfield & Jennifer Nevitt in the NE Sculpture | Gallery Factory from 5:00 – 10:00 pm. Grand Prix guests are invited to stay for an evening of Art-a-Whirl events happening throughout the Casket Arts Complex. There are over 100 artists and arts-related businesses that inhabit the Arts buildings. Food is available on site by Asase YAA, offering global foods that include vegan and vegetarian options.

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## Vision Awards set for June 4

The third Bi-Annual Vision Awards is slated for June 4 at the Ritz Theater, 345 13th Ave. NE.

Presented by the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District board, the Vision Awards honor stakeholders who have provided leadership and commitment in the service of arts, artists and culture in the Arts District. Join us for an evening celebration and stay for the afterglow at Rogue Buddha Gallery.



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