

# arts INSIGHTS

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

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## July 23 Pecha Kucha asks “Are Galleries Dead?” (Not in Northeast)

Moving from a Sunday to a Tuesday, and into the Ritz Theater, the next Pecha Kucha asks the question “Are Galleries Dead,” and answers it with “Not in Northeast!” Several gallery directors have been invited to present 20 slides in 20

seconds each on how they formed, who they represent and how they survive. Discussion following, led by art collector Herman Milligan, will help inform the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District leadership and the public on what is needed to sustain a thriving gallery culture.

At one time, for example, 13th Avenue was home to several gallery venues. In the last 20 years, many have cycled out, and others have started up in the Northeast Minneapolis area. The definition of “gallery” may be constantly changing to meet consumer preferences.

Bring your questions to the Ritz Tuesday, July 23, 6 p.m. or watch for further details closer to the event date at [hatch-arts.org/pechakucha](http://hatch-arts.org/pechakucha). The free event, with refreshments, will conclude by 8 p.m. Donations (\$5 recommended) are appreciated to offset venue expenses and the Pecha Kucha license.

The Pecha Kuchas are a project of the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District’s Hatch committee, which is exploring the need for an arts center or online clearinghouse.

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## Arts District attracts thriving arts organizations

It’s been almost a decade since the American Craft Council relocated from New York City to the iconic former Grain Belt Brewery building in 2010. They’re a big deal, printing a thick, beautiful magazine for members, operating several juried craft show/sale events all over the country, and maintaining a library of slides and early works here that artists can browse for inspiration.

They heard we had an arts district, and they came. It wasn’t quite that simple, but the presence of a formal district [see map above for boundaries] has been helpful in concentrating serious arts tenants and artist-serving organizations in the buildings.

Recently, the MPLS Photo Center relocated from an industrial area of North Minneapolis, to the building at 1828 Jefferson St. NE. They are renting from a filmmaking couple, a wonderful and, we hope, enduring, fit.

The NE SCULPTURE Gallery Factory (reported on in May) holds promise as well.

While just a few blocks out of the Arts District, the well-known Circa Gallery took over what was Public Functionary’s space at 1125 Buchanan St. NE, the fourth location for Circa in their 30 years showing fine art. (Grand opening July 20, according to [www.circa-gallery.org](http://www.circa-gallery.org), and accepting submissions through June 28 for a juried exhibition, NORTH//EAST.)

Public Functionary, while considering what to do next for space, is now teaming with Leslie Barlow’s Studio 400 Collective at the Northrup King Building which features artists of color, and of indigenous backgrounds.

Even Theater Latté Da was well established elsewhere before choosing to take over the Ritz on 13th.

The density of arts and artists in and near the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District is starting to attract more talent and opportunities for art businesses to strive for success. We look forward to seeing how they participate in the Northeast arts culture and add their style to the mix.

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## Celebrating Northeast!

Representatives of Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association, Art to Change the World, and the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District were invited by the Northeaster to join the parade June 18. Above: Greg Foley, Joe Haid and Julie Burkhardt-Haid, Margo Ashmore, Barbara Bridges, Layl McDill, Sebastian Haid, Karen Kraco, Bettina Dehnhard, and Dean Trisko.

At right, Trisko practiced careening as the Art-A-Whirl tornado, and later Paul Ostrow joined and whipped up the crowd to cheer him on. (Photos by Mark Peterson) Jennifer Young and Lynn Olson, representing the two couples who received the Arts Vision Awards (below), rode in the parade as Arts Ambassadors.

**John Kremer and Jennifer Young posed with Minneapolis First Ward Council Member Kevin Reich and emcee Mike Rainville, Sr. at the Arts Vision Awards June 4. At right, Frank Stone and Lynn Olson accepted their awards, given by the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District board of directors.**

All of the speakers encouraged the audience to work together to preserve and strengthen the Arts District, Northeast and all of our assets. Theater Latté Da hosted the festivities at the Ritz, where actor/singer Rodolfo Nieto welcomed the group with an account of his introduction to and fondness for Northeast where he and his wife now live.

**Below right, Dougie Padilla gave a tribute to former First Ward Council Member Walt Dziedzic. (Photos by Damian Kussian, who also assembled a video of the Central Avenue parade - not specific to the arts <https://vimeo.com/343536228>)**

## Vision Awardees gave inspiring speeches