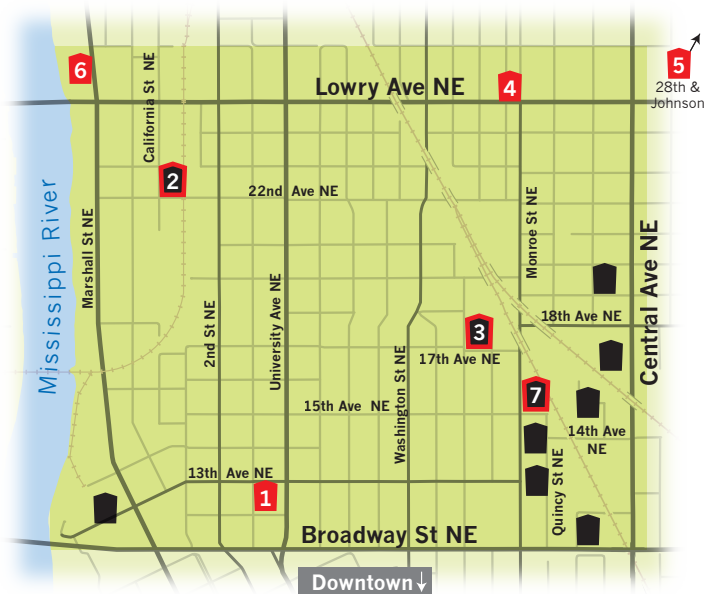




# arts INSIGHTS

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



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# Arts District artists to showcase at MSP Airport

by **Margo Ashmore**

Online submissions open August 15 for three Northeast Minneapolis Arts District exhibit opportunities at MSP International Airport.

Arts@MSP awarded the proposal sent by Arts District board member Leslie Palmer-Ross and Exhibit Coordinator Denise Tennen. Work will be on display January through December of 2021.

“Visitors to the airport may have lots of time to take in the exhibits while they wait for flights. This is a great way to invite them to include the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District in their choice of things to do while they’re here, or on their next planned trip,” said Palmer-Ross. “Offering this to the artists in the District not only concentrates the experience for the visitor, but also underscores the importance of the District’s designation.”

Arts District artists may apply to one of the two juried exhibit opportu-



nities: “Passages” or “The Art of Abstraction.” A looping slide show and materials addressing the District’s history will accompany the “Passages” exhibit in a large two-case display area in the airport’s main mall.

District artists may submit three images each for the looping slide show, subject to approval by airport management and must be appropriate for an all-ages, all-cultures audience.

The Airport Foundation will provide partial funding for the didactics, and the Arts District will be raising

funds through sponsorships to cover other expenses of the endeavor.

Co-curators who will choose the work are, for the “Passages” exhibit: Maggie Thompson and Christopheraaron Deanes. For “The Art of Abstraction” exhibit: Ta-coumba T. Aiken and Sarah Nicole Knutson.

All artists who have a studio, live, work, or have a year-round exhibit location within the boundaries of the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District (both sides of boundary streets included) are eligible. Boundaries are Broadway to 26th Ave. NE, Central Avenue to Marshall Street NE (the Mississippi River).

Submissions are due September 15, 2020. There is no fee to apply. Submission criteria and instructions are available now at <https://northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org/programs/airport-exhibits/>

Contact email: [airport@northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org](mailto:airport@northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org).

## 101+ views, voices, perspectives

by **Josh Blanc**

The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District e-newsletter passed 100 editions last month. Since 2012 about a dozen writers, poets and reporters have contributed material about artists and their experiences in the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District. About 240 individuals and institutions have been mentioned or profiled.

The goal has been to get the broadest perspective to describe what artists create, build and think about. For example: In September 2017, Aldo Moroni wrote about offensive monuments being torn down and his perspective on how to handle the issues at stake.

Over the years we have profiled mid-career and full career artists that are making big impacts in society. Recently, artists Leslie Barlow, Peyton Scott Russell, Mary Johnson and artists of the Northeast Sculpture|Gallery Factory have made international news with their art in context of the coronavirus pandemic and the uprising after George Floyd’s death.

Arts District writers have learned and shared information about city government and how artists can

have a voice in issues that they want and need to understand; gentrification, political forums, finding resources in the pandemic, to name a few. We highlighted a partnership with the Chamber of Commerce studying the impacts of artists in the community.

The writers have found and profiled accomplished artists and told their stories but there are many more that need to be highlighted.

Our partnership with the Northeaster newspaper, the Arts Insights page since 2016 has helped accelerate our potential audience to over 50,000 people monthly. The next stage needs an even larger selection of artists and community members participating, to get a more nuanced perspective of what’s happening in our arts community. We are looking for writers, videographers, poets, artists who have something to say and cultural community members wanting to contribute. Are we missing a perspective that you think should be written about?

If you are interested in writing an article, please contact us at: [info@northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org](mailto:info@northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org)

by **Northeast CDC**

The call for art is open for the 2021 Northeast Calendar, coordinated by the Northeast Community Development Corporation. Images are sought that represent the 14 Northeast neighborhoods. The deadline is Sept. 10.

An image may be representative of a neighborhood simply due to the artist living or working in that neigh-

borhood, or it can be a landmark.

“We are looking for active, colorful, beautiful and/or funny images that bring cheer and a feeling of togetherness, community,” organizers said in a news release. “We encourage active images of people: Photographs of people who are readily recognizable should be accompanied by a release from the subjects.”

Thirteen images will be chosen for the months Jan. 2021-Jan. 2022, each for \$200, and one for the cover, \$400. Images will be juried by independent professionals. The calendar will be designed by graphic artist Leann Johnson. Submission criteria and procedure: [northeastcdc.org](http://northeastcdc.org).

For sponsor/ad info, contact Dawn Williams 612-363-5990.

# NEMAA 10x10 going virtual

from **NEMAA news release**

All the fun, without the heat... Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association’s 10 x 10 Online Shop will be launched to the public Saturday, Sept. 26 at 5 p.m. This virtual event will serve as both a fundraiser for NEMAA as well as a promotional and sales opportunity for NEMAA artists who donate work.

Artists may donate work through September 16, and those who donate before August 16 get first priority to appear in publicity.

In keeping with the fun, mysterious nature of last year’s show,



all available artwork will be initially displayed anonymously and available for purchase for \$35. Once a piece is purchased, it will be marked “sold” and the artist’s name and link to their [artawhirl.org](http://artawhirl.org) shop/profile will appear, directing viewers that like

the work to explore and potentially purchase more of the artist’s work from their own site. Buyer information will be shared with the artist.

Wet Paint is donating 10 x 10-inch canvas panels, wood panels, and watercolor paper to NEMAA artists creating work for 10 x 10 until August 16 (one month before deadline). Monday – Friday, 10am – 4pm

Questions? Read the FAQs in the call for art, posted on NEMAA.org under 10x10, or email [nemaa10x10@nemaa.org](mailto:nemaa10x10@nemaa.org).

# Social Justice Billboard Project launches

by **NE Sculpture|Gallery Factory**

The first three works of the Social Justice Billboard Project are up. Artworks by William Ransom, Peyton Scott Russell and Melodee Strong are viewable on the NE Sculpture|Gallery Factory Instagram and Facebook, or in person at the vigil site on 38th and Chicago Ave., Minneapolis, MN.

“A big thank you to all who have supported the Project so far by donating or sharing the information with their communities. The SJBG GoFundMe has raised over \$12,000, enough for a year-long payment for one billboard. We anticipate that the installation of these first three artworks will keep up the momentum! We’re still working on making to our goal of \$33,300 to cover rental, installation, and artist honorarium for all three billboards for an entire year.”

The Social Justice Billboard Project is devised to elevate the voices and artwork of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) artists. Two of the rented billboards are on top of the Cup Foods; the third is diagonal-

ly across the square. The aspiration is to fund these three billboards for one year, with three participating artists rotating every three months for a total of 12 large-scale works by 12 BIPOC artists.

NE Sculpture|Gallery Factory needs assistance to support the full year of usage for all three billboards. Support from individual patrons, foundations and businesses is welcome on the SJBG GoFundMe page. “No donation is too small, and if excess funds are raised we will extend the program for as long as possible.”

**Photo: Melodee Strong, with her billboard (on the right).**



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