In the works: Incorporating more art in the Arts District

Thanks to artful neighborhood people, artists, developers have contacted the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District and related entities more in the last couple of years than in the previous 20 years, looking for advice on how to incorporate art into their buildings and grounds. Planned into a development, the surfaces of common spaces, fences, benches and railings, bike racks and trash containers can be supplied by local makers, often for the same or similar price to standard-issue or imported designs.

Sculpture on site and wall art inside invites calm, pride, creativity and inspiration for residents. We hope that as the initial wave of building such as Hook & Ladder, the Huxley and Timber & Tread mature, they will share positive data about retention of renters.

To accommodate questions from neighborhood groups and future developers (while still holding out to not lose industrial property that can be used for art), the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District is developing a list of tips, such as 1-3% of a construction budget be dedicated to art, including a local selection process.

Northeast Calendar

A quick reminder to photographers, artists and dabblers. September 12, 11:59 p.m. is the deadline for submitting images to be considered for the Northeast Calendar. You are paid for your work $200 per image if selected. Full submission guidelines are at https://northeastmplsartdistrict.org/archives/ne-calendar/

Murals bring Arts District, Northeast to life

by Margo Ashmore

Artists Gustavo Lira (left, in photo above) and Victor Yepez (right) stood with Solar Arts Building manager Mike Schardin prior to cutting a ribbon for the mural that graces the back of the Solar Arts Building at 711 15th Ave. NE. They described it as meant for community members of all ages to enjoy. Rodrigo Oñate, also known as Roco Drilo, designed the piece.

Note that the yellow spot at University and 13th Avenues represents the Ritz Theater, home of Theater Latté Da. The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District is home to many kinds of arts, visual and performance. Niemeyer found that this area is unique in that most other districts are oriented to tourism and consumer experience, while Northeast celebrates primarily the production of art.

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Dona Bruni show at Flanders

Douglas Flanders & Associates presents a solo exhibition by Donna Bruni, of local and international acclaim, through Sept. 25, 2021. She is based in the California Building. The gallery is open Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at 818 W Lake Street, next to Bryant Lake Bowl. The entire show can be viewed in-person or online at flandersart.com.

Bruni’s work is influenced by the ever-present movement of nature. This Summer Solstice Series marks the return of light, as the world moved through many months and seasons of COVID isolation and uncertainty. The paintings explore the idea of vertical landscape, earth’s perpetual movement and changing perspective. Through use of light, color, shapes and forms on canvas. The series created by ancient cultures is an example of this.

The shortest day of the year represents the continual journey we travel from darkness to light, as the sun reaches its most northern position in the sky. The show is free, open to, and appropriate for, everyone of all ages. All are encouraged to wear a mask. All work is available to purchase online.

Dona Bruni show at Flanders

At Dawn by Donna Bruni, oil on custom- built canvas, 48x54x1.5