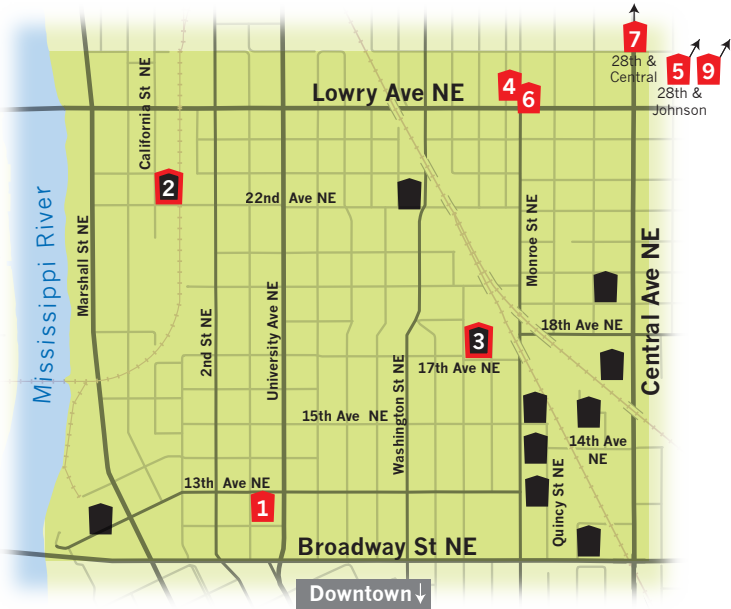




# arts INSIGHTS

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



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## Highlights:

- Selected in March for the honor of making the Minnesota State Fair commemorative poster, Leslie Barlow unveiled her work June 9, 2022. The happy image (detail at right), actually a collage of images upon closer inspection, depicts a family of color having fun at the midway, with reflected pinks and greens of neon lights giving it a cosmic feeling. Find links to related content on north eastminneapolisartsdistrict.org.
- Images are needed for the 2023 Northeast Calendar, deadline September 1, 2022, 11:59 p.m.
- For full submission guidelines, go to <https://tinyurl.com/2023ArtCall>. \$200 and \$400 awards!
- The new Chroma exhibit at the MSP International Airport shows a progression of colors, from the blues and purples eventually through a series of earth tones and red (or vice versa). If you're traveling between now and December 2022 you can see it at MSP Terminal 1 along the



Concourse C Art Gallery in five display cases tied together with graphics outlining the arts district.

Exhibit coordinator Mike Curran made a video of the finished display, linked here: [https://www.instagram.com/p/CejahXuJx\\_F/](https://www.instagram.com/p/CejahXuJx_F/) or at [www.northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org](http://www.northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org).

- Georgette Sosin and Aldo Moroni, two art giants in their day, passed away during the winter when COVID concerns made the planning of gatherings ill-advised. Recently, friends and family of each held celebrations of their lives. Profiles are linked on the Arts District website.
- In just a few days, results will be announced in the USA Today 10Best Travel Awards for Best Arts District. Northeast ranked consistently high thanks to dedicated voting by all sorts of folks. Whatever the outcome, your attention and support are much appreciated!

# More locations, artists announced in Mural Central project

No matter which way you travel Central Avenue, between 23rd and 26th avenues NE, you'll see fresh mural work. By now, we're all familiar with the enormous mural on the north side of the Eastside Food Cooperative at 2551 Central Ave. painted by Four Story Collective and Creatives After Curfew. (We would love to have a nod to the Arts District at all major entry points. This is a great start.)

The newest piece is on the south side of 2300 Central.

From a news release: The Mural Central collaboration brings artists and local business owners together to install murals in the Central Avenue Cultural District.

Mural Central is a project that brings artists and business together to enhance the vibrancy of the Central Avenue Cultural District through artistic storytelling. This unique collaboration will result in seven initial mural installations between 26th Avenue and 18th Avenue during the summer months of 2022.

Artists were selected from over fifty responses to a Request for Qualifications released in late winter. Artists were asked to submit portfolios and share their connections to Northeast Minneapolis. Muralists were selected by a committee of artists, members of corridor adjacent neighborhoods, and students from Edison High School's IB Arts program.

Selected artists and business/property owners were then matched



based on a variety of factors including artist medium and expertise, mural surfaces and the potential scale of the project, as well as alignment with the business owner's vision.

Witt Siasoco, Leslie Barlow, Hibaaq Ibrahim, Martzia Thomtez, Jordan Hamilton, Alex Smith, Silent Fox, Maiya Lea Hartman, Reggie LeFlore, Noah Lawrence Holder, Philipo Dyauli, Bo Young Anh, Jordyn Brennan, Biafra & Wundr, Gustavo Lira, Jon King, and Victor Yopez are the artists collaborating with Central Avenue business partners Eastside Food Co-op, Football Pizza, Recovery Bike, Central Ave

Liquors, Momo Sushi, The Mill, Cornerstone Studios and Pillar Forum Cafe.

Mural Central is funded by a grant from the City of Minneapolis' Great Streets Business District program, with supplemental financial support from local businesses. The project is administered and supported by the Northeast Minneapolis Chamber, Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association (NEMAA) and Public Functionary. Read more about the partners at [northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org](http://northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org).

(Mural photos by Margo Ashmore)

# 2040 Plan halted, what's next?

by Josh Blanc

A recent lawsuit stopped the implementation of Minneapolis' 2040 Comprehensive Plan, and it's not clear yet whether officials will contest the ruling or determine the plan's environmental impacts – the curve ball that this suit threw. In either case, it'll take time.

The plan's intent, in part, was to promote density, therefore walkability and less dependence on cars. But it also emphasized accommodating multi-family rental housing, which works against another priority, said Carol Becker in a letter published in the Star Tribune newspaper June 20, 2022.

Becker, now a private citizen, served from 2006 to 2021 on the city's Board of Estimate and Taxation, and has worked as an analyst for governmentals including the city. She suggests (paraphrasing here) that the pandemic and the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd have changed major assumptions about the city and what should be important in society. Therefore, a different plan "based on reality" is needed. For example, home ownership, not rental, is a key wealth-building tool that should be made more, not less, available to people of color.



Becker writes: "The existing 2040 Plan presumes the city will grow by one-third over the next 20 years, more than three times as much as the Metropolitan Council projects. It is absurd to think that a fully built city would grow that fast, and that bad assumption drives other bad policies. The new plan needs to be based on accommodating 8.5% more people over 20 years, as the Met Council projects." We agree, this warrants a closer look.

Before the lawsuit, Northeast Minneapolis Arts District representatives started working with City Council Members Elliott Payne and Michael Rainville and city staff to

mitigate the potential effects of the 2040 Plan on industrial land now in use for the arts. We believe they agree in principle that existing arts buildings should be preserved, but we still fear that existing arts buildings and businesses will be squeezed out by housing being built in too-close proximity.

City staff have stated that land zoned "production mixed use" is targeted for housing development. They were hoping we would easily agree with having a (small) percentage of each new development's space being designated for makers. We've offered some nuanced ideas that we hope will help everyone.

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