Greetings!
Welcome to In the District: news from the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District. November is the start of the Fall art event season. Lots of performances, Artist talks, Art Crawls, and First Thursdays. Below are some of the big highlights not to be missed.
As we finish up 2016 a lot has been accomplished behind the scenes to setting up the structure of a healthy and sustainable arts district. One of those accomplishments has been the development of a strong diverse board of voices and skills to guide the decision making process to effectively advocate for the artists in the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District.
There is a lot to do in the coming year. We hope as a board we are able to inspire and connect the art community to work more in tangent with the whole community. There are many complicated and challenging issues in front of us. The more we work together to develop a consistent powerful message we will see tangible results from our advocacy.

Josh Blanc

Can SNO Help Artists?
by Joy Smallfield
As president of Sheridan Neighborhood I have seen and been part of the changes you can impart in your neighborhood and in the larger community you live and work within by getting involved at the local level. Through Sheridan we have helped non-profits, offered...
Fix-N-Paint forgivable matching loans, offered low interest loans to home owners and businesses, and been a key player in the development along the river including The Sheridan Memorial Park amongst many other things. It is surprising how much influence community members have when they show up for the conversation. Right now is a great time to become involved in Sheridan. Sheridan is in the initial stages of developing a community participation program through our Community Development Committee (CDC). Our goal is to reach out to members of the community that have typically been underrepresented within our organization, this includes artists.

Considering we are part of a larger art community, your voice has been underrepresented. Now is the time to help us direct funds from the city to programs that can promote a larger portion of our community. We are all volunteers which means the larger number of people who show up to guide our goals, the larger number of people we can positively affect. There may be ways to guide money towards programs that promote and assist artists. Unless we know what you need it is hard to develop objectives and programs that would benefit you.

A place to start would be to look at our small area plan at [http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/projects/sheridanplan](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/projects/sheridanplan). Here, you will find the basic guidelines set forth to steer our future development in Sheridan. Currently, the CDC group meets once a month. Going forward, there will be additional time doing the outreach and developing the comprehensive plan. Those interested please contact me, Joy at sno@sheridanneighborhood.org or contact Karen Bernthal CDC chair at platatoe@mac.com.

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**Nicholas Harper Joins Arts District Board**

Nicholas Harper has been voted on to the Northeast Minneapolis Art District board. He is currently the third artist on the board of ten members. The board has focused on finding voices and strong personalities to lead the Arts District through its next phase of development.

Nicholas Harper

In 1999 Harper set out to open an art gallery, The Rogue Buddha, to facilitate a cross-disciplinary exhibition program that combined two and three-dimensional exhibits with dance, theater, film, music and the literary arts. Over the past 15 years, while continuing to own and operate the Rogue Buddha Gallery, Harper continues to expand upon his personal artistic repertoire. Harper has exhibited throughout the country and is collected internationally in both private and public collections. He has appeared in numerous publications, including CNN, where he was named as an artist to watch. We look forward to his contribution to the arts district board and community.
Call for Writers

Christi Furnas

The Art District is looking for voices to describe the arts district. With 600 - 800 artist creating and roaming around the district we want to document those stories and adventures. The art district does pay a small stipend $25 for stories used in the newsletter. Please contact us if you are interested and we can give you the parameters.

Three Main Goals
1. Continue to discuss who we are as a community.
2. Continue to define the vision of the next 10 to 15 years, in order to drive the decision making.
3. Start a framework on how we can finance the goals of the district. This goal is only possible to discuss if the other two goals can be met.

Recent studies to consider reading:

1. The Creative Vitality Index 2014 Update. Click to read.
2. Arts Districts & Economic Development study. Click to read.
3. The Minneapolis Creative Index 2013 Report. Click to read.
5. Take the survey for the CREATIVE MINNESOTA ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY OF MINNESOTA'S ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS http://creativemn.org

The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District is comprised of interested volunteer community members, and is fiscally managed by the Northeast Community Development Corporation (NECDC). Additional support has been provided by Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association (NEMAA), Clay Squared to Infinity.

Want to get involved? Contact us