



News from the District

March 2018

Issue: 71

Greetings!

Welcome to In the District: news from the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District.

Hatch: A Creative Art Center

-by Malcom Potek

"If I cannot dictate the conditions of my labor, I will henceforth cease to work" - thanks Fry-pan Jack, something to work toward.

The problem is, for most artists, the ability to dictate our conditions often stinks. We need help. From patrons and supporters, from neighbors, from family and friends. We work at our best when we bring our best to each other. Hatch, a creative art center, looks to provide that connection and create space for dedicated artists and collaborators. Our first goal is to create a virtual portal to describe what opportunities exist in the District. If this portal proves useful, a proof of concept would be established and the development of a physical center would begin. This is a work in progress, and certainly as such, we want your input.



The Hatch concept grew from the public forum the Arts District board held in 2016. "Another meeting" does not creatively engage this discussion, so the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District's Hatch committee is hosting a PechaKucha, which is a fast-paced presentation. Each committee member will present their artistic selves and what drives their Hatch participation in a rapid-display slide presentation of about 20 slides in 6 minutes. The hope is to encourage interest and dialogue between all those who attend.

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Check the Arts District Calendar for events -

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If you teach classes, or courses, there are committee members working to curate certified course work in the Arts District. If you are a student, how and what would you like to learn? Members are working on online platforms that allow teaching artists and lecturers to post events and get paid when they sell seats. If you are interested in gallery space, lectures, posting artist classifieds, professional and instructional critique, members are working on it. We hope to create real tools with sustainability as a guiding principle. Friends, now is our time. Show up to the PechaKucha. Participate in the discussion and help sculpt a developing arts economy.

PechaKucha

hosted by [Rogue Buddha Gallery](#)
and Creative Art Center in action: Hatch
357 13th Ave NE, Mpls. MN 55413
Sunday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Important Grain Belt Redevelopment Open House - March 8th

Last fall, the Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Grain Belt Riverfront Redevelopment Area, which is in between Marshall Ave. NE and the river between 13th & 14th Aves. NE. CPED received three proposals, and City staff are in the process of evaluating those proposals in a group that includes Council member Steve Fletcher and a representative from Sheridan Neighborhood Organization. These proposals are still in a conceptual phase, and the final project design will undoubtedly be different from these, regardless of which developer is chosen.



Grain Belt Arial View

Please join council member Steve Fletcher and CPED staff for an Open House on Thursday, March 8 to share your feedback and ideas about this project and the three concept proposals that the City has received.
WHAT: Grain Belt Redevelopment Open House
WHEN: Thursday, March 8th from 5:30 - 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: The Food Building, 1401 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413

[Click here to RSVP](#)

After this Open House, City staff will meet again and make a recommendation on a developer for the City to enter into exclusive negotiations with regarding this project, based on their proposal. Once they make that recommendation, there will be a 45-day public comment period before the City Council acts on that recommendation.

Artists Purchase Building in Arts District



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The Grapevine

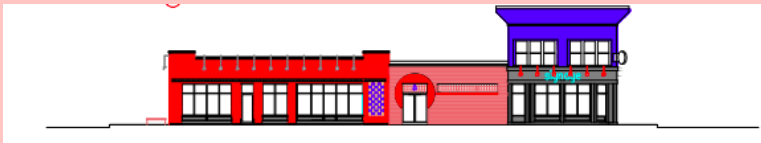
Closing of building at Sunrise Bank

Layl McDill, Josh Blanc, Kara Van Wyk, Malcom Potek, Jennifer Young and David Scott

On February 16th, Arts District Artists Josh Blanc, Layl McDill, Malcom Potek and Kara Van Wyk closed on the purchase of the now-derelict buildings at 695-699 Lowry (at Monroe St. NE). They will renovate the space for their art studio businesses (Clay Squared to Infinity and Potek Glass), art studio and retail rental space will be available. Jennifer Young and John Kramer will handle the leasing. Call 612-788-5551 for more info



Currently what it looks like



Architectural drawing sneak peak of what it is coming

Huonder's tale of NE transformation

by Michael Tolan

The following are excerpts from a story by Michael Tolan in his [Logan Park asset mapping project](#). The grittiness acts as a filter, and fosters an environment of independence and innovation. It has afforded Northeasters the opportunity to fly under the radar and create a community according to the standards of flexibility and necessity, rather than permits and regulations. The [Q.ama Buildings](#) owner, Jono Query, tries to maintain that spirit of freedom at least within his walls.



Q.ama Building

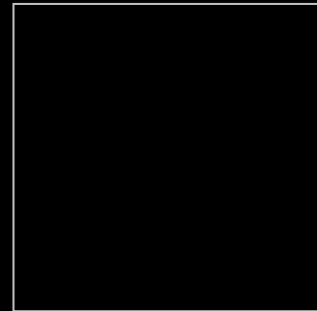
Anthony Huonder is a local potter who operates [Ash Pottery](#) at the



In case you missed it Arts Insights page in the Northeaster?
[Click here to read](#)

CALENDAR

Featured Events



Q.arma Building. While in high school, he would visit the stretch of Quincy Street NE between 15th Ave. and Broadway with friends and hang out in what's now the Q.arma Building. Tolan interviewed Huonder. Much of the time, the artistic interaction yields a tangible product or a collaborative project. But the dense concentration of artists in one area also produces intangible benefits through serendipitous interactions and day-to-day chit-chat: "Sometimes it's just the brainstorming you can have because I have this set of knowledge from my existence and my craft, and somebody else has their own, and I don't know anything about it. Through random conversations, I'll have an epiphany, or vice versa," Huonder said.



Those relationships, he believes, have been integral to the identity of Northeast. Whether it's his landlord, the barista at Matchbox Coffee, or the bartender at the 331 Club, he values seeing and forming connections with the people who run the community institutions. "The more you like them, the more you want to support whatever they're doing," he said. "That was part of the initial success within the neighborhood. When something started, you knew who started it, so you really wanted to support them, and so you spread the word and it got out there far and wide, and that brought in more people." As someone who's been coming to Northeast for roughly two decades, Huonder has been able to watch the transformation of the neighborhood. It was sad, he said, to see places bulldozed and bought out and evicted because of their own success. "Those pioneers are being priced out of the area they helped create."

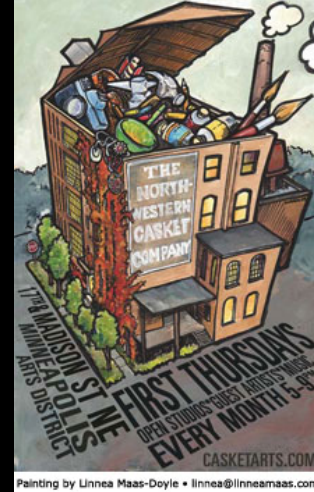
Just as much as he lamented the current condition in Northeast, he was quick to acknowledge the contradiction in wanting a place to remain a hidden gem forever while simultaneously wanting it to succeed. He also recognized his role in it: "Whoever was here before me, they probably didn't want to leave. And then they got priced out and I stepped in. And then I'm going to get priced out and someone else will step in."



Anthony Houder

"Whether it's me or somebody else, it doesn't matter which specific person it is, it's just that they have those kinds of ambitions and that kind of spirit," he said. "That was the spirit of Northeast. People were engaged in what they were doing and getting good at it and also using it to help the one next to them get better at what they're doing."

Three Main Goals



Casket Cinema

rosalux gallery



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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:

The Arts at Work.

1. [The Creative Vitality Index 2015 Update. Click to read.](#)
2. [The Creative Vitality Index 2014 Update. Click to read.](#)
3. [Arts Districts & Economic Development study. Click to read.](#)
4. [The Minneapolis Creative Index 2013 Report. Click to read.](#)
5. [Arts Impact Survey & Report on Arts Activity within the District \(2013\). Click to read](#)

The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District & the Arts District Committee is an outcome of the Arts Action Plan.

"The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District Committee 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](#)