

December 2018

Issue: 80

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

2018 Art Wrap Up

A lot of big moments came in 2018 in the Arts District. Here are some highlights

Development in the Arts District- Artists and community members fought back on the Grain Belt development and got politicians and developers to listen to their concerns. This was a successful campaign that has led to new conversations about better development of what artists would like to see happen in the Arts District.



Hatch and Pecha Kuchas take off - The committee of Hatch working on the viability of an Art Center landed a program that has caught some big attention this year. Bringing in new voices and outreach to artists, developers, community members, parents and politicians.

Four artist purchase their own building in the Arts District. Making a stake for the future of artists in the district.

Neighborhood groups in 2018 saw artists re-

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Check the Arts District Calendar for events -

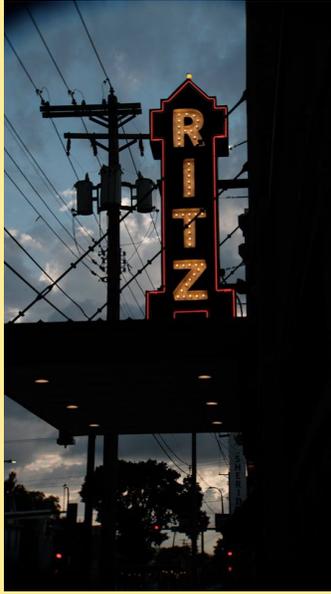
or add your District event by clicking here



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engage and connecting with the neighborhood groups throughout the Arts District. The eleven neighborhood groups are a cornerstone alliance that artists needed to engage. The process has started and we hope for more in 2019.

Forums at the Ritz were expressive moments where artists got to hear and reflect on what everyone is thinking and hone our goals so we are on the same page. City Council members participated and voices from all over the Arts District attended. It was a great success with the Ritz. Regular scheduled Forums are in development for 2019.



Comprehensive plan 2040 was the community topic in 2019. Artists played a leadership role in submitting ideas of what they want the city to look like in the next plan. Artist power resides in the quantity of artists speaking in one voice. We learned this during the voting for Best Arts District contest in 2017. If we want change or we want certain things to continue, engagement of those involved is going to be our best tool in our tool box.

NEMAA hits some bumps in the road. They are regrouping and trying to reorganize AAW and make amends with the artists and community members. We are hoping for good progress in 2019.

Photo Center moving to the Arts District



The Mpls Photo Center is moving from 2400 North 2nd St. to 1828

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Jefferson St. NE where their website says they will be back in operation with studio rentals, digital lab, digital printing, exhibits, classes and workshops Wednesday, Nov. 21. New black-and-white darkrooms are slated to open December 15. The Mpls Photo Center is a gallery open to the public as well as a place for classes and cooperative creative space for members and general public. Watch for updates at www.mplsphotocenter.com, call 612-643-3511 or email info@mplsphotocenter.com.



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

NE sculptor Kordula Coleman's art figures prominently in La Doña Cervecería

by Cynthia Sowden

A Mexican Day of the Dead ceramic figure by a German sculptor who lives in Northeast's Waite Park neighborhood is the centerpiece of Minnesota's first Latin American brewery in the North Loop, La Doña Cervecería, 124 Fremont Ave. N. Kordula Coleman was commissioned in May to produce the sculpture which now adorns the brewery's taproom. It was a challenge for the sculptor, who had attained journeyman status in a clay studio in Germany but had never produced anything as big as the piece for La Doña. "That work was for the masters," she said.



Blame it on James Bond. She was inspired by the 2015 Bond movie, "Spectre," which features a Día de los Muertos parade. "I was mesmerized by the figures and captivated by the colors," she said. "I like the strong colors and the ritualistic aspects of the holiday." She said she appreciates how Mexican people "come closer to the spirit of the dead through photos, candles and ritual. That really resonates with me.

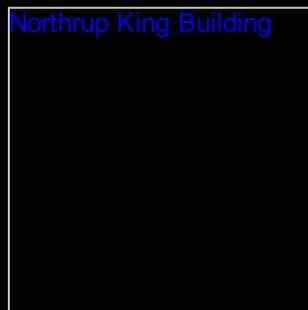
" She made a small Day of the Dead piece and sold it to someone. Soon, she was contacted by the brewery via Facebook Messenger. Could she re-create her piece on a larger scale for display at the brewery? "I was really excited," she said. "[The commission] sounded too good to be true. It was a dream job."

It was a dream with some nightmare moments. It took three months of hard work to produce the piece, which stands 32 inches tall. Throughout the process, Coleman battled summer humidity, which made the clay tend to slump and increased the risk of cracking during firing. "I worried about it keeping its shape," she said. "I could barely lift the skirt."

CALENDAR

Featured Events

Northrup King Building



OPEN STUDIOS | 11 to 4
Second Saturdays

california
building

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californiabuilding.com





The making of La Dona

It weighed 30 or 40 lbs. when it was wet. Now it's much lighter." She also had to take care when she checked the fit of the torso on the skirt, again for fear of cracking. "I groped my way along," she said. "I wondered, can I really do this? I was very relieved when everything came out of the firing kiln and it had not cracked or exploded."

The result is La Doña (Spanish for "lady"), a Latina with flowing black hair and a sad expression behind her Día de los Muertos mask. La Doña Cerveceria is a public benefit corporation, similar to Finnegan's in the Elliott Park neighborhood. Although it is a for-profit operation, it is also legally obligated to consider the business' impact on the community and society as a whole. The owner, Sergio Manancero, the son of Uruguayan immigrants, is intent on bringing the craft brewing experience to the Hispanic community.



Coleman attended the cervecería's grand opening in October and said the place was filled with people of all ages, from children to grandparents, dancing and mingling and snapping

First Thursdays

Casket Cinema

rosalux gallery



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pictures of her creation. She said she often sees Instagram messages with La Doña in the background.

Coleman moved from Cologne, Germany, to the U.S. with her husband Marc in 2000. She said she is honored to support the Hispanic community with her work.

Artists Who Teach January's Pecha Kucha

Artists Who Teach January's Pecha Kucha will feature Artists who Teach. This fastpaced format has artists show and explain work in 20 slides 20 seconds each, followed by audience discussion and questions. ArtForce will host the event Sunday, Jan. 20, 6 p.m. at 1400 Van Buren St. NE. The Pecha Kuchas are a signature event of the district's HATCH committee, dedicated to assessing and filling the need for an arts center, whether in a physical space or online. For example, is there demand for centralized advertising and sign up for arts classes? To express interest, go to hatcharts.org, or subscribe to the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District's e-newsletter at www.northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org and use its link.

Art Calendars

The free Northeast Calendars are available to pick up at businesses listed at www.northeastcdc.org.

Northeast Community Development Corporation, fiscal agent for the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District, worked through independent local jurors to choose images representing

Northeast Minneapolis' 14 neighborhoods. The piece covers December 2018 to January 2020. The artists: Josh Mortenson (2), Mark Peterson, Michael Anderson, Karen Kraco (2), Jason Jenkins, Loretta Bebeau, Alex Schlee, August Schwerdfeger, Kara van Wyk (cover), Patricia Canney, James Nutt, Jonathan Mortenson. The quality and diversity of images and art mediums is spectacular, and a matte finish makes it writeable.



Three Main Goals of Arts District Planning

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.



The Arts at Work.

Recent studies to consider

reading:

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, Northeaster News, California Building Co.

Want to get involved? [Contact us](#)