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

NE SCULPTURE | Gallery Factory brings new energy

-by Josh Blanc, chair of the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District Board of Directors

An exciting new initiative is taking place in the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District. A "Who's Who" in the world of art in the public realm has formed NE SCULPTURE | Gallery Factory, based at the Casket Arts Building. The steering committee consists of Alyssa Baguss, Neal Cuthbert, Ben Janssens, Mary Johnson, Ronald Kopeska, Andrew MacGuffie, Herman Milligan Jr., Peter Morales, Christine Podas-Larson, William Ransom, Peyton Scott Russell, Carissa Samaniego, Xavier Tavera, Amy Toscani and Jennifer Young.

The group's leaders tell us they were attracted to Northeast partly by the generosity of landlords John Kremer and Jennifer Young, but more importantly by the existing network and concentration of artists producing work in the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District.
Amy Toscani

The steering committee met April 5 for a visioning session. More than 20 career artists and long-time arts advocates mapped out ambitious goals for sculpture to become a substantial component of the Northeast Arts District: to develop a concept that’s been part of neighborhood plans, the Arts Action Plan and Central Avenue plans for many years.

NE SCULPTURE | Gallery Factory is a very welcome evolution in the Arts District. Collaborating is the spirit of what created the Northeast artist community. The vision of the consortium is to attract and retain skilled sculptors and art champions who advocate for sculpture as one of the most visible art forms in the public forum.

Equity and diversity is a big part of NE SCULPTURE’s mission. An injection of excitement and experimentation is on the top of their list to accomplish. There is also a strong component of entrepreneurship and public/private partnerships. We look forward to seeing their work develop.

Vision Awards June 4th. You are Invited

Interested in being a sponsor? Contact us
YOU ARE INVITED to the 3rd Biannual Vision Awards on June 4th at The Ritz Theater, 345 13th Ave NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413. Doors open at 5:30pm. Presentations and Awards 6:00 - 7:30. Everyone is welcome to join the Afterglow hosted at Rogue Buddha Gallery following the Awards celebration. To RSVP click here.

The Vision Awards honor those who have provided leadership and commitment to create the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District, and those who continue working to support artists and sustain their livelihoods. The Vision Awards acknowledge the artists and business owners who came together—many who had been gentrified out of other Minneapolis neighborhoods—to work with politicians and city leaders, stressing the economic and philanthropic values that a thriving, creative sector provides. The Vision Awards celebrate The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District's uniqueness, its history and its future.

We need volunteers to help get the word out and assist District board members on the night of the program. We need basic event planning help; communication, signage, media relations, and social media posts. To show your support and share your skills please contact Josh Blanc.

Meet NE SCULPTURE I Gallery Factory during Art-A-Whirl®

By Alyssa Baguss
Meet NE SCULPTURE I Gallery Factory during Art-A-Whirl® at an event called Northeast Grand Prix, at Casket Arts 'Factory' Building 1781 Jefferson St NE Friday, May 17th, 7:00 - 8:53 pm with fire performance at sunset organized and curated by Alyssa Baguss and Andrew MacGuffie, featuring their shared love of competition, spectacles and all things that make life worthwhile. Brought to you, in part, through the generous support of the California Building Company.

Northeast Grand Prix is a strange brew of ongoing amusement featuring multiple racetracks, parade fanfare, musical performances, sweepstakes prizes and a closing ceremony.


Northeast Grand Prix is accompanied by an exhibition featuring The artwork of Mary Jane Mansfield & Jennifer Nevitt in the NE SCULPTURE I Gallery Factory from 5:00 -10:00 pm. Grand Prix guests are invited to stay for an evening of Art-a-Whirl® events happening throughout the Casket Arts Complex. There are over 100 artists and like businesses that inhabit the Arts buildings. Food is available on site by Asase YAA, Global foods for festivals with vegan and vegetarian options.

7 Unexpectedly Great American Cities For a Weekend Visit Minneapolis's Arts District Cited

Thrillist is an online media website covering food, drink, travel and entertainment. They decided to feature Minneapolis and gave the Arts District a little love. Click here to read the whole feature.

Weekend highlights: Walk off your food baby with a visit to the enchanting Minnehaha Falls -- deemed the state's most photographed spot -- and the surrounding park, or visit the thriving Northeast Minneapolis Arts District, where hundreds of artists and galleries open their studios to visitors eager for a glimpse. When you're ready to hit the town, check out First Avenue for up-and-coming music acts, or go get your culture on at the Guthrie Theater.

Three Main Goals

Support the Arts District

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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:
1. The Creative Vitality Index 2018 Click to read
2. The Creative Vitality Index 2015 Update. Click to read
3. The Creative Vitality Index 2014 Update. Click to read
4. The Minneapolis Creative Index 2013 Report. 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