News from the District

July 2019 Issue: 87

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

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Growing of the Arts District

Eight years ago I started in earnest to revitalize the energy that started this arts community. I had hoped we would achieve the stage we have presently. Jennifer Young, at last month's Vision Awards, said "We are now at the point where we have infrastructure and we are not just trying to build an arts community. We have an established arts community." This is what artists around the world dream of. We have a dedicated place that is home to artists, where the community, businesses and government officials support them, where building owners aspire to develop spaces that artists need to create. We are currently living that dream.

NE Minneapolis Arts District - 2019 Vision Awards

The second phase starts now. The attendance of the Vision Awards and Artists Influential cook out has shown the board there is now a core group of around 50 dedicated Arts District emissaries that has emerged. This group is made up of artists and community members who are thinking, debating and participating in the development of the potential of the Arts District. With the knowledge that the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District.has over 800+ artists working in it, the board hopes more will be inspired to take part in this second phase as the community reaches the next level: that of thriving sustainability.

Check the Arts District Calendar for events -

or add your District event by clicking here

Join Our Mailing List!

"A non-profit guru, two art developers, an artist & a city council member walk into a gallery..." Pictured are John Kremer, Herman Milligan, Jennifer Young, Nick Harper and Kevin Reich.

I encourage all of you who read this newsletter to continue to attend Arts District events like the upcoming Pecha Kucha's on Saturday, July 27th and other social events of the neighborhoods. Share your ideas! Participation will be necessary to ensure this Arts District does not backtrack, but continue to move forward effectively.

There is a also a need for fundraising, to help ideas that are emerging really take off. The Board is developing options and looking for sponsors, donations and advertisers to put financial resources behind artist ideas. Grants will be in the mix but, for the most part, it's believed that a strong core of dedicated art investors, made up of artists, businesses, and community members, are needed who see how important it is to implement this mission.

Board Chair Josh Blanc

July 23 Pecha Kucha asks "Are Galleries Dead?" (Not in Northeast)

By Margo Ashmore

Moving from a Sunday to a Tuesday, and into the Ritz Theater, the next Pecha Kucha asks the question "Are Galleries Dead," and answers it with "Not in Northeast!" Several gallery directors have been invited to present 20 slides in 20 seconds each on how they formed, who they represent and how they survive. Discussion following, led by art collector Herman Milligan, will help inform the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District leadership and the public on what is needed to sustain a thriving gallery culture.

PechaKuchaNight™ 20×20 IMAGES SECONDS

At one time, for example, 13th Avenue was home to several

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NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS ARTS DISTRICT arts INSIGHTS
A page about artists and The Arts at Work by the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District in collaboration with the Northeaster.

In case you missed it Arts Insights page in the Northeaster?
Click here to read

gallery venues. In the last 20 years, many have cycled out, and others have started up in the Northeast Minneapolis area. The definition of "gallery" may be constantly changing to meet consumer preferences.

Bring your questions to the Ritz Tuesday, July 23, 6 p.m. or watch for further details closer to the event date at hatch-arts.org/pechakucha. The free event, with refreshments, will conclude by 8 p.m. Donations ($5 recommended) are appreciated to offset venue expenses and the Pecha Kucha license.

The Pecha Kuchas are a project of the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District's Hatch committee, which is exploring the need for an arts center or online clearinghouse.

Arts District attracts thriving arts organizations

It's been almost a decade since the American Craft Council relocated from New York City to the iconic former Grain Belt Brewery building in 2010. They're a big deal, printing a thick, beautiful magazine for members, operating several juried craft show/sale events all over the country, and maintaining a library of slides and early works here that artists can browse for inspiration.

They heard we had an arts district, and they came. It wasn't quite that simple, but the presence of a formal district has been helpful in concentrating serious arts tenants and artist-serving organizations in the buildings. Recently, the MPLS Photo Center relocated from an industrial area of North Minneapolis, to the building at 1828 Jefferson St. NE. They are renting from

CALENDAR

Featured Events

NKB

Casket Cinema

a filmmaking couple, a wonderful and, we hope, enduring, fit. The NE SCULPTURE Gallery Factory (reported on in May) holds promise as well.

While just a few blocks out of the Arts District, the well-known Circa Gallery took over what was Public Functionary's space at 1125 Buchanan St. NE, the fourth location for Circa in their 30 years showing fine art. (Grand opening July 20, according to www.circagallery.org, and accepting submissions through June 28 for a juried exhibition, NORTH//EAST.)

Public Functionary, while considering what to do next for space, is now teaming with Leslie Barlow's Studio 400 Collective at the Northrup King Building which features artists of color, and of indigenous backgrounds.

Even Theater Latté Da was well established elsewhere before choosing to take over the Ritz on 13th. The density of arts and artists in and near the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District is starting to attract more talent and opportunities for art businesses to strive for success. We look forward to seeing how they participate in the Northeast arts culture and add their style to the mix.

2020 Northeast Calendar Call For Art

Artist cover by Kara van Wyk

The deadline is August 1 for the 2020 Northeast Calendar. Artists can submit photos or images of other art that represents any of the 14 Northeast neighborhoods, or apply with samples of work, to be commissioned to create an image specially for the calendar. New category this year: The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District.
Prizes are $200 per image, $500 for the cover which could represent any neighborhood or the Arts District. Limit one submission per neighborhood (plus Arts District) per artist. Northeast Community Development Corporation produces the calendar and will have detailed instructions posted at info@northeastcdc.org.

Vision Awardees gave inspiring speeches

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By Margo Ashmore

Vision Awardees gave inspiring speeches John Kremer and Jennifer Young posed with Minneapolis First Ward Council Member Kevin Reich and emcee Mike Rainville, Sr. at the Arts Vision Awards on June 4.

Frank Stone and Lynn Olson accepted their awards, given by the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District board of directors.
All of the speakers encouraged the audience to work together to preserve and strengthen the Arts District, Northeast and all of our assets. Theater Latté Da hosted the festivities at the Ritz, where actor/singer Rodolfo Nieto welcomed the group with an account of his introduction to and fondness for Northeast where he and his wife now live.

Dougie Padilla gave a tribute to former First Ward Council Member Walt Dziedzic.Photos by Damian Kussian

Video by Channel 6

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.

NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS ARTS DISTRICT

The Arts at Work.

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