

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



BACKGROUND

One of the most important goals of the Northfield Cultural Plan, adopted by the City in 2019, was the adoption of a 1% for the Arts Ordinance in order to provide sustainable funding for public art in Northfield and to ensure that art will have a place in public spaces throughout the city. On March 2nd, 2021 Northfield City Council approved this ordinance which requires all budgets for eligible capital improvement projects include an amount equal to 1% of the projected construction costs that is to be used for public art.

Once funding has been established, a Public Art Review Committee (PARC) is convened, typically consisting of members of the community, a city official from the sponsoring agency, and members of the Arts and Culture Commission. The site requirements and the nature of the community are seriously considered when the PARC makes its recommendations to the Arts and Culture Commission and City for final approval of the selected artwork.

A small investment with a big payoff, planning for public art plays a synergistic role in achieving goals laid out by other plans adopted by the city. As a part of the City's 2018-2020 Strategic Plan, tourism is enhanced by way of arts and cultural events that bring people to Northfield. Over 170,000 people attend arts and culture events in Northfield every year. The Comprehensive Plan and Downtown Streetscape plan call for public art in prominent locations as an attraction for visitors. Public art can be a valuable tool in equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts, raising awareness about climate change and ecology, and can spur economic development in a variety of ways.

EXPENDITURES

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AND/OR COMPLETED	EXPENDITURES
River Walk Poetry Steps	\$195
1% for the arts fund	
Hwy 246 roundabout mural	\$21,115
2020 Street Project	
Hwy 3 and 3rd commission*	\$10,602
2021 Street Project	
City Hall Mosaic*	\$5,000
City Hall Renovation	
	\$36,912

^{*}projects currently underway.

\$2.2 million dollars are generated by nonprofits in the arts and culture sector each year in Northfield; 59 FTE jobs are supported by the nonprofit arts and culture sector; Over 500 volunteers participate at organizations supporting arts and culture; over 170,000 people attend arts and culture events every year; 80% of the audiences are local. For every dollar invested in non-profit arts, \$5 is returned to the local and state economies. (Americans for the Arts, Arts and Economic Prosperity 2019)



CURRENT PROJECT: CITY HALL MOSAIC

The finished artwork will be a combination of painted mural and mosaic tile featuring a colorful celebration of the contributions of ordinary people that make Northfield special.

Lori Greene is a mosaic artist from St. Paul. "We hope that by bringing art and people together and pushing that art and those people to say something and to be something that we will all grow stronger as individuals and as communities." Her work can be seen all over Minnesota. Total project budget is \$15,000





COMPLETED PROJECT: ROUNDABOUT MURAL

Artist Adam Turman's four large scale murals depicting the ecology of Northfield, Paying tribute the abundance of wildlife found in Oak Savannas as well as some of the best bird-watching that can be found in this Biome, was selected by PARC process in the summer of 2020, and was installed in 2021 in the roundabout located at Hwy 246 and Jefferson Parkway. Total project budget was \$43,000



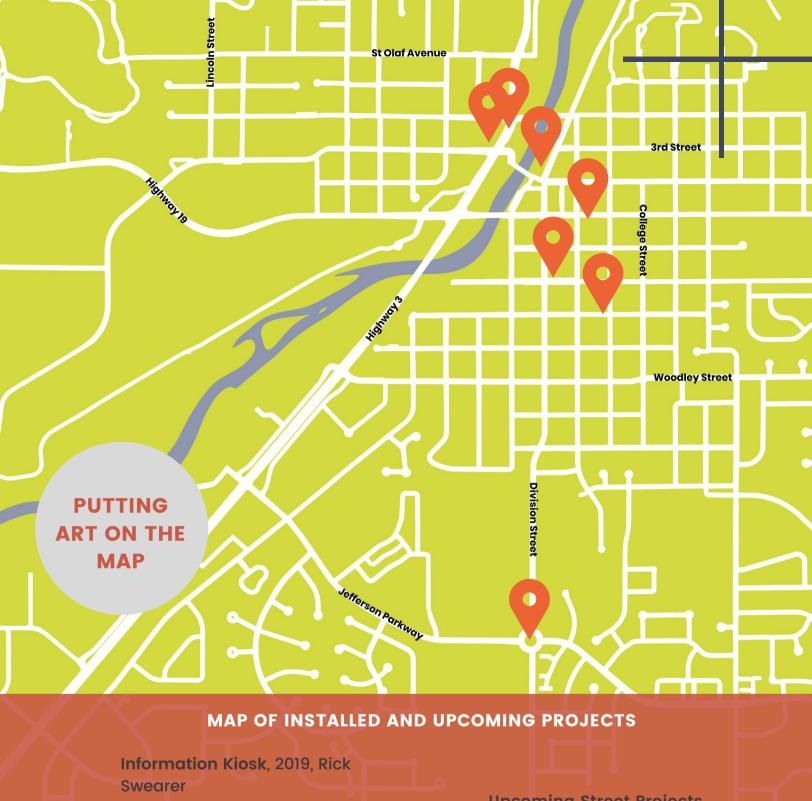


CURRENT PROJECT: HWY 3 AND 3RD ST SCULPTURE

Lakota artist John Sterner has been commissioned to create an American Eagle sculpture, to be placed at the northeast corner of highway 3 and 3rd Street. A plaque containing the City's Land Acknowledgement statement will be included at the site. The sculpture will be installed in April, with a dedication scheduled for May 2nd, 2022. Total project budget is \$32,000



The poem painted on the stairs near the mill and dam along the Riverwalk was a collaborative effort written by poets Heather Candels, D.E. Green, Steve McCown, Susan Jaret McKinstry, Leslie Schultz, David Walters, Mar Valdecantos, Christine Kallman, Becky Boling, Marie Gery, Tayde Rodríguez, Lucy González Mirón, Diane LeBlanc, Alondra Pérez, Riki Kölbl Nelson, Karen Herseth Wee, and Toni Easterson, edited by Northfield Poet Laureate, Rob Hardy. It was painted onto the steps by Teresa Jensen and Natalie Draper. Total project budget was \$195



Love Mural, 2019, Brett Whitacre Threshold, 2018, Kristopher Swanson Roundabout Mural, 2021, Adam Turman Poetry Steps, 2021, collective effort Wanbli Mitakuye Oyasin/We are all Related, 2022, John Sterner City Hall Mosaic, 2022, Lori Greene

Upcoming Street Projects

• 2022 NW Area Mill and **Overlay Project; Projected \$40,000** for % for the Arts Fund

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Northfield Downtown Development

Corporation

Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council

Northfield Human Rights

Commission

Northfield Chamber of Commerce

Northfield Arts Guild

City of Northfield Public Works

Department

City of Northfield Communications &

Human Resources Department

Northfield Heritage Preservation

Commission

Northfield Roundtable

Human Rights Commission

Northfield Public Library

David Aase

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION MEMBERS

Paula Granquist, Karna Hauck, Heather Lawrenz (Secretary), Madeline McDermott (youth), Edie Meehan (youth), Sam Nelson (youth), Kamalie Nieves (youth), Martha Anderson, Kate Woodstrup, Leah Rich, Natalie Draper (City staff liaison), Kathy Rush Vizina (City Staff)



Arts and Culture Commission 1% for the Arts logo designed by Steve Maus

Report prepared by Natalie Draper