

March 4, 2021

Program Reports submitted by Heather Lawrenz

Art in City Hall

The next show *Artists Respond*, will run March 5-December 31, 2021. All artists ages 18+ who live or work within ISD #659 were eligible to submit artworks (both 2D and 3D) for this exhibition.

***Artists Respond* Exhibition Description**

2020 marked a year of dealing with changes in how we communicate and interact with those around us. Since the pandemic hit, our relationships with time, technology, and family have been affected, and many individuals have had to alter how they approach work, school, caretaking, and socializing. We invited local artists, ages eighteen and older, to share artworks they made in response to the events of the past year.

These are the nine featured artists in this exhibition: **Allison Albright, David Allen, Wendell Arneson, Toni Easterson, Jill Ewald, Riki Kölbl Nelson, Amy Pagel, Rebecca Tolle and Mar Valdecantos.**

Their showcased works include those made as a means to help cope with uncertain circumstances, those which explore politically or socially engaged themes, or those that explored new techniques and materials while in isolation. Art can be a starting point for difficult conversations and help us make sense of all that we are witnessing and experiencing. This exhibit will hopefully show viewers something that is thought-provoking or recognizable, even though we may have different experiences.

Living Treasure Award

The community is invited to a **Virtual Artist Conversation with Mac Gimse** from 6:30-7:30 pm on Tuesday, March 30th. Gimse is the 2020-2021 Northfield Living Treasure Award recipient. This conversation titled *Mac Gimse's 50 Year Obsession with Sculpture, From Model to Metal* will include stories of his artistic journey and current projects, along with several visual prompts. Attendees will be encouraged to ask questions during the event. To attend please RSVP by March 29 to Kathy Vizina to receive the Zoom link: Kathy.Rush@ci.northfield.mn.us.

4x4 Gateway Corridor

This committee (Tracy Heisler, Teresa Jensen, Heather Lawrenz, Greg Siems, Bob Thacker and Alice Thomas) has a standing monthly meeting on the third Wednesday of the month from 8-9 am. On February 17, Natalie Draper joined our virtual meeting where we updated the other members about arts and culture-related happenings within our respective groups/organizations.

The Banner subcommittee (Alice, Heather, Jill Ewald, Bonnie Jean Flom and Greg Siems) met in February to visualize the size of the 16 banners going along the Arts Corridor. Next steps will be to discuss sources of funding for the banners and banner design. A draft of this plan will be presented to the ACC for discussion and voting on at a future meeting.

Mission /Vision/Values Subcommittee

Paula Granquist, Teresa Jensen, Matt Klooster and Heather Lawrenz met in February and March to continue working on a draft of the ACC's Mission, Vision, and Values. We will meet again in March to finalize a draft to present to the entire ACC for review and discussion at our April, 2021 meeting.

Artists on Main Street

Wonderful news the NDDC has secured additional funding to continue AOMS in 2021. Stay tuned for more details coming out soon!