

# Cultural Plan Talking points

These talking points is information in addition to what was actually listed in the Cultural Plan. Please read through the plan again before you visit your board and commission. Here are some possible or likely questions whose answers can be found in the Cultural Plan:

- Who was involved?
- What was the process to create this plan?
- What is the plan based on? What other plans does it align with?

## *Why does the City need a Cultural Plan?*

- Testifies to the importance of and our investment in arts and culture in community development
  - Remember: the City's vision clearly states our commitment to arts and culture  
Northfield is an open, safe, and welcoming community, recognized for its world-class colleges and historic riverfront downtown, and is dedicated to sustainably enhancing and preserving its **vibrant culture, celebrated arts**, strong economy, and an excellent quality of life where all can thrive.
- Builds off of our strong foundation
- Creates roadmap of realistic goals and actions that aligns with other strategic priorities in the city

## *What makes this plan different from ArtsPlan 06?*

- More of an emphasis on and space to include culture and creativity, not just "arts"
- Very specific focus on actions that can realistically occur in 5 years
- Creativity infused not just in products (aka public art), but in process (networking, intentional recruitment of creatives onto boards, commissions, and task forces, etc.)
  - We believe that artists and creatives think differently and can help provide unique solutions to our most pressing community solutions! Other cities have benefit greatly by having artists and creatives be involved in their city processes.
- Hoping that this plan will be officially adopted by the city (ArtsPlan 06 was not) so that we all collectively take ownership in its implementation.

## *Why do we want other boards and commissions to support the plan?*

- We want to share in and support the work we are all doing to make our community better! We can't do this alone and want to partner with as many others as possible.
- Many of the goals and actions in the Cultural Plan are related to other strategic priorities in the city and overlap with the work of other boards and commissions.
- Here are some specific, possible ideas (but certainly not exhaustive!) for how our work in the Cultural Plan might intersect with and support your work:
  - Planning Commission: affordable housing, arts and cultural district, Gateway Corridor plan, city-wide design standards for public infrastructure, community cultural center
  - Environmental Quality Commission: Gateway Corridor, cultural placemaking with environmental theme, creatives at the table for implementation of Climate Action Plan
  - Human Rights Commission: cultural placemaking, how to encourage and support diverse artists and creatives, community cultural center idea
  - Economic Development Authority: increase tourism, community cultural center, arts and cultural district

- Heritage Preservation Commission: Gateway Corridor plan, city-wide design standards for public infrastructure, PARC (downtown areas only)
- Housing Authority: affordable housing
- Library Board: cultural placemaking
- Park Board: Gateway Corridor, city-wide design standards for public infrastructure
- Mayor's Youth Task Force: cultural placemaking, encouraging and supporting diverse artists
- *Where are other places you see the ACC supporting your work? How could we help?*

*Why are there blanks in the roadmap?*

- The group felt comfortable making some determinations for certain metrics; others they did not and felt that more information was needed in order to set realistic targets.
- Implementation subcommittees will first be tasked with gathering information on and establishing those blank targets.

*How much did we spend to create this Cultural Plan?*

Less than \$500 when all will be said and done! The ArtsLab process was free. We received a grant for mileage from SEMAC. We paid for a few refreshments and poster printing at the public meeting. Karna Hauck, ACC commissioner and art teacher, is volunteering her time with the graphic design layout. We'll pay to have some hard copies printed for distribution, but it will also live on the ACC website.

*How much will it cost to implement this Cultural Plan?*

The ACC currently has no explicit budget from the City. All current programs are either a part of other departments in-kind support (e.g., Sidewalk Poetry: Public Works and Library), aligned with work already happening or budgeted for in other departments, or are grant funded through ACC or a partnering organization (e.g., HS applies for the grant to support the Young Sculptor's Project). We will likely continue to rely heavily on grant support to implement the hard costs associated with the plan, although much of it is based on volunteer time and efforts.

Beginning this past year, the City unofficially began building in a 1% for the Arts into eligible capital projects. As part of the plan, we're hoping to pass an ordinance change that will mandate this for all eligible capital projects in the future, thus providing some sustainable funding for public art and cultural placemaking.

Ultimately, we are looking for other boards and commissions to officially move at your meeting **to support the adoption of the 2019-2024 Cultural Plan by the Northfield City Council.**