



2023 Impact Report

↑ NORTH SUBURBAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

A Year in Review

a note from the director

With this Impact Report, we realized that the pieces of the puzzle we were putting together were not just bits of data, but rather a **scrapbook of memories**. All of these little moments connect together to create a beautiful picture of what it means to be the **North Suburban Center for the Arts**.

Faced with the financial realities presented to us at the beginning of this year, it was clear the only **path forward** was to lead with our heart and present a transparent message to the public. With **immediate, incredible support** it became obvious that our passion is matched by our community and it is because of this overwhelming show of support we **continue our mission today**.

This year, we have reimagined our role in the community. With an emphasis on **accessibility** and **connection**, we have made changes to our space to offer creative outlets for all ages. Additionally, we have hosted more **free crafts**, both at the art center and in the community, than ever before. We want to meet people where they are at in their **creative journey**. Whether you haven't touched art supplies in a decade or it's part of your everyday practice, **we have a place for you here**.

We have watched artists new in their career connect in the same gallery as seasoned professionals. Makers who are well established and those who are just starting out have **equal opportunities**. The art center has become a place where we can **facilitate these connections** and **give artists a platform** to elevate themselves in an organic, approachable way.

Any time people come through our doors or see us at events, it becomes obvious that people crave this sense of **community through creativity**. If we can bring even the tiniest amount of **magic** to someone's day, we are further solidifying who we are and the impact we can make when we **come together**.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ally Rhodes".

Executive Director
North Suburban Center for the Arts



stay in the loop with our email newsletter!



Want to be the first to hear about upcoming events, workshops, exhibitions, and more?

Sign up for online at
northsuburbanarts.org/subscribe

Creating Connections in the Gallery



Five open-call exhibitions brought people together.

Kingdom Animalia
Weaving the North
Monochrome
Mega (mini)sota
Wide Open

In 2023, the NSCA hosted...

168 **from** **28**
artists MN cities

Artists from California, Illinois, Texas, Wisconsin, and Nova Scotia also exhibited with the NSCA.


With each exhibition, **free programming** including artist demonstrations, panel discussions, and crafts for all ages enriched visitors' experiences.




The NSCA works hard to support the Twin Cities metro arts community. They are always exploring new ways to implement technology to enhance the submission process and audience engagement.

-Paul Fosaaen, Artist

Follow us on social media!

 @northsuburbanarts

 /northsuburbanarts



Supporting Artists & Makers



In the past year,
71 local MN
makers
sold handcrafted goods
in our maker's market.

Being part of NSCA as an artist has been so special and fun, I feel connected to a group that is part of a much larger network. Their staff works extremely hard to focus on exposure and connection. I'm so grateful to be part of NSCA and for all that they bring to our community.

-Alison Rietsma,
Maker's Market Vendor

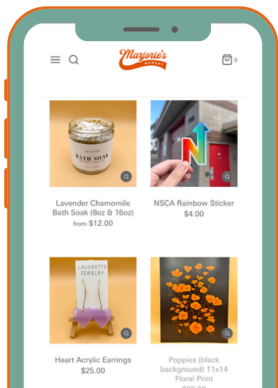


By shopping small,
visitors contributed

\$27,837

to these local businesses.

Sales from Nov. 2022-Sept. 2023



We've expanded our reach!

You can now shop these one-of-a-kind items right from your phone, and we ship nationwide!

Scan to shop!



As a small business in Fridley, we have partnered with NSCA on numerous occasions to host community-centered events and they couldn't be more of a joy to work with! They work so hard to ensure we have fun and successful events.

-Lily Altemose,
General Manager, Forgotten Star Brewing Co.

Pop-Up Market at
Forgotten Star Brewing Co.

Community-Focused Programming

NSCA staff, board members, and volunteers attended several community outreach events, providing free arts programming for local partners.

With each event, we fostered connection through creativity.



Making snowflakes at Winterfest!

Springbrook Nature Center



Crafting for all ages!

Art in the Park Shattered Hill Collective



Minnesota Aurora FC

DIY soccer keychains at the stadium!



Tabling at the Summer Concert Series!

Fridley Civic Center



It was a joy seeing children and their families engage with my book. We need art centers like the NSCA in Minnesota suburbs to provide opportunities for people to experience art together and support cultural vitality.

-Thuba Nguyen,
author of *My Daddy Tells Me*

We featured

12 local MN authors 

by partnering with
Forgotten Star Brewing Co.
for a children's story hour.




Learn more about our recent events, programming, and other updates by visiting our blog | northsuburbanarts.org/blog

The Creative Connection Fund

The **Creative Connection Fund** is an operational fund that covers our daily expenses in order to avoid passing the burden of necessary costs to visitors through prohibitive fees and other financial barriers.

The NSCA seeks to raise **\$150,000** by the end of 2024 to support costs related to facility maintenance, staff wages, and program expenses. Contributions to this operational fund ensure that the NSCA can continue to offer low cost programming for community members, host artists in exhibitions, facilitate consignment opportunities for small business owners, and invite talented creatives to lead educational opportunities.

Scan to donate.

A photograph of a woman with glasses and a blue and orange striped dress kneeling on a colorful rug in a classroom. She is engaged in conversation with three young children. One child is wearing a blue cape, another is in a colorful patterned dress, and a third is in a white shirt and pink shorts. The room contains red tables and chairs, and a whiteboard in the background.

As a resident of the City of Fridley, musician, planner of community events, and Lions member, I have seen firsthand the amazing work that the art center does. My husband and I are proud to be donors of this organization and hope we can continue to help it grow.

-Jessica Nelson-Roehl

Support Your Creative Community

Help us continue this important work by being an active part of our creative community.

- 1 **Donate.**
- 2 **Volunteer.**
- 3 **Become a Friend of the NSCA.**
- 4 **Connect us with a Community Partner.**
- 5 **Join our Board of Directors.**
- 6 **Bring a friend to the art center.**
- 7 **Shop our maker's market.**
- 8 **Attend a workshop.**

Board of Directors

Jen Tuder, PhD

Josh Bindewald

Ann Bolkcom

Rachel Gonzalez

Kim Malakowsky

Julie Marckel

Adam Rakestraw

Applications for board positions are considered on a rolling basis.

Visit northsuburbanarts.org/our-team to see an updated roster or submit an application.

The NSCA has served the greater Twin Cities since 1979. Beginning as a grassroots, women-led effort to create a place for creatives to gather in the Twin Cities' north metro region, we continue to fill a crucial gap for our surrounding community.

To make a gift, visit northsuburbanarts.org/join-give

Become a Friend of the NSCA.

Membership has its perks, *for real.*



We redesigned our membership program to better suit your needs.

Find your perfect fit.

Scan to learn more or visit northsuburbanarts.org/members

All memberships are tax deductible contributions to the NSCA.



NORTH SUBURBAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS
110 77th Way NE, Fridley, MN 55432
northsuburbanarts.org



**Your contribution makes
a big difference.**
Scan to make a gift and
support your local creative
community.

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www.printmp.com

To learn more about becoming a Community Partner,
email info@northsuburbanarts.org.