

## Artists' Pipeline – September 2019

[VSA Minnesota](#), the state organization on arts and disability, has provided Artists' Pipeline news updates for artists with disabilities and arts organizations since 1999. This is our last issue, since the organization is closing and our last office day is Friday, September 27, 2019. Beginning next month, Artists' Pipelines will come from [Springboard for the Arts](#), which already focuses on assistance to artists and is increasing its support of artists with disabilities. Thanks to Springboard, and thanks to you for your reading and sharing interest!

– Jon Skaalen, [access@vsamn.org](mailto:access@vsamn.org), and Craig Dunn, [info@vsamn.org](mailto:info@vsamn.org), 612-332-3888

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### NEWS:

- **Springboard for the Arts will continue the Artists' Pipeline**

Springboard for the Arts will be distributing the Artist's Pipeline newsletter beginning this fall! If you're currently subscribed to the newsletter, nothing will change, and you won't be required to take any additional steps. There may be some small format changes to the look of the newsletter, but otherwise, it will cover the same news and information about artists with disabilities and making the arts accessible to people with disabilities. You'll still be able to submit your listings via the Springboard for the Arts website (<http://www.springboardforthearts.org>), or by emailing Springboard at [resources@springboardforthearts.org](mailto:resources@springboardforthearts.org). Questions: contact Andy Sturdevant at 651-294-0907.

- **September 23: VSA celebration at Illusion Theater**

With VSA Minnesota closing its nonprofit organization at the end of September 2019, the board of directors is planning a "Sunset Celebration" of 33 years of work to make the arts accessible to people with disabilities. The free event is **Monday, September 23** from 6:30 to 9:00 PM at Illusion Theater, on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the Cowles Center for Dance, 516 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis. Join us and share memories, pictures, performances, etc. RSVP to [info@vsamn.org](mailto:info@vsamn.org) or 612-332-3888 with names & number of people. Captioning, ASL interpreting, audio description and refreshments will be provided.

- **Minnesota Access Alliance to continue VSA Minnesota Accessible Arts Calendar**

The **Accessible Arts Calendar** is going into its last month of being administered by VSA Minnesota (<http://vsamn.org/community/calendar/>). It will then be assumed by the Minnesota Access Alliance (MNA, <https://mnaccess.org>), a collaborative group of arts and cultural organization representatives. The calendar lists arts events with ASL interpreting, captioning, audio description, performances by artists with disabilities, sensory-friendly or other accommodations. Listings include

show descriptions, locations, access services, prices, discounts, contact info, running times/dates, names of describers and interpreters, etc.

New calendar listings will be submitted online by arts/culture groups – as with MinnesotaPlaylist (<http://www.minnesotaplaylist.com/>). So add MNAA to your database: 651-539-2689, [MNAccessAlliance@gmail.com](mailto:MNAccessAlliance@gmail.com) or [info@mnaccess.org](mailto:info@mnaccess.org); <https://mnaccess.org/>; <https://www.facebook.com/mnaccess.org/>. Until then, contact VSA at 612-332-3888.

- **Artists in the News: Jenea Rewertz-Targui, Martha Bird, Peter Hinze, Anne Krocak, Marie Cooney, Mike Cohn, Becca Cerra, Amy Salloway, Belo Cipriani**

**Jenea Rewertz-Targui**, Manager of Community Programs and Access Initiatives at Ordway Center for the Performing Arts (and past arts in education coordinator at VSA Minnesota), was named a 2019 LEAD Emerging Leader Awardee for her work increasing accessibility and inclusion in Ordway programs. She was recognized in early August at the LEAD conference in Denver. The Award acknowledges arts administrators who are motivated by the LEAD® conference to become advocates for accessibility within their own organizations and communities. They successfully apply what they learn at the conference to open doors to and shape opportunities that are inclusive of people with disabilities and older adults in the cultural arts.

Minneapolis artist **Martha Bird** presents a joint exhibition of new and retrospective work at [Kaddatz Galleries](#) and [Otter Tail County Historical Society](#) in Fergus Falls from September 11 through November 1. A special event on Saturday, September 21 at 1:00 at OTCHS (1110 Lincoln Ave. W.) is a Presentation and Q&A: “Reclaiming Basketry: Working Through Stigma to Reach Creative Potential.” It will be followed at 3:30 by an Artist Reception at Kaddatz Galleries (111 W. Lincoln Ave.), and an artist talk at 4:00. All events are free.

**Peter Hinze** will exhibit his paintings in September at [Sisters' Sludge Coffee Café and Wine Bar](#), 3746 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis.

**Anne Krocak** is leading a mosaic project for the [Highland Friendship Club](#) and COMPAS in St. Paul to develop artistic skills in creating individual mosaics and a traveling exhibit of mosaics telling the stories of their community.

St. Paul storyteller **Marie Cooney** led many storytellers in five performances at the Minnesota Fringe Festival in early August. “Stories with Marie Cooney & Guests” focused on five story areas: Living with Disabilities, LGBTQA, Theater & Drama, Pets & Family, and Music & Spoken Word.

Dancer **Mike Cohn** participated in a Fringe show as well: *Not Here, Not Now*, by Jay McMahon.

**Becca Cerra**, a 2015 Emerging Artist grantee, will have her exhibit *Altered Aesthetics* included in the exhibition *Opulent Mobility* at a gallery in New Jersey, with an opening on Saturday, Sept. 14. Becca is also beginning her next long-term conceptual art project, *Hallucinations (Physical Forms, Mental Distortions)* about living with mental illness. She is accepting submissions until September 30 with details at <https://files.constantcontact.com/6328bc1e501/a10534ca-b0d6-4ebc-808f-9a900f74ec12.pdf>. She is also making a new piece for this year's edition of *Imagine Me Beyond What You See*, juggling markets, teaching blacksmithing and yoga, and accepting orders for custom-made holiday gifts until November 15.

Minneapolis storyteller and past Emerging Artist grantee **Amy Salloway** is teaching three classes this fall. *The Story Studio 2-Day Workshop* is Sept. 14 (12-4) and 15 (12-2:30) at the Phoenix Theatre, 2605 Hennepin Ave. S. The workshop is a weekend intensive for those dipping their toes into storytelling waters for the first time or seasoned performers wanting to brush up skills. Fee is \$150, with 15% off by signing up at <http://bit.ly/2KzuwPD>. More details here, too.

*Memoir and Narrative Writing* is offered through Minneapolis Community Ed on Mondays, Sept. 30 – Nov. 11 (not Oct. 14), 6:30-8:30 PM at Jefferson School, Room 328, 26th & Hennepin Ave. S. Fee \$59. Registration: <https://tce.me/h6sjYg>.

*Storytelling for the Page and Stage* is offered through Minneapolis Community Ed on Wednesdays, Oct. 30 – Nov. 20, 6:30-8:30 PM at Jefferson School, Room 328, 26th & Hennepin Ave. S. Fee \$45. Registration: <https://tce.me/h6slU7>.

Writer **Belo Cipriani** will be a guest teller with Matthew Anderson at **Amy Salloway's Story Club Minneapolis** on September 19 at 7:00 at [Bryant-Lake Bowl Theater](#), 810 W. Lake St., Minneapolis.

- **Emerging artist grantees exhibited new work at Cowles Center**

New work by six Emerging Artist Grant Recipients from 2018 was exhibited in the lobby of the Cowles Center for Dance in downtown Minneapolis August 13-22, with an artists' reception on August 15. More details are at [www.vsamn.org](http://www.vsamn.org). The artists who shared some of the results of their work, assisted by \$2,000 Jerome Foundation grants administered by VSA Minnesota, were:

<a href="#">D. Allen</a>	Minneapolis	multi-media, fiber art
<a href="#">Mike Harris, Jr.</a>	Minneapolis	painting
<a href="#">Harrison Halker Heinks</a>	Edina	photography
<a href="#">Chris Juhn</a>	Burnsville	photography
<a href="#">Shelia D. Nelson</a>	St. Paul	photography
<a href="#">John Lee Clark</a>	Hopkins	poetry (VSA Minnesota was unable to locate John)

- **Arts venues feature work by artists with disabilities**

Since VSA Minnesota is closing in September, and [Vision Loss Resources](#) is selling its building, VLR will now show work by its clients with vision loss for the rest of 2019 or until the building is sold. They also publish a calendar online and by email of social activities such as classes and outings to theatres. For details, call 612-871-2222.

For other exhibits likely to feature work by artists with disabilities, keep these places in mind:

[Interact Center for Visual & Performing Arts](#), 1860 Minnehaha Ave. W., St. Paul, 651-209-3575.

[Anodyne Artists Company](#), 1410 Energy Park Dr., St. Paul, 651-642-1684.

[The Show Art Gallery](#), 346 N. Sibley St., Lowertown St. Paul, 651-419-8022.

[Avivo ArtWorks](#), 1825 Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis, 612-752-8282.

[SoHo Arts](#) is part of the Range Center at 2310 First Ave., Hibbing, 218-263-9230.

If you hear of other individual or group art exhibits, let Springboard for the Arts know.

- **Disability and Progress shows coming up**

[Disability and Progress](#) is a weekly radio show that explores "insights into, ideas about and discussions on disability topics." The program is broadcast Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:00 PM on KFAI (90.3 FM Minneapolis, or 106.7 FM St. Paul). If you have an idea for a show, call Sam Jasmine 612-341-3144, or email (NOTE: new address: [disabilityandprogress@samjasmine.com](mailto:disabilityandprogress@samjasmine.com)). Coming up:

September 5 -- Dennis Transue, a certified trainer for Person Centered Thinking and with direct services providers, will explain how this is an effective and respectful approach in job and life skills training with people with disabilities.

September 12 -- Thaddeus Walczek, MD, Epileptologist and Director of the Department of Neurology at the University of Minnesota Medical School, will speak on the topic of epilepsy.

September 19 -- Sharla Glass, Public Policy and Community Outreach Liaison for InVision America, will discuss legislation passed in Portland Oregon for the prescription reader for the blind.

September 26 -- Annie Chiapetta will discuss her new book, *Words of Life: Poems and Essays*.

October 3 -- Tom Hoen, Communications Manager for Midwest Special Services, will speak.

Shows are archived online for two weeks.

- **Co Lab Exhibition at The Show Art Gallery**

The [Show Gallery Lowertown](#) will host its Fifth Annual Co Lab Exhibition this month for 21 pairs of artists displaying new work. The opening is at 346 N. Sibley St., St. Paul on Saturday, September 7 from 5:00 to 8:00, with the Bill Murray Choice Award announced at 7:00. The Co Lab project was created in 2015 to bring together artists from all walks of life, whose paths may have never crossed in ordinary circumstances. Co Lab coordinator Chloe Russell pairs participating artists who create a collaborative piece. This exercise in radical inclusion demonstrates the gallery's mission: to create accessibility in the arts and unite artists of all abilities. Art sales benefit the gallery and sponsor artists who need support in solo exhibitions, art crawl, and other events. For volunteering, teaching or other opportunities, contact Tara Tieso, 651-419-8022, [info@theshowartgallery.org](mailto:info@theshowartgallery.org), or go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/934148083612888/>.

- **Artability Art Show and Sale is October 25-27 in St. Paul**

The 25th Anniversary [Artability Art Show and Sale](#) will be held October 25-27 at the Show Gallery Lowertown in St. Paul. The deadline has passed for artists living with a mental illness to enter work, but do attend! For details, email [artability@peopleincorporated.org](mailto:artability@peopleincorporated.org).

- **Two Minnesotans get American Council of the Blind awards**

The American Council of the Blind presented awards for achievements in Audio Description at its 2019 Conference and Convention and 16<sup>th</sup> Audio Description Institute in Rochester, NY. Awards presented July 9 at a general session of the convention marked the value of Audio Description, which makes visual images accessible for more than 21 million Americans with significant vision loss.

**Jon Skaalen**, VSA Minnesota staff since 1999, received the 2019 Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio Description, recognizing outstanding contributions to the field of audio description, leading, inspiring or providing significant service to others. Jon has managed the Accessible Arts Calendar which publicizes events that offer audio description, tactile tours and other services used by people with vision or hearing loss or other disabilities (via email, website, phone, print and social media). He has coordinated grant funding to help organizations offer accessibility accommodations and training opportunities. The award stated he has been a consistent champion for patrons and artists with disabilities, a tireless advocate for the provision of greater access to the arts.

**Hunter Gullickson**, the Guthrie Theater's accessibility manager, was recognized for Achievement in Audio Description – Performing Arts. The Guthrie's strong tradition of providing access services has grown and become more effective under his leadership. Hunter supervises nearly 50 performances every season that are each Audio Described and interpreted in American Sign Language. He manages an equipment loan program for organizations to borrow Audio Description and Captioning equipment. He coordinates free sensory tours for all mainstage plays and produces large print programs, and alternate-format materials for classes.

- **Artists with disabilities share art at Open Flow First Thursdays in Minneapolis**

Artists with disabilities and supporters meet the first Thursday of each month at Walker Church, 3104 16th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Established by the Artists with Disabilities Alliance (AWDA), these Open Flow gatherings are an opportunity to share art, writing, performances and support. Participants also bring treats to share. The venue is fully accessible and gatherings are from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

This fall's "first Thursday" gatherings are Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 2019. Facilitator is Tara Innmon, 612-376-7779, [tarainnmon@gmail.com](mailto:tarainnmon@gmail.com). Andy Sturdevant at Springboard for the Arts will assist in promoting Open Flow. Contact him at [resources@springboardforthearts.org](mailto:resources@springboardforthearts.org).

- **Twin Cities VisionWalk is Sept. 22 at Lake Harriet**

The 13th Annual Twin Cities VisionWalk to raise funds for sight-saving research will be Sunday, September 22 at the Lake Harriet Bandshell, 4135 W Lake Harriet Parkway in South Minneapolis. Registration starts at 8:30 AM, Stage Presentation at 9:30, and the Walk Start at 10:00. For more information, including sponsorships and registration, contact Kelly Kruse, Foundation Fighting Blindness Events Manager, at 847-549-1493, [KKruse@FightingBlindness.org](mailto:KKruse@FightingBlindness.org), or go to <https://give.fightingblindness.org/event/twin-cities-visionwalk-2019/e239533>.

- **Kaddatz Galleries unveils new website, shop, exhibits, 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

The [Kaddatz Galleries](#), 111 W. Lincoln Ave. in downtown Fergus Falls has introduced a new website with a section just for artists, an exhibition calendar and a class and event schedule. The Kaddatz also has a new shop that will feature more works by the late **Charles Beck**. This will tie in with a C. Beck Retrospective exhibit from November 12 through December 31, with a reception Saturday, December 7, 3 - 5 pm.

The Society of Minnesota Sculptors exhibit will close on September 7. A new exhibit opening September 11 features [Martha Bird](#): Listen and **Andrew Nordin**: Threshold Paintings. It runs through November 2, with a reception on Saturday, September 21, 3:30 - 5:30.

The Galleries' 10-year Anniversary Celebration is September 28. For details, email [info@kaddatzgalleries.org](mailto:info@kaddatzgalleries.org).

- **Sprout offers vacations for people with developmental disabilities**

[Sprout](#) is a nonprofit organization based in New York that is dedicated to helping people with developmental disabilities grow through challenging, creative and fun experiences that enhance socialization, self-confidence and inclusion. Founded in 1979, they offer a year-round travel program, an annual weekend-long music and arts festival called Sproutstock, a Make-A-Movie Program that produces videos using people with developmental disabilities in major roles, and a Sprout Film Festival showcasing films and videos related to the field of developmental disabilities. Its catalog of over 275 titles can be used for entertainment or training programs for agencies, schools and individuals. Fall tours include: Atlantic City (Sept. 25-27), Williamsburg, VA (Sept. 30 – Oct. 6), Vermont (Oct. 21-24), Philadelphia (Nov. 19-21) and Mystic, CT (Nov. 22-24). For details, contact 212-222-9575 or [sprout@gosprout.org](mailto:sprout@gosprout.org).

- **Young Dance has new home in St. Paul**

[Young Dance](#) has a new home in the Co•Motion Center for Movement, 655 Fairview Ave. N., St. Paul. To celebrate, they're throwing a VIP Reception on Friday, Sept. 20 from 7:00-9:00 pm. Since 1987, Young Dance has encouraged youth to build body and spirit through the creative art of dance. The dance students and company collaborate with professional artists, forge meaningful community partnerships and push the boundaries of the art and practice of dance. It is an inclusive, artistic community where creativity flourishes and all are encouraged to aspire to artistic professionalism. Gretchen Pick is artistic director at [Gretchen@youngdance.org](mailto:Gretchen@youngdance.org).

- **Grants in the arts**

**FY 2020 Cultural Community Partnership grant application deadline September 13, 2019**

**September 13** is the deadline for applications for FY 2020 Cultural Community Partnership grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board. These grants are designed to enhance the careers of individual artists of color and indigenous artists. Artists, at any stage in their careers, on collaborative projects with another Minnesota artist of color or with a Minnesota nonprofit organization. For details go to [Program Overview and Application Instructions](#) or contact program officer Sherrie Fernandez-Williams at 651-539-2672, 800-866-2787, or [sherrie.fernandez-williams@arts.state.mn.us](mailto:sherrie.fernandez-williams@arts.state.mn.us).

The [Minnesota State Arts Board](#)'s other grant opportunities for individual artists have not yet announced the next deadlines:

**Artist Initiative**—Project grants for artists at all stages of their careers, to support artistic development, nurture artistic creativity, and recognize the contributions individual artists make to the creative environment of the state of Minnesota.

**Arts Learning**—Project grants to provide opportunities for lifelong learners to acquire knowledge and understanding of and skills in the arts.

**Arts Tour Minnesota**—Project grants to support touring performances, exhibitions, and other related arts activities throughout the state.

**Folk and Traditional Arts**—Project grants to support the artistic traditions and customs practiced within community and/or cultural groups by identifying, documenting, preserving, presenting, and honoring Minnesota's folk arts and traditions.

**September 15** is the deadline for applications for grants up to \$6,000 for organizations and individual artists from the [Region 2 Arts Council](#), based in Bemidji. For details: 218-751-5447, 800-275-5447, [staff@r2arts.org](mailto:staff@r2arts.org), or 505 Bemidji Ave. N., Bemidji (in the Watermark Art Center).

The **Metro Regional Arts Council** offers a number of grants for arts organizations in the 7-county metro area and one grant program for artists. The [Next Step Fund](#), funded by the McKnight Foundation, provides project grants up to \$5,000 to professional artists in any discipline for the purpose of career development and artistic achievement. Applicants may be at any stage of their career, but must demonstrate achievement in their artistic field and have a history of public presentation or community contribution. This is a highly competitive program. Please read the guidelines before you apply. The application will be activated six weeks before the deadline of **January 27, 2020**. Program director is Witt Siasoco, 651-523-6385, [witt@mrac.org](mailto:witt@mrac.org).