



# Great News

FROM THE GREATER DOWNTOWN COUNCIL

## The Bridges are Here, The Bridges are Here!

What do you get when you mix a lot of volunteer planning hours, great sponsorship support from the business community and outstanding creative talents from local artists? You have the recipe to unveil this year's "Bridging the Decades with Art" public art display.

The Greater Downtown Council formulated the idea for this fun and exciting event and was fortunate to gain partnerships with Visit Duluth and the Duluth Public Arts Commission. Thanks to the hard work of a lot of individuals (including artists who painted around the clock during one week in May); our community is able to showcase 14 Aerial Lift Bridge statues in honor of this year's centennial celebration of the treasured landmark.

Such a statue campaign is not unique to our community. They have been met with great success across the country and they have helped

to increase local economies by promoting an additional tourist attraction. Plus it's a great campaign for our local residents to embrace as it pays tribute to the Bridge and it brings our arts and business communities closer together for a common worthwhile project.

So take a tour, visit the statues and don't forget to photograph your loved ones with your favorite bridge. Enjoy this display throughout the summer and into mid-October, and then join us as many of them hit the auction block. Stayed tuned for more details on your chance to buy a bridge!



**BRIDGE BLUEPRINT**  
Artists: Rene Munger and Mark Mable  
Sponsor: Grandma's Restaurants



**ADVOCATES FOR THE ARTS**  
Artist: Adu Gindy  
Sponsor: Fryberger Buchanan Smith & Frederick P.A.

See all bridges on the inside ...



5 West First Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802  
218-727-8549  
www.downtownduluth.com



### WELCOME NEW GDC MEMBERS

**Arc Northland**  
424 W. Superior St. • #201  
**Pure Chiropractic, PA**  
404 W. Superior St. • #225C  
**TDS Metrocom**  
Pequot Lakes, Minnesota

## COMMUNITY OFFICER'S CORNER



Officer Laura Napurski

The summer season is fast approaching and we will see an increase in street crimes, including panhandling. Many people ask the police if they should give money to panhandlers and our advice is absolutely not! We Duluthians are guilty of "Minnesota nice", but unfortunately, may be misdirected in giving away our spare change.

\*\*Panhandling is prohibited by city ordinance 34-31 which reads: No person shall be in a public place, or a place of business, and while there solicit contributions of money, goods, or services to be used for ... support of the solicitor ... (does not apply to persons representing a bona fide charitable organization).

Most panhandlers know exactly where to go in Duluth to receive food, clothing, shelter, bus fare, etc. The money they receive from panhandling is quickly spent to feed their addictions. Typically, 7 out of 10 panhandlers will use your spare change to buy drugs, alcohol, or cigarettes.

## TIPS FOR HANDLING PANHANDLERS:

1. Don't give money to panhandlers
2. Answer any request for money by saying "No." Then walk away.
3. Don't enter into a conversation with panhandlers who try to persuade you to give money.
4. Walk with confidence, downtown Duluth belongs to all of us.
5. Please call the police if you feel threatened or harassed and give a good description of the suspect to 911
6. Don't be fooled. Food, shelter, and other assistance are available.

There are several excellent charitable organizations in the downtown area which provide food, clothing, shelter, and other assistance. You can give without guilt and know that your spare change will provide help to those in need.

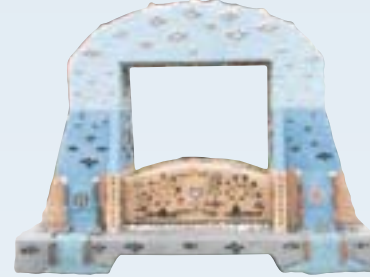
1. **CHUM DROP-IN CENTER**  
125 N. 1st Ave. West • Duluth, MN 55802 • 726-0153
2. **UNION GOSPEL MISSION**  
219 E. 1st St. • Duluth, MN 55802 • 722-1196
3. **DAMIANO SOUP KITCHEN**  
208 W. 4th St. • Duluth, MN 55802 • 726-0500
4. **SALVATION ARMY**  
215 S. 27<sup>th</sup> Ave. W. • Duluth, MN 55806 • 722-7934



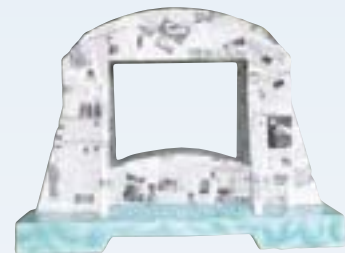
**ABOVE AND BEYOND**  
Artists: The Inn on Lake Superior Team:  
Nikki Anderson, Martha Snow, Kim Reinsch,  
Anne Bubacz, James Connolly  
with Gustave Campinini and Kim McAndrews  
Sponsor: The Inn on Lake Superior



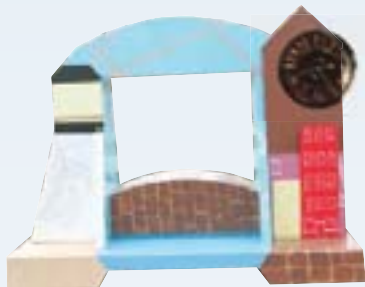
**THE EDGE**  
Artists: Best Western Edgewater Team:  
Leanne Joynes, Jenny Keto, Julia Worthing,  
Lisa Lalor with Kim McAndrews  
Sponsor: Best Western Edgewater Resort and Waterpark



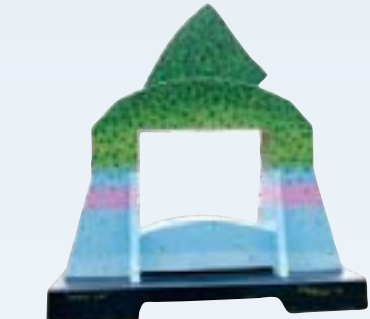
**MIDSUMMER DAY AT THE POINT**  
Artist: William Gooder  
Sponsor: Lake Superior Rock Arrangements



**MEMORABLE PASSAGES**  
Artists: The Duluth News Tribune Staff  
Sponsor: The Duluth News Tribune



**LIFTING DOWNTOWN TO NEW HEIGHTS**  
Artist: Laura Nelli  
Sponsor: The Greater Downtown Council



**LOOPER LIFT**  
Artist: Peter Weizenegger  
Sponsor: Visit Duluth and Lake Superior Magazine



**SHIPPING ON THE GREAT LAKES**  
Artist: Laurel Sanders  
Sponsor: Great Lakes Fleet, Inc.



**BRIDGE LUGGAGE**  
Artist: Lynn Sandness  
Sponsor: Fitger's Brewery Complex



**A BRIDGE FOR ALL SEASONS**  
Artist: Cheryl Heikkila  
Sponsor: Visit Duluth



**POWERFUL PARTNER IN YOUR COMMUNITY**  
Artist: Cameron High  
Sponsor: Minnesota Power



**REFLECTING BEAUTY**  
Artist: G. Lee Zimmerman  
Sponsor: St. Luke's Foundation



**LIFT YOUR SPIRITS IN DULUTH**  
Artist: Christine Eliason  
Sponsor: Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites  
and Holiday Center Merchants Association



## The Collector's Poster

A Collector's poster is being produced this year in conjunction with the Bridging the Decades with Art project. This poster will be a Collector's Edition Print, featuring all 14 of the Aerial Bridge statues. To place an advance order for \$14.95, contact Tom at 393-0742.

## Board of Directors and Staff

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*Fryberger Buchanan Law Firm*

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## Get Ready for Intense Planning: Knight Charrette Comes to Duluth

The Old Downtown area will be under the microscope in July as its current and future potential is examined by national experts and community stakeholders. The Knight Program in Community Building has selected the east downtown and adjacent hillside and waterfront area as the focus of this year's charrette on July 13-18th.

**So what exactly is a charrette, and why is it important for you to get involved with such a community event? Learn more from some Knight Fellows:**

### What is a Charrette?

*By Kevin Klinkenberg, Knight Fellow '03*

It's not a chevette, nor is it a charade. Instead, we're talking about a charrette, which translates literally from French as "little cart." In French architecture schools, the charrette was where architecture students deposited their final drawings at the last moment before a deadline.

Today, we use the term charrette very differently, although it describes a similar kind of intense activity. A charrette is a community planning and design process. It lasts about a week and involves citizens, stakeholders, designers and others in a cooperative process. All community members who wish to participate are invited to attend meetings, share their thoughts and visit the open design studio. The charrette begins with the design team meeting with stakeholders and citizens for information gathering sessions. The design team then works together on a plan. At the end of the charrette the design team makes a final presentation.

**A charrette has these key components:**

- **Collaboration:** It's critical that all interested stakeholders, from the public through the design team, work together. In addition, the design team itself is a col-

laboration, bringing together a multi-disciplinary group of professionals including architects, engineers, renderers, facilitators and others.

- **Respect:** Everyone has ideas, and everyone has a voice. In a charrette, everyone, no matter what their role, is given respect and listened to. No one gets everything they want, but all are guaranteed a chance to have their voice heard.

- **Creativity:** A charrette is more than just listening; it's also about harnessing ideas and drawing potential solutions. The design team members use their creative abilities to draw three-dimensional representations of various ideas. Upon seeing the drawings, the process of collaborating and listening starts all over again until the cycle produces clearly beneficial designs.

- **Practicality:** With such an intensive effort involving so many people and interests, it's critical that what gets drawn is actually able to be built. This does not mean the design team works toward the lowest common denominator, but it does mean that every stage. We want to see results!

- **Based on good design principles:** At the beginning of the charrette, the team leader will offer the public an introduction to basic principles of good design. It is based on these principles that the design team proceeds, and that the public is asked to make judgments. Every design option has consequences, and they must be measured against the timeless principles of making successful places.

Ultimately, the charrette is a forum for the community to come together and aid in planning the future. It is rare indeed when citizens have the opportunity to exert so much positive impact on their community. When the design team leaves, it will be up to the community members to implement the plan—we need your participation to make it work!

*Kevin Klinkenberg is an architect and principal of 180° design studio in Kansas City, Missouri.*

### Why Should I Get Involved?

*By Joyce Marin, Knight Fellow '01*

Have you ever wondered, "Why don't THEY fix that?" or "How could THEY let that happen to our neighborhood?" I have learned, since we live in a democracy, when the questions of "Why don't THEY fix that?" come to mind, "THEY" actually means "WE," as in "We, the people." Increasingly, I have also come to appreciate, even more personally, that "we" often means "me." If it comes to me that a special quality in my community needs to be protected, preserved or lifted up, if an idea has hit me like a thunderbolt, if it's nagging at me or keeping me up at night, then I have come to accept that it's my responsibility to move that idea forward.

In many communities when challenges arise, the citizens move out. But what if you don't move out? What if you stay? What if you stay and fight for the health of your community, finding solutions for its problems? Citizen activism is about rising above the specific negative circumstances that your community faces, whatever those challenges may be. Plus, any community can be improved upon. A community doesn't need to be troubled to benefit from your efforts.

**Benefits.** The communities in which the citizenry is actively involved benefit in many ways. If your idea improves the quality of your life, then it may improve the quality of life for your neighbors as well, demonstrating that what benefits one, benefits all. For this reason, true activism is not for the selfish or the self-serving, but rather for those with a generosity of spirit. However, when an idea improves a community's quality of life, that improved quality of life is often translated by the real estate market into a tangible benefit: stabilizing or improving property values. If you own your own home, you can be financially rewarded by being actively involved as a citizen in your community.

**Sense of Community.** As you work together toward a common goal with your

neighbors, another benefit of activism is that you will make friends and experience a feeling of belonging. Not unlike the barn raisings of old, neighbors who work together on community projects share a common sense of pride and a heightened sense of community.

**Making Your Mark.** Another of the benefits of citizen activism is that it preserves and strengthens a community's identity and its sense of place. A unique community identity results from the individual identities of people who get involved. When you get involved, you make your mark. This results in your living in a community that is unique because it reflects some quality unique to you.

**Why do people get involved?** People are called to action and stay involved because they care. In fact, the persistence and patience needed to be effective in community work is often the real test of how much a person does care.

**Sometimes activism is reactive.** A highway

is planned through a neighborhood. A power plant is planned in the countryside. The people organize to say, "This thing going on is not who we are. This does not belong here." They talk to their neighbors, organize meetings, circulate petitions, write letters to the editor, fill up municipal meetings, hire attorneys and fight. While this type of activism gets headlines, it also sometimes gives a bad name to activism. You don't need to wait for a community crisis to be involved.

**Other times, activism is proactive.** Just one person with an idea of how their community can be improved formulates the idea, articulates it and moves it forward. They say, "We need a skate park, community garden or bike trails." This type of effort can improve an already strong community or can represent the first efforts to turn around a neighborhood with serious problems. It all starts with an individual willing to make an effort. With

community activism, just one person can make an enormous difference in a place.

**But how?**

In our democratic form of government there are some natural ways to make your voice heard. You can get involved by calling your elected or appointed officials. You can start attending and speaking out at regularly scheduled public meetings of your municipality. You can write letters to the editor, talk to your friends and organize them for action, join a service organization, or volunteer to chair a committee.

There are many ways to improve our neighborhoods and most of them start with you.

*Joyce Marin is a borough councilwoman in Emmaus, Penn., where she has been involved as a citizen activist. She has also worked in commercial real estate finance and downtown revitalization.* **gdc**

## Duluth's East Downtown, Hillside and Waterfront Charrette Schedule ▶

### NOTES:

**Youth charrette** is scheduled on Friday, July 15 at Duluth Parks & Recreation sites (Endion, Grant, Hillside Sports Court and Washington Center) from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

**Older youths** (high school and college) should be encouraged to attend the opening night presentation and meeting where they can sit at their own public input tables.

**CHCC = Central Hillside Community Center, 12 East 4th Street**

**DECC = Duluth Entertainment & Convention Center, 350 Harbor Drive**

**MPCR = MN Power Conference Room 30 West Superior Street**

**VDCR = Visit Duluth Conference Room 21 West Superior Street**

	Time	Location
<b>Wednesday, July 13</b>		
Reception – Opening Presentation & Town Meeting	5:30-8:00 p.m.	DECC
<b>Thursday, July 14</b>		
Land Use Policies, Planning Regulations & Code Issues	8:00-9:30 a.m.	CHCC
Health Care Industry	8:00-9:30 a.m.	VDCR
Tourism, Public Events & Casino	9:45-11:15 a.m.	VDCR
Transportation, Skywalks Public Works & Transit	9:45-11:15 a.m.	CHCC
Public Education Session "New Urbanism"	11:30-1:00 p.m.	MPCR
Historic Preservation & Cultural Heritage	1:15-2:45 p.m.	VCDR
Schools & Safety (Police, Fire, Emergency Services)	1:15-2:45 p.m.	CHCC
Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization	2:45-4:15 p.m.	CHCC
Pin-up of Analytical Drawings & Early Working Drawings	5:15-6:45 p.m.	CHCC
Multicultural Forum (Dinner 6:45 p.m.)	7:00-8:15 p.m.	CHCC
<b>Friday, July 15</b>		
East Downtown Business Owners/Arts, Related Business	8:00-9:30 a.m.	MPCR
Developers, Landowners & Financial Institutions	9:45-11:15 a.m.	MPCR
Education Session "Street Design/Walkable Communities"	11:30-1:00 p.m.	MPCR
4th St. Businesses/Hillside Neighborhood	1:15-2:45 p.m.	CHCC
Parks, Open Space & Environmental Topics	3:00-4:30 p.m.	CHCC
<b>Saturday, July 16</b>		
Community Recap Pin-up & Review	3:00-5:30 p.m.	CHCC
<b>Monday, July 18</b>		
Reception—Closing Presentation	5:30-8:00 p.m.	DECC

## Volunteers Help Beautify Downtown Waterfront

**Dozens** of volunteers came out on a sunny June morning to help plant flowers that will adorn the sidewalks of Duluth's Downtown Waterfront throughout the summer.

The Duluth Downtown Waterfront District purchased the flowers, but organizers put out a community call for a helping hand with the planting. Approximately 40 volunteers came equipped with gardening gloves; ready to dig in the dirt to help beautify the heart of our city. This volunteer effort has become an annual event and a great way for community members to make a lasting impression on the Downtown and Canal Park. About 180 streetscape planters are filled with flowers that will bring color and warmth to our central business district.

In addition to the volunteers, a special thanks goes out to Home Depot, Engwall's Florists, and Bernick's Pepsi for their generous contributions to the project. **gdc**



*Rels Title employees Michelle Olson, Deanna Swenson and Kari Loisel lend their helping hands to plant flowers for the Downtown Waterfront. They were among dozens of volunteers who assisted with the 3rd Annual "Dig in for the Downtown Waterfront."* **gdc**

## Celebrate at Downtown Duluth Sidewalk Days!

**Get geared** up for fun and excitement in beautiful Downtown Duluth this summer during the Downtown Duluth Sidewalk Days Festival. This year's event takes place from July 13th–15th and is sure to be one of the most exciting years to date. The streets will be riddled with live entertainment, mouth-watering food and great shopping deals that are sure to please even the most disconcerting taste.

Sidewalk Days is a chance for the entire Downtown Community to unite and show the city just how exciting Duluth's Downtown is. With that in mind we have decided to expand Sidewalk Days into the Old Downtown. This growth will include

those shop owners on the east side of Lake Avenue and will bring all sorts of exciting activities and bargains from all of our downtown merchants. With Superior Street blocked off from 4th Avenue West to 3rd Avenue East this is sure to be an event that sizzles with fun! The deals don't stop there, Sidewalk Days festivities extend all over the downtown area. From the First Street Merchants to Fitger's Brewery Complex and every where in between, businesses are encouraged to join in on the special celebration!

Don't miss out on live music performances at the Minnesota Power Plaza and at the Norshor Theatre stage. Great Northern Music will be providing live music as well

making this Sidewalk Days jam packed with great toe-tapping tunes performed by some of the most talented musicians in the area.

Merchants, along with offering great deals, will also be holding demonstrations and special activities that will be fun for the whole family. The party doesn't stop at dusk! On Wednesday July 13 the 5th Annual Classic Car Show and Harley Revue will again fill the streets of downtown. And to finish off the most exciting week of the summer on July 15th First Street will again have their foot stompin' street dance. Come for the day and stay for the night in Downtown Duluth! **gdc**

## Downtown Students Propose Community Bike Program

**Call it** a lesson in refurbishing, mechanics, logistics and government all rolled into a short course.

Students at **Harbor City International School** are determined to start up a community bike program after reconditioning 18 damaged and discarded bicycles they salvaged from the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District Recovery Center.

High School juniors Jorgan Frank and Ian Buck came up with the idea and about 16 other students got involved with the class project. Their ultimate goal is to place the refurbished mint green bikes at Downtown

Waterfront bike racks so that anyone can use them for free, as long as they return them.

As part of this service-learning project, the students created task forces to look at various aspects of the concept. They also conducted research by contacting other cities that already have successful programs, such as Portland, Oregon, Missoula, Montana and Denver, Colorado. Their research, as well as local surveys, helped mold what they are calling "Duluth CycleOps."

Several challenges still remain for the project, such as dealing with issues surrounding liability and permitting, but the

students have a strong determination to offer this service to the community as soon as they can work through those obstacles.

After presenting their findings recently to a group of community members and parents, the students took their refurbished bicycles for a test-drive around the Downtown Waterfront. It's their hope that someday downtown employees and visitors will be taking the bikes out for a similar drive.

Tell the students what you think. As a downtown employee, would you be interested in a community bike program? Share comments at: DuluthCycleOps@gmail.com. **gdc**