

SPRINGBOARD

for the arts

SUMMER 2016



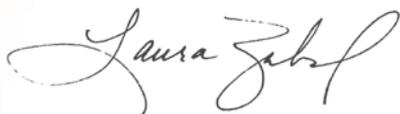
Maybe it's the rush of euphoria that accompanies the first sunny, 80 degree days in Minnesota, but I have been feeling very hopeful lately. Springboard's mission, as you know, is to cultivate vibrant communities by connecting artists with the resources they need to make a living and a life, and we often talk about the work of Springboard as doing things in Minnesota, and nationally, helping make things happen. This is the year that we celebrate 25 years as an organization and five years in our Lake Region office. It has been an exciting time, full of new challenges and opportunities in all these areas.

In Fergus Falls we are excited to announce that we will be leaving our longtime home and expanding to a new office in the heart of Fergus Falls' downtown. We have recently been honored with support from the National Endowment for the Arts for the Hinge Arts Residency, supporting that program and creating rich opportunities for exchange that highlight the creative vitality of the Lake Region. And we are about to launch a new Community Supported Art project in partnership with the Kaddatz Gallery, meaning you can get art as well as kale in a CSA box this summer!

From our Lowertown office, we have been leading lots of Work of Art workshops, on the heels of launching the free toolkit at the end of last year. In the face of changes in the neighborhood, we are looking forward to getting outside and sharing the work of our artist neighbors. We also have exciting partnerships with African American cultural and economic institutions to support artists' projects as part of the *Roots of Rondo: Black Artists Rising* project, and with All My Relations Arts and the Native American Community Development Institute for *Homeland: Native Artists Creating on the Ave*. Look for those projects popping up around the metro this summer.

Finally, we celebrated two years of Creative Exchange and sharing toolkits and stories this spring. We edited and published a book, *Field Notes from Creative Exchange*, to commemorate the milestone, and are looking forward to new toolkits to share, as well as expanded conversations, gatherings and stories about the ways artists are shaping the world around them.

In all this, I'm most hopeful about the work that we can do together, when we find common cause and share our creativity abundantly. Thank you for all your partnership over the 25 past years, and for all that is to come.



Laura Zabel, Executive Director



ON THE COVER

Detail shot of installation, *Pastel Prairie*, at the Kaddatz Gallery in Fergus Falls by Hinge Arts resident, Dana Sikkila. July 2015.

photo: Dana Sikkila



Programs

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

One-on-one career coaching and workshops for artists including Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists, which has been presented in over 80 communities in the Upper Midwest.



INCUBATOR

An organizational incubator program that currently serves over 200 artist-led projects with financial and donor management, fundraising assistance and legal help.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Workshops, training and consulting with cities, community and economic development organizations and other groups to engage local artists to address community issues and implement creative placemaking.



COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ART

Our innovative patron education program based on the Community Supported Agriculture model that is being replicated across the country.



RESOURCES

A comprehensive online job book for artists, attorney referrals through our Minnesota Lawyers for the Arts (MnLA) program, and resource centers in Saint Paul and Fergus Falls.



HEALTH

Connecting artists to healthcare and insurance through one-on-one assistance, a clinic voucher program and online resources. The Emergency Relief Fund provides monetary aid for career-threatening emergencies.



NATIONAL

Through our Creative Exchange platform, we build the movement of local arts and culture by sharing inspirational stories and practical toolkits to spark change.

Staff

Laura Zabel
Executive Director

Michele Anderson
Rural Program Director

John Bell
Operations Manager

Molly Chase
Managing Director

Rebecca Davis
Rural Program Assistant

Nikki Hunt
Program Director - Health

Noah Keesecker
Program Director - Artist Development

Anna Metcalfe
Artist Development Coordinator

Zaraawar Mistry
Artist Resources Coordinator

Naomi Schliesman
Artist Development Coordinator,
Rural Program

Andy Sturdevant
Artist Resources Director

Carl Atiya Swanson
Director of Movement Building

Peter Haakon Thompson
Community Development Coordinator

Jun-Li Wang
Artist Community Organizer

SPRINGBOARD FOR THE ARTS

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www.springboardforthearts.org

Office Hours: M–F, 9:30 am–5:00 pm

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135 South Mill St, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Tel: 218-998-4037

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Office Hours: M–F, 10:00 am–5:00 pm



Work of Art Toolkit

The Work of Art toolkit is based on our series of professional development and entrepreneurship workshops that have been taught at arts organizations, colleges, and libraries in over 80 communities in Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Iowa. The toolkit is a 12-part workbook and video series that guides artists through every facet of building a successful and sustainable career—from career planning, time management, marketing, and social media to pricing, recordkeeping, funding, and developing a business plan. The Work of Art toolkit can be used as a whole learning plan or as needed for specific topics, and is designed for individual artists, schools and organizations to use as a resource. It is available for free digitally via the Creative Exchange platform at www.bit.ly/WorkOfArtToolkit.

Workshops Calendar

Springboard for the Arts offers a wide range of professional development workshops covering all aspects of establishing and operating an artistic business. To view an online calendar of all our upcoming public workshops, visit www.bit.ly/WorkshopCal.

Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists (in Minneapolis)

Ten workshops from the Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists series will be presented at the Rockford Road Library.

Dates: Saturdays, June 4–August 13, 9:30 am–12:00 pm

Location: Rockford Road Library, 6401 42nd Ave N, Minneapolis, MN

Presenter: Springboard for the Arts staff

Tuition: Free. Funded by a grant to the Hennepin County Libraries from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Register at www.hclib.org/events.

Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists (in Saint Paul)

Four workshops from the Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists series will be presented at the George Latimer Central Library.

Dates: Saturdays, June 4–25, 1:00–3:30 pm

Location: George Latimer Central Library, 90 W 4th St, Saint Paul, MN

Presenter: Springboard for the Arts staff

Tuition: Free. Funded by grants to Springboard for the Arts from the Lowertown Future Fund and the Saint Paul Cultural STAR Program. Register at www.sppl.org/events-and-classes

“It’s so exciting to do such out of the box thinking about community-building.”

Artists Collaborating with Community

Use your creative skills to address community interests! Learn strategies to approach community organizations and local businesses and techniques to ensure successful outcomes for you and your collaborators.

Date: Saturday, June 18, 9:30 am–12:00 pm

Location: East Lake Library, 2727 E Lake St, Minneapolis, MN

Presenter: Springboard for the Arts staff

Tuition: Free. Funded by a grant to the Hennepin County Libraries from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Register at www.hclib.org/events. Registration opens one month prior to the date of each workshop.



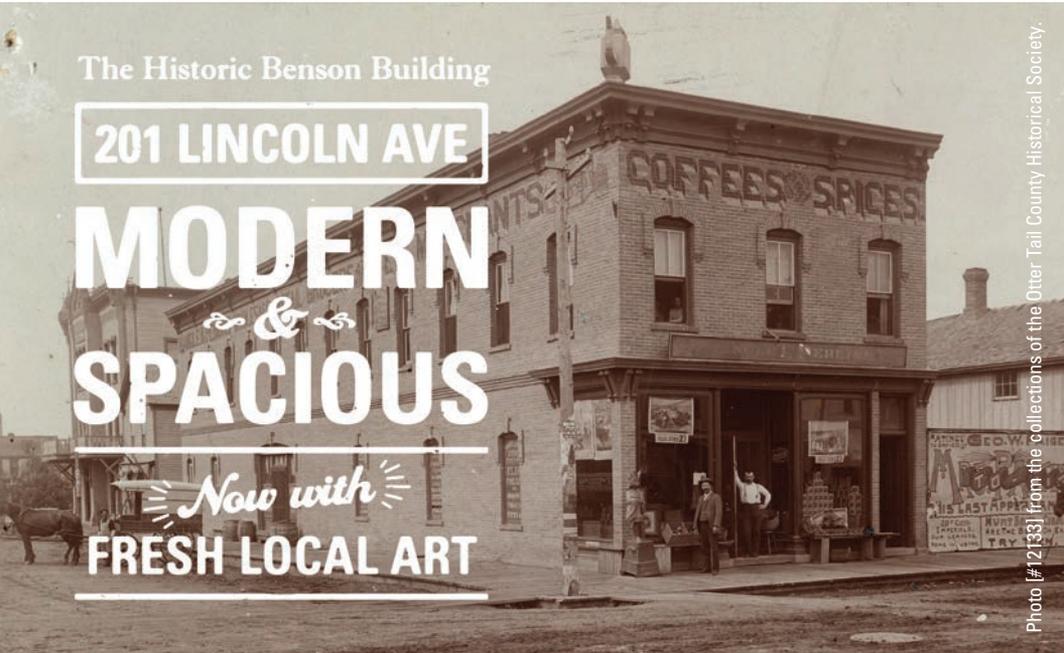
Announcing Springboard’s New Location in Fergus Falls!

If you’ve been to visit us recently, you know we’re packing people into our office in the River Inn Building. We’ve had the joy of growing to three staff members, holding meetings with community members, offering artist consultations, and so much more — so much more in fact, that we’ve outgrown our space.

So we’re moving! While we will miss the River Inn Building and our wonderful neighbors, we are excited to announce that we will be opening our new downtown location in June in the historic Benson Building at 201 Lincoln Ave, just a block west of where we are now.

Our new office will have more meeting space, an expanded artist resource center, pop-up retail, and more — tell us what else you want to see!

Come and say hello to us and check out the new digs at the Shop, Move and Groove Event in downtown Fergus Falls on Wednesday, July 13 from 3:00–7:00 pm!



The Historic Benson Building

201 LINCOLN AVE

MODERN
&
SPACIOUS

Now with
FRESH LOCAL ART

Photo (#121331) from the collections of the Otter Tail County Historical Society.

Hinge Arts at the Kirkbride

Call for Artists! Springboard is accepting applications for our Hinge Arts Residency program. Deadline to apply: Thursday, June 16, 2016 for residencies taking place between September 2016 and February 2017.

Save the date! Kirkbride Arts & History Weekend, September 15–17.

More information: www.imaginefergusfalls.com.



Spring 2016 Hinge Artists, from left to right: Lindsay Halleckson (photo: Ackerman + Gruber), **Susan Lenz** (photo: Mark Green), **Mary Welcome** (photo: Paul Richardson) and **Joshua Preston** (photo: Elliot Malcolm).

Community Supported Art

Do like opening presents? Are you a fan of local art and artists? Then you should be a part of Community Supported Art! Springboard for the Arts and the Kaddatz Gallery are hosting a Community Supported Art program featuring artists from Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse and Wilkin Counties.

Nine artist will be commissioned to make a series of original works, which will be packaged and sold to shareholders for \$300. Each shareholder will get nine original works, with three parties to collect the work and meet the artists and other collectors. CSA shares will go on sale in July, with Pick Up Events in August, September and October.

More information: www.kaddatzgalleries.org/get-involved/community-supported-art

CREATIVE EXCHANGE

POWERED BY

SPRINGBOARD
for the arts

CREATIVE EXCHANGE: Working in Minnesota, Making Things Happen Across the Country

We know artists make an impact in their communities—it's what we've learned from over 25 years of working with artists across Minnesota. The more we traveled sharing the stories of artist-led creative placemaking and Community Supported Art, the more we realized that what was true at home was true in communities of all sizes across the country. Artists are everywhere, and they are assets shaping their communities.



Director of Movement Building Carl Atiya Swanson at the Urban Innovation Exchange in Detroit.

To share this movement of local arts and culture, we launched Creative Exchange just over two years ago, in March 2014. You can find it online at www.springboardexchange.org, and it's where we celebrate the intersection of artistic inspiration, practical solutions, and community connections. Between the stories we publish and toolkits we host, we have sharing freely and openly at the core of our national work.

Since the launch, we've published over 230 profiles of artists with impact and special features about the power of art from across the country, and shared the 16 toolkits we host over 2,100 times. The toolkits come from Springboard's own programs and from other practical programs that are artist-led, community-engaged and practically proven. They are all free to access and use!

To celebrate, we've gathered 46 of the profiles and features we've published over the last two years into a collection, *Field Notes from Creative Exchange*. These stories touch on the themes that we're seeing in artists' work across the country—that creative thinking is shaping social change movements, reimagining what is possible in our economy, and creating new narratives of community power. We're excited for the book, and not just because we love being able to hold books in our hands, but as a resource to share and use as a snapshot of where the movement of local arts in communities is now. You can get it as a free PDF, or buy a copy of *Field Notes from Creative Exchange* here: www.bit.ly/CreativeExchangeFieldNotes.



photo: Doug Coombe

Devon Akmon, Arab American National Museum



photo: Doug Coombe

Sam White, Shakespeare in Detroit



photo: Kara Pearson Photography

Jami Duffy, Youth on Record



photo: Doug Coombe

Haleem Rasul, Harcore Detroit

We couldn't do any of this without a lot of help. Creative Exchange wouldn't exist without the investment of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation through the Knight Arts Challenge, the Kresge Foundation and the Surdna Foundation. We've also had wonderful partnerships with the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Aspen Institute Arts Program and all the publications throughout the Issue Media Group network.

And Creative Exchange wouldn't exist without you—artist, organizer, maker, neighbor, innovator, creator. Don't hesitate to be in touch with what you are working on, what you need, what you want to see on the platform. In the coming year, we are going to be working on creating and sharing more toolkits, facilitating more in-person convenings, and continuing to advocate for the creative power of local art and artists. Read up, get inspired, be in touch, and join the movement!

creativeexchange@springboardforthearts.org

www.springboardexchange.org



HEALTH

Health Insurance Help

If you have a question about how to get health insurance or would like help understanding your options, please visit www.springboardforthearts.org/health or contact Nikki Hunt at nikki@springboardforthearts.org. Springboard for the Arts is certified to help artists, arts administrators and their families apply for health insurance via MNsure.org.

Artists' Access to Healthcare (AAH) Voucher Program

Artists, arts administrators and their families may access free AAH vouchers to be used, like a gift certificate, towards the cost of medical, dental and mental healthcare services at low-cost clinics in the Twin Cities and Lake Region of Minnesota. For more information and to apply, please visit www.springboardforthearts.org/health or contact Nikki Hunt at nikki@springboardforthearts.org.

Help Connect Artists in Your Community to Healthcare

You can connect artists in your community to healthcare and health insurance resources! Our free, 22-page replication toolkit walks you step-by-step through the process of creating an Artists' Health Fair and Guide to Healthcare for Artists, complete with logistical pointers and templates. For more information or to request a toolkit, please visit www.springboardexchange.org/toolkits or email creativeexchange@springboardforthearts.org.



Springboard for the Arts is often on the road, sharing our workshops, programs and advocacy for artists and their creative power. We share many of our programs via free toolkits on Creative Exchange, are able to travel and deliver popular, customized workshops, and frequently present at conferences and gatherings. Here's a quick snapshot of where we'll be in the coming months.

Lake Region Arts Council Artist Resource Fair

Springboard's workshops will include a Gallery Curator Panel, and Career Planning.

Date: Saturday, June 25, 10:00 am–4:00 pm

Location: MState Community College, Fergus Falls, MN

Registration: Visit www.LRAC4.org

Next Generation, Minnesota Convening

Springboard for the Arts is excited to be a partner in Next Generation, a national initiative advancing the future of arts and culture placemaking in rural America, led by Art of the Rural and the Rural Policy Research Institute.

Date: Tuesday, June 28

Location: Fergus Falls, MN

More information: www.ruralgeneration.org

Minnesota Theater Alliance Statewide Theater Conference

Springboard's Executive Director Laura Zabel will deliver the closing keynote.

Dates: July 9–11

Location: St. John's University, Collegeville, MN

More information: www.minnesotatheateralliance.org

Work of Art in Chattanooga

Springboard will present an all-day workshop on topics from the Work of Art series.

Date: Thursday, August 18, 9:00 am–4:00 pm

Location: Chattanooga Workspace, 302 W 6th St, Chattanooga, TN

Presenter: Springboard for the Arts staff

Tuition and Registration: Visit www.chattanooga.events for details.

Resource Centers

Resource Centers are available in both our Lowertown Saint Paul and Fergus Falls locations. These centers offer individual artists and small organizations access to a full array of equipment, tools, and services in an informal, self-directed environment.

Lowertown (9:30 am–5:00 pm, M–F)

- Two 20" iMacs and a Dell Inspiron
- Two Epson scanners (large-format scanner and slide scanner)
- Epson Artisan 1430 Inkjet Photo Printer
- Adobe Creative Suite 6 Design Standard and CS3
- Subscription to Lynda.com, a library of 2,300+ step-by-step video training courses in hundreds of software programs.
- Book lending library
- Paper trimmers, digital postal scale, light box, more
- Notary public on-staff

Fergus Falls (10:00 am–5:00 pm, M–F)

- One 20" iMac
- Adobe Creative Suite 5 Design Standard
- Free wi-fi
- Meeting space
- Reference library

** Both Resource Centers have a copier, fax and printer.*



Springboard for the Arts' offices and Resource Centers in both our Lowertown and Fergus Falls locations will be closed Mon–Fri, July 4–8 for our annual summer break.

Community Development

Our Community Development Program supports artists to build reciprocal relationships with their communities, resulting in vibrant, creative, and equitable places.

Roots of Rondo: Black Artists Rising

In partnership with African American cultural and economic development institutions in the historic Rondo neighborhood of Saint Paul, *Roots of Rondo: Black Artists Rising* engaged over 50 Black artists connected to the Rondo community to propose collaborative artistic projects to highlight the present, past and future of Rondo. 21 projects, ranging from a convening for Black geeks (AfreekCON) and live typewritten poems to community murals and back-to-school haircuts, will take place over the summer. For details and activities, visit www.RootsOfRondo.org.



Roots of Rondo artists

photo: Peter Haakon Thompson

Ready Go

Ready Go is a resource that connects neighborhoods, businesses and non-profits to artist-created, mobile tools that are purpose built to pique curiosity and prompt interaction. These artist-made tools range from a Traveling Museum to a Streetcorner Letterpress. In addition to bringing folks together in new ways, Ready Go tools include customizable options to host conversations or collect feedback.

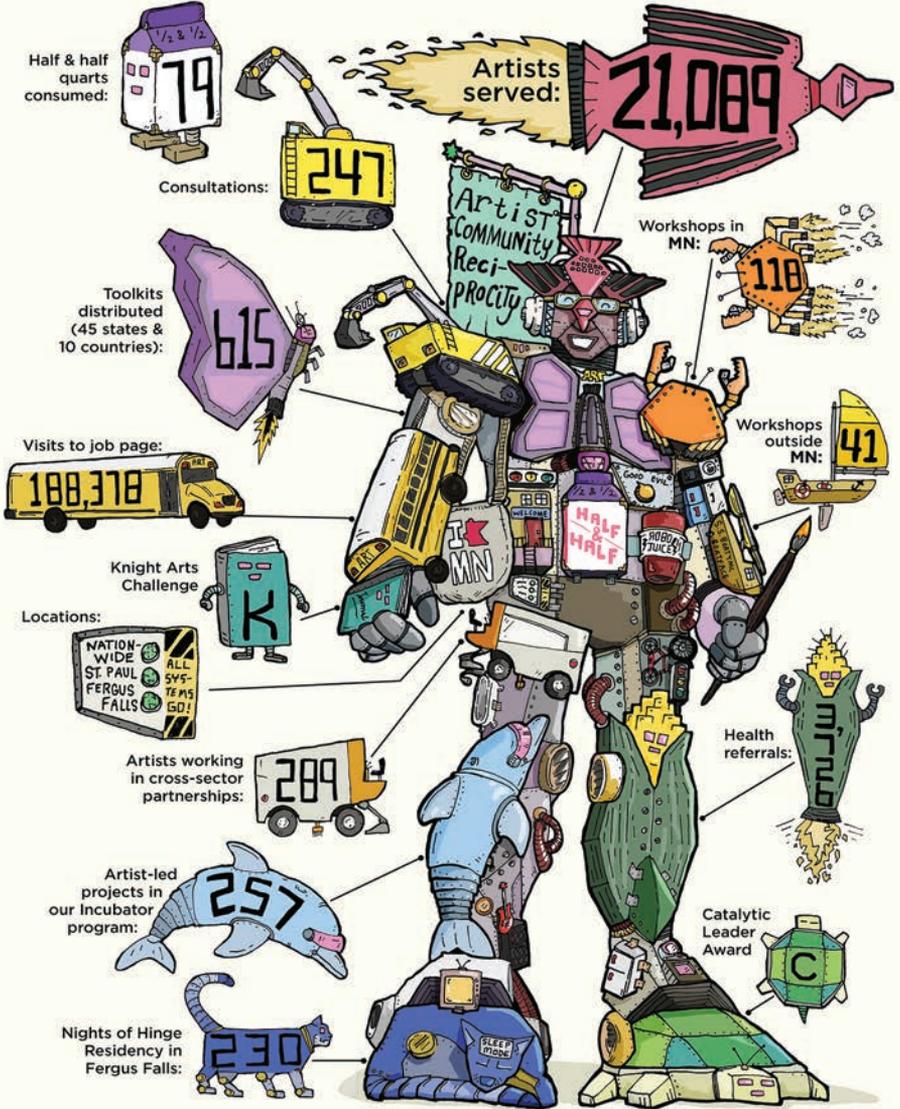
Find out where to see Ready Go tools in action this summer, receive updates and hire artists at: www.ReadyGoArt.com

Homeland: Native Artists Create on the Ave

Native artists of all backgrounds with ties to Homelands in or near the Twin Cities—including storytellers, bead makers, quiltmakers, craftspeople, makers, performers, muralists—All My Relations Arts, Native American Community Development Institute and Springboard for the Arts invite you to join the creative placemaking movement! Use your talents to create collaborative work sharing stories of homeland here in the cities and along the American Indian Cultural Corridor in Minneapolis. *Homeland* is supported by David and Rosemary Good. For more information about how to get involved or see project activities that will occur over the summer and during the August 17th Open Streets on Franklin Avenue, visit www.nacdi.org/projects/homeland.

SPRINGBOARD ARTBOT 2015 MODEL

A YEAR IN REVIEW



created by Taylor Baldry

MISSION

Springboard for the Arts' mission is to cultivate vibrant communities by connecting artists with the resources they need to make a living and a life.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our way of working is equally important as what we do.

There are **9** key principles that drive our work.

ARTISTS ARE ASSETS

Artists exist in every community, and art is inseparable from the communities in which it is made. Our work helps illuminate the social and economic value of art and creativity.

BY ARTISTS FOR ARTISTS

Everyone who works at Springboard is an artist. We recognize the expertise and experience of artists and incorporate that into creating effective, relevant programs to meet artists' needs.

THE BROADEST DEFINITION OF WHO IS AN ARTIST

Everyone has creative capacity and there are many different ways to be an artist. We also know that there are many kinds of success for an artist, and we help artists define success for themselves—financial success, recognition, a supportive community, respect, social change, and more.

MORE IS MORE

We make and share tools designed to benefit as many artists as possible. We believe interconnected communities of artists create an impact in ways that single interventions do not. By freely sharing our work and creating connections among artists and communities, we work to make substantial, system-wide change.

EQUITY = VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Beyond accessibility, our programs address systemic and structural inequities and seek to build equity, agency and power in communities, neighborhoods and systems.

RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIPS

We seek mutual respect, trust, commitment, and reciprocity with all our partners. We don't go it alone. We create and customize programs with partners based on mutual goals, and we invite partners to strengthen and change our work.

CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATIONS THAT LAST

We help artists collaborate with existing resources and systems, both because there is abundant potential in those resources, and because we believe they will be strengthened by artists' contributions. We focus on building bridges and mechanisms that help relationships continue to thrive without us.

BOLDNESS AND CREATIVITY

Our work is characterized by optimism that change is possible, and belief that the boldness and creativity of artists can address the challenges facing our communities. We also know that in order to engage people, this movement has to be fun.

REAL HALF & HALF

We value hospitality and an attitude of abundance over scarcity. Our goal is always to create an environment, real or virtual, that is welcoming to newcomers and existing partners and friends alike. Hot coffee and real Half & Half out of the carton is something we always have available—a symbol of offering the best of what we have to our guests and our staff.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY2016

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for the arts

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info@springboardforthearts.org

Springboard for the Arts is committed to providing access to programs and resources for all artists.

We are committed to unbiased treatment of all individuals without regard to race, color, gender, age, national origin, religion, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, citizenship, disability, veteran status or any other basis. Please contact Springboard for the Arts for specific information about our programs or services.



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THE SAINT PAUL FOUNDATION

