ARTS PROGRAMS in Minnesota for Adults with Disabilities

These are some of the programs in Minnesota that provide services or activities for and with people with disabilities. If you know additional activities, please contact VSA Minnesota, the state organization on arts and disability.

612-332-3888 or 800-801-3883, info@vsamn.org, emerginggrant@vsamn.org, access@vsamn.org
528 Hennepin Ave. #305, Minneapolis 55403 – http://www.vsamn.org

(** indicates Recipient of ADA Accessibility Grant from VSA Minnesota)

** Ally People Solutions – www.AllyPeopleSolutions.org - St. Paul
Serve 300 adults with disabilities in 4 branch locations in St. Paul and the East Metro.
1246 University Ave W, #239, St. Paul 55104; 651-288-8914

** American Assn. of Woodturners – http://www.woodturner.org - St. Paul
** grant for lathe usable by blind artists; art gallery and classes.
Landmark Center #222, 75 W. 5th St., St. Paul 55102; 651-484-9094

** Anodyne Artists Co. – http://www.anodyneart.org/ - St. Paul
Day center for artists with disabilities who work on visual and/or performing arts. Gallery shows.
1410 Energy Park Dr #11, St. Paul 55108; 651-642-1684, anodynearts@gmail.com

** Arrowhead Area Artists with Disabilities (AAAWD) – Duluth
Duluth area networking group of artists with disabilities.
Email aaawdmail@gmail.com or Facebook:

** ArtAbility (People Inc.) – http://www.peopleincorporated.org/Artability - St. Paul
Classes, exhibits and annual fall art sales for people with mental illness.
2060 Centre Pointe Blvd. #3, St. Paul 55120; 651-774-0011, artability@peopleincorporated.org

** Artists With Disabilities Alliance (AWDA, or Open Flow) – Minneapolis
Art-sharing, networking and support the first Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 PM by writers, performers, visual artists, photographers, etc. (Sept. – June)
612-332-3888, jon@vsamn.org, http://vsamn.org/artists-disabilities/
Walker Community Church, 3104 16th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

** The Artists’ Well – https://springboardforthearts.org/incubator-program/the-artists-well/
Provides support for people who are committed to making art while facing ongoing health challenges.

** Art Together – St. Croix River Valley
Offers group art experiences for people of all ages. Both public programs and private programs tailored to a group’s needs.
ArtSelf Studio http://renriverhouse.artsselfmn.com/
The River House is one hour northeast of the Twin Cities near Marine on St Croix and Scandia. Lisa Schlingerman also teaches Tai Chi and Qigong, Expressive Art Therapy.

** Arts of Passage – Minneapolis
Arts-based private therapy practice of Harry LeBlanc, who integrates all the arts -- music, drama, poetry, dance, sculpture, mask-making, puppets, sandplay and more -- into the therapeutic...
process. He specializes in **Expressive Arts Therapy** and **Drama Therapy** and integrates ritual and the arts with psychotherapy in a creative improvisational approach.

612-360-0833, harry@artsofpassage.com
2601 2nd Ave. S., Suite 3B, Minneapolis 55408
Part of the **Fallout Arts Collective**, the old Jimmy Jingle building, on corner of 26th & 2nd, near the Black Forest Restaurant.


Twin Cities
Age-oriented arts activities, formerly MN Creative Arts & Aging Network.
Interim director: Brad Ballander brad@artsagemn.org or ballinger.brad@gmail.com, 651-690-9740, 952-473-0228, info@artsagemn.org

**Artworks with East Suburban Resources** – [www.ESRworks.org](http://www.ESRworks.org) - Stillwater
1754 Washington Avenue, Stillwater 55082; 651-351-0190

**Bridgeview Art Program** – [www.leecarlsoncenter.org](http://www.leecarlsoncenter.org) - Fridley
**drop-in center for Anoka county residents/artists with mental illness.**
763-783-7440; 952-300-1125,
1121 80th Ave. NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432
Lee Carlson Center for Mental Health & Well-Being:
7954 University Ave NE, Fridley, MN 55432

**Children’s Theatres** – The Twin Cities and Minnesota have a number of child or youth-oriented theatre and dance programs, either as a separate organization or as a program of a larger theatre or arts center. Among them are:
Anoka Middle School for the Arts, Anoka, [http://www.amsatheater.org/](http://www.amsatheater.org/)
Ashland Productions, Maplewood, [http://www.ashlandproductions.org](http://www.ashlandproductions.org)
Blue Water Theatre Co., Wayzata, [http://www.bluewatertheatre.com](http://www.bluewatertheatre.com)
Children’s Theatre Co., Minneapolis, [http://www.childrenstheatre.org](http://www.childrenstheatre.org)
Circus Juventas, [http://www.circusjuventas.org](http://www.circusjuventas.org)
In The Company of Kids Creative Arts Ctr, Burnsville, [https://www.facebook.com/companyofkids](https://www.facebook.com/companyofkids)
Stages Theatre, Hopkins, [http://www.stagestheatre.org](http://www.stagestheatre.org)
SteppingStone Theatre for Youth Development, St. Paul, [http://www.steppingstonetheatre.org](http://www.steppingstonetheatre.org)
Youth Performance Co., Minneapolis, [www.youthperformanceco.org](http://www.youthperformanceco.org)

**CLIMB Theatre** – [www.climb.org](http://www.climb.org) - Inver Grove Heights
Occasionally creates/tours disability-related shows for schools.

**CCP Foundation** – Stillwater area
Their Two Steps Forward initiative focuses on the greater Stillwater area, dedicated towards making the community easier to use for people living with developmental disabilities. Several nonprofits were created to provide social and employment opportunities, several existing organizations adapted their missions to be more inclusive and focused, and existing barriers in the community were changed and/or eliminated. Sustainability was a focus, hoping long-term and lasting change will continue to be maintained.

Kathy Shroyer, Board Manager, 651-644-3140 ext. 234, kshroyer@starsvcs.com
1295 Bandana Blvd North, #135, Saint Paul 55108
ConnectWC / TYZE Community Connectors – www.ConnectWC.org - Stillwater area
Stepping Up Moving Forward has applied for formal 501 (c) 3 status with the IRS and will be
continuing the work of the CCP Foundation: developing community connections through
relationships, network meetings and hosted events; developing online relationships and support
through the ConnectWC.org website; developing community collaborations for support, events
and fundraising (long-term sustainability for all organizations who serve constituents with I/DD);
nurturing every day leaders; and creating a long-term sustainability plan for the ConnectWC.org
website, so that it can remain and hopefully be duplicated in other communities.
651-300-0085, Connectwc@gmail.com

Courage Kenny International Art Show for Artists with Disabilities – Golden Valley
Spring show is open to all artists with a disability worldwide. All work must be original. Artists are
limited to entering a maximum of two works and all art must be for sale. Also Courage Cards.
http://www.allinahealth.org/Courage-Kenny-Rehabilitation-Institute/
1-888-413-3323, artsearch@allina.com; or Laura.brooks@allina.com; 763-520-2011

Cow Tipping Press — http://cowtippingpress.org/ Minneapolis
Teach inclusive writing classes for adults with developmental disabilities, giving audiences a new way
to think about this rich form of human diversity.
Bryan Boyce, Executive Director, bboyce@cowtippingpress.org, 507-521-2278

** grant for tables, lighting, chairs for artists with disabilities. Community art classes.
3981 Lexington Ave. S., Eagan 55122; 651-675-5521, jandersen@cityofeagan.com

Fallout Arts Collective – http://www.falloutartsidevative.com/ - Minneapolis
Nurtures creativity, diversity, & community for young, emerging & less fortunate artists through
creative programs, environments and initiatives. Art Center, artist co-op studios, creative services.
Fallout Urban Art Center: 2609 Stevens Ave. S., Minneapolis 55408; 612-822-5200.
Fallout Co-op: 2601 2nd Ave. S., Minneapolis 55408.

Free Arts Minnesota – www.freeartsmnnesota.org - Minneapolis
Free Arts for Abused Children of MN; programs for youth.
400 N. 1st Ave., # 518, Minneapolis 55401
612-824-2787, Erin@freeartsmnnesota.org or Dan@

Provides social activities, skills development and community connections for teens and adults with
disabilities. 651-698-4096, danreed@highlandfriendshipclub.org.

Inclusion for Sacred Communities – www.Inclusioninnovations.com
Training on creating inclusive programs for people with disabilities in synagogues, churches, etc.
Shelly Christiansen, founder.
612-965-0423, shelly@inclusioninnovations.com

Day center for artists with disabilities who work in visual and performing arts. Gallery shows, plays.
** 1860 Minnehaha Ave. W., St. Paul 55104; 651-209-3575, info@interactcenter.com

Juxtaposition Arts – www.juxtaposition.org - North Minneapolis
Inclusive, especially for young artists, no special programs or focus on disability; T-shirt machine.
** 2007 Emerson Ave N., Minneapolis 55411; 612-588-1148
Kairos Alive! — [https://kairosalive.org/](https://kairosalive.org/) Twin Cities
Uses participatory dance, music and story — with elders at the center — to raise awareness of the importance of creative involvement across the lifespan for verifiable health benefits. Choreography of Car programs promote personal and community well-being through Intergenerational Dance Hall public participation events, Dancing Heart™ weekly programming, Community Arts and Wellbein Residencies, and other programs.
** 4316 Upton Ave. S., Minneapolis 55410; 612-926-5454, [info@kairosalive.org](mailto:info@kairosalive.org)

Employment options for persons with disabilities

The Learning Exchange – Bloomington area

Let's Go Fishing – [www.letsgofishingstillwater.com](http://www.letsgofishingstillwater.com) Lake Elmo
C/o Kollitz & Willgren 3880 Laverne Ave. N. Lake Elmo 55042
651-707-5181, [info@LetsGoFishingStillwater.com](mailto:info@LetsGoFishingStillwater.com)

Merry Music Makers – [http://www.anoka.k12.mn.us](http://www.anoka.k12.mn.us) North Metro
Choir of adults with disabilities meets weekly (during school year) at Norhttown through Project Power & Anoka-Hennepin Community Education.
763-506-1279, [Justine.Knox@anoka.k12.mn.us](mailto:Justine.Knox@anoka.k12.mn.us)


Midwest Special Services - Creative Arts Program – [http://www.mwsservices.org/program/creative-arts/](http://www.mwsservices.org/program/creative-arts/)
MSS offers opportunities to create art through various media options, creative adaptive equipment, nontraditional tools, dedicated spaces and enthusiastic encouragement from MSS art facilitators.
MSS artists can participate in exhibitions and free classes at The Show Gallery Lowertown.
Lauren Hughes, 651-778-1000 or [lhughes@mwsservices.org](mailto:lhughes@mwsservices.org).

Statewide nonprofit; one program is “Fidgety Fairy Tales”
165 Western Ave. N., #2, St. Paul 55102; 651-644-7333

Offers a wide variety of services (residential, training, vocational) for adults with disabilities and employers. Minnetonka, Hopkins, Coon Rapids.
5500 Opportunity Court, Minnetonka, MN 55343, [info@opportunities.org](mailto:info@opportunities.org); 952-938-5511

PACER Center – [www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org) Bloomington
Training center for parents of children & young adults with disabilities. Includes puppet & bullying programs, computer resource center, workshops.
8161 Normandale Blvd., Bloomington 55437; 952-838-9000

Partnership Resources – [www.partnershipresources.org](http://www.partnershipresources.org) St. Louis Park
"Creating partnerships between people with disabilities and the community."
St. Louis Park office: 4226 Park Glen Road, 55416; 952-925-1404;
Mpls office: 1069 10th Ave SE, 55414, 612-331-2075;
Senior Site Office: 4200 Park Glen Road, St. Louis Park 55416; 952-746-6207

Rise and Art Speaks program – [http://www.rise.org](http://www.rise.org) -
8406 Sunset Road NE, Spring Lake Park 55432; 763-783-2822

The Show Art Gallery Lowertown – [http://www.theshowartgallery.org](http://www.theshowartgallery.org) -
This gallery exhibits work by artists of all backgrounds in a professional setting.
346 N. Sibley Street, St. Paul, MN 55101; 651-419-8022, [info@theshowartgallery.org](mailto:info@theshowartgallery.org)

Simply ArtAble – [http://simplyjanestudio.com/](http://simplyjanestudio.com/) -
** art classes include adults with disabilities
Simply Jane Studio: 5411 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis 55419; 612-354-3961
Jane Elias, [jane@simplyjanestudio.com](mailto:jane@simplyjanestudio.com) or [simplyjanestudio@gmail.com](mailto:simplyjanestudio@gmail.com) or
[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Simply-JaneArtAble/19831748624](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Simply-JaneArtAble/19831748624)

Soho Arts - [http://www.rangecenter.com/services/sohoarts.htm](http://www.rangecenter.com/services/sohoarts.htm) -
Hibbing and Chisholm
Artists with disabilities learn drawing, painting, and printmaking techniques, and participate in grant-funded art projects and art events.
218-263-9230, sohoart@rangecenter.com, sohoart@callta.com

Avivo ArtWorks – [www.artworksatspectrum.org](http://www.artworksatspectrum.org) -
Art-making programs and exhibits for artists with mental illness. Avivo (formerly Spectrum)
Community Mental Health, [https://avivomn.org/services/mental-health-services/artworks/](https://avivomn.org/services/mental-health-services/artworks/)
1900 Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis 55404; 612-752-8282
Jes Reyes, Arts Coordinator, [jes.reyes@avivomn.org](mailto:jes.reyes@avivomn.org); Christi Furnas, Support Specialist

Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater – [www.stuartpimsler.com](http://www.stuartpimsler.com) -
Theatre for the Heart and Mind (Arts & Healthcare Programs)
528 Hennepin Ave. #707, Minneapolis 55403; 521-763-7738, [SPDanTh@gmail.com](mailto:SPDanTh@gmail.com)

Arc Greater Twin Cities TYZE Program – [www.arcgreatertwincities.org](http://www.arcgreatertwincities.org) -
[info@arcgreatertwincities.org](mailto:info@arcgreatertwincities.org)
2446 University Ave. W., Suite 110, St. Paul 55114; 952-920-0855
Program Director Georgann Rumsey, [Georgannrumsey@arcgreatertwincities.org](mailto:Georgannrumsey@arcgreatertwincities.org)

U of M Disabled Student Cultural Center – [dscc@umn.edu](mailto:dscc@umn.edu)
and offices at other colleges/universities

Upstream Arts – [www.upstreamarts.org](http://www.upstreamarts.org) –
** Mission: to enhance the lives of adults and youth with disabilities by fostering creative communication and social independence through the power of arts education. In-school programs
3501 Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis 55413; 612-331-4584; [info@upstreamarts.org](mailto:info@upstreamarts.org)

c/o Community Thread, 2300 Orleans Street West, 651-491-6486; [info@valleyfriendshipclub.org](mailto:info@valleyfriendshipclub.org)

Velvet Tones –
Singing group of adults with disabilities.
952-432-1081, [VelvetTones@gmail.com](mailto:VelvetTones@gmail.com), [http://www.velvettones.org](http://www.velvettones.org)
Its mission is to create a community where people with disabilities can learn through, participate in, and access the arts. Until it ends operations in September 2019, it offers support to artists with disabilities, networking, Emerging Artist Grants (deadline Feb. 1, 2019, with Jerome Foundation funding), and Artists’ Pipeline opportunities for artists, arts patrons and arts organizations. ADA Access Improvement Grants (deadlines Dec. 14, 2018, & May 1, 2019) help metro arts organizations make their facilities and programs more accessible for people with disabilities. The Accessible Arts Calendar (online and by email) lists arts events offering ASL interpreting, audio description, captioning, sensory-friendly accommodations and featuring artists with disabilities.

Washington County DD Activity Newsletter – Published quarterly, Submissions to Denise Steans: Denise.steans@co.washington.mn.us


Young Dance – www.youngdance.org – ** All-ability dance collaborations with a number of groups; 612-423-3064

Zenon Dance – http://www.zenondance.org Has included Deaf dancers in classes. Located at the Cowles Center for Dance. 528 Hennepin Avenue, # 400, Minneapolis 55403; 612-338-1101