



nuît blanche twin cities
june 9-10, 2012

All people.



All arts.



All night.





Janaki Ranpura, *Egg & Sperm Ride :: Hide & Seek*, Stone Arch Bridge PHOTO: PK



Jim Campbell, *Scattered Light*, Upper Landing PHOTO: DH

northern spark

- **Northern Spark** is a new Minnesota festival, modeled on the *nuît blanche* or “white nights” festivals from around the globe
- **Northern Spark** is a free, dusk to dawn, **participatory public art event** that takes place in both Minneapolis and St. Paul
- **Northern Spark is all media, all night:** performance, visual arts, moving and projected image, interactive media
- **Northern Spark** brings together a multitude of artists, creating hundreds of art projects in partnership with numerous arts organizations at multiple venues
- **Northern Spark** creates a unique opportunity to celebrate the **confluence of culture and nature** in the Twin Cities
- **Northern Spark mobilizes a metro-wide audience** for events in two cities
- Northern Spark is organized and presented by **Northern Lights.mn**, a non-profit arts organization that presents innovative art in the public sphere

creating community capital

- **Northern Spark builds a broad audience for serious art and creative fun**
- **Northern Spark cultivates open and active civic engagement** with art and community
- **Northern Spark heightens awareness and extends the reach of local artists**
- **Northern Spark** presents the work of important national and international artists (including those who live in Minnesota), further **identifying the Twin Cities as a place of convergence for creative innovation**
- **Northern Spark strengthens public awareness and support of our local non-profits**
- **Northern Spark promotes and supports the local economy**
- **Northern Spark has the potential to increase regional, national and international tourism**



Piotr Szyhalski, *Empty Words (so that we can do our living)*, Father Hennepin Park PHOTO: PK



Michael Murnane and Andrew Saboe, *Landmark in a River City*, Landmark Center PHOTO: DH

At the end of my white night, I was exhausted but exhilarated, and not just by the art. I realized that the importance of Northern Spark went well beyond what was on show. Our first Nuit Blanche brought people out of the comfortable confines of their homes at an odd hour for an illuminating experience of togetherness.



Jim Woodring, Walker Art Center PHOTO: CW/WAC

2011 festival in numbers

50,000 visits
513 minutes
200 local and national artists
100 site-specific art projects and performances
60 different local arts organizations
34 sites
15 buses
2 cities
1 river

northernspark.org

Web Statistics for May 31–June 11, 2011

30,916 Visits
21,076 Unique Visitors
13,788 Visits on June 4–5

63.6% New Visitors
36.4% Returning Visitors

41.63% Referring Sites
29.83% Direct Traffic
28.28% Search Engines

Mobile Devices

1,207 Visits
823 Visits on June 4–5





A vibrant multi-dimensional event that takes us out of the every day.

The Notion Collective, *Station Identification*, W Minneapolis-The Foshay PHOTO: PK



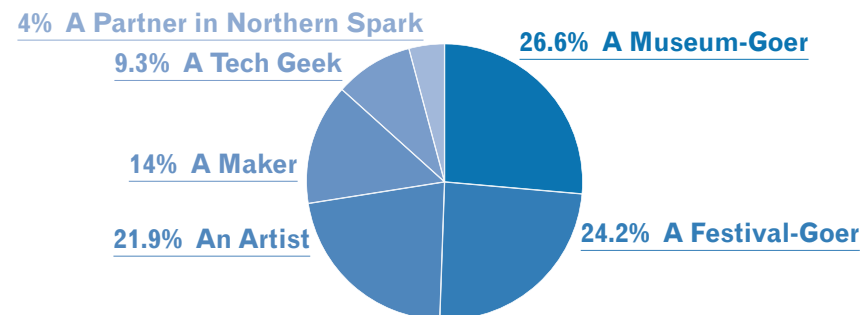
How proud I am of our city and our creative community for doing Northern Spark... I was in love with the whole night.

Wing Young Huie, *A Ping Pong Retrospective*, Nomad World Pub COURTESY THE ARTIST

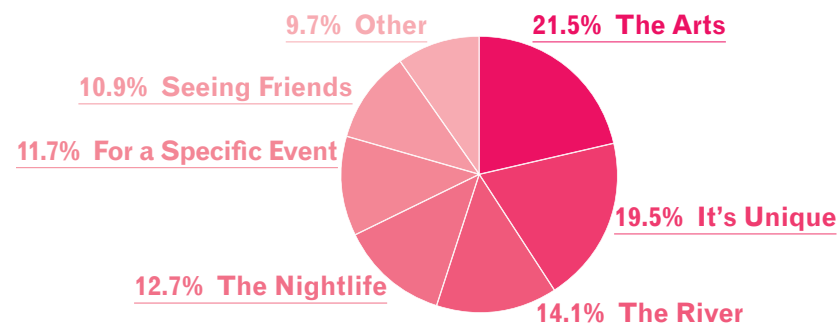
More than 500 people responded to surveys in person during the Festival and online afterwards.

2011 survey results

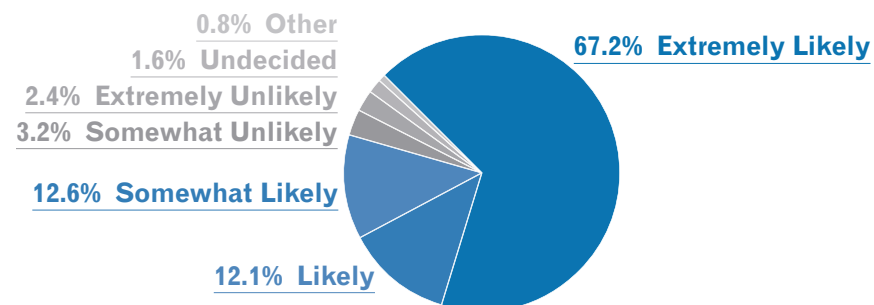
Tell us about yourself. Are you . . . ?



Why did you come to Northern Spark?



How likely are you to come to the next Northern Spark?





Ali Momeni and Jenny Schmid, *The Battle of Everyouth*, Minneapolis Institute of Arts PHOTO: COURTESY MIA

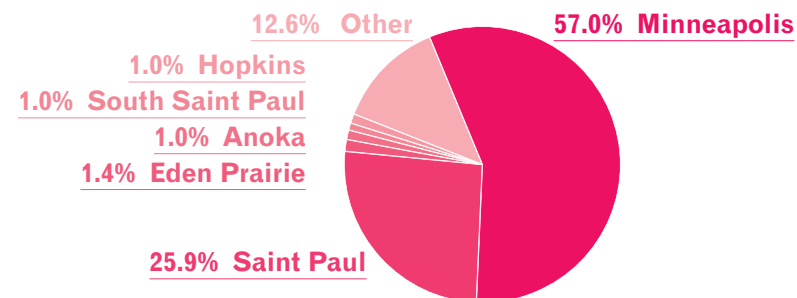


Leslie Kelman and Mark O'Brien, *Domestic Storefront*, Stone Arch Bridge PHOTO: PK

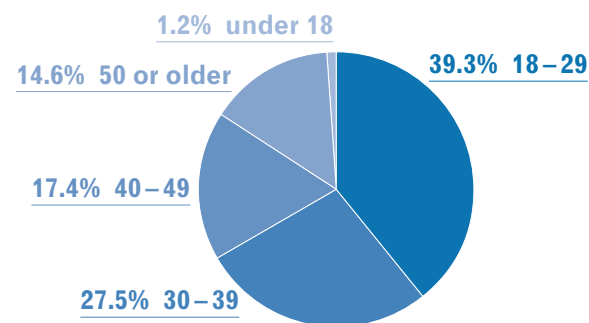
Loved how it brought out the entire community — all ages, races, backgrounds. It was truly a night that was magical. And very uplifting in appreciating our overall Twin-Cities Community.

More than 500 people responded to surveys in person during the Festival and online afterwards.

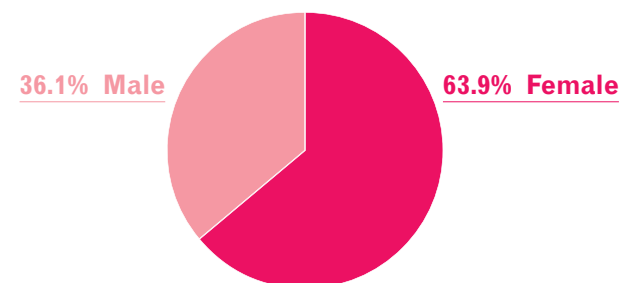
City



Your Age



Sex



Art is everywhere. The night of Northern Spark transforms your consciousness. Suddenly, everything becomes art . . . The next morning, the sensation continues, and your senses are heightened for hours.



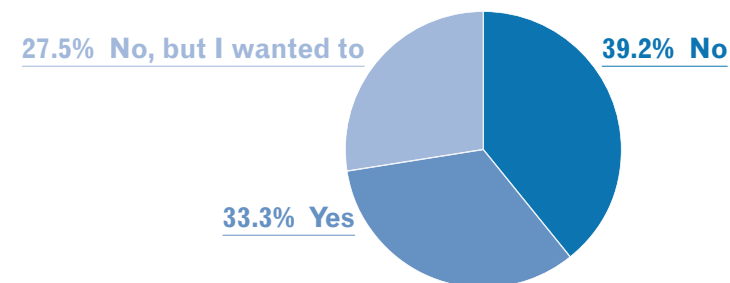
Drawing NIGHTCLUB, Walker Art Center PHOTO: CW/WAC



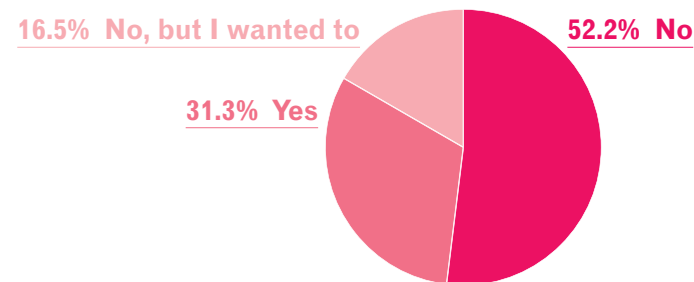
Chris Kallmyer, for dawn or dusk // homeward, Stone Arch Bridge PHOTO: PK

More than 500 people responded to surveys in person during the Festival and online afterwards.

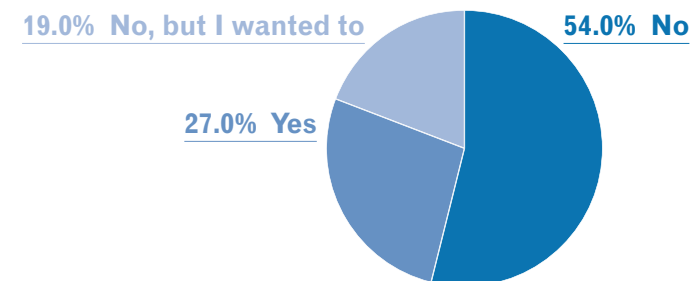
Ate at any of the Northern Spark venues



Biked between venues

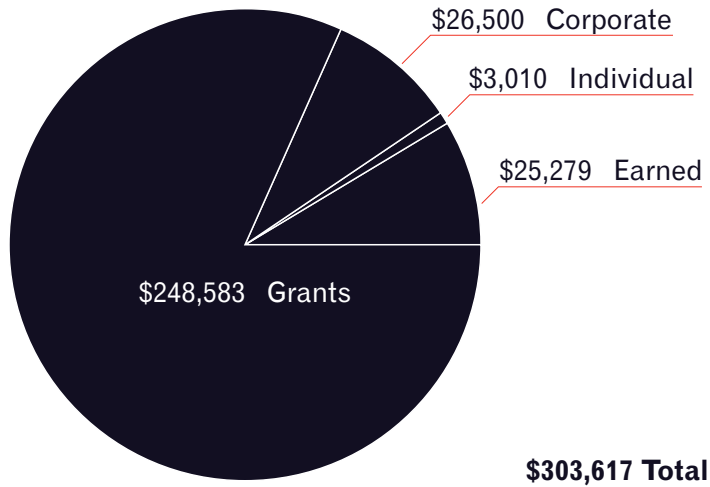


Rode the free bus

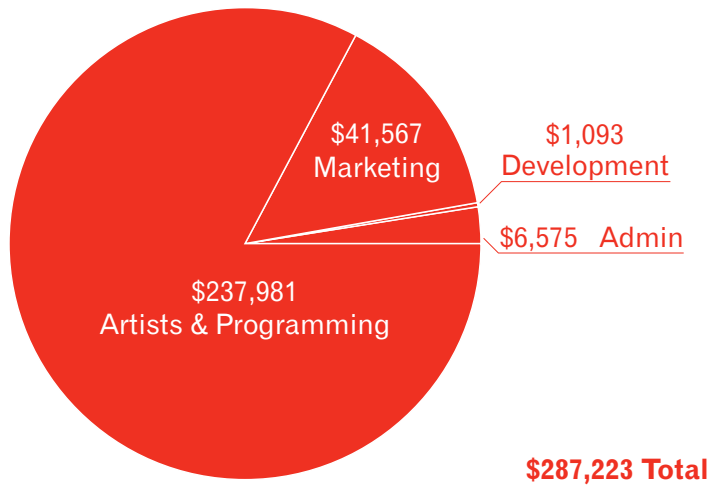


northern lights.mn finances

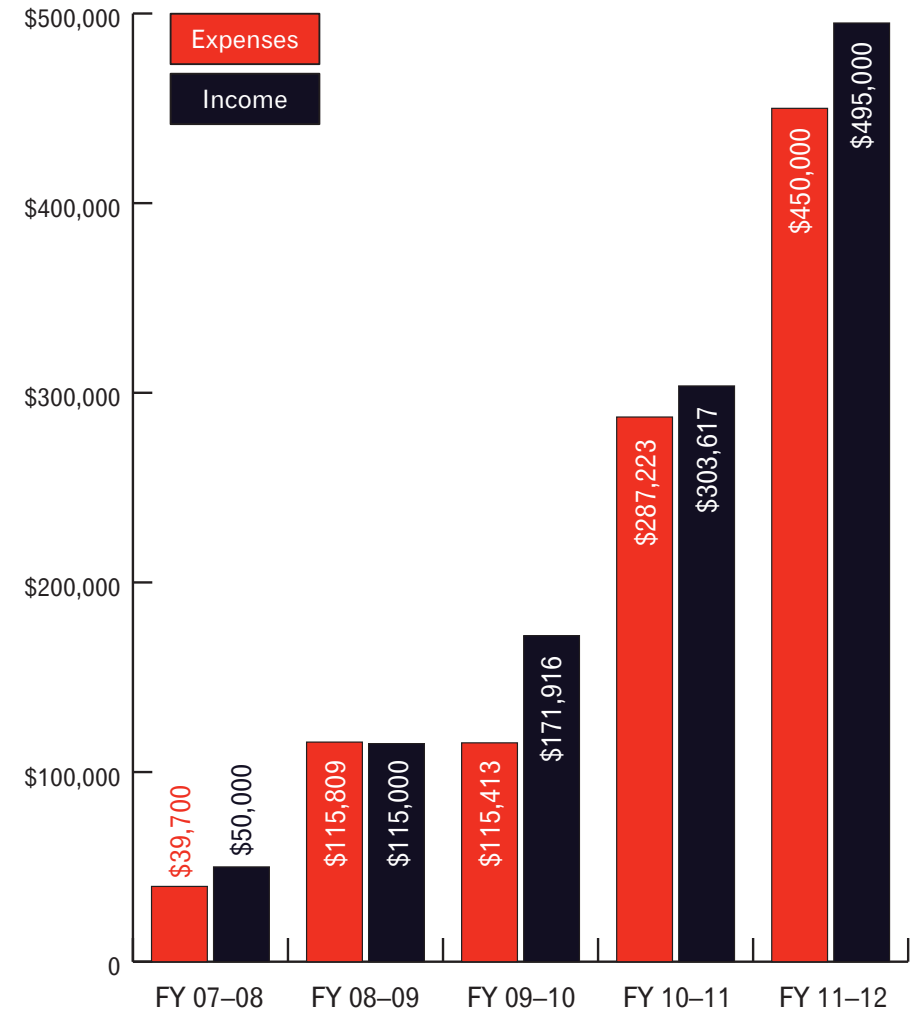
FY 10-11 INCOME BY CATEGORY



FY 10-11 EXPENSES BY CATEGORY



NORTHERN LIGHTS.MN INCOME + EXPENSES BY YEAR



selected 2012 projects



Bridget Beck and Carissa Samaniego, *GLOW-a-BOUT*

In 2011 one of the most anticipated and successful events of Northern Spark was *GLOW-a-BOUT*, the urban gaming program in Loring Park conceived and organized by Beck and Samaniego. We are thrilled to bring back this project in 2012.



David Bowen, *Fly Search Lights*

Bowen's practice is driven by an interest in the collection and visualization of data, especially by investigating the intersection of mechanical and organic systems. By visualizing the movement of flies at an urban scale, he is metaphorically exploring the city as the complex outcome of a series of intersecting flows from traffic to the river to information.



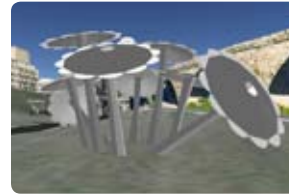
Aaron Dysart, *Sun Fountain*

Dysart will create a ten-foot-high artificial falls in Loring Park onto which he will project a video image of the sun in transit. This curtain fountain, or "falls," will be activated by a motion sensor, and when people walk into the viewing area, the fountain will spring up, revealing the sun above the nighttime pond.



Michael Murnane, *Untitled projection*

Murnane's projection and lighting extravaganza on the façade of the Landmark Center in downtown St. Paul, *Landmark in a River City*, was another favorite of Northern Spark attendees in 2011, and we have commissioned a new spectacle from him for 2012.



Wil Natzel, *Flower Towers*

An architectural-scale installation from the humblest of materials—cardboard. This 20 foot high, whimsical bouquet, reminiscent of sunflowers stretching toward the moonlight of nuit blanche, contrasts with the surrounding historic structures of the historic milling district.



Robin Schwartzman, *THINK AND WONDER, WONDER AND THINK*

Large, illuminated letters between the spans on both sides of the Stone Arch Bridge will spell out THINK AND WONDER, WONDER AND THINK, becoming the highly visible leitmotif of the entire nuit blanche.



Pramila Vasudevan, *In Habit [living in a pattern]*

16 dance movements choreographed and looped as a 9-hour multimedia performance are inspired by Pierre Bourdieu's concept of "habitus," the set of socially acquired behaviors obtained through the activities and experiences of everyday life that are often taken for granted.



Works Progress, *Mississippi Megalops —A Floating Chautauqua*

Back by popular demand, *Mississippi Megalops* features dozens of sparkling performances, illustrated presentations, and other artistic and scientific expressions aboard the Jonathan Padelford stern-wheeler as it travels up and down the Mississippi.



Marcus Young and Grace Minnesota, *The Lullaby Experiment*

The Lullaby Experiment invites people to explore the soft mystery of slumber in the midst of a very public night. Participants give up their daytime selves in gentle and creative misbehavior with fellow sleepers where sleeping does not belong—and are sung to tenderly throughout their all-night stay.

2011 support

STARLIGHT



This activity is made possible in part by a grant provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature from the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

SPARK



TORCH



MEDIA



I loved how many different kinds of people came out. Teenagers, elderly couples, families with kids, 20-somethings who were dressed for the club scene. . . . All in all, it was magical, an enormous effort that made me proud to be an artist and a Twin Citian.

Works Progress, *Mississippi Megalops — A Floating Chautauqua*, Mississippi River COURTESY THE ARTISTS



Ben Garthus, *Mobile Creative Output*, Father Hennepin Park PHOTO: PK

2011 artists

Ai Minnesota Students
Artifact Shore
Luke Axelson
Leslie Ball
Bridget Beck
Christopher Baker
Robert Bauer
Amelia Biewald
Philip Blackburn
The BodyCartography
Project
Bart Buch
Jill Burchill
Calamity and the Owl
Charles Campbell
Chris Campbell
Jim Campbell
Jaime Carrera
Genevieve Chamberland
Christopher Charbonneau
Melinda Childs
Bryan Clendenen
Barbara Claussen
Como Avenue Jug Band
Corbian Visual Arts and Dance
Grant Cutler
Emily Darnell
Mike Davis
Daniel Dean
Dirty Talk
Dan Dressler
Pete Driessen
John Driscoll
Alex Dyba
Aaron Dysart
Terese Elhard
Heid Erdrich
Jan Estep
Chris Farstad
Sam Fuentes
Ben Garthus
Jonathan Gering
Charles Gillett
Grace Minnesota
Will Grant
Solange Guillaume
Mike Haeg
Mike Hallenbeck
Malena Handeen
Lara Hanson
Nathan Hanson
Katie Hargrave
Todd Harper

Peter Henning
Alexa Horochowski
Wing Young Huie
Carrie Jennings
Mary Johnson
Peter L. Johnson
JoJo of Murals by Eros
Joe Kaercher
Gulgin Kayim
Chris Kallmyer
John Kamp
Mero Cocinero Karimi
Kalen Rainbow Keir
Sean Kelly-Pegg
Leslie Kelman
Layne Kennedy
John Kannenberg
Julie Kesti
Scott Kesti
Osman Khan
John Kim
Rachel Knoll
Suzanne Kosmalski
Bethany Lacktorin
Landland
Mina Leierwood
Amanda Lovelee
Emily Lynch
Dana Maiden
Meena Mangalvedhekar
Aaron Marx
MAW
Megan Mayer
MCAD Students
Peter McLarnan
Caly McMorrow
Megan Mertaugh
Debora Miller
Ali Momeni
Ben Moren
Michael Murnane
Levi Murphy
Joe Nagel
Christy Newell
Kaara Nilsson
The Notion Collective
Nostalgia
Pat Nunnelly
Mark O'Brien
Ryan Olcott (Food Team)
Angela Olson
Erik Ostrom
Panelectric Cinema

Jack FX Pavlik
Chris Pennington
Ilana Percher
Peyton of House of Daskarone
Wang Ping
Bonnie J. Ploger
Liseli Polivka
Tom Poor Bear
Prairie Fire Lady Choir
Scott Puhl
Janaki Ranpura
Red76
Rigo 23
Brian Roessler
James Rojas
ROLU
Molly Roth
Andrew Saboe
Kate Saturday
Carissa Samaniego
Jenny Schmid
Davu Seru
Skewed Visions
Mona Smith
Angela Sprunger
Andréa Stanislav
Chris Strouth (Paris-1919)
Andy Sturdevant
Piotr Szyhalski
Lauren Thorson
Amy Toscani
Anthony Tran
Trash Film Debauchery
Vasily Trubetskoy
Robert Two Bulls
U of M BFA Group
Eric Veldey
Vong Vang
Roman Verostko
Vortex Navigation
Company
Anthony Warnick
David Wiggins
Diane Willow
Bobby Wilson
Sarah Wolbert
Jim Woodring
Works Progress
Liu Xuguang
Marcus Young
Chester Yourczek
Brad Zellar

2011 partner organizations

All My Relations Arts
American Composer's Forum
American Swedish Institute
Art Department at the University of Minnesota
Art Institutes International Minnesota
Art Shanty Projects
Beijing Film Academy
Black Dog Cafe + Wine Bar
Burnet Gallery at Le Meridien Chambers
Minneapolis
City of Minneapolis
City of Saint Paul
CITYDESKSTUDIO
College of Visual Arts
Covanta Energy
Flint Hills International Children's Festival
Forecast Public Art
Franklin Art Works
The Friends of Saint Paul Public Library
Great Water Brewing Company
Hennepin Energy Recovery Center
Highpoint Center for Printmaking
Intermedia Arts
Keys 4/4 Kids
Landmark Center
Le Meridien Chambers Minneapolis
Lorenz Bus Service
Macalester College
McNally Smith College of Music
McSweeney's
Minneapolis College of Art and Design
Minneapolis Institute of Arts
Minneapolis Parks + Recreation
Minnesota Center for Book Arts
Minnesota Historical Society
Minnesota Museum of American Art
Minnesota State Arts Board
mnartists.org
Mpls Photo Center
Native American Community Development Institute
Nice Ride Minnesota
Nomad World Pub
Northern Lights.mn
Northrop Concerts and Lectures
Public Art Saint Paul
Ordway Center for the Performing Arts
Rain Taxi Review of Books
Red Stag Supperclub
Regis Center for Art
St. Anthony Falls Laboratory at the University
of Minnesota College of Science & Engineering
Saint Paul Central Library
Saint Paul Cultural STAR Program

Schubert Club
The Saint Paul Hotel
Saint Paul River Centre
Science Museum of Minnesota
The Soap Factory
Soo Visual Arts Center
Springboard for the Arts
The UpTake
US Army Corps of Engineers
W Minneapolis-The Foshay
Walker Art Center

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northernspark.org

