

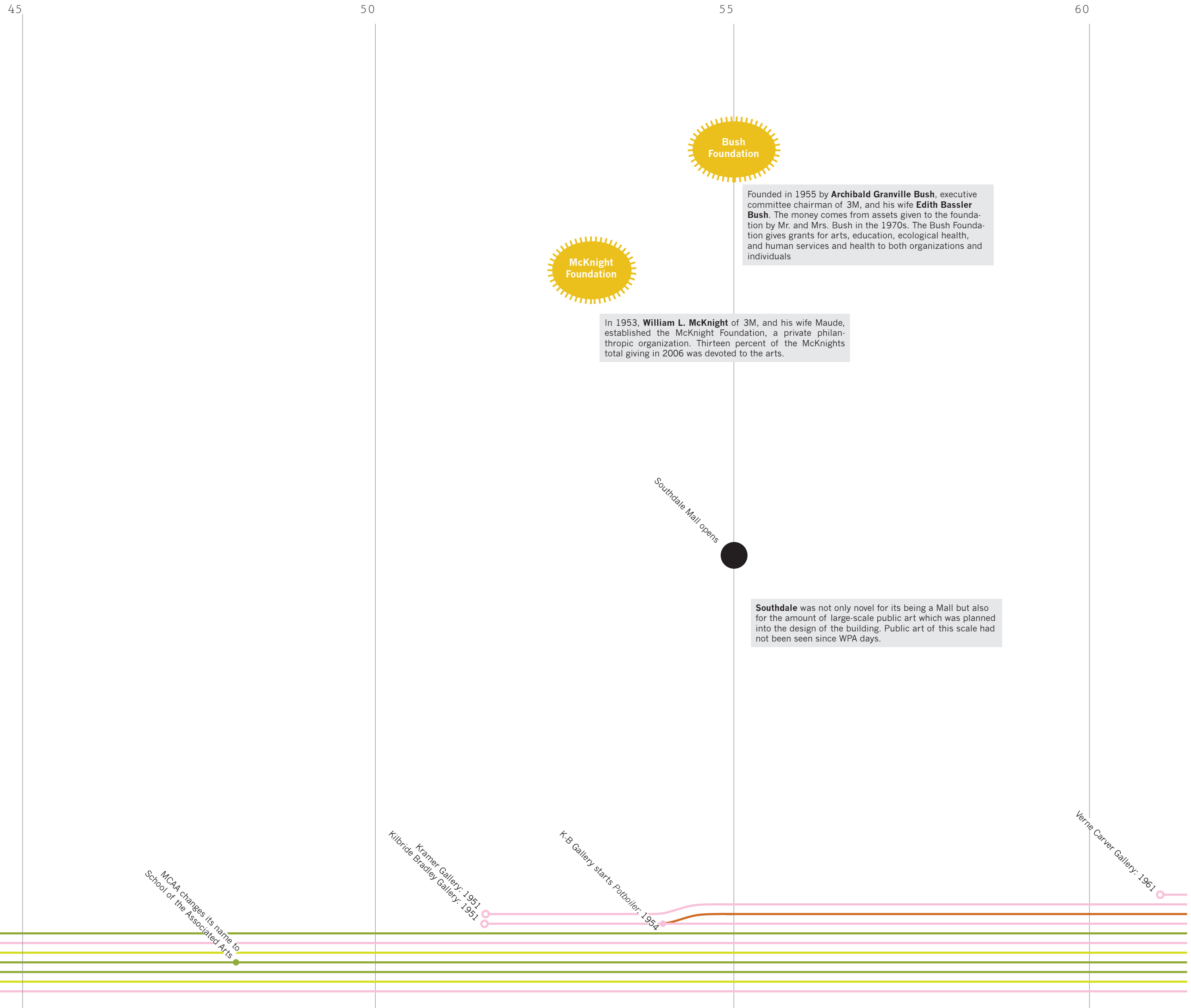
SELECTIVE RECALL: TWIN CITIES' ART HISTORY

- art centers/other
- foundations
- municipal/state
- publications
- education
- galleries
- museums
- non-profit

Minnesota State Arts Board

Minnesota State Arts Board was started in 1903 as State Arts Society, and has gone through several name changes since. They are a state agency which helps allocate money from Minnesota Legislature, the NEA, and several private donors. Their vision is that all Minnesotans have an opportunity to participate in the arts. They give grants to art producers and presenters, service organizations, artists, and schools. In 1997 Governor Arne Carlson increased the state's biennial arts funding budget by \$12 million.

St. Paul School of Art  
 University Gallery (housed in the Northrop Auditorium at the U of M)  
 Walker Art Center  
 Mills College of Art & Advertising  
 Minneapolis School of Art  
 Minneapolis Institute of Arts  
 Beard Art Galleries



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65

70

75

80

85



**National Endowment for the Arts** was established in 1965 to give a wider spread of the United States access to the arts. They are an independent federal agency that is federally funded and donation assisted. They give grants mostly to organizations as opposed to individuals, except for literature, certain jazz fellowships, and National Heritage in Folk and Traditional Arts Fellowships. Dramatic funding cuts in 1996 were a result of the so-called "Culture Wars," in which conservative groups opposed using tax dollars to finance controversial works of art. Certain NEA sponsored artworks, such as Ron Athey's 4 Scenes in a Harsh Life, performed in 1994 at Patrick's Cabaret, were labeled as offensive or unpatriotic. The NEA's budget has since climbed back up, but is still not where it was pre-Culture Wars.



The **Jerome Foundation**, originally founded as the Avon Foundation, by Jerome Hill, artist and filmmaker, in 1964. The money comes from trusts that his grandfather, James J. Hill, railroad magnate, and father, Louis W. Hill, set up for him. The foundation gives money to support the creation of artworks by emerging artists who live in Minnesota and New York City. They support work in dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, performance art, visual arts, multidisciplinary arts, and art criticism. They also give money to nonprofit arts organizations that support emerging artists in Minnesota and New York City.

1975 **Grain Belt** closes its St. Anthony brewery. At some indeterminate point, the building begins to be used by artists.

June 1976 The **Goldstein Gallery**, a collection of design started by U of M teachers (and sisters) **Harriet and Veta Goldstein**, opens in the renovated McNeal Hall. Now known as the **Goldstein Museum of Design**, it is part of the U's Department of Design, Housing and Apparel.

**Rudy Perpich!** Served twice as governor: Dec. 29, 1976 to Jan. 4, 1979; and Jan. 3, 1983 to Jan. 7, 1991. Champion of the arts, dreamer of dreams, schemer of schemes. Son of a Croatian immigrant. His first career was in dentistry. He at some point was pushing to open a chop-stick factory in northern Minnesota

1977 **Metropolitan Regional Arts Council** is one of eleven regional arts councils in Minnesota. MRAC is funded by an appropriation from the Minnesota legislature and a grant from the McKnight Foundation. They give money mostly to arts and community organizations. Their mission is, in summary, to integrate art into communities and everyday life, so community involvement is important in determining who is awarded grants. They give grants for activities, organization development and capital, and other things that strengthen the structure of an organization and help achieve a mission.

1977 400% increase in state arts appropriation, due in no small part to lobbying by the Minnesota Citizens for the Arts. Four million dollars were allocated.

1978 **Artspace** founded by the City of Minneapolis to advocate for the unique space needs of artists.

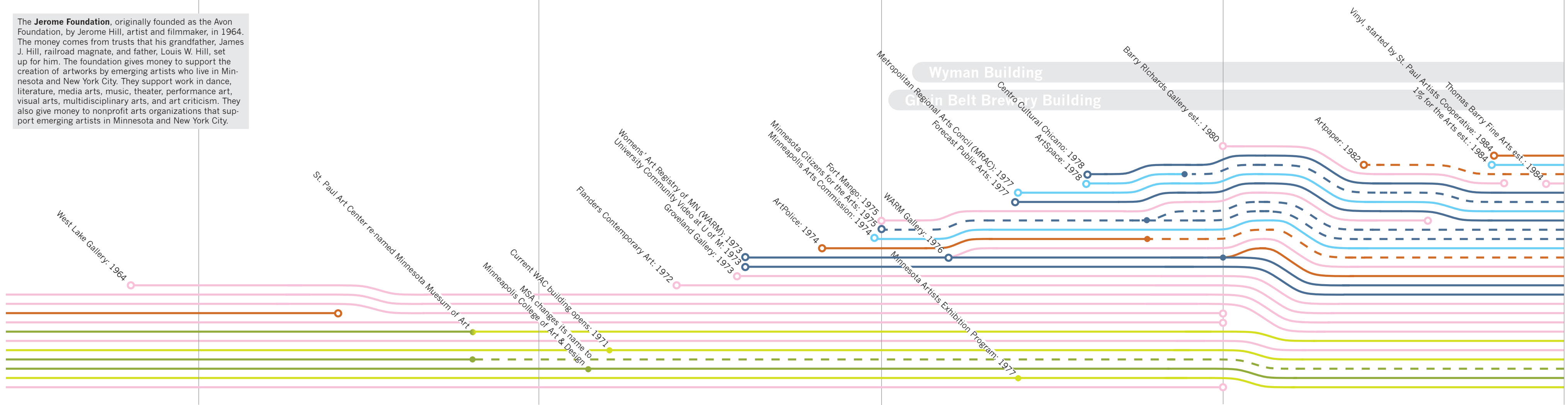
1979 **Artspace** becomes an independent non-profit, with a mission to help artists find affordable studio and living space.

1979 **Minnesota Citizens for the Arts** founds **Citizens for the Arts**, an organization that works for arts advocacy, while MCA continues to lead legislative lobbying on state and national levels.

1982 Started by **Lynn Ball** out of her studio apartment, **Artpaper** was a substantial source for local intelligent criticism, reviews, art-related events, and opportunities. The paper folded under efforts to make it more of a national publication. Local readers lost interest and support dried up. Copies can be found at the Central Library in their 3rd floor periodical stacks.

1984 **Percent for Art** Legislation passed, which "encourages" state building projects whose budgets exceed \$500,000 to allot 1%, or \$100,000 (whichever is less), to original artwork for the facility. "In order to reflect the rich diversity of the citizens of Minnesota, the Percent for Art program chooses artwork that represents a wide range of social, cultural, and historical values. The work also must be enduring and thought provoking, as well as fiscally responsible and appropriate for the space." (<http://www.arts.state.mn.us/other/percent.htm>) Which pretty much limits it to cotton balls. And googly eyes. The program is administered by the Minnesota State Arts Board.

August 1984 City of Saint Paul evicts 70 artists from their studios.



1985 **Center for Arts Criticism** founded to improve quantity and quality of arts criticism in Minneapolis. Funding pulled in 1990's by NEA.

1985 After watching artists get pushed from space to space by rising rents, **Artspace** reorients itself as a non-profit real estate developer. Currently, Artspace Projects, Inc. has projects in cities all over the country, while remaining based in Minneapolis.

The **Northrup King Building** was originally home to Northrup Seed Company, this collection of warehouse buildings has been in the process of renovation since the late 1980's, when it was sold to private owners. Presently the building has over 160 tenants, including an arts center, many of which are private arts centers. Many small business and nonprofits rent space in the building as well.

May 1985 **Lowertown Artists Lofts** open, helping patch the rupture that the St. Paul studio evictions caused. Project of the **St. Paul Art Collective**, assisted by **Artspace Projects, Inc.**

1988 An agency of the State of Minnesota, **Perpich Center for Arts Education** was introduced to legislation in 1985 by **Rudy Perpich**; he and his wife **Lola** came up with the idea for the center after visiting Vienna and seeing how well integrated arts and education are there. The Arts High School opened in 1989. The Professional Development and Research department continues developing programs to incorporate arts into public education and is a resource for schools across the state. The center is located in Golden Valley.

1989 the **Museum of Russian Art** begins when art dealer Raymond Johnson realizes there has been 70 years of art happening behind the Iron Curtain. He quickly capitalizes on this opportunity, eventually amassing "largest privately owned collection of Russian Realist paintings outside the borders of the former Soviet Union."

1990 **Target Center** opens

1991 **Jennifer Young** and **John Kremer**, two folks dedicated to enriching the arts scene via affordable artists' spaces, buy the **California Building**, 2205 California St. N.E (Finance and Commerce, Fall 2006)

Opened in 1990, **Northern Clay Center** is a regionally based ceramic arts organization. They have classes and workshops, offer studio space and grants to local artists, and exhibit the work of internationally recognized ceramic artists.

Incorporated in 1991, **Springboard for the arts** is a non-profit artists service organization that connects artists with skills, contacts, information and services to make "a living and a life." It is located in downtown St. Paul, and funded by state, regional, and national foundations.

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1994 **MMAA** hosts a series of community meetings to explore its role in the Twin Cities. Sources attribute the founding of **Art-A-Whirl**, **Elk River Arts Council**, and the **St. Paul art crawl**, to these meetings.

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1996 **Weinstein Gallery** was opened in 1996 by lawyer Martin Weinstein. They generally show well-known national or international artists in high-profile exhibits. Chuck Close, Man-Ray, Robert Mapplethorpe, Mary Ellen Mark, and Nancy Rexroth are a few artists who've had shows there, the general emphasis being on photography.

1996 **Franconia Sculpture Park** is a 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation, located Minnesota south of the Twin Cities. They receive money from private donations, and many of their artists in residence receive Jerome Foundation Fellowships. They display over 75 outdoor sculptures made by artists at all points in their careers. They also host artists in residence and artist internships.

June, 1995 The opportunity arises for **No Name Gallery** to buy the **National Purify Soap Factory** building from Pillsbury for the sum of \$1.

October 2000 Shortly after the ground is broken for the West Bank Art Building, the editors of the U of M's Minnesota Daily make a short lived decision to shut down their weekly arts and entertainment section. Furor among alumni forces them to reconsider.

2001 **Highpoint Center for Printmaking** is a non-profit dedicated to advancing the art of print making founded in April, 2001. They host community education programs and they also have a visiting artists program. Their emerging artists program is funded by grants from the Jerome Foundation.

2002 **Center for Arts Criticism** is folded into **In Progress**, a non-profit which focuses on young media artists from greater Minnesota

2002 **Rogue Buddha Gallery** was founded in January 2002 by **Nicholas Hopper**, and is located in NE Minneapolis. They host visual arts, film and video arts, and music. They mostly show 2-D painters but they do sometimes show sculpture, pottery, and photo.

2003-Present **Minneapolis MOSIAC** brings together diverse disciplines of art to market Minneapolis as an "arts destination" [http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/planning/docs/2006\\_ACCC\\_Report.pdf](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/planning/docs/2006_ACCC_Report.pdf)

2003 **Stevens Square Center for the Arts** established by **Stevens Square Community Organization**, **JAS Apartments**, and local Minneapolis artists. They are currently applying for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.

August 2003 The **Shoebbox Gallery** begins as **X-Ray Alley**, an installation by **Sean Smuda**, which displayed live feed of the alley behind Robert's Shoes in the front windows.

2004 **Altered Esthetics Gallery** was opened in January 2004 in Northeast Minneapolis, and it is now run by artists for artists. They gained non-profit 501(c)(3) status in May 2007.

January 2005 **Shoebbox Gallery**, **Obsidian Arts**, and **Speedboat Gallery** collaborate in a series titled *IN HERE*, a direct challenge to the then-homeless Walker's *OUT THERE* programming.

June 2005 **MPLSart.com** launched by **Emma Berg**, currently partnered with **Kristoffer Knutson**, of **ROBOTlove**.

November 2005 Russian President **Vladimir Putin** awards Johnson a "Medal of Friendship" for "developing Russian-American cultural partnership and strengthening friendships between the people." <http://www.tmora.org/about.html>, [TMORA 2007](http://www.tmora.org/about.html)

2005 **Grain Belt Brewery Building** acquired by **Artspace**, rents rise 200%, according to one disgruntled tenant. Is this better than turning it into condos?

Spring 2006 **Midtown Global Market** opens, changing the faces of Lake and Chicago.

Summer 2006 **First Amendment** started by **Burlesque of North America**, the group also responsible for **Life Sucks Die** magazine

September 2006 **Chambers**, the "country's first art luxury hotel" opens, featuring the collection of owner **Ralph Burnet**

Spring 2007 **Casket Arts Building** opens in time for Art-a-Whirl. The newest artist's building in town was renovated and developed by **Jennifer Young** and **John Kremer**, who are also the owners of the California Building.

**Placement Gallery** was started by **Yuri Arajs**, who used to run the non-profit **Outsiders and Others** gallery. This is a for-profit venture that doesn't have a specific site but hosts shows in different spaces around Minneapolis. The first show was in April 2007

2007 **Minnesota Shubert Performing Arts and Education Center** scheduled to open. Last we saw, the doorways were totally bricked up. Maybe not this year.

2012 The City of Minneapolis becomes one gigantic arts corridor, such as the "Arts Avenue" on 13th Ave NE or the "Arts District" around the MIA/MCAD, and Twins fans still don't give a damn.

