

Launch of Minnesota Street Project Foundation Announced

Curating Experiences & Creating Partnerships

October 08, 2019, San Francisco, CA. – Minnesota Street Project, together with its founders Deborah and Andy Rappaport, is pleased to announce the launch of the Minnesota Street Project Foundation. The Foundation furthers the Project’s overall mission to support and strengthen a sustainable, vibrant contemporary arts community in San Francisco. The Foundation will allow the Project to bring together a broader array of artists, arts organizations, corporations, and individuals who have programming, presenting, and grantmaking ideas but need physical infrastructure and operational resources to realize them.

The Foundation will build on the Minnesota Street Project’s existing resources to extend support for the arts and artists within and beyond the four walls of its physical spaces. “We’re approaching the establishment of the Foundation with the lessons learned and the knowledge gained in the past several years of being a catalyst within the San Francisco arts community,” notes Deborah Rappaport, “and we’re again driven by what we see as an opportunity to impact the Bay Area arts ecosystem meaningfully. The groundwork we have already laid with the Project’s existing resources gives us the means to produce and host a wider range of educational and cultural events and series. With the Foundation, we now have the mechanism to bring together a more inclusive range of organizations and fiscal sponsorships to create new opportunities for individuals and corporations to engage with the arts and culture in a deep and significant manner.”

The Foundation will engage sponsorship opportunities, curate experiences, encourage community efforts, and help organizations meet funders where they want to be met. The Foundation has already run a successful auction, organized by Minnesota Street Project Art Services in conjunction with the support of a large and varied number of local artists, that raised \$50,000 for the North Valley Community Foundation in relief of victims of the Camp Fires.

“Our for-profit model remains integral to and has successfully driven the Project’s ability to deliver on its core mission of developing and operating sustainable, financially viable physical spaces for the visual arts in San Francisco. But we have discovered over the three-plus years we have been operating—lacking a non-profit affiliate—limited by our ability to engage with some companies, individuals, organizations, and not-for-profit partners that want to join us in

Minnesota Street Project Foundation

creating vibrant programming and generally expanding our ability to serve the community,” explains Andy Rappaport. “By adding an affiliated public foundation, we can now serve as a neutral broker and facilitator, connecting funders with programming opportunities and providing space, people, experience, and on-the-ground support, thereby helping to bring about programs, grants, and other contributions to the community that could not exist without someone playing this role.”

The Foundation will actively pursue opportunities to sustain and perpetuate arts and culture access in the Bay Area and beyond through curating experiences and creating partnerships. Plans for upcoming artistic grants and funding for specific projects will be announced at a later date, as well as opportunities to invite artists, curators, and thinkers from a variety of professional backgrounds and perspectives to submit proposals to produce site-specific experiences, residencies, and grantmaking programs in areas of dance, music, food, art, and conversation at the Project and beyond.

For more information about Minnesota Street Project Foundation, please visit minnesotastreetproject.org

About Minnesota Street Project Foundation

Established in 2019, Minnesota Street Project Foundation embarks on initiatives to further develop the diversity and vibrancy of arts-related culture within and beyond the Project’s model. Through collaboration, the Foundation advances educational and civic programming and provides direct financial support to artist and arts organizations. The Foundation commits to fostering relationships with local, national, and international businesses, individuals, and institutions to support the evolving landscape of art practice and patronage.

#MSPFoundation

Minnesota Street Project Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent permitted by law.