

The little non-profit arts organization that could

Written by



The Northside Arts Collective (NAC) has a great story to tell right now. Ever since the 2011 tornado in North Minneapolis, NAC has been a homeless organization struggling with capacity and has been trying to find ways to help its members, many who are visual artists, show and sell their work.

In 2012, a new facility was built in Minneapolis called Heritage Park Senior Services Center, and most of the walls inside the facility were bare. This building complex houses a senior center, memory care facility, YMCA for seniors, a Courage Center facility and a health clinic. So NAC started inquiring about hanging artwork in the halls of Heritage Park Senior Services Center, essentially decorating the bare walls with some vibrant artwork. In July staff at Heritage Park moved forward and invited NAC to hang an exhibit in their beautiful new space.

The main floor of Heritage Park Center has an eighth of a mile walking track around the perimeter. "The walking track is a perfect place for hanging artwork and Heritage Park staff asked us to specifically hang an art exhibit there. It has a lot of natural light and vast wall-space with high ceilings." says Pat Carney, NAC President.

NAC also has several pieces of artwork hanging in the great room and other corridors on the main floor. There are 114 pieces total in four mediums including drawing, painting, mixed media

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and photography from 22 artists. The artwork is created by local artists, many from the North Minneapolis community.

NAC and Heritage Park Senior Services Center hosted an art exhibition last Wednesday, October 23 at Heritage Park Senior Services Center. The artist reception displayed artwork created by Twin Cities visual artists. Visitors toured the facility and the artwork on display. Most of the artwork was available for purchase and a percentage of sales went to support the non-profit arts organization NAC. This exhibit runs until November 20.