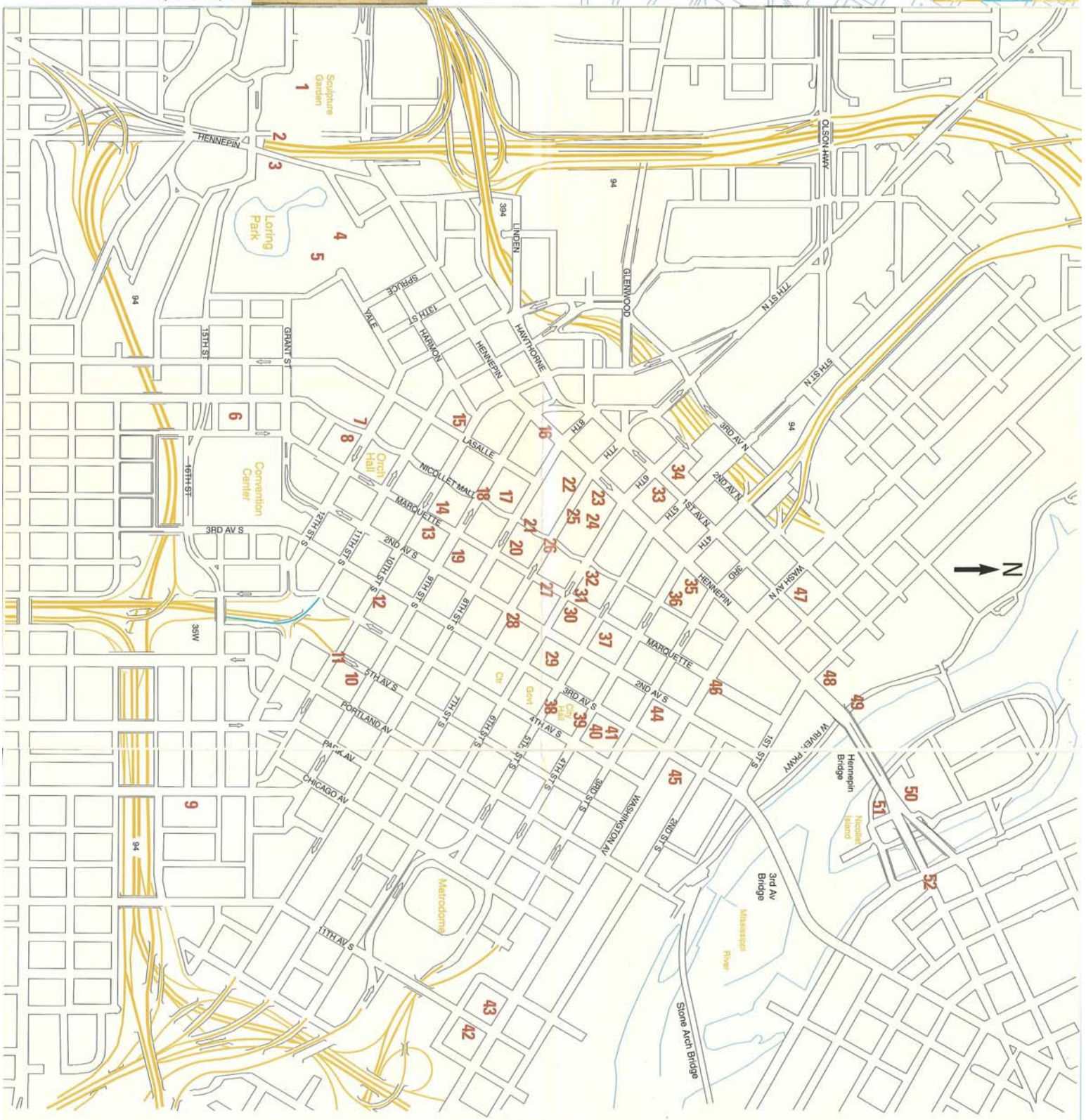
Explore the World of Public Art
in Downtown Minneapolis

Art in Public Places
City of Minneapolis

Public Art *Adventure* Map



1 Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, Various Artists
Walker Art Center, Hennepin and Vineland Place

The region's largest urban sculpture park is filled with works by internationally acclaimed artists. See Frank Gehry's *Standing Glass Fish* in the Palm Court, and don't miss the iconic *Spoonbridge and Cherry* by Claes Oldenberg and Coosje Van Bruggen.

2 *Irene Hixon Whitney Bridge,* Siah Armajani (1988)
Over Hennepin Ave. and I-94

The largest public artwork in Minneapolis commemorates local arts patron Irene Hixon Whitney. This pedestrian bridge spans 16 lanes of traffic and connects the Sculpture Garden with Loring Park.

3 *The Gazebo for the Irene Hixon Whitney Bridge,* Siah Armajani (1993)
Loring Park (west side)

Armajani—internationally recognized for creating people places—designed this intimate seating area to complement his nearby pedestrian bridge.

4 *Ole Bull,* Jakob H. Fjelde (1897)
Loring Park (northwest side)

This recently restored bronze statue commemorates one of Norway's most celebrated musicians.

5 *Berger Fountain,* Robert Woodward (1975)
Loring Park (north side)

One of the most recognizable city landmarks, this fountain mimics a dandelion.

6 *Untitled Mural,* Doug Chertoff (1991)
Music Box Theater, 14th St. and Nicollet Ave.

This is one of the few murals in the region using a pointillist style, reminiscent of work by French impressionists Georges Seurat and Paul Signac.

7 *Spirit Shadows,* Ta-coumba Aiken/Seitu Jones (1992)
Nicollet Mall near 12th St.

These four unique sidewalk insets honor figures from our past, including Native Americans, poets and activists.

8 *Birth of Freedom,* Paul Granlund (1977)
Westminister Presbyterian Church, Nicollet Mall at 12th St.

Granlund is one of Minnesota's leading sculptors, and this is one of his signature works.

9 *Garden Mural,* Rene Joseph (1992)
16th St. and Chicago Ave.

Supported by Arts Midwest, this colorful mural of growing things fits beautifully behind the extensive flowers and plantings of the Coyle Community Garden.

10 *Welcome to Elliot Park,* Ta-coumba Aiken (1992)
10th St. near Portland Ave. S.

Elliot Park is a diverse and colorful downtown neighborhood, whose homes and businesses appear in Aiken's mural.

11 *Elliot Park Neighborhood Gateway,* Michael Sheridan (1992)
10th St. and 5th Ave. S.

The first of the City's gateway projects, this elegant metal signage, accentuated by dramatic lighting at night, serves as an entrance to the neighborhood.

12 *the character of a hill, under glass,* Maya Lin (2002)
American Express Client Service Center, 10th St. S. and 3rd Ave. S.

The most recent addition to downtown, this sculptural space incorporates a wall of water along the exterior glass wall above an undulating maple floor, creating a multi-sensory experience.

13 *Undetermined Line,* Bernar Venet (1989)
AT&T Building, 9th St. S. and Marquette Ave. (interior)

This playful rolled steel sculpture makes a loop-the-loop gesture on the floor of this attractive atrium. French artist Venet is renowned for his monumental outdoor works.

14 *Scarbo,* Jill Rivard (1972)
Schmitt Music, Marquette Ave. at 10th St.

An excerpt from Maurice Ravel's piano work "Gaspard de la Nuit" fills the wall of Schmitt's Music Center as monumental sheet music.

15 *The Frescoes of St. Thomas,* Mark Balma (1994)
University of St. Thomas, 10th St. and LaSalle Ave. (interior)

Over a two year period Balma, a native Minnesotan, and a team of nine assistants created this enormous ceiling fresco, the second largest in the U.S. It depicts his contemporary interpretation of the seven virtues.

16 *Oasis Bench,* Leslie Hawk (1988)
Hennepin Ave. between 8th and 9th Sts.

Made of two cast concrete animals connected by laminated plywood seat and back, this fantasy bench is a favorite of young bus riders.

17 *Plaza for U.S. Bancorp,* Brad Goldberg (2001)
Nicollet Mall between 8th and 9th Sts.

The paving and seating elements of raw-cut and polished granite seamlessly connect the outdoor plaza with the interior atrium.

18 Nicollet Mall installations, Various Artists
Between 3rd and 12th Sts.

Up and down the famous serpentine Nicollet Mall are many works of art, including Philip Larson's eight art glass transit shelters representing the region's achitectural history; Elliot Offner's bronze fountain depicting Minnesota birds (near 9th St.); and Stanton Sears' graceful granite benches (between 7th and 8th Sts.).

19 Foshay Tower elevator doors, Wilbur Tusler and Gottlieb R. Magney (1929)
8th St. and Marquette Ave. (interior)

Modeled after the Washington Monument, the historic Foshay Tower was the first skyscraper built west of the Mississippi and features exquisitely detailed elevator doors.

20 *Tetraedos,* William Severson/Sanders Schultz (1988)
Nicollet Mall, between 7th and 8th Sts.

This stainless steel work creates geometric illusions and reflections using inverted pyramids in front of the entrance to the famous IDS building, designed by architect Philip Johnson.

21 *Tableau: A Native American Mosaic,* George Morrison (1992)
Nicollet Mall, between 7th and 8th Sts.

Perhaps the most renowned Native American artist in the Upper Midwest, Morrison was widely respected for his abstract landscapes and contemporary totems. Another of his sculptures, *LaSalle Totem*, can be found in the lobby of the nearby LaSalle Plaza.

22 *Stone Ball,* Ken Davis (1993)
Radisson Hotel, 7th St. between Nicollet and Hennepin (interior)

A mysterious balancing act between water pressure and a globe of polished stone defies gravity.

23 *Minneapolis Water Toy Bench,* Stanton Sears (1988)
Hennepin Ave. between 8th and 9th Sts.

In the City of Lakes, what could be more appropriate than a bronze air mattress, complete with fish swimming below.

24 Untitled Mural, Richard Peter Hofmann (1982)
Multifoods Tower, 6th St. between Nicollet Mall and Hennepin Ave (interior).

This mural-scale painting depicts the great midwestern prairie and celebrates our rich rural farmland. It is also a fine example of photo-realism.

25 Artist-Designed Manhole Covers, Various Artists (1984-92)
Between Nicollet Mall and Hennepin Ave. along 6th St. and 7th Sts.

Kate Burke's elegant manhole covers on Nicollet Mall depict Minnesota flora and animal themes. Eleven other artists were commissioned to design covers, as the first major public art undertaking of the Minneapolis Arts Commission in 1984.

26 *Mary Tyler Moore,* Gwendolyn Gillen (2002)
Nicollet Mall at 7th St.

This bronze artwork captures Mary Tyler Moore tossing her tam in the famous opening sequence of The Mary Tyler Moore Show. The artwork, which was commissioned by the cable network TV Land, graces the intersection where the event was originally filmed in 1970.

27 *Sky Bridge I and II,* Siah Armajani (1988-89)
7th St. and Marquette (interior)

The artist collaborated with architect Cesar Pelli on the city's first integrated skyway art commission, utilizing multicolored panes of glass, surrounding the viewer on all sides. The interior of the Wells Fargo Bank also features beautiful display cases housing a renowned collection of art moderne.

28 *Untitled (Minneapolis Polyptych),* Cristina Iglesias (2000)
American Express Financial Center, 7th St. and 2nd Ave. S. (skyway interior)

This monumental photo-mural uses enlarged images of cardboard boxes and other paper cut-out assemblages to create buildings, dark alleys and diverse streetscapes.

29 *Hanging Stones,* Loren Madsen (1981)
Pillsbury Center, 6th St. and 2nd Ave. S. (interior)

Madsen's huge masterpiece is gasp-inducing and one of the best examples of integrated artworks in a contemporary downtown building.

30 *Our Family Tree,* Dean Kermit Allison
Fifth Street Tower, 5th St. S. and Marquette Ave.

This classical couple with their child seem oblivious to this busy corner. The work has become a local landmark.

Sue Hartley

31 Wall relief, Warren T. Mosman (1942)
U.S. Bank, 6th St. and Marquette Ave.

Perhaps the finest example of stone relief artwork in the region, these two figures—depicting a farmer and a mechanic—serve as bookends for a monumental window of custom cast glass block above the entrance.

32 *Fallen Man*, Viola Frey (1991)
Dain Rauscher Plaza, 6th St. between Nicollet and Marquette Ave. (interior)

Frey's larger-than-life glazed ceramic man sits awkwardly on the floor, as the title suggests. Also see Tony Berlant's mural-size metal collage entitled *Shooting on Through* (1989).

33 *Butler 2 Mural*, Herman Krumpholz
Gluek's Bar, 1st Ave. N. between 5th and 6th Sts.

This block long trompe l'oeil mural was dedicated to the Minneapolis Warehouse District.

United Properties

34 *Circus Flyers*, George Segal (1981)
Butler Square, First Ave. N. and Sixth St. (interior)

Suspended overhead in the west half of the historic Butler Square, two trapeze figures are frozen in a mid-air catch, created by a great figurative sculptor.

35 *Chippendale Couch*, Thomas Rose (1988)
Hennepin Ave., between 3rd and 4th Sts.

Rose created a cast iron Chippendale couch, ideal for reading a good book while waiting for the bus.

36 *Scroll*, John Rood (1960)
4th St. and Nicollet Mall

Located at the entrance to the current Minneapolis Public Library is one of the city's first large-scale sculptures. Sited in a reflecting pool, *Scroll* celebrates the cultural significance of the written word.

37 *Family*, Douglas O. Freeman (1989)
5th St. between Marquette and 2nd Ave. S.

A classical collection of figures adds a welcoming touch to the busy streetscape. Also noteworthy at the 2nd Ave. corner is a water wall that incorporates steam and a fiber-optic lighting system.

38 *Hubert Humphrey*, Rodger Brodin (1989)
5th Street, between 3rd and 4th Ave. S.

Created by one of Minnesota's most prolific sculptors, Brodin's life-sized version of Humphrey catches him in mid-speech. Humphrey served as Minneapolis mayor, U.S. senator, and vice-president.

Art in Public Art Places

39 *Father of the Waters*, Larkin Goldsmith Mead (1904)
City Hall, 350 S. Fourth St. (interior)

Carved from a massive seven-ton block of Carrara marble, this ancient river god adds to the drama of the rotunda at City Hall. High overhead is a finely detailed stained glass ceiling.

40 *Rockman*, Tom Otterness (1997-99)
U.S. Courthouse Plaza, on 4th Street between 3rd and 4th Aves.

Playful and mysterious, Otterness' figures seem to be exploring the unusual plaza terrain, as visitors do.

Dan Forer

41 *Drumlins*, Martha Schwartz (1997)
U.S. Courthouse Plaza, on 4th Street between 3rd and 4th Aves.

Perhaps the most intriguing plaza design in town, Schwarz was inspired by drumlins; mounds of earth found throughout the upper Midwest formed as a result of the receding glaciers.

ValsparCorporation

42 *Demolition* and *Sport* Peter Busa (1974, 1982)
Valspar building, 3rd St. and 11th Ave. S.

Some of the first monumental outdoor murals in the state take over the sides of both Valspar buildings flanking 11th Avenue. The abstract works add a splash of color to downtown's east side.

43 Open Book installations, Various Artists (2000-01)
10th St. and Washington Ave. S. (interior)

An eclectic mix of art installations was developed for this literary arts complex. Climb the unique central staircase designed by artist Karen Wirth to explore the second floor reading room with integrated works by Dean Lucker, Laura Crosby, Patrick Kelley, Julie Baugnet, and others.

44 *Inner Search*, Mark di Suvero (1979)
2nd Ave. S. and 3rd St.

This monumental red pyramid features a swinging "eye" on top, inspired by the imagery found on the dollar bill. Appropriately, it sits on a bank's plaza.

Sue Hartley

45 Untitled, Amy L. Brazil (2001)
Courtyard Marriott, Washington and 3rd Ave. S. (interior)

In the style of the plaster figures of George Segal, Brazil has installed a series of plaster sculptures depicting scenes from the history of the Milwaukee Depot railroad station.

46 ING-Reliastar Buildings installations, Various Artists
20, 100 and 111 Washington Ave.

Noteworthy along Hennepin Avenue are the 1965 black marble fountain sculptures of Masayuki Nagare. The lobbies and skyways of all three buildings hold a diverse collection of works.

Sue Hartley

47 *Merit Printing Mural*, Juxtaposition Arts (2001)
2nd St. N. and 1st Ave. N.

Juxtaposition Arts, a youth-focused non-profit, hosted a team of local and New York-based artists to create this spray paint mural based on the colorful cartoon Dexter's Lab.

48 *This River, This Place*, Aldo Moroni (1997)
9th District Federal Reserve Bank, 1st Street and Hennepin Ave. (interior)

The ceramic wall relief depicts the northwest region of the U.S., done in Moroni's whimsical style. Also look at the collection of outdoor works by Paul Granlund, Dimitri Hadzi and Charles Perry; and a series of five bronze interpretive medallions along Hennepin Avenue.

49 *River Goddess*, Karen Sontag-Sattell (1988)
West River Road near Hennepin Ave.

For this large-scale landmark, the artist recycled limestone boulders excavated during the construction of the West River Parkway.

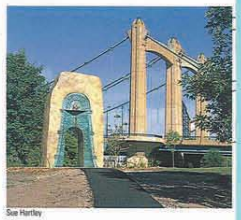
FORECAST Public Artworks

50 Grain Belt neon sign (1945)
East Hennepin Ave. at Nicollet Island

This historic landmark, restored in 1992, suggests the region's brewing history and recalls the heyday of neon art.

51 *Bell of Two Friends*, Karen Sontag-Sattell (2001)
Nicollet Island

Based on the shape and design of a 2000-year-old terracotta mold for an ancient bronze bell, this monument to friendship and world peace was commissioned by Ibaraki, Japan, Minneapolis' sister city.


Sue Hartley

52 *Riverboat*, Brad Jirka (1982)
Skyway over East Hennepin Ave. at Main Street (interior)

This sophisticated neon artwork in the skyway over Hennepin Avenue reflects the paddleboat era.

The City of Minneapolis and its Art in Public Places program invites residents and visitors to go on a public art adventure downtown, and explore the many great works of art that are accessible throughout the year. With dozens of artworks in the downtown area, there's something for everybody. The wonderful works of public art help make Minneapolis one of the most vibrant and exciting cities in the country!

Some of the artworks you'll see were the direct result of the City's Art in Public Places program, some were commissioned by local corporations and businesses, and some are the result of creative partnerships. Beyond downtown, Minneapolis offers a rich variety of neighborhood gateways, colorful community murals, annual public art events, and much, much more.

We hope you find this map a useful starting point in creating your own public art tour.

Art in Public Places

The Art in Public Places Program enriches the everyday experiences of local citizens and visitors by integrating public art into city planning, services, design, and infrastructure. Since the program was initiated by the Minneapolis Arts Commission in 1988, a number of artworks have been created, including commemorative works, art benches, neighborhood gateways, and artist designs for bridges and plazas.

For more information contact:

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FORECAST Public Artworks

A web version of this map can be found on the Greater Minneapolis Visitors and Convention Bureau's website at www.minneapolis-art.com.