



City of Mankato 11.24.25

[TWINRIVERSARTS.ORG](http://TWINRIVERSARTS.ORG)



# OUR MISSION

Twin Rivers' mission is to create an environment that:

- supports **creatives**
- educates the **community** on the value of the creative sector
- integrates **the arts** into the fabric of our lives

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# WHAT WE DO

- **Connect artists with opportunities** in Greater Mankato and surrounding markets.
- Build and provide **impactful programming and experiences**.
- Strive to **expand the public perception of art to encompass all creative expressions** such as the literary arts, culinary arts, performative arts, etc.
- Work to **provide programming** to meet the needs and interests of the community and the **different fields of the creative sector**.
- Provide **outreach efforts** to improve accessibility of creative opportunities to **community members of all backgrounds and experiences**.
- Nurture a collaborative community for the arts through **engagement and communication with the arts organizations** of Greater Mankato.



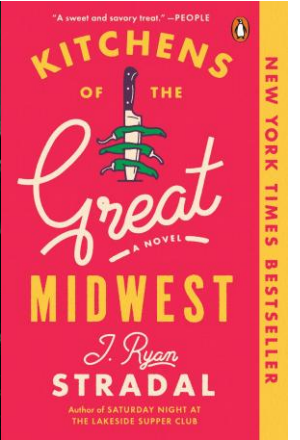
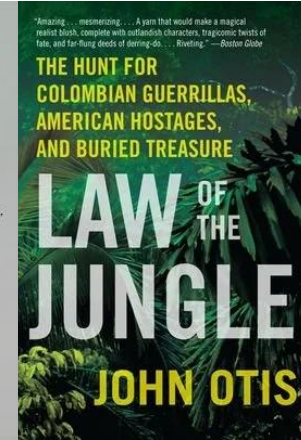


## ARTS PROGRAMMING

### BEST IN ART

- Open to artists of all disciplines.
- Three artists showcase their work at each event.
- Guests vote for which artist will receive the \$1,000 prize. All artists are stipend
- Three events planned for 2026.
- Held three open to the public events
- Hosted nine artists.
- Awarded \$3,000 to winners.
- Distributed \$2,250 in artist stipends.

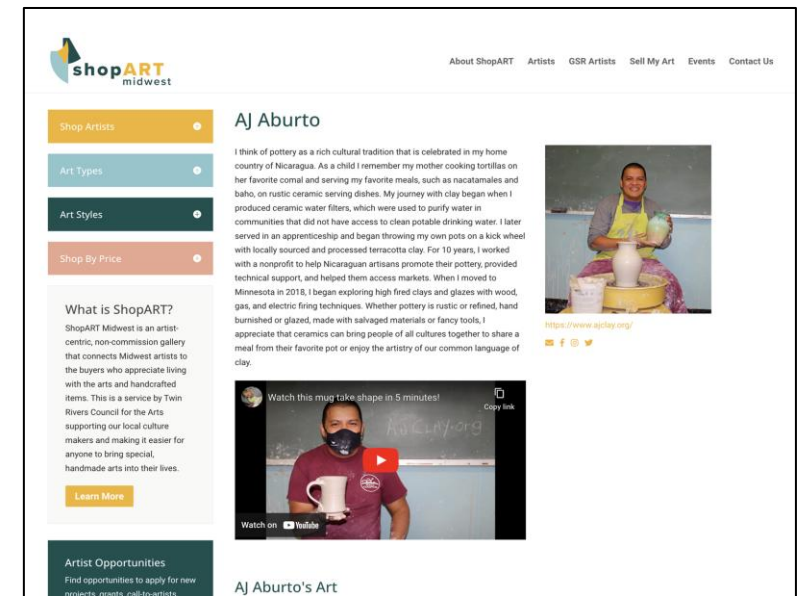
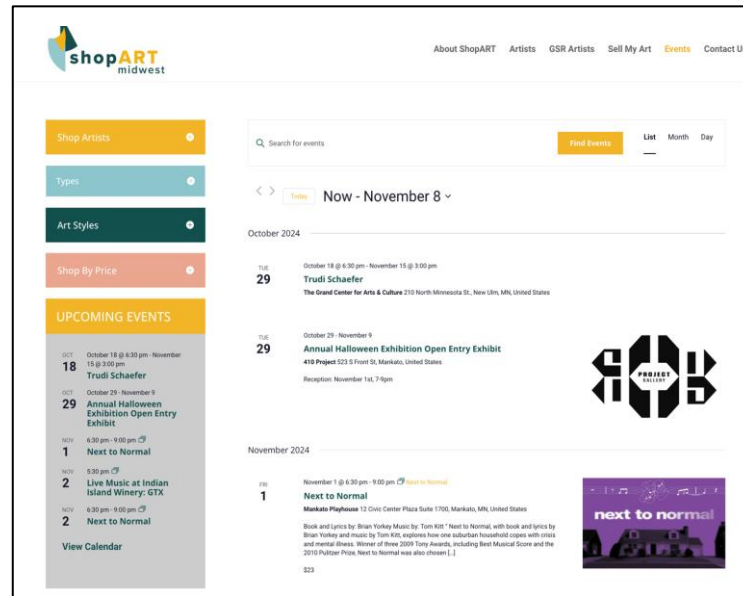
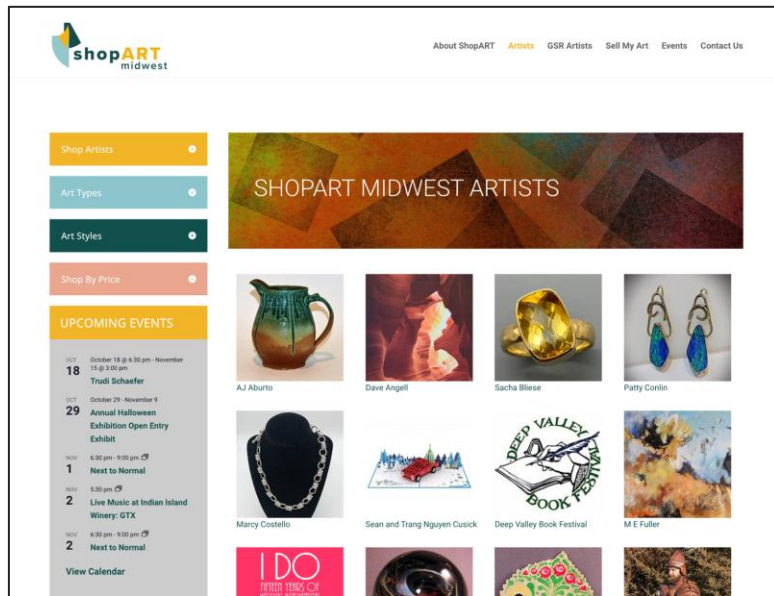
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## ARTS PROGRAMMING

# TWIN RIVERS WRITERS SERIES

- New program launched in 2025 with six open to the public events.
- Hosted four national authors. Two who were native to Mankato.
- Supported by private and grant funding.
- Six events are planned for 2026.



## ARTS PROGRAMMING

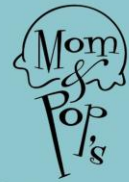
# SHOPART MIDWEST

- Non-commission, online sales platform connecting artists with customers.
- Features calendar of regional arts and cultural events.
- Provides information to arts on grants, call to artists and commission opportunities.

## ARTS PROGRAMMING

# CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

- Monthly art activation event that features an artist with their work at a business.
- Business hosts are supporters of our creative community and share their story connecting with the arts.
- Networking opportunity business community and creatives.



**TWIN RIVERS  
CREATIVE  
CONNECTIONS**  
TUESDAY, 9.16.25, 5:30-7:00 PM  
AT MOM & POP'S

ART INSTALLATION BY CASEY EK  
UNVEILING + EXPLORATION OF MOM &  
POP'S CONNECTION WITH THE ARTS +  
NETWORKING



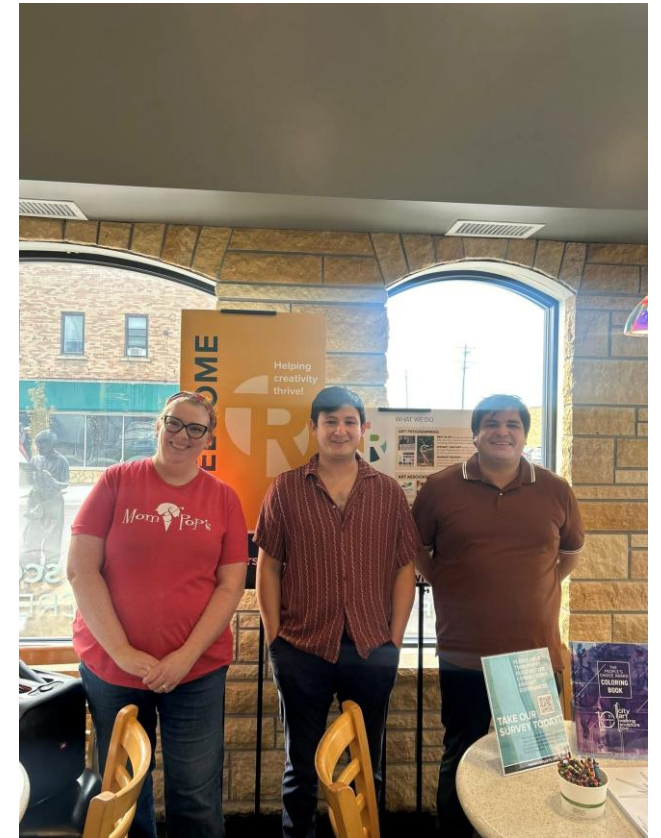
**TWIN RIVERS  
CREATIVE  
CONNECTIONS**  
TUESDAY, 10.21.25, 5:30-7:00 PM  
AT WOODEN SPOON

ENJOY ART BY JESSICA PETERS  
AND EXPLORE WOODEN SPOON'S  
CONNECTION WITH THE ARTS  
PLUS NETWORKING



**TWIN RIVERS  
CREATIVE  
CONNECTIONS**  
TUESDAY, 11.18.25, 5:30-7:00 PM  
AT RIVER HILLS MALL - LEFT SIDE OF FOOD COURT

ENJOY A NEW COLLAGE BY JAMES MACKEY  
AND EXPLORE RIVER HILLS MALL'S  
CONNECTION WITH THE ARTS  
PLUS NETWORKING





## ARTS PROGRAMMING

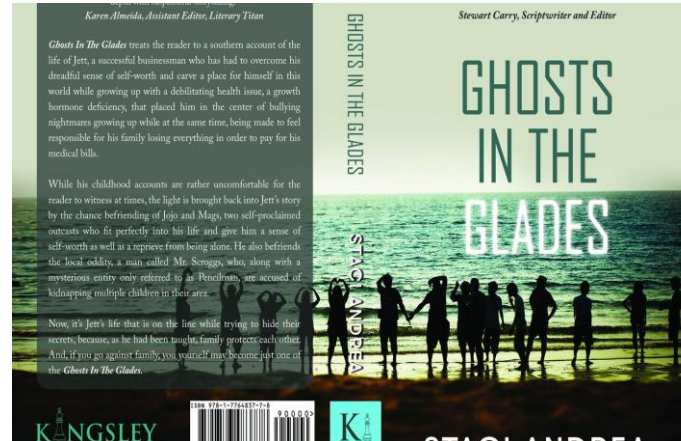
**CITYART MANKATO** initiatives include CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour, CityArt on the Go, the City Center Public Art Tour and Silo Art.

- Hosted 32 sculptures from across the country in 2025.
- Will distribute \$15,000+ in awards and purchases to artists for 2024-25 tour.
- Full ownership of the program and its assets will be transferred to Twin Rivers on 1.1.26.
- Change in ownership model allows for CityArt to expand beyond the City Center boundaries and public art programming to grow in other areas of the City.



## ARTS PROGRAMMING

**PUBLIC ART TOUR** is a curated digital catalog of the public art in Greater Mankato, with information on each piece, the artists and where to find the art around town. This platform will give the community and its visitors broader access to the art that enriches the Mankato area, and a better understanding of its history and artists.



## ANNUAL EVENTS

# TWIN RIVERS ARTS FESTIVAL – 11.29.25-11.30.25

- Southern Minnesota's only juried arts festival in its 24<sup>th</sup> year.
- 80+ artists, authors and 1,200 visitors.
- Non-commission festival – all proceeds go directly to the artists and authors.
- Supports Shop Small/Local initiative.



## ANNUAL EVENTS

# ART IN THE GARDEN

- Celebrates all types of creativity and art featuring interactive and experiential elements for any age.
- Activates an underutilized green space – Hubbard House Gardens.
- Serves as an annual fundraiser for Twin Rivers.
- Growth opportunities include expansion of TR Arts Festival over a summer weekend.

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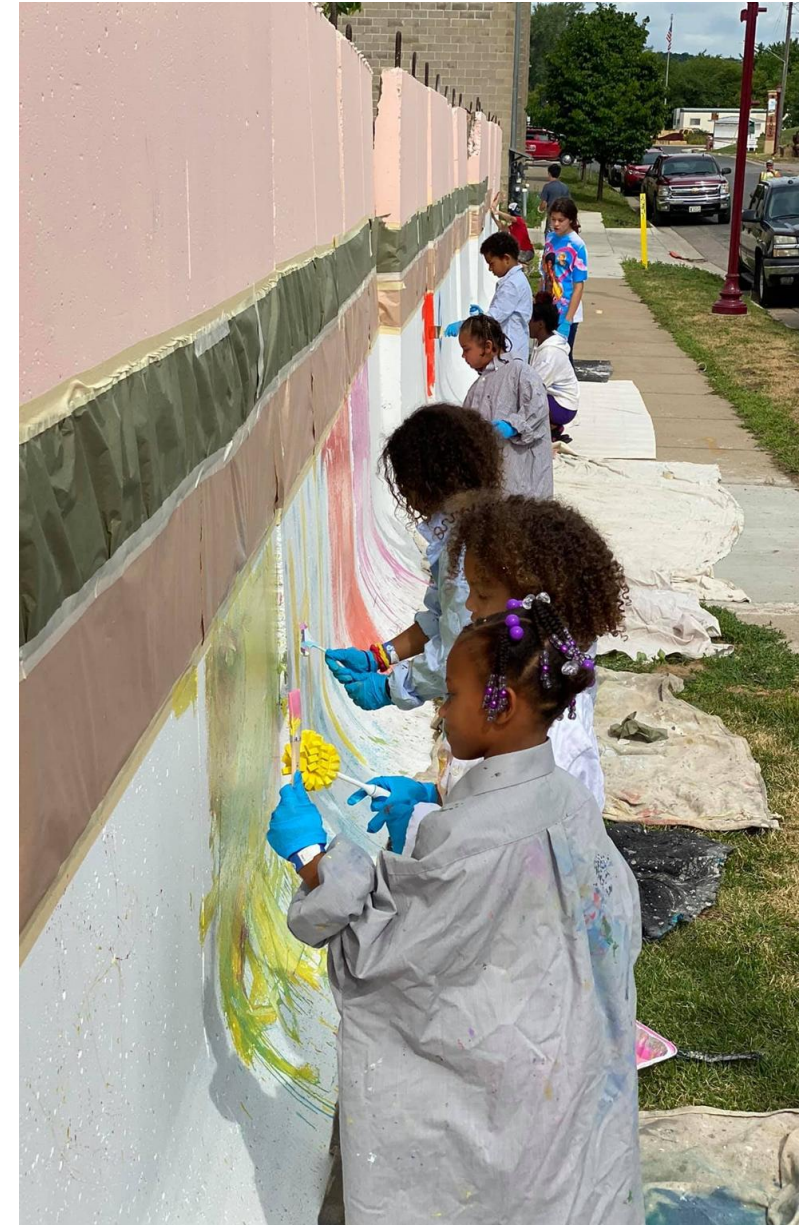
## HELPING CREATIVITY THRIVE

**ARTS COUNCIL** Twin Rivers serves as the arts council for Mankato. In that role, it collaborates with city officials to ensure art is considered in planning, a structured process for art project development is in place and individuals and businesses have support in making their ideas become reality.

## HELPING CREATIVITY THRIVE

Twin Rivers provides additional impact by actively seeking opportunities to support Mankato's vibrant creative community, with the understanding art enriches our culture and economy. Additional programs and initiatives:

- Fiscal agent for emerging art organizations/projects.
- Facilitate commissioning of public and private art.
- Provide resources to connect artists and the community.



# 2026 Budget

