



Cedar River Watershed focus of future art show

Participants wanted for 7-week gallery show at Austin ArtWorks Center starting in May

AUSTIN, Minn. – Friday, Feb. 12, 2016 – Artists are wanted for an upcoming gallery show inspired by scenes within the Cedar River Watershed beginning in late spring at the Austin ArtWorks Center.

Cedar River Watershed District is sponsoring the seven-week show that will run from May 20 to July 9 with art pieces likely including photos, paintings and drawings. An opening reception is planned for May 20 at the ArtWorks Center, 300 N. Main St. Work must be submitted for consideration to the ArtWorks Center by no later than May 6.

Requirements for participation in the gallery include that the art piece show water at a specific location in the Cedar River Watershed in Minnesota. The watershed includes the Cedar River, Turtle Creek, Dobbins Creek (part of Austin's East Side Lake) along with other creeks, such as Wolf Creek in Austin's Todd Park and Rose Creek.

"Our community has many talented photographers and artists, and we're excited to see their creativity on display to help us show off the beauty of our local waterways, especially the Cedar River State Water Trail," said Tim Ruzek, CRWD's outreach coordinator. "CRWD has a mission to 'Revive our River,' and raising awareness about this great resource is part of that effort."

In 2013, CRWD launched a community project for the non-winter months aimed at collecting pictures showing individuals, families and groups enjoying or improving the Cedar River and its tributaries. The effort led to more than 100 pictures submitted to the CRWD, which launched an initiative to raise awareness and appreciation for the Cedar River State Water Trail that runs for about 25 miles in Mower County to the Iowa border. Those photos are featured on the CRWD's Facebook page – www.facebook.com/CedarRiverWD.

Participants whose work is accepted for display in the art show can choose to sell their work. Art for sale through the gallery is sold on commission, with 70 percent to the artist and 30 percent to the Austin Area Commission for the Arts, which runs the ArtWorks Center. Staff with the ArtWorks Center will make the final decision on whether an item will be part of the gallery show, including how many items can be shown per artist.

"The AACA is excited to partner with the Cedar River Watershed District on this wonderful opportunity for local artists to create work that highlights our community's natural beauty," said Jennie Knoebel, Executive Director of the Austin Area Commission for the Arts.

The nonprofit Austin ArtWorks Center showcases local arts, provides arts enrichment to children and adults, and fosters a community of artists and art lovers. It hosts Mower County's only public clay studio and has exhibits on its main and second floors that host gallery shows for professional and emerging artists as well as private collectors.

In April 2007, state and local officials formed the CRWD in response to the Cedar River Watershed's top, worst-known floods occurring in 2000 and 2004. The CRWD's top priorities are aimed at reducing flooding and improving water quality within the Cedar River Watershed.

Cedar River Watershed art gallery

Who: Cedar River Watershed District and the Austin Area Commission for the Arts.

What: Sponsoring art gallery show inspired by water-related scenes in Minnesota's the Cedar River Watershed.

Where: Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 N. Main St.

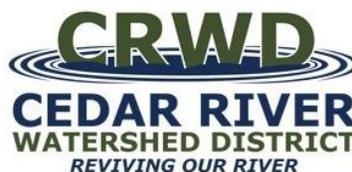
When: May 20 through July 9.

Why: Gallery aims to highlight beautiful, historic and/or imaginative scenes within the Cedar River Watershed.

How: Contact Austin ArtWorks Center staff at 507-434-0934 or stop by between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday or 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

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www.cedarriverwd.org

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