

Art Shanty Projects Press Release
September 11, 2018

Art Shanty Projects' 2018 on-ice program was successful beyond our wildest expectations. More than 40,000 people visited our new location on the frozen Lake Harriet/Bde Unma in Minneapolis. This was Art Shanty Projects' first year in the city, after several years in White Bear Lake. Attendance increased more than three-fold from 2017, and was more than double our previous record year.

Recently, the Board learned that Art Shanty Projects was unable to secure the major grant funding needed to cover a significant portion of our expenses for the 2019 program, contributing to a shortfall in excess of \$85,000. As a result of this situation, our Board is currently grappling with difficult decisions regarding the future of the program. In our current funding situation, it is not possible to present a 2019 on-ice program along the lines of last year's program.

Bringing Art Shanty Projects to life occurs through generous support of donated building materials, tools, supplies, food and beverages, and many volunteer hours. In addition, hundreds of fans supported us through the membership program we established in 2017. The support we receive from our community is the most important contribution to the long term success of Art Shanty Projects.

We are immensely grateful to the community, our sponsors, supporters, members, and artists and performers for their past and ongoing support. Since 2005, Art Shanty Projects has organized the month-long public art happening that transforms public spaces into interactive, artist-driven temporary communities. We look forward to continuing the program, perhaps in a new way. We are open to ideas for moving forward and we promise to stay in touch as we seek solutions to continue the work of Art Shanty Projects in years to come. Please stay tuned for a community meeting we will be hosting this fall where we will be seeking your input to help guide the future of Art Shanty Projects.

Thank you for your support.