



Community Planning & Economic Development

Media Advisory

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For Immediate Release

City of Minneapolis John Biggers Seed Project to Present North Minneapolis Public Art Design *Gateway Art to be Located on Olson Bridge Spanning I-94*

WHAT: On Thursday, June 19th, the John Biggers Seed Project, an initiative of the City of Minneapolis and partners Obsidian Arts, Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center, and the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC), will be presenting the design of a new North Minneapolis large scale public artwork to be located on the Olson Bridge spanning I-94 at a community event taking place from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at UROC.

The design was developed by 13 emerging and mid-career artists selected to participate in the John Biggers Seed project last fall through an open RFP process. The artists include: Mica Anders, Chrys Carroll, Roger Cummings, Patrick Cunningham, Angela Davis, Loretta Day, Christopher Aaron Deanes, Adrienne Doyle, Jeremiah Bey Ellison, Jordan Hamilton, Chris Harrison, Esther Osayande, and Chris Scott. These artists have been working with four master artists including Willis Bing Davis of Ohio and Jon Onye Lockard of Michigan as well as local artists Seitu Jones and Tacoumba Aiken, all of whom worked with John Biggers in the past.

The design was inspired by John Biggers "Celebration of Life" mural as well as by incorporating visual elements that represent the culture, history, and diversity of the Northside. The artwork will be created by forming enamel panels, a material selected for its durability.

The Biggers Seed Project is funded in part by a placemaking National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant and matching funds from the City of Minneapolis' Art in Public Places program. Seed is also supported by the McKnight Foundation's Region and Communities Program and the Pohlrad Foundation.

WHEN: Thursday, June 19, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

WHERE: University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC), 2001 Plymouth Avenue N, Minneapolis, MN 55411

MORE: The John Biggers Seed Project goal is to provide emerging and mid-career artists with career development and transferable skills while creating a sense of place that speaks to the culture of North Minneapolis. To encourage community participation and engagement in the process, the City and partners have hosted a variety of public events including an artist meet and greet and a series of free art history workshops.

For more information, visit the [City of Minneapolis website](#), [the Seed Project Blog](#) or follow the project on Twitter @Biggersseed.

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