

Imagine MKE Neighborhood Partnerships Work Group

Result

Artists and arts and culture groups will be partners in Milwaukee neighborhoods, engaging with communities in creativity and culture and supporting existing creativity and culture based on the interests and needs of community members.

Measures

- a) Artists in the neighborhood report access to new supports and partners;
- b) Number of residents engaged in leading and organizing arts and culture in their neighborhoods;
- c) Increase in public art and use of public space;
- d) Increase of diverse residents participating in arts and culture in their neighborhoods and the quality of those experiences;
- e) New partnerships between arts and culture organizations and other neighborhood organizations and initiatives, and their contribution to neighborhood and social impacts

Neighborhood Partner Selection Process

We clarified timeline with Northwestern Mutual and have the ability to begin this in Spring. The organization may either be headquartered in their 3 priority neighborhoods, or can be headquartered outside neighborhood but serving it. The three neighborhoods are:

- Amani: 15th to 35th Streets between North and Capitol,
- Metcalf Park: 27th and 38th streets between Center and North
- Muskego Way: 16th Street to 27th Street/Layton between Greenfield and Becher

You asked us to ensure that there is some level of buy-in from partners so that they have some skin in the game, even in-kind. We should consider staggering fund distribution to ensure partners fulfill responsibilities.

We will be creating an RFP for future partnerships. For our pilot, we are basically recruiting an organization that meets certain criteria.

1. Criteria for potential Partners (precursor to future RFP)
 - a. Pilot must be located in one of three NM neighborhoods;
 - b. This initiative will align in some way with their neighborhood plan and work - the Imagine MKE project will blend well with and advance their other efforts;
 - c. Experience with neighborhood resident engagement and collaboration with other neighborhood groups (nonprofits, businesses, churches, schools, etc);
 - d. Capacity to oversee this position:

Imagine MKE Neighborhood Partnerships Work Group

- Provide onboarding, orientation and engagement in organization (e.g., inclusion in staff meetings, etc);
 - Provide logistical support (workspace/desk, computer? phone?);
 - Make introductions and support relationship building in neighborhood;
 - Agree to support Liaison in work on their job description and abide by restrictions: Liaison will perform administrative functions or support staff for other programs;
 - Provide shared oversight for neighborhood liaison including monthly three-way meeting with Liaison and Imagine MKE Community Partnerships Director (roles and responsibilities regarding supervision and management will be clearly agreed to by Partner and iMKE)
- e. Willingness/ability to form advisory group of residents and partners in neighborhoods to help guide liaison's relationship building and planning (at least 7 members; members work or live in neighborhood; at least 50% of members reside in neighborhood; will support liaison in relationship building and design of projects; serve as champions locally);
- f. Share with Liaison partnerships they've participated in around arts in the neighborhood or knowledge they have of work done by others in their neighborhood with artists and arts groups;
- g. Will report to workgroup on partnership for continuous improvement;
- h. Our ideal budget would include: \$6,000 to partner organization for oversight, \$6,000 for artist fees, \$6,000 for resident stipends, \$6,000 for project/art supplies, and \$2,900 for computer/phone/etc. for liaison. The budget should have some flexibility so that the liaison, with approval, can spend the artist fees, stipends, and supplies flexibly based on actual project(s) design.
2. Pilot Outreach
- a. Outreach will be limited to neighborhoods supported by Northwestern Mutual for pilot program:
- Amani: 15th to 35th Streets between North and Capitol,
 - Metcalf Park: 27th and 38th streets between Center and North
 - Muskego Way: 16th Street to 27th Street/Layton between Greenfield and Becher
- b. Dominique will lead outreach to 3 neighborhoods and bring potential partner to committee in November;
- c. Goal to have partner identified by November 30th
3. Hiring Process for Neighborhood Liaison
- a. Job Description complete and search begun by December 1;
- b. Begin interviews of candidates by January 14th
- c. Make offer by January 31st;
- d. Begin by March 1st ;
- e. CEO or board designated consultant will make hire; Co-chairs and one other member will participate in interviews and advise selection;
- f. Determine how committee will intersect with and support partner and liaison during pilot (and future sites).

Imagine MKE Neighborhood Partnerships Work Group

4. Steps for future expansion
 - a. Develop RFP, scoring criteria, and selection process for future communities
 - b. Define role of committee in supporting neighborhood liaison's work

Other Considerations for Partners

- Engage partners in helping us identify candidates;
- Find out what skills host organization is strong in or weak in, and look for ways liaison or workgroup or neighborhood partners can assist in filling gaps;
- Workgroup will be a resource that liaison and partner should utilize;
- Document their in kind support – space, equipment, human resource time, etc. Recognize they are taking a reputational risk;
- Engage young people on the neighborhood task force;
- We will want to learn from them about the amount of support and time and investment it takes to support a liaison;
- A staff person at host will be our official iMKE partner and participate in workgroup;
- Make sure shared goals and outcomes are specified in agreement
- Another way we see investment is how much they communicate about this project in their organizational communications;

Imagine MKE Neighborhood Partnerships Work Group

Neighborhood Liaison Responsibilities

The Liaison will report to the Director of Outreach at Imagine MKE (and the CEO until that person is hired). The Liaison will be located at the pilot organization and will be supported by the pilot organization, the Imagine MKE staff, and the Neighborhoods Workgroup of Imagine MKE in fulfilling their duties and achieving their objectives. Duties include:

1. Develop workplan within three months to support projects and partnerships that meet our objectives based on conversations with artists, local residents, and neighborhood organizations.
 - Identify neighborhood artists and opportunities for engagement;
 - Inventory and document arts and culture assets within the neighborhood;
 - Identify potential partnership opportunities with schools, nonprofits, businesses;
 - Identify resident ideas for neighborhood arts and culture projects (visual or performing arts), and residents who want to partner in organizing them.

2. Engage Imagine MKE Arts Organizations
 - Based on assessment and workplan, identify opportunities for partnership between Imagine MKE members and neighborhood groups and projects as needed or useful;
 - Identify opportunities to promote neighborhood arts and culture assets and events through Imagine MKE networks

1. Art Project Engagement & Design Process:
 - Orient and educate residents and local leaders on the types of art projects and engagement that could be helpful to communities, and encourage bold thinking about what is possible (ideally create toolkit of types and examples of projects across mediums such as music, spoken word, visual arts, film, dance, etc)
 - Facilitate residents, artists, and other partners to design and implement projects identified by workplan;
 - Work with partner and Imagine MKE to resolve conflicts when different groups hold different views and interests in neighborhoods, seeking to find the “both and” solutions around shared interests;
 - Work with Imagine MKE to identify and secure resources necessary to implement project;
 - Create linkages between and among neighborhoods, connect neighborhood efforts to the broader community, and link the neighborhood to existing arts opportunities across the city;

2. Sustainability, Documentation, and Evaluation

Imagine MKE Neighborhood Partnerships Work Group

- Develop plan with neighborhood and Imagine MKE for sustaining the work in neighborhood beyond the 12 months including engagement of people who've led and participated;
 - Work with staff and workgroup to document processes, lessons learned, and templates for other communities;
 - Work with staff and workgroup to design and administer surveys of residents and partners to assess value of experience;
 - Share lessons with future neighborhoods.
3. Qualities of neighborhood liaison:
- Experience and skills in outreach and engagement;
 - Knowledge of or willingness to learn asset-based approaches;
 - Facilitation skills
 - Experience with arts and culture/artists;
 - Communication skills;
 - Project management skills;
 - Positive energy;
 - Resident or connections to the Amani neighborhood preferred

Strategy Group Commitments to Support Liaison 90-day Plan

The Neighborhood Partnerships Strategy Group will support the neighborhood liaison to:

- Define the geography of the Amani neighborhood boundaries where the liaison will focus his work;
- Survey Imagine MKE network to learn who is already working in the Amani neighborhood;
- Develop a template for the Imagine MKE liaison work plan;
- Assist in connecting liaison to professional and capacity building opportunities;
- Meet with the neighborhood liaison outside of the strategy group meeting sessions to offer support and connection to individuals, efforts and initiatives across the Imagine MKE network.

This project will last twelve months, with opportunity for continuation in other neighborhoods.

Imagine MKE Neighborhood Partnerships Work Group

Other things we could be doing

1. Develop a network of mentors with experience who can help new artists, groups, and projects. Create a resources hub that provides capacity building
2. Amplify and spread the word about what art is happening in neighborhoods; asset-map what is happening now in neighborhoods, unify that with other major cultural events;
3. There is a deficiency of micro-grants for emerging artists (\$100-\$500). Work with MARN;
4. Offer support to neighborhood groups who have arts and culture in their neighborhood plans or would like to include them. We could share some examples with neighborhoods of what others have done or are doing;
5. Creative Place Making at LISC. Link to this and support their work

Imagine MKE Neighborhood Partnerships Work Group

Meeting Notes

Neighborhood Partnerships Strategy Group Meeting

Wednesday, September 4th, 2019, 9:00am-11:00am

Wisconsin Black Historical Society/Museum

Attendance:

Mark Lawson – MIAD Director of Galleries; President, Riverwest Artists Association Jazz Gallery Center for the Arts

Erick Ledesma –Community Engagement Manager, Milwaukee Repertory Theater

Terry Murphy – Director, ArtWorks for Milwaukee

Matt Dorner – Economic Development Director, Milwaukee Downtown BID #21

LaShawndra Vernon – Executive Director, AWE

Betsy Corry – Managing Director, First Stage Children’s Theater

Brian Rott – Producing Artistic Director, Quasimondo

Jenni Reinke – Public Relations, Quasimondo

Leah Harris – Director of Community Engagement, Milwaukee Repertory Theater

Ian Bautista – Executive Director, Clarke Square Neighborhood Initiative

Marilu Knode – Director, Exhibitions and Programs, Sculpture Milwaukee

Nailah Johnson – Cultural Organizer, LIT MKE

Jenny Toutant – Education Director, Milwaukee Repertory Theater

Jeff Mosser – Education Manager, Milwaukee Repertory Theater

Anne Rasmussen – Branch Libraries Public Services Area Manager, Milwaukee Public Library

Isabelle Koenig – Community Programs Manager, UPAF

Imagine MKE Team:

Dominique Samari

Ericka Kelly

Antoine Carter

David Lee

Mac Antigua

Annie Peterson

Lindsay Sheridan

Katie Heil

Neighborhood Liaison 90 Day Update:

- Neighborhood Partners: Metcalfe Park & Amani United
- Past Events: Summer Sprays, The Mental ART, Beyond the Book Bag carnival and mural event, Moody Park 3v3 Basketball Tournament
- LISC partnership and Loveland mapping inventory project
- Measuring 90 days: 5 resident leaders, 8 mural installations, 500 participating residents, 15 partnerships
- Upcoming events: Amani Gallery Night 10/18

Arts & Culture Inventory Questions

- Include list of commercial kitchens in inventory – cultural facilities
- What skills would residents like to develop?
- Where are the spaces in which people feel safe and welcome?

Imagine MKE Neighborhood Partnerships Work Group

- What do *you* want? (vs. What do you want for your children or grandchildren?)
- Where do you express your creativity?
 - Are you being paid for this work?
- Are you aware of the public art and cultural facilities in your neighborhood?
 - Do you like them? Do you value them?
- Are you aware of the historical assets in your neighborhood?
- How long have you lived in your neighborhood?
- Who are the youth that are interested in these cultural assets and how do we reach them?
- What area of culture are you focusing on?
- What is culture to you?
- Cultural Facilities:
 - Is it physically accessible? Via public transportation?
 - What is the capacity/size/space of the facility?
 - What languages are spoken there?
 - Who do residents trust in the surrounding community organizations?
 - What do residents get from them?
 - What are the best places for congregation/fellowship?
- Process:
 - Start with a baseline of existing projects from arts & culture organizations
 - Include for-profit organizations e.g. lounges, restaurants
 - Identify historical assets that are vacant on corridors
 - Connect with Historic MKE for existing data

Upcoming events that Imagine MKE could partner on:

- August Wilson Monologue Competition
- Milwaukee Rep Theater & Clarke Square Neighborhood Initiative: raising awareness about the lead crisis in Amani
 - Rep: student music videos on theme of lead crisis
- Milwaukee Public Library rap battle competition (October)
- Milwaukee Public Library creation of maker spaces in several branches
- Clarke Square: Chavez Drive arts and culture development
- First Stage: “On the Wings” bilingual production – October 18th at Todd Wehr Theater
 - Imagine MKE can share with networks & promote to bilingual audiences
- Sculpture MKE: one month left for Wisconsin Ave tour
- Milwaukee Rep Theater
 - Community voice integration
 - IMPACT council representation
 - Imagine MKE to be at the table
- Jazz Gallery Center for the Arts (Mark Lawson)

Imagine MKE Neighborhood Partnerships Work Group

- Rebuild board leadership to include residents
- AWE Youth Arts Council
 - Talking to school boards
 - Articulate the same narrative
 - Convener role for Imagine MKE

Event Engagement with Partners:

- Milwaukee Public Library Center Street Branch as a potential space for Gallery Night
- Near West Side Partners gallery space
- Clarke Square Neighborhood Initiative partnership with Amani – use infrastructure for event e.g. fall harvest festival
- UWM/MKE Film pilot programs
- Connect Rep with Amani movie night
- Joe Ehlinger – PPG Paint Company
- First Stage: partner on movie camp
 - Acting participation
 - Writing scripts
 - Production design
- Mark Lawson could write a feature for Amani Gallery Night
- Co-lead mural project with an artist and community organizer
 - Identify artist mentors to work with young artists
- Community healing at Moody Park
- Steps:
 - Resident engagement
 - Listening sessions
 - Neighborhood voice
 - Template RFQ – Matt Dorner
 - Strategy Development meetings for event support and resources
 - Antoine to schedule with group

Action Items:

- Workplan engagement & strategy meetings – Antoine
- Partner event support & attendance – marketing
- Schedule standing meetings