



CALL FOR ARTISTS

Mental Health, finding creative solace

ArtReach St. Croix is seeking artists who currently create or have created work around themes related to mental health to be part of an exhibition during NEA Big Read in the St. Croix Valley.

NEA Big Read in the St. Croix Valley is a regional month-long program that features multi-disciplinary art events focused on themes found in the selected book. This year's book is *Nothing to See Here* by Kevin Wilson.

Mental Health, finding creative solace will encourage artists and viewers to consider the emotions, stigma, struggles and healing that surround mental health and how individuals impacted personally or tangentially find solace and strength. Like the *Art on Caregiving, Death and Dying* that was a highly successful part of the 2023 NEA Big Read in the St. Croix Valley program, ArtReach expects to treat this exhibition with the respect and dignity that the artists and their work are entitled to.

All forms of creative work are encouraged. All media, subjects and styles are welcome including—but not limited to—painting, fibers, printmaking, sculpture, glass, pottery, jewelry, mixed media, photography or video. All applications will be reviewed by members of ArtReach's Visual Arts Committee to ensure an appropriate mix of work for the exhibition with some consideration for space.

Artists living and/or working in the St. Croix Valley are encouraged to submit applications. Artists can submit up to three pieces of work for consideration though not all pieces may be selected for the exhibition. Artists are encouraged, but not required, to submit a brief statement about their work and how it reflects the exhibition theme of mental health and using creativity to find solace.

This is ArtReach St. Croix's tenth year hosting NEA Big Read in the St. Croix Valley.

Where:

ArtReach St. Croix's Royal Credit Union Foundation Gallery, 224 N. 4th Street, Stillwater, MN 55082

Dates to know:

February 17: Art Submission Forms Due

February 28: Accepted Artists Notified

March 31: Artwork drop-off, 10am-3pm*

**If this date does not work for you, please contact the gallery to schedule a drop-off time.*

April 3: Opening Reception and NEA Big Read Kick-off Event, 6-8pm

April 3-May 10: Exhibition on view

If you are a writer who would like to have your book in the Gift Gallery during NEA Big Read, contact heather@artreachstcroix.org

How to submit art:

Please complete the online submission form found at artreachstcroix.org/bigread/ or send the completed form via email (to heather@artreachstcroix.org) or drop it off at the gallery during normal gallery hours.

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

SUBMISSION FORM

Mental Health, finding creative solace

Artists interested in having their work included in ArtReach St. Croix's exhibition—*Mental Health, finding creative solace*—should complete this submission form for up to three pieces of work and return it by **Monday, February 17**. An online version of this form is available at artreachstcroix.org/bigread/

ARTIST INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

ARTWORK INFORMATION

Title _____

Medium _____

Dimensions _____ Price (or not for sale) _____

Brief statement about how this artwork reflects the emotion, stigma, struggles and healing of mental health or the solace found in its creation. (optional)

I have emailed a JPEG image of my work to heather@artreachstcroix.org or am including a thumbdrive with the image.

ArtReach St. Croix has my permission to use my image for promotion of *Mental Health, finding creative solace* including print, online and social media.

There is no application fee for this call. ArtReach St. Croix's commission rate for all artworks sold is 35%.

Artist Signature _____ Date _____

Required for participation

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