



### Preparing For A Successful Future



Remember your first summer job? I bet it wasn't as creative as the job youth in ArtsWork have this summer. Twenty-four youth are apprenticing to two COMPAS mentor artists to create public art for two Saint Paul sites.

[Sharra Frank](#) is leading a cohort of new mosaic artists and [Katrina Knutson](#) is mentoring new painters.

By the end of next summer, Saint Paul's North End will be beautified by their new skills and hard work. Watch for the murals along Maryland Avenue (one under a BNSF railroad bridge east of Dale Street; the other at the entrance to Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary).

Since 2001 your support has helped ArtsWork provide youth with hands-on employment training that relates to fields beyond the arts and sets them up to thrive in their future career.



photo by Sharra Frank

Discover more about ArtsWork in this week's COMPAS [blog post](#).

And check out our two partner organizations: [Face to Face](#) & [Right Track Saint Paul](#).

### COMPAS Welcomes New Program Staff...



Marian Santucci

With the retirement of COMPAS' Arts Program Director Daniel Gabriel, two new staff members, Julie Strand and Marian Santucci joined the COMPAS team! Julie will serve as *Creative Classroom Program Director*, and Marian will serve as *Artful Aging Program Director*.



Julie Strand

[Read more](#) about Julie and Marian & the wealth of knowledge they bring to COMPAS.

### And New Roster Artists!



Benjamin Domask

COMPAS is excited to announce that fifteen new teaching artists have joined the organization's roster of more than 100 talented individual teaching artists and performing groups! [Learn more](#) about these fantastic new artists.



In New Company



Naomi Cohn

Artists include: Fiona Avocado, Nicole Brending, Alexei Moon Casselle, Naomi Cohn, *Siam's Afrobilly* with Siam Matuzungidi & Dallas Johnson, Benjamin Domask, *Downrange Telemetrics* with Becca Barniskis & Nick Jaffe, *In New Company* with Lisa Berman, Tou SaiKo Lee, MN Joe Tran, Djenane Saint Juste, Levi Weinhagen, and XROSS.



MN Joe Tran

### The Blog Breaks Down Classroom Walls

In June, COMPAS' blog shares experiences of how the arts can transform a classroom. Check them out...

After 28 years, Daniel Gabriel retired from his position as COMPAS' Arts Program Director. Through his efforts, well over a million people created with COMPAS artists. He [shares a story](#) of what inspired his work.

COMPAS' Educators Advisory Committee were asked how they personally use creativity. Rana Nestrud (Art teacher & Fine Arts Coordinator at Elk River High School) [shares her thoughts](#) on the topic.

### Creative Conversations

#### Artist Spotlight: Multi-Talented, Mica Lee Anders

"Teaching is my heart. Seeing the immediate effect art can have on the students is wonderful. Watching them ask questions, test boundaries, gain confidence, and create works they're proud of is why I teach."

[Delve further](#) into Mica's passion for teaching and why she can handle almost any art form you throw at her.



#### COMPAS Youth Boost with Evan Gabriel



##### What did you learn through ArtsWork?

"No matter what stage you are in life, there are always people pushing past expectations or doubts and fighting to make their dreams happen. You might have to face a fear of standing in front of an audience of 100 people and introducing a piece of original music. You never know, but it's best to keep your eyes open and go seek."

[Read](#) about Evan's experience in ArtsWork and how it encouraged him to become a DJ and produce his own music.

If you're reading this - all the way down at the bottom of our newsletter - then you are one of us: a person who knows creative education is essential all year round.

So far this summer, COMPAS artists are engaging people at sites across MN during 111 residencies, workshops and performances - that's more than 1,000 hours of creative education!



Every donation provides more hours of creativity. Can you help us inspire more people?



COMPAS, Art for Life's Sake

