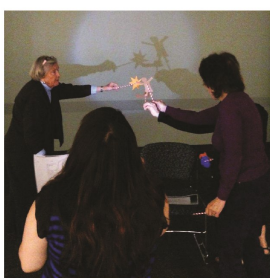




Learning To Act Your Age

No one would guess that tucked away in Ridgedale Library the next up-and-coming playwrights and actors were being developed. COMPAS Artist, May Lee-Yang spent eight weeks with a group of older adults taking their existing talents and honing them through improv activities, playwriting, mask-making, shadow puppetry and ensemble work. The "Playing Around with Theater" workshop series ended in a performance showcase for the community. Performers very successfully displayed all the skills they had cultivated over the previous weeks.



Afterwards, a number of participants remarked how they never thought they could do something like this. In addition to theater skills these participants learned that no matter what your age the arts provide a wealth of confidence when you overcome a limitation you thought you had.

COMPAS does workshops, residencies and performances for all ages. [Discover](#) the wide variety of programming we do.

COMPAS Arts Program Director Retiring



After 28 years with COMPAS, Daniel Gabriel will be retiring as Arts Program Director at the end of June. Daniel was instrumental in several organization expansions, including expanding the COMPAS teaching artist roster to include artists of all art forms. [Learn more](#) about the transition and the two new positions being added to COMPAS' staff.

The Blog Gains Perspective This Month

In May, the COMPAS blog shared expertise from both a COMPAS Artist and a STEM educator.

Yvonne Ng - STEM educator and author of the *Engineer's Playground* blog - shared thoughts from her recent time working with COMPAS Creative Classroom teaching artists. [Find out](#) what happened when STEM became STEAM!

COMPAS visual artist Heidi Jeub reflected on what it means to be an artist... and a teaching artist. [Check it out!](#)

Creative Conversations

Artist Spotlight: Carnatic Composer, Nirmala Rajasekar

"I began training in Carnatic music at the age of 6. Some of the greatest influences of my life have been the environment in which I grew up, the South Indian city of Chennai, and its cultural background where young children were encouraged to follow their interest in the arts, even from a very young age."

[Learn more](#) about Carnatic music and how Nirmala is teaching Minnesotan's its rich history.



COMPAS Youth Boost with Jack Sutter

"ArtsWork gave me that vital experience in the artistic field I was aiming towards; I wouldn't have gotten that from a different job."

[Hear more](#) about Jack's experience and his current career as an animator in Minneapolis.

Cheers for COMPAS

Show your support of COMPAS and other area nonprofits at [Cheers for Charity](#), outdoors at the Mall of America on June 18th. More than 45 breweries will be there, including Surly, Indeed, Toppling Goliath, Summit, August Schell, 612Brew & Town Hall.



Better yet, your attendance will also benefit COMPAS. When you buy your ticket at [cheersforcharity.com](#), just enter the referral code "COMPAS" and we will receive a donation.

Visit COMPAS At The Flint Hills Festival



COMPAS will once again have a booth at the Flint Hills International Children's Festival. Visit us [June 4th](#) from 10am-1:30pm or [June 5th](#) from 1:30pm-5pm. Transform into a creative superhero by making your own mask and posing with our magical red cape.



Students involved in the arts are 4 times more likely to participate in a math or science fair.

Support creativity!

