Learning To Act Your Age

No-one would guess that tucked away in Ridgeland Library the next up-and-coming playwrights and actors were being developed. COMPSA Artist, Mary Lee (Magnolia Heights), spent eight weeks with a group of high school students attending their existing talents and honing them through improvisation exercises, playwriting, physical theatre, shadow puppetry and ensemble work. The "Playing Around with Theater" workshop was held in a performance showcase for the community. Performers very successfully showcased 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 the 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.

COMPSA does workshops, residencies and performances for all ages. Discover the wide variety of programming we do.

COMPAs Arts Program Director Retiring

After 25 years with COMPSA, Diane Milner will be retiring as Arts Program Director at the end of June. Diane's dedication, support, and leadership have been instrumental in helping to expand and elevate COMPSA, and she will truly be missed. Diane has been with the organization expansion, including expanding the COMPSA teaching artist roster to include artists of all art forms. Learn more about the transition and the new positions being added to COMPSA Staff.

The Blog Gains Perspective This Month

In May, the COMPSA blog shared expertise from both a COMPSA 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 COMPSA Creative Classroom teaching artists. Find out what happened when STEM became STEAM!

COMPSA 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, Nimala Rajasekar

"I began training in Carnatic music at the age of 8. 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 passions in the arts, even from a very young age." Learn more about Carnatic music and how Nimala is teaching Minnesotans its rich history.

COMPAS Youth Boost with Jack Surfer

"ArtWorks gave me that vital experience in the artistic field, I was aiming towards; I wouldn’t have gotten that from a regular job." Hear more about Jack’s experience and his current career as an animator in Minneapolis.

Cheers for COMPSA

Show your support of COMPSA and other area nonprofits at Cheers to Charity, out in the Mail of America on June 18th. More than 20 breweries will be there, including Bayly, Indeed, Tofte Bay, Stillwell, Summit, August Schell, 612Brew & Town Hall.

Better yet, your attendance will also benefit COMPSA. When you buy your ticket at CheersToCharityMinn, just enter the referral code "COMPSA" and we will receive a donation.

Visit COMPSA At The Flint Hills Festival

COMPAS will once again have a booth at the Flint Hills International Children’s Festival. Visit us June 1st and 2nd from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Bring your mask and enjoy the incredible performance from the COMPSA Creative Classroom Teaching Artists.

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