

## Grand Rapids Social Cohesion Sculpture

### Artist Contact Information

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[www.mnsag.com](http://www.mnsag.com) smallärt gallery site

### References

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Art4Trails

René Halasy

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CARES Grant Murals

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Murals

Angela Gupta

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Park Commissioner Ward 2

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Smallärt project

After six trips to Grand Rapids to participate in various shows at MacRostie Art Center, I have seen a thriving art community that I would be excited to work with to provide a sculpture that meets the aesthetic and physical needs of the neighbors. As well as being a sculptor I am an avid Mountain bike rider, hiker, fledgling cross country skier and outdoor enthusiast. My love of the outdoors and ability to listen well and meet a community's needs are assets that I will bring to this project.

My work is primarily sculpture but I paint, make prints and work with clay. My first large public sculpture I made was for Art4Trails in Rochester. It was designed to be integrated with nature and look as if it was emerging from the ground. The design didn't quite meet expectations but I learned how to communicate with a fabricator and learned what skills I needed in the future. I took a more in depth class on welding at the local community college and also learned more about plasma cutting. During the pandemic, I was awarded a CARES Act art grant to make a mural for a neighborhood in Rochester that is primarily immigrant families. We met multiple times and came up with a theme and a design. Members of the community, mostly Somali, helped me paint and I put on the finishing touches. Finally I designed and used grant funds to develop small galleries that can be put up around town for more artists to get the chance to show publicly and more neighbors to see work without having to go inside an arts space. My knowledge of materials is broad and I understand the limitations and positives of placing work publicly. What I lack in my resume is made up for by my skill of listening to what people want and developing ideas for them to discuss and refine.

My method for starting this project would be to meet with the team that understands the physical location and make sure we accommodate wind, drainage, parking, accessibility and any other concerns that might affect ideas. Once any limitations are understood, I would meet with the community members for input on the design and share with them some of my initial inspirations. I have images I took from the stacks of logs near the plant in Grand Rapids, and researched The Leech Lake Reservation history and found that the eagle could be incorporated to represent all neighbors. It is my belief that the best public sculptures are ones that invite the public to engage with them. There should be ways for the audience to interact and become part of the piece. The dialogue with community members will help me make a design that works with their vision on how a sculpture is activated and how the space around it may be used. Once that conversation is complete, I go back to my studio and get to work with fabricators and any final research necessary. As an artist, with help from the community, I will integrate my aesthetic with ideas from the public into a piece that energizes the space and encourages people to visit, appreciate and interact with the work.

My piece reclaim was chosen for Art4Trails, it can be seen [here](#). The CARES Grant Mural can be found [here](#).

## Mary Beth Magyar List Of Images

- 1: Smallärt gallery placed at Soldier's Field 2021. These mini galleries were funded by MSAB and I secured a 501(c)3 for them after the grant period ended. Art shown by Holly Streekstra, *Space Time Box* 2023 Each gallery is aluminum and fabricated by Manahan's Machine Shop south of Rochester in Chatfield, MN. I worked primarily with Pat and he built the galleries . Each one cost about \$1000.00 The glass inside is special automotive glass installed by Hentges Glass in Byron, MN for approx. \$200.00 per smallärt. The Soldier's Field gallery went through Parks and Recreation staff and their board before being permanently installed. Total grant money awarded \$6000.00
2. Smallärt gallery placed at Northrop, the Community Education Building for Rochester Public Schools 2021. The work is student work from The Alternative Learning Center, an alternative HS in Rochester. The galleries stand roughly 5' high, 18" depth and width.
3. Smallärt gallery placed on 2nd St SW, inside EVEN Hotels and Staybridge Suites 2023.
4. *Unity* Mural, 2020. Each panel is 8' x 4'. The theme, depictions of origin homes and US homes were decided on by neighbors. Cares Act art grant was for \$1800.00
5. *Unity* Mural with neighbor/painters. The news came to the unveiling and the children that helped were there to point out their contributions. 2020
6. *Reclaim*, 2019,Metal, wax, ceramic and plants. This sculpture was awarded through Art4Trails. \$2500.00 The fabricator and I struggled to work together. I did not know as much about welding and relied on his expertise. The original drawing was much more fluid and organic and he made it more regimented and more to his vision. Ultimately it was not my vision but I learned how to better have my ideas represented moving forward as is evident with smallärt project.
7. *Reclaim*, original drawing.
8. *Dahlias*, Sargent's on 2nd, Acrylic, 2022 \$1500.00 The garden center just added a coffee shop called Aqui, inside. Dahlias have their origins in South America so we felt they were appropriate for the wall outside.
9. *Protector, Protected One and Protected Two*, approx. 12' wide 14' deep steel, ceramic and asphalt. Shown at Phipps Art Center May-July 2021

### **Solo and Three Person Exhibitions**

2024 **Show title TBD**, Three person show, Artistry, Bloomington, MN  
2023 **Drawings & Prints**, Lake City Area Arts, Lake City ,MN  
2022 **Patterns**, Phipps Center for the Arts, Hudson, WI  
2021 **Markings**, Hutchinson Center for the Arts, Hutchinson, MN  
2020 **Structures**, Riverland Community College, Austin, MN  
2019 **Reclaim** 1 year sculpture installation through Art4Trails, Rochester, MN  
*Analogous*, with Andy Messerschmidt, MacRostie Center for the Arts, Grand Rapids, MN  
2018 **Analogous**, Paramount Center for the Arts, Gallery St. Germain, St. Cloud, MN  
**Restoration**, Arts Center St. Peter, St. Peter, Minnesota  
2016 **How to Build a Nest**, RAC2 gallery, Rochester Art Center, Rochester, MN

### **Selected Group Exhibitions**

2022 *Off Center*, International Ceramics Art Competition, Blue Line Arts Center, Roseville, CA  
2020 *Alone Together*, virtual show, MacRostie Art Center, Grand Rapids, MN  
2019 *We of Claytopia?* Banfill Locke Art Center, Fridley, MN  
2018 *Political Birthdays*, Dream Farm Commons, Oakland, CA  
*Foursquare*, Rochester Community and Technical College, Rochester, MN  
*Emerging Artists*, Lanesboro Center for the Arts, Lanesboro, MN  
2017 *Recent Works*, Gallery 535, Rochester, MN  
*Through My Eyes*, Paramount Center for The Arts, St. Cloud, MN  
*Fresh Work: MNWCA*, Arts Center of St. Peter, St. Peter, MN  
*25<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition*, MacRostie Art Center, Grand Rapids, MN

### **Grants, Awards and Speaking Engagements**

2023 MAED, Beulah Benton Tatum Award, thesis focused on minority or underserved children  
2023 Summer art enrichment with Rochester Public School grant to improve mental health  
2023 Presentation All of the Artists Project to Rochester Public Schools art educators  
2023 Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council School Residency Artist Grant  
2023 NCECA Presenter “Community Engagement; How, Why and Where?”  
2022 COLLABORATE the MN/WI art educators conference Presenter *All the Artists* website  
2022 NCECA Presenter “smallärt gallery: make art accessible”  
2022 Juror Winona State University Undergraduate Art Show  
2021 Minnesota State Arts Board Creative Support for Individuals Grant  
2020 CARES Art Grant mural with Meadow Park Initiative/Family Services Rochester  
2020 Minnesota State Arts Board Arts Learning Grant  
2018 Minnesota State Arts Board Artists Initiative Grant  
2017 Emerging Artist Grant from Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council

### **Private Collections**

2020 Reclaim, Rochester, MN  
2016-7 Nest 1, Pacific Palisades, Ca, Nest 2 and 3 Rochester, MN

### **Professional Artists Organizations**

- 2019- Minnesota Citizens for the Arts
- 2018- NCECA, National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts
- 2017- Minnesota Women Ceramic Artists

### **Volunteer and Nonprofit work**

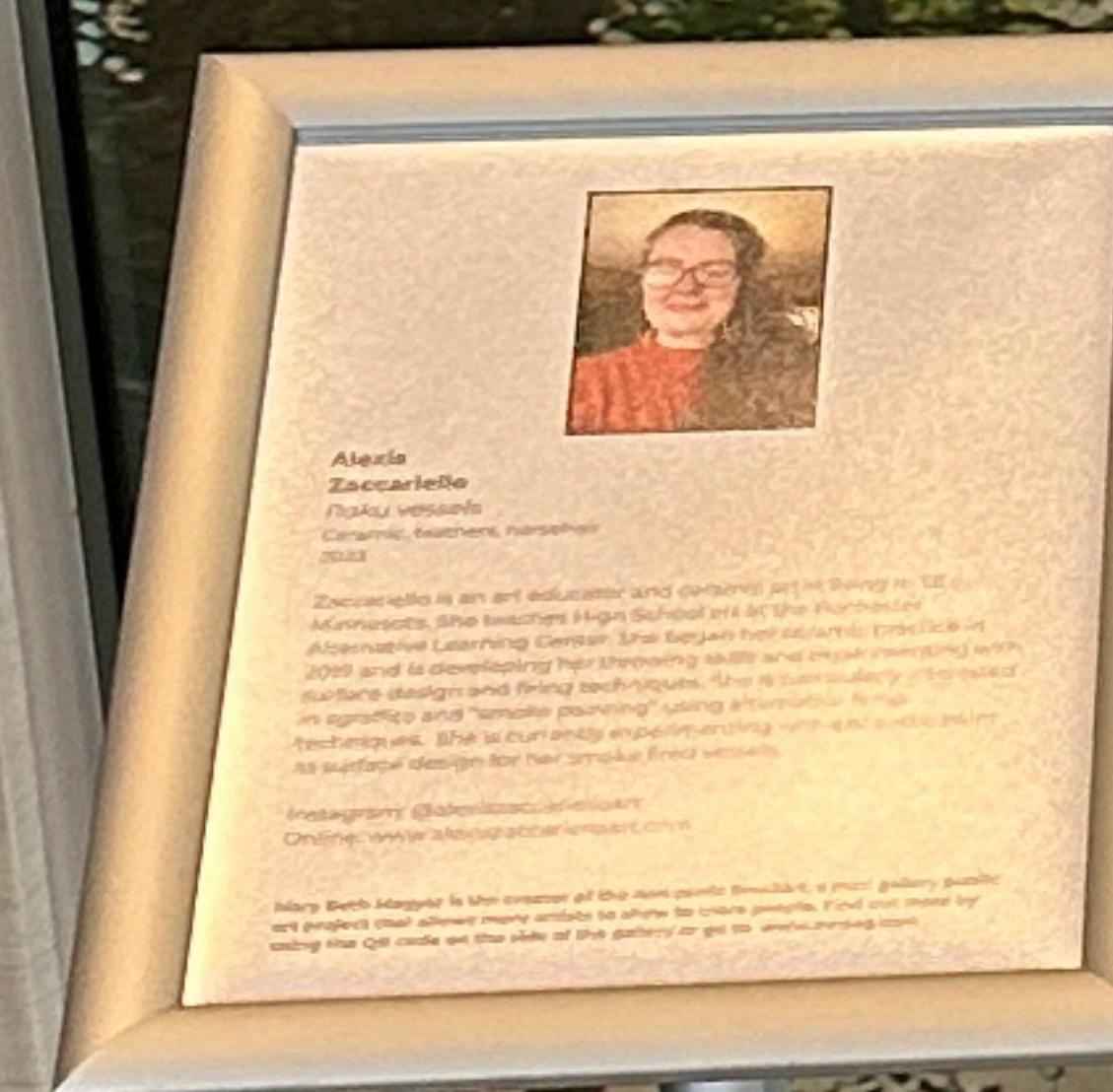
- 2023 Family Promise, taught art to children while parents took classes to end cycle of homelessness
- 2022- Secured a 501(c)3 post MSAB grant to continue smallärt public gallery project
- 2019- Food preparation for Open Table, a weekly food truck serving food at no cost to anyone in need
- 2020 Minnesota State Arts Board panelist for 2021 Community Arts Organizations Grants
- 2017- Rochester Public School, Alternative Learning Center, Rochester, MN

### **Education**

- 2020-2022 Masters of Arts in Education, Hamline University, St.paul, MN
- 1991 BFA Painting, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI



















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