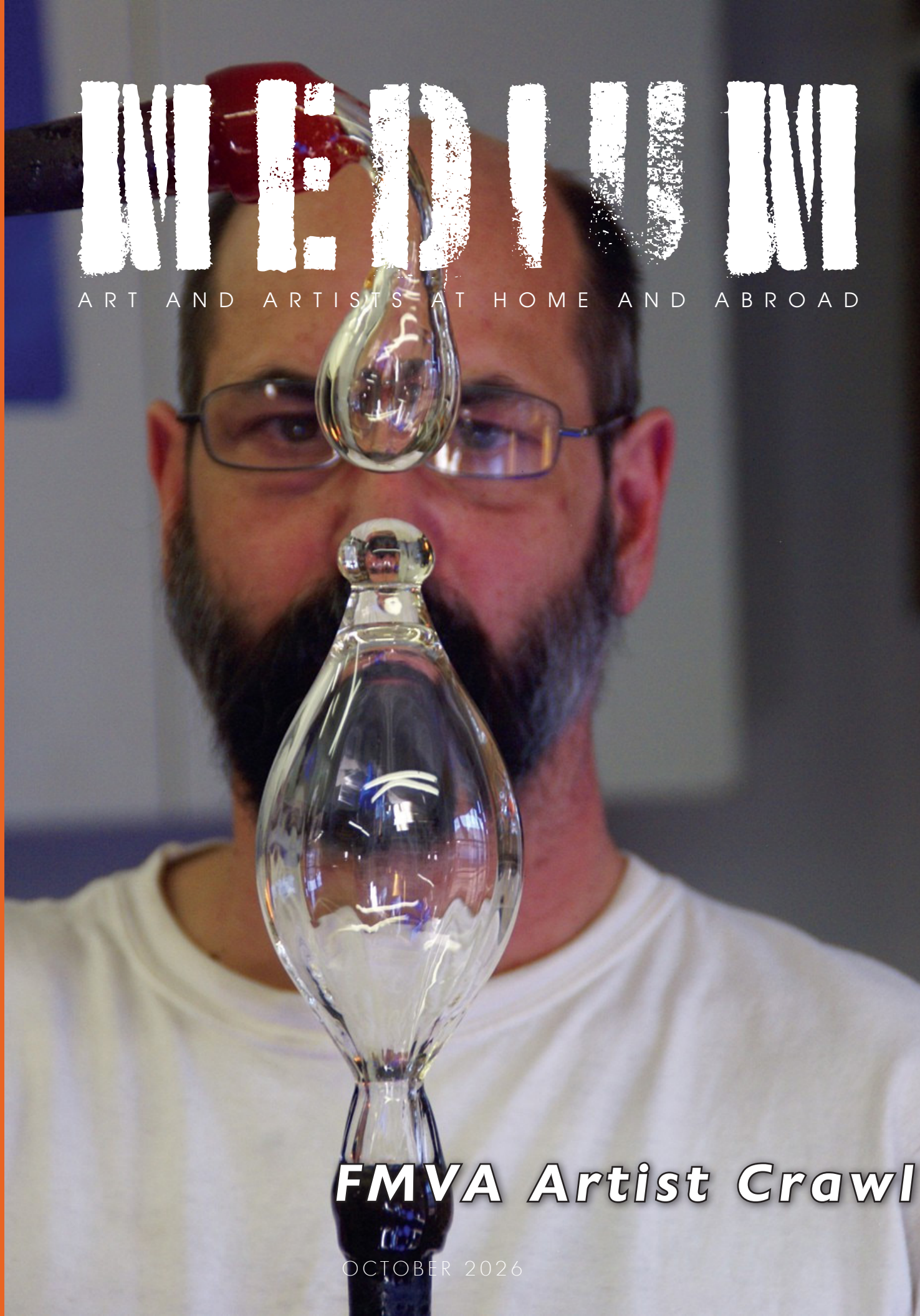
THE MUSTANG POST

MEDIUM

ART AND ARTISTS AT HOME AND ABROAD



FMVA Artist Crawl

OCTOBER 2026

MEDIUM

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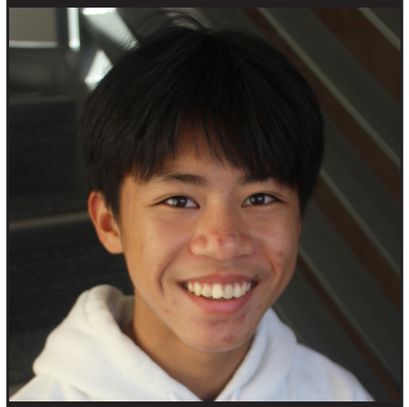
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STAFF

Mateo Landayan



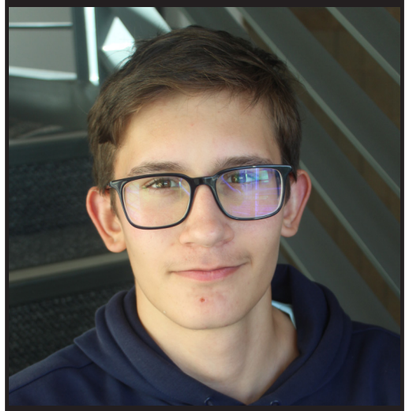
Assistant Editor

Christina Miller



Journalist

Jakov Danilovski



Journalist

Salmo Ahmed



Journalist

letter from the editor

It's so exciting to see the launch of Medium, a new magazine for Mustang Post focusing entirely on art, music and other forms of entertainment. We really needed a publication that provides coverage of the creative work today.

Art and music are important because they help us understand our world and each other, Medium can help support new artists, talk about important ideas, and bring creative people together.

I look forward to working on our future issues and watching our magazine grow!

Sincerely,

Mateo Landayan

PLAINS ART MUSEUM

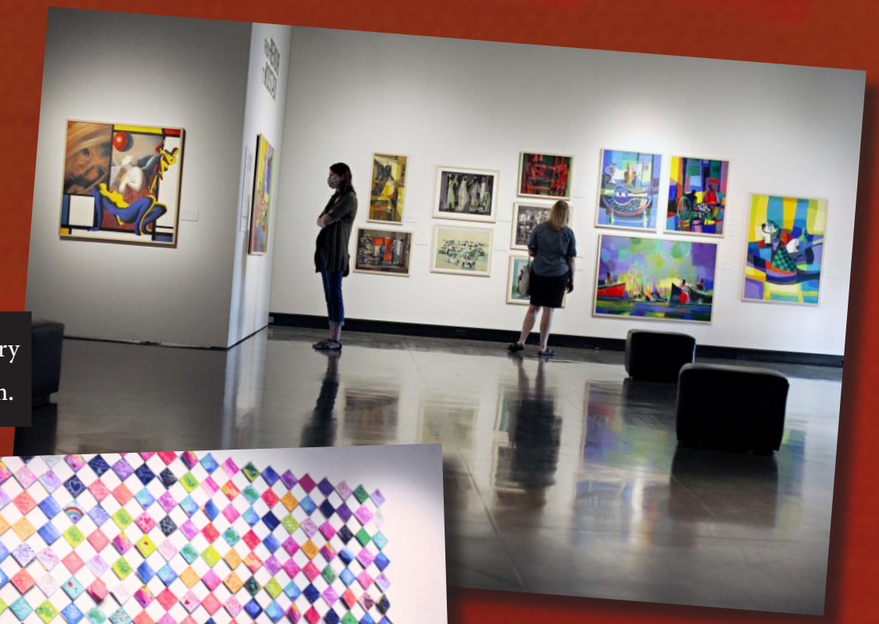
(And a brief history!)

By Mateo Landayan

Downtown Fargo has plenty of places to spend an afternoon, but one of the biggest collections of art is sitting inside a former warehouse on First Avenue North. The plains art museum has been a part of Fargo's art scene for more than 60 years, and this summer, the museum is beginning one of its biggest changes yet. With Olson Kundig leading the design of a new collection storage facility, parts of the museum that usually stay behind the scenes could soon be a part of the visitor experience.

The plains art museum began in 1965 as the Red River Art Center, created by Fargo Moorhead community members. In 1975, it merged with the O'Rourke Art Gallery Museum and became the Plains art Museum we know today. It later moved into a renovated International Harvester warehouse in downtown Fargo, where it establishes its permanent collection.

Today, the museum has more than 6000 works of art and is North Dakota's only American Alliance of Museums accredited art museum. Now, they're getting a pretty big upgrade.



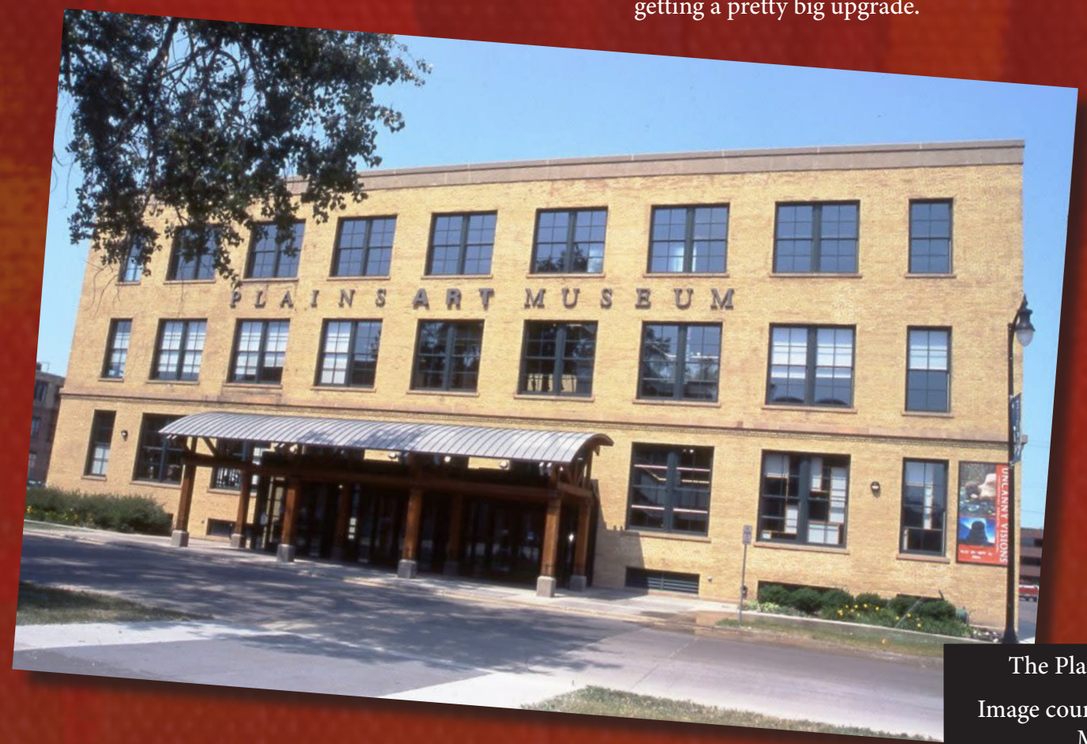
Visitors in a Plains Art Museum gallery

Photo courtesy of Plains Art Museum.



The museum's Kids Playroom

Image courtesy of FargoMom



The Plains Art Museum

Image courtesy of Visit Fargo-Moorhead

This summer, the Plains art Museum began construction on the first phase of its Connections Campaign. The project includes a new permanent collection storage facility designed by the internationally recognized architecture firm Olson Kundig. The facility will nearly double the museums collection storage space and introduce an open-storage concept, allowing visitors to see parts of the permanent collection that stay behind the scenes.

There's a lot to put behind those doors. Plains Art Museum holds more than 6000 works, including indigenous, national, international, and regional art. In the past two years, the museum added more than 450 pieces to its collection.

Olson Kundigs work is a part of a much larger plan to change how visitors experience the museum, the Connections Campaign will eventually include a new welcome center that connects the existing museum building with the Katherine Kilbourne Burgundian Center for Creativity. The goal is to make the campus easier to navigate while giving visitors more ways to interact with the collection.

Construction began in June, making this summer the star of a major new chapter for the Plains Art Museum. The Museum has already spent decades growing with Fargo. Now, Olson Kundig is helping to create more room for that collection to grow, while giving visitors a much closer look at the art that usually stays behind the scenes and should be put out.



HOW MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE CHANGED MODERN ROCK MUSIC





By Christina Miller

My Chemical Romance was very popular in the late 2000s and early 2010s. The band helped shape the sound, style, and emotional lyrics of the rock and emo genres. Their influence still carries over into many modern-day bands with theater-like music.

The band helped bring emo music into the mainstream. During the 2000's, they released the albums Three Cheers for Sweet Revenge and The Black Parade, which blew up and widened the audience for emo and rock. They brought emotional lyrics and darker themes.

They influenced others to make their bands more theatrical with stories and themes. When My Chemical Romance made an album, it always had a story to it. The album by My Chemical Romance "Danger Days: The True Lives of the Fabulous Killjoys" has a full story to it; the story takes place in a post-apocalyptic California and is based around the lives of a rebel group called the "Killjoys," and this helps create the theatrical aspect in the album.

Most rock bands used to be very not emotional, more like "don't be weak" and "be hardcore". My Chemical Romance changed that with their emotional lyrics and normalized having deep emotions in songs. Many of their songs explored emotions like grief, isolation, and insecurity. It influenced bands to express vulnerability and real emotion that comes from the heart.

My Chemical Romance proved that rock can expand its sound. The band has experimented with many sounds in their career, like grand opera mixed with the emo rock sound, with their album I Brought You My Bullets, You Brought Me Your Love. It showed other bands that you can mix two genres to make a new sound.

They have influenced so many bands and artists like Twenty One Pilots, Yungblud, and Panic! At the Disco. Even the lead guitarist in the pop-punk band State Champs states, "They weren't just a rock band, they were a rock band that didn't look ordinary. They were a rock band that's very comfortable being different, and that's very inspiring to see them have so much success from just being themselves."

My Chemical Romance made a blueprint for newer bands and artists. A lot of bands these days make their music more emotional, with deeper meaning and dark themes, and create their own identity for themselves with the help of the blueprint. The impact that My Chemical Romance has had on the rock genre.



By Jakov Danilovski

This year in July “Worst Neighbor Ever” was released on Netflix. It is an American true crime docuseries consisting of four episodes. The executive producers are Jason Blum, Cynthia Childs, Jordana Hochman and Gretchen Palek. All episodes were directed by Cynthia Childs.



Worst Neighbor Ever starts with the episode “She Finally Snapped”. In this episode a woman called Frances stayed at the Scotts Family while her house across the street was still built but she got more worse and when she moved out to her new house, she began to harass the Scotts until she started to shoot and killed the father.



The second episode called “Midwest Meltdown” is about a couple who wanted to explode their house just to get 300000 USD insurance money. However, the explosion destroyed a lot of other houses and killed two victims, and they also ended up in prison instead of getting the money.



The next episode “Fear Thy Neighbor” explores that Miles and Melina thought they found their dream house until like the first episode their neighbor was not allowed to live in his house anymore and started a restless harassment ending up killing the people while they were about to move out.



On the final episode “The Executor” a woman tried to hide a death person by trying to make his body unidentical, but she got also exposed as neighbors noticed a weird smell and the garden looking bad.

In fact, those episodes are quite shocking but really interesting to watch, seeing how brutal people can turn and how they get exposed.

PinkPantheress

By: Salmo Ahmed

It was on Christmas day in 2020 when the now pop sensation would post a snippet of her song ‘Just a Waste’ on TikTok under her TikTok handle PinkPantheress with the caption, ‘day 2 of posting my song until someone notices it’ and later on day 11 posting her first proper single ‘Pain’ winning her a record deal, becoming the strike of a match to her career.

Pinkpantheresses artistry is something that happens once in a generation. With critics describing her as “One of the few artists to blow up on TikTok who has translated that into a proper career, because she’s got a genuinely innovative sound.”

Her ‘innovative sound’ as they call it has become a generational sound. In an interview she says, “It annoys me to think about the perception of my music.” Through combining alt pop with electronic beats while paying homage to her U.K garage idols and topping it off with DnB, PinkPantheress has curated songs that stay beautifully undefined. Becoming a formula for the next generation of artists.

Her U.K roots shine through in her art; she takes inspiration from Brit pop icons like Imogen Heap and Lily Allen as well as the alternative RnB music of Kelela and Kaytranda. Her referential pop aesthetic is undeniable in her songs “Romeo” and “Oh My Gosh.” Both songs sample electronic U.K pop artists Basement Jaxx on her recent mixtape “Fancy That,” released this past year.

In only 6 years the artist has gone from making songs on GarageBand to winning ‘Billboards Producer of the Year’ as well as become the first woman and youngest person since 1977 to be awarded ‘British Producer of the Year’ at 24 years old.

The irrefutable prejudices in the music industry are thoroughly acknowledged by the artist, saying “People are less willing to listen to electronic music that is made by a Black woman.” Although PinkPantheress has won prestigious awards for her work, she stays down to earth and is dedicated to making music for those who are willing to listen.

FMVA

FM VISUAL ARTISTS

By Mateo Landayan

Art can feel like something you have to travel somewhere else to experience. Museums, galleries, expensive tickets, and my dad's classic "I'll go next weekend" excuse can make local art incredibly easy to overlook. But every fall, The Fargo-Moorhead Visual Artists Studio crawl becomes one of the busiest weekends for local art, bringing artists out of their galleries and into their studios.

The Studio Crawl is a free two-day event where artists across the Fargo-Moorhead area open their studios to the public. The events take place October 4 and 5 from noon to 6 pm, giving visitors the chance to see artists working, demonstrate their techniques, and talk about their creative process.

According to FMVA, the event began in 2004 with just 24 studios. Since then, it has grown into a regional art event connecting established artists, newer creators, and the community.

The 2025 event also marked a change for FMVA. Longtime studio crawl director Jon Offutt announced his retirement after the event following years of helping organize and grow the program. FMVA recognized his work in its 2025 brochure and described his impact on the organization and its artists.

Offutt is also an artist himself. His work includes blown glass vessels created through his studio House of Mulciber. He also travelled throughout the region with a mobile glassblowing studio that gives



Jon Offutt creating a glass-blown art piece

Image courtesy of CanvasRebel magazine

The Dakota Fine Arts Gallery

Image courtesy of dakotafineart.com/



people the opportunity to watch the process happen in front of them.

Other artists have brought their own unusual studios into the Crawl over the years. Karman Rheault once invited visitors into a 100 year old granary named Snowfire Studio to watch metal sculpture being created before walking over to a home gallery and outdoor sculpture garden.

For visitors, the Studio Crawl offers plenty to look at, and probably a few opportunities to realize that "I could probably make that in a couple days" is way easier to say than actually doing it. Artists demonstrate their work, discuss their techniques, and bring visitors into their creative spaces. FMVA requires artists to be present and demonstrate their work throughout the event.

The studio crawl continues to give Fargo Moorhead artists a way to put their work into their community. With studio demos and plenty of art packed into one weekend, it turns the local creative scene into something people can actually walk through, one studio at a time.



Karman Rheault beside one of her metal sculptures

Image courtesy of Karman Rheault

Daisy Chain Fields Festival empowering women Artists

By Christina Miller

Olivia Rodrigo founded and headlined the Daisy Chain Fields Festival. It took place in Irvine, CA, on August 28, 2026. The festival was created to raise money and give all the profits to ten charities. The festival drew approximately 45,000 people, and tickets sold out within 30 minutes. The festival held 14 performances. The festival brought together artists from different generations and musical genres. The purpose was to extend beyond entertainment, creating a space where music, community, and charitable giving could bring fans together.

The festival brought many people together from newer and older generations. All types of genres were played. Olivia Rodrigo created the festival to support women's rights and made the lineup all-women. Artists included Olivia Rodrigo as the headliner, Chappell Roan, Doechii, Mitski, Bikini Kill, Garbage, and the Breeders, alongside special guests such as Stevie Nicks, Karen O, and Sarah McLachlan. It also gave fans opportunities to discover artists they might not have listened to before and find new love for music.

Daisy Chain Fields made by Rodrigo also highlights how much women representation we really do need in the music industry. Women have influenced many genres we have today, like indie, rock, and pop. Yet many women in the music industry faced barriers for opportunities for years like Martha Warsh when she was big in the 1990s for her voice behind many dance hits but many songs she was in, she was left uncredited, and pushed aside. This festival gives these women more opportunities to be front and center instead of being pushed aside into the shadows.

Olivia Rodrigo designed this festival to reflect the feelings of friendship and connection. She imagined girls sitting beneath a tree, making daisy chains, flower crowns, and friendship bracelets. This image inspired the festival's design, and as you walk through the festival, you see bright colors, large flowers, and the stage has giant buttons on it with symbolism of creativity.

The mission of the festival is very successful. It brought fans together and raised 10 million. All the profit from the festival was spread across 10 charities. Olivia Rodrigo stated on her Instagram, "Daisy Chain Fields features an all-women lineup and 100 percent of the net proceeds will go to charities dedicated to advancing and advocating for women and girls." Later, the amount of money was increased to 20 million and announced by Pivotal organizations matching the money Rodrigo raised.

Stevie Nicks
Image courtesy of Jimmy Kimmel Live

Chappell roan at the Daisy Chain Fields
Image courtesy of www.yahoo.com

RED VELVET'S NEW RELEASE

VELVET SUMMER

By: Salmo Ahmed

This past summer, the girl group Red Velvet released their enchanting mini album Velvet Summer, marking a first full-group release in two years since the Midsommar inspired album Cosmic released in 2024.

The group's previous works follow the sonic concept of a bold, neon, RED sound and a smooth, captivating, VELVET sound. Group member Wendy emphasizes "this time we captured a 'velvetier' summer mood, like watching the sunset over a beach rather than standing under the midday sun."

The mini album captures the nostalgic visuals and vocals of the 2000s. The album consists of five tracks each with a different style for fans to enjoy and is led by their title track "Surfin' Boy."

This album branches from their previous releases and is characterized by mellow bossa nova, reggae, and dance-pop melodies. The lyrics for this album's tracks were solely written by Joy. She recalls it fondly saying, "I wanted to convey that whenever we meet again, we can build memories even more beautiful than before" Adding that lyrics were written with both members and fans in mind.

After ten years as a group, the quintet went their separate ways in 2024 to establish their own image sharing that this album felt like a summer reunion. "Summer has its hot, vibrant moments but there are also days when you just want to do nothing and take it slow. This album captures that languid, mature summer sensibility," Wendy says.

In my own opinion, they've perfectly captured the sweet, nostalgic, mature vibe they've been cultivating in their time apart. They've left their message of "I want to make enough happy memories with fans that the two years and two months will have been worth the wait."

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WORST NEIGHBOR EVER: NEW ON NETFLIX

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