



Minnesota  
Humanities  
Center

**Northfield Hosting Minnesota Humanities Center's Traveling Exhibit,  
"We Are Water MN" Grand Opening on June 29th**

June 5, 2019, Northfield, MN As we well know in Minnesota, water is a vital part of our history, identity, and culture. In a state with more shoreline than Florida, Hawaii, and California combined, this connection to water, both culturally and literally, is vital. **Cannon River Watershed Partnership**, in cooperation with the Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC), will celebrate this connection in Northfield as it hosts "We are Water MN," a traveling exhibition that explores the connections between the humanities and water through an interactive exhibit and public events. "We Are Water MN" will be on view in Northfield at the Weitz Center for Creativity (320--3rd St E, Northfield), June 20<sup>th</sup> through July 28<sup>th</sup>.

As a part of the "We Are Water MN" exhibit in Northfield, Cannon River Watershed Partnership is offering a series of programs about water. You can see six months of upcoming programs at [www.crowp.net/yearofwater](http://www.crowp.net/yearofwater).

**The Grand Opening for the "We Are Water MN" Exhibit takes place on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am-2:00 pm.** There will be an Artist Reception from 10:00-11:00 am at the Northfield Arts Guild, immediately followed by an Art Walk to the Weitz Center (320--3rd St E, Northfield).

**Inside** the Weitz Center from 10:00 am-2:00 pm there will be a reception, guided tours of the exhibit, food, family-friendly art activities, a Water Bar (a chance to taste different drinking waters) and speakers.

Participants can visit the exhibit June 20-July 28, Tuesday-Friday noon-6:00 pm; Saturday 11 am-3:30 pm.

"We Are Water MN" reveals the central nature of water in our lives by exploring how we relate to water—how we use water, how water unites communities, how water affects every element of life, and how we care for our water and protect water for the future. Visitors reflect on local stories and the meaning and experiences of water in Minnesota with space to add their own stories. By creating relationships around water, we are creating networks that can promote positive social norms, and share a vision for, and participate in, water stewardship.



Minnesota  
Humanities  
Center



[mnhum.org](http://mnhum.org)

“In 2016 and 2017, MHC was honored to host the Smithsonian’s Museums on Main Street exhibition, *Water/Ways*,” says Humanities Center President and CEO, David O’Fallon. “During the planning and implementation of *Water/Ways*, MHC and their partners identified an opportunity to more fully tell the story of Minnesota’s relationship with water and developed an accompanying exhibit all about water, relationships and the humanities in our great state. Thus, “We Are Water MN” was born. We are thrilled to be able to continue sharing this exhibit with the state. We thank Carleton College and the surrounding Northfield community for hosting this one-of-a-kind exhibit and having an important conversation about the needs and realities of water in our state.”

In addition to Northfield, the exhibition will tour seven other communities in Minnesota from Oct. 12, 2018 through Nov. 2, 2019. Host communities include: St. Paul, Bemidji, Crookston, Duluth, Austin, Grand Rapids, and Onamia. “We Are Water MN” is a partnership of MHC, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, The Minnesota Historical Society, and the Minnesota Departments of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources and is supported by the Arts & Cultural Heritage Legacy Amendment from the state of Minnesota. More information about the exhibition can be found at <https://mnhum.org/we-are-water-mn/>.

#### **About the Minnesota Humanities Center:**

Founded in 1971, the **Minnesota Humanities Center** is a statewide nonprofit organization and full service event center located in Saint Paul, Minnesota. The Humanities Center offers a new way to think about our future, grounded in the humanities, and collaborates with organizations and individuals to develop programs that facilitate and frame conversations and strengthen connections. The Humanities Center works to bring into public life the authentic voices of all people, especially those that have been absent or marginalized. The Humanities Center is a resource for the state of Minnesota and is affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The mission of the Minnesota Humanities Center is to build a thoughtful, literate, and engaged society. More information about the Humanities Center is available at [mnhum.org](http://mnhum.org) or join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

###

### **We Are Water Exhibit**

**June 20-July 28, Weitz Center for Creativity (320--3rd St E, Northfield)  
Tuesday-Friday noon-6:00 pm; Saturday 11 am-3:30 pm**

A traveling interactive, family-friendly exhibit that celebrates about how important clean water is in Minnesota for fishing, swimming, drinking, canoeing and boating. Learn about the health of area rivers and lakes and what we can do to help clean up and protect our rivers, lakes, and drinking water.

<https://mnhum.org/we-are-water-mn/>



Minnesota  
Humanities  
Center



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE  
Humanities



[mnhum.org](http://mnhum.org)

*We are Water MN is led by the Minnesota Humanities Center in partnership with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Minnesota Historical Society, the Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. We are Water MN is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities and with money from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund that was created with the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.*

Minnesota Humanities Center  
987 Ivy Avenue East  
St. Paul, MN 55106

**Local Contact:** CRWP Community Engagement Coordinator Kevin Strauss, 507-786-3913,  
kevin@crwp.net

Minnesota Humanities Center Contact: Elle Lyons, Director of Communications, [elle@mnhum.org](mailto:elle@mnhum.org),  
651-772-4251



Minnesota  
Humanities  
Center



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE  
Humanities



[mnhum.org](http://mnhum.org)