

# PLAINS ART MUSEUM

## Plains Art Museum Announces the *Convergence Expo: Art. Health. Community.*

### Press Release

For Immediate Release (April 2025)

Fargo, North Dakota - Plains Art Museum is proud to present the *Convergence Expo* on Saturday, April 26, 2025, from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM—a one-day, community-driven event that highlights the intersection of art, public health, and social well-being.

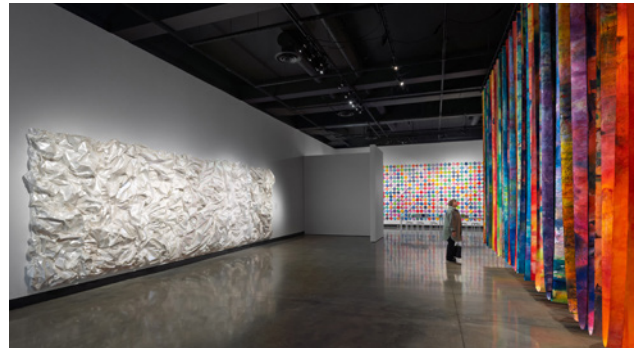
Inspired by *Convergence: Health & Creativity – New Work by Anne Labovitz*, the Expo serves as the culminating event of the Museum's Convergence Initiative, a strategic effort aligned with the American Alliance of Museums' national emphasis on health and well-being. Museum Director | CEO Erin Shapiro wants the community to know that *"Plains Art Museum is proud to be a strong regional voice in the larger national conversation around the positive impact the arts have on health and wellbeing. The Expo is a phenomenal platform for us to share the museum's work in the field while also highlighting Anne Labovitz' stunning exhibition and the incredible work of Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo's non-profits. We welcome everyone, of all ages, to join us for this unique event!"*

The Expo will feature nationally recognized speakers **Elysian Koglmeier** (Artwork Archive – Denver, and National Organization for Arts in Health) and **Katie Lee** (Penn Medicine / Philadelphia Museum of Art). They will be joined by regional guests **Erin Shapiro**, **Anne Labovitz**, **Dallas Tusty**, **Siri Thaden**, **Alicia Hauff**, and **Dr. Kasey Johnson** for a dynamic panel discussion.

Attendees will enjoy interactive art-making, wellness resources, and community-based programming rooted in the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)—a CDC framework that includes healthcare access, education, economic stability, social context, and neighborhood environment.

Confirmed partners include:

- The Ridge (formerly Midwest Mental Health)
- BCBSND
- FirstLink
- Red River Women's Clinic
- Vanna Adventure Vans (Mobile Medical Unit)
- The Jeremiah Program (Fargo-Moorhead)
- NDSU Public Health Association
- Red River Children's Advocacy Center pop-up exhibition
- Letters of Love Global (Concordia and NDSU chapters)
- Maia Kim, Therapeutic Art Facilitator
- Unglued Market (Interactive Art: Pillow Spray Stations)
- Sanford Health



Installation view of *Convergence: Health & Creativity*, Plains Art Museum, Photo by Eric Muller

This free event is open to the public and will feature food for sale by Maria's Homestyle, hands-on activities, and opportunities to connect with organizations and individuals working at the intersection of art, health, and community care. Organizations interested in participating, tabling, or sharing resources can contact [convergenceexpo@plainsart.org](mailto:convergenceexpo@plainsart.org).

For full event details, visit: <https://givebutter.com/convergence25>

### PLAINS ART MUSEUM

Plains Art Museum is the largest and only accredited art museum in North Dakota and Western Minnesota. General admission is free thanks to strong and growing support from over 800 households and businesses. The Museum manages a permanent collection of over 4,000 objects, organizes and presents dozens of exhibitions annually, facilitates public art projects, and leads over 200 educational programs and experiences for all ages every year. The Museum, and its Katherine Kilbourne Burgum Center for Creativity, are located at 704 First Avenue North in downtown Fargo. For more information about visiting or supporting your art museum, visit [plainsart.org](http://plainsart.org).

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