

What is SSCO? And why should I donate my artwork to it?

Stevens Square Community Organization (SSCO) is a nonprofit whose mission is to improve the quality of life for residents of the Stevens Square-Loring Heights neighborhood of Minneapolis. Our staff and volunteers work on a variety of projects to increase safety, reduce litter and pollution, develop businesses and housing, and build a stronger and more active community.

Outside our small corner of Minneapolis, we are perhaps best known for our arts programming. This year's spring fundraiser is *Art Squared*, which is an art sale held at Tillie's Bean on March 13th, at the busy intersection of Franklin and Nicollet. We are currently looking for donations from local artists, who work in *any* media, to be sold as fundraising items. We are also looking for reproduced items, such as photographs or prints, that will be raffled off at the end of the evening. There will be wine, beer and food for a small suggested donation, two musical performances and live painting. Proceeds from the 2010 SSCO spring art show will help fund several community art events and initiatives, including:

Red Hot Art: This two-day event is the city's premier grass-roots art festival. Held every year in June in Stevens Square Park, Red Hot Art provides an opportunity for hundreds of emerging artists to showcase and sell their work. The festival also features live music on two stages, public art installations, and hands-on art activities for adults and kids. Learn more at www.redhotart.org.

Cinema and Civics: Our free movies and music series takes place every summer in Stevens Square Park. Each night begins with music by a local band and ends with a feature-length movie. Last year, we were also able to screen several short films by Minnesota filmmakers; it was our most popular series yet. Learn more at www.cinemaandcivics.org.

Other benefits of being involved in this event include:

- Free admission to the event.
- Your name and website listed on www.sscoweb.org.
- The ability to promote upcoming events you may be hosting or involved in.
- Great networking opportunity between yourself, buyers and other artists.

When you donate your art to SSCO, you directly support art and artists in our community. Because this event is in its first year, we have no prior attendance records to guide us, but our hope and our expectation is that the event will be well attended and that your artwork will be exposed to a large and diverse audience.

To learn more about SSCO, visit www.sscoweb.org.

Donate now! Send an image of the item you would like to donate to sscoarts@gmail.com, by midnight on February 5th, 2010. All submissions must include:

- Artist first and last name
- Artist website (if applicable)
- Sale value of the donated piece
- Best way to reach artist