

Student Life: A City that Rocks... and It's Affordable

Side by side Minneapolis and St. Paul, also known as the Twin Cities, are nationally recognized as hotbeds of contemporary culture. Where else can you hear jazz, urban hip-hop, indie-rock, R&B, soul, funk, or reggae and roots at over 40 clubs every night of the week? There are more theaters and theater companies here than in New York City. Take in a Broadway show, marvel at Shakespearean stagecraft at the Guthrie, or stimulate your intellectual side with experimental theater, comedy, and improv. Hit the Bryant Lake Bowl where you can dine on organic cuisine, go bowling, and catch an avant-garde cabaret show. Make your move salsa caliente or rave free form at the First Avenue downtown danceteria.

Within blocks of McNally Smith College of Music:

- **Fitzgerald Theater**, directly across from the college, is the broadcast site for Prairie Home Companion and host to numerous concerts and lectures throughout the year.
- **Mears Park**, a Lowertown garden oasis, features weekly outdoor concerts and a film series, all free, in the summer and in September.
- **Minnesota History Center** presents thought provoking exhibits, plays, and free outdoor concerts.
- **Minnesota History Theater** commissions new works that explore the histories that make up the diverse Minnesota community. The theater collaborated with McNally Smith College of Music to host Jon Stewart and The Daily Show during the 2008 Republican National Convention.
- **Minnesota Museum of American Art** exhibits themed gallery shows and hosts an outdoor local music series on their patio overlooking the Mississippi River.
- **Ordway Center for the Performing Arts** is home to the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Minnesota Opera and regularly features touring shows and concert artists.
- **Park Square Theatre** produces new works from the stages of New York, London, and the regional theater circuit.
- **Penumbra Theatre Company** produces professional theater that illuminates the human condition through the prism of the African American experience.
- **Schubert Club Museum of Musical Instruments** is a huge collection of historical instruments and strings, winds, and percussion from around the world, including a complete Indonesian gamelan.
- **Science Museum of Minnesota**, located on the bluffs of the Mississippi River, presents innovative and interactive exhibits on paleontology, biology, botany, physics, chemistry, and has a state of the art Omni theater.
- **Xcel Energy Center** presents top contemporary music acts such as R.E.M., Coldplay, Lil' Wayne & Taylor Swift. As well as home to the Minnesota Wild (hockey) & Swarm (lacrosse).

Within the Twin Cities Community:

- **Target Center** is an attractive venue for various activities — from sports related to amazing music experiences.
- **The Guthrie Theater** is an American center for theater performance, production, education and professional training.
- **First Avenue & 7th Street Entry**, considered to be cornerstones of the Midwest music scene, and serves as a landmark of downtown Minneapolis
- **Walker Art Center**, a contemporary art center, is considered one of the nation's "big five" museums. The Walker is home to one of the nation's top Sculpture Gardens as well.

Check out vita.mn or twincities.com.



CAMPUS NEIGHBORS MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO, AMERICAN PUBLIC MEDIA BUILDING