

Frogtown Family Lofts

653 Galtier Street | Saint Paul, MN 55103 | Opened 1992

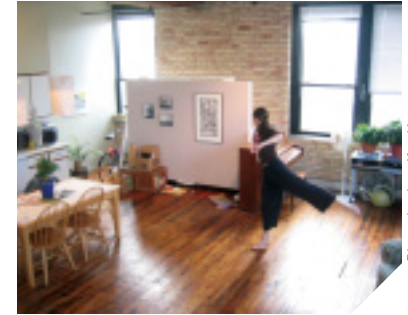


Photo by Jennifer Kramer

Stability for Artists, Families and Community

This impressive brick structure in Saint Paul's historic Frogtown Neighborhood, built in 1917 as a clothing factory, was Artspace's second live/work project. Created especially for artists with families, Frogtown's 36 apartments include 12 with two bedrooms and 24 with three. Residents share landscaped gardens, a children's play area and a two-story art gallery known as the Atrium where tenants regularly exhibit their work.

Frogtown's artists reside in one of Saint Paul's most diverse neighborhoods. The surrounding area has a large population of Hmong families that migrated from the mountainous regions of Laos and Cambodia. Hmong merchants run many of the local shops, and neighborhood markets offer fresh Asian vegetables.

Until Frogtown Family Lofts opened in 1992, Frogtown was a neighborhood in decline. One of its worst eyesores was this old factory. The infusion of three dozen artists and their families — including more than 50 children — brought needed stability to the area and has inspired beautification projects and community gardens throughout the neighborhood.

“These spaces ... not only transformed vacant eyesores and restored historic structures; community members also credit them with helping spur area redevelopment and providing lasting artist cachet.”

— Metris Arts Consulting, “How Artist Space Matters”

DEVELOPMENT COST

\$3.6 million

TOTAL AREA

61,551 sq. ft.

LIVE/WORK UNITS

36

ARCHITECT

Dovolis, Johnson & Ruggieri

DEVELOPMENT PARTNER

Twin Cities Housing Development Corporation

FINANCING

AFL-CIO Housing Investment Fund

Family Housing Fund of Minneapolis & Saint Paul

Minnesota Housing Finance Agency

National Equity Fund

Saint Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority

U.S. Bank

FUNDERS

Bush Foundation

F. R. Bigelow Foundation

Local Initiatives Support Corporation

The McKnight Foundation

Northwest Area Foundation

Saint Paul Companies

Saint Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development

The Saint Paul Foundation