



## Guiding Principles

Artists with disabilities encounter barriers everyday – structural obstacles, physical disadvantages or the attitudinal barriers of others. It’s hard for a professional artist to practice their art in a world that’s not accessible.

Arts AccessAbility Network Manitoba (AANM) has a vision – the full inclusion of artists and audiences with disabilities into all facets of the arts community.

1. We want to celebrate the outstanding artistic merit and inclusion of artists with disabilities in all disciplines of the arts – music, dance, theatre, visual art, writing and so many others.
2. We want to demonstrate how artists are expressing their creativity despite barriers.
3. We want to inspire not only artists with disabilities, but all ‘temporarily able-bodied’ stakeholders to support “Arts for All” in our community.

AANM believes disability informs and enriches an artist’s creative expression as well as brings new perspective to the world we share. Without sentimentality or stereotype, authentic creations showing their challenges enable those artists to contribute to society by reducing social exclusion, ending isolation, confronting, disrupting, and reshaping our world.

AANM shares and celebrates the achievements and celebration of the unflinching voices of artists who work *with* and not *in spite of* their differences.

At AANM, we believe that Arts and Disability Culture will prove to be a major shaping force of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We are excited to be at the forefront of this societal change. We’ve successfully introduced Arts and Disability Culture to Winnipeg. We have so much more to offer and present! With the help and support of our members and the many others interested in our organization, we’ll have no problem authenticating and celebrating our cause.