

122 CONVERSATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CONVERSATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

122 Conversations: person to person, art beyond borders

An artist led project, 122 Conversations is a culturally, socially engaged collaboration and exhibition traveling to the sister cities of Duluth, MN. Meeting face-to-face via skype video and in person with people of five countries, conversations are translated by artist Anne Labovitz into art pieces that speak of the urgency for understanding and compassion. The people from each city will add their responses as the show progresses toward its culminating venue at the Tweed Museum of Art in 2017.

122 Conversations News.

In this issue: July was an exciting month for 122 Conversations! Interviews with all 6 Sister Cities are now completed. Many interviews and events took place in Duluth last month winding up the conversations. Now, the countdown to the Thunder Bay opening in September is underway! Anne has over 40 hours of video and has interviewed more than 60 individuals for this journey into cultural and social engagement.

Lots of Activity in July! - Interviews in Duluth Early in the Month.



On July 3, Anne met with several Sister City delegates from Ohara Isumi-City, Japan who were visiting Duluth, including Koichi Uezima, Deputy Mayor of Isumi City. The interviews were held at the Historic Glensheen Estate. Thank you to the staff at Glensheen for providing this beautiful venue for the interviews.



Anne also interviewed Duluth Mayor, **Don Ness**, left, for the project. All told, she was honored to be able to talk with mayors from all 6 Sister Cities. Each mayors' commitment to their communities is truly inspiring!

122 Conversations in the News!

Anne wasn't the only one doing the interviewing! Local television networks caught up with Anne in Duluth to feature the project. Check out the links below to see 122 Conversations in the news!

- FOX 21- ["122 Conversations Created by Artist Anne Labovitz"](#)
- WDIO-TV at Glensheen, July, 2015- ["Artist Anne Labovitz Takes on Sister Cities Exhibit"](#)

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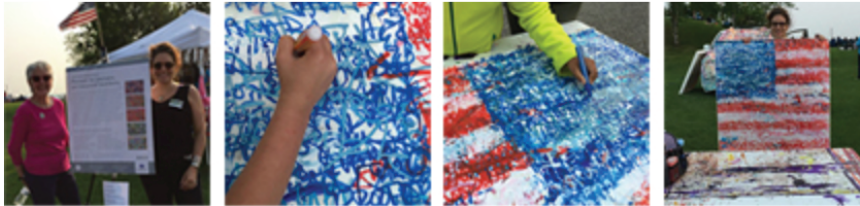
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[Anne Labovitz](#)



Interactive Art at Fourth Fest in Duluth.

The next day, July 4th, Duluth's Bayfront Festival Park held its annual Fourth Fest. Visit Duluth sponsored a 122 Conversations booth where Anne hosted a public art project. Over 500 people visited the booth where she scribed each visitor's name onto a piece that will comprise an artist book to be exhibited in 122 Conversations.



It was a beautiful Duluth evening! We received some additional coverage for the Fourth fest as well. Click below to watch.

- WDIO-TV at Fourth Fest, July, 2015- ["122 Conversations Patriotic Artwork by Anne Labovitz"](#)

Russian Student Interviews at UMD.



Later in the month, Anne was back in Duluth meeting with students visiting from Petrozavodsk, Russia. The interviews took place at UMD's MMAD Lab. Duluth artist Cheng Chee even stopped by. Interestingly, one of Chee's artworks hangs in the City Hall in Isumi City.

What's Next?

The 122 Conversations travelling exhibition will open September 10, 2015 at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery in Thunder Bay. Stay tuned for more information!

Connect with us to learn about upcoming events and more!

Please, *Be in Touch!*

We welcome all those who've been interviewed and those who have cultural content they want to share about 122 Conversations or their cities to further the conversations and exchange.

Find us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Engage the conversation on social media about the ideas and questions surrounding 122 Conversations by way of [@122conversations](#).

Connect with us today.

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