



City of Duluth  
Emily Larson, Mayor

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Dear Friends,

As the Mayor of Duluth, I am honoured to announce the opening of *122 Conversations: Person to Person, Art Beyond Borders* being hosted at Tweed Museum of Art from September 25 through January 6. The exhibition celebrates humanity, human connection, and the seemingly radical and political act of caring.

*122 Conversations: Person to Person, Art Beyond Borders* is the culmination of an epic five-year, artist-led initiative that visually – and viscerally – connects our city to the world. *122 Conversations* is a visual and creative response to our Sister Cities International Mission: To promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation—one individual, one community at a time.

The exhibition is the vision of Duluth-born, Twin Cities-based artist Anne Labovitz with citizens of our city and our five Sister Cities— Thunder Bay, Canada; Växjö, Sweden; Petrozavodsk, Russia; Rania, Iraqi Kurdistan; and Ohara Isumi-City, Japan. The exhibition is the culmination of a six-country, international tour to those cities and ours, organized through Duluth Sister Cities International network.

Through this project, the artist explored cross-cultural connections based on interviews with a variety of individuals from each of our sister cities. *122 Conversations* documents and reflects these conversations about generosity, friendship, reciprocity, community building, emotional exchange, and how these ideas are experienced through art.

In this culminating exhibition, *122 Conversations* showcases more than 100 objects—paintings, sculpture, video, and many other elements—that were created by Anne, some in collaboration with participants from all six countries.

I encourage you to take advantage of these upcoming events to experience *122 Conversations*. On October 25, 2018 from 6-8:30 p.m., Tweed is hosting a Special Artist's Reception. This event is free and open to the public. And, on November 10, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. Anne will conduct an Artist's Talk. In addition, a catalogue, which documents the entire project, is being published that will serve as a memoir of the exhibition and our Sister City connections.

Anne's hope, as is mine, is that *122 Conversations* serves as a catalyst for ongoing positive social change across cultures and beyond borders.

Sincerely,



Emily Larson  
Mayor