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Link to download photos [here](#).

New Artist-Led Mobile Activities for Hire in West Central Minnesota!

Ready Go Art brings artist-led experiences for all ages to Otter Tail County

Fergus Falls, MN (September 3, 2025)—Springboard for the Arts is proud to announce three artist-led mobile tools for hire based in West Central Minnesota. The artists join Springboard's [Ready Go](#) program, a resource that connects neighborhoods, non-profits, businesses and individuals to artist-created, mobile tools that are purpose-built to pique curiosity and prompt interaction. Ready Go functions as a mechanism (think Equipment Rental or Etsy) that allows artists to offer proven, existing tools for hire.

"Ready Go is designed to make it easy and fun to book arts experiences for community gatherings," said Michele Anderson, Rural Director at Springboard for the Arts. "We're excited to see these three tools in action across the region—at festivals, in business parking lots, and at schools and libraries. These artists know the region well and have infused their projects with joy and creativity."

About the projects:

- What to do with all your old crayons? We have an answer for you - recycle them! Created by **Kathrine McDowell**, owner of the Crafty Otter Studio in Battle Lake, [The Crayon Recycling Center](#) addresses the environmental impact of discarded crayons, which contribute nearly 500,000 pounds of non-biodegradable wax waste to landfills annually. This mobile tool raises awareness of this overlooked issue and encourages sustainable habits by providing hands-on crayon recycling activities.
- [The Coozie-Up-Cycle Cart](#) transforms fabric waste into functional, custom beverage coozies. Participants learn about textile waste while designing their own

upcycled coozie using leftover fabric and damaged garments. This project builds on artists **Erika Smith and Jess Torgerson's** past collaborations of making sculptures and installations from recycled materials. Erika is a multidisciplinary artist and stylist from Elbow Lake, MN, Jess is a multidisciplinary artist, designer, and organizer from Fergus Falls, MN.

- [Printmaking, Inc.](#) is a mobile screen-printing station offering hands-on printing experiences, from t-shirts and tote bags to nature and urban Mono-printing. Founded by Minnesota-based printmaker **Michael Weatherly of Elbow Lake**, the project brings interactive printmaking to community events, art fairs, and celebrations. Participants can screen print custom designs, create nature-inspired prints, or capture textures from the built environment.

Learn more about each artist, their mobile tool, and how to hire them for your next event at www.readygoart.com

About Springboard for the Arts

Founded in 1991, Springboard for the Arts is an economic and community development organization for artists and by artists. Based in St. Paul and Fergus Falls, MN, Springboard's mission is to support artists with the tools to make a living and a life, and to build just and equitable communities full of meaning, joy, and connection. Our vision is of a world where artists are essential; local economies are vibrant and just; and the systems that surround us are human-centered. Springboard's work has been featured in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Stanford Social Innovation Review and The Guardian and directly impacts over 22,000 artists each year in our home state of Minnesota.

Through national tools and training Springboard's programs have been replicated in over 100 communities across the U.S. and internationally. Learn more about our work at:

www.springboardforthearts.org.

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