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**U-CAN and Northrop Present WORLD ART DAY, Featuring Dessa**

*Free art activities and events will be held throughout the day*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Minneapolis, MN (2/16/2016) – On April 15, in celebration of World Art Day, Northrop’s student group, the University Collaborative Ambassadors for Northrop (U-CAN), will host interactive art displays and creative happenings at Northrop. As a special treat, essayist, rapper, and speaker [Dessa](http://www.doomtree.net/dessa), will talk about art and perform her world-renowned music.

World Art Day is an international celebration of art in all forms. It is celebrated on April 15 - Leonardo da Vinci’s birthday - to promote awareness of creativity worldwide.

**U-CAN and Northrop Present**

**World Art Day, *Featuring Dessa***

Fri, Apr 15

12:00 Noon – Kick-Off

Noon—6:00 pm – Interactive Art Murals/Art Stations

2:30 pm– Student Film Series, featuring [MinneCinema](http://mncinema.wix.com/minnecinemastudios)
5:00 pm– Open Mic, featuring [Ivory Tower](http://ivory-tower.umn.edu/about) (4:30 Registration)

7:00 – Dessa Lecture/Concert

**ONGOING EVENTS**

**Art Stations:** Each study lounge space in Northrop will provide art materials to inspire event-goers to color, sculpt, fold, paint, and make creative art projects.

**Interactive Art Murals:** Student-designed murals located on the Northrop Plaza and inside Memorial Hall will be available for all to participate in.

**Student Group Stations:** Color in a student designed coloring book with [WAM Collective](https://wamcollective.wordpress.com/), see a light show on the plaza from [Tesla Works](http://www.teslaworks.net/drupal/) and join in conversation with [Small World Coffee Hour](http://isss.umn.edu/programs/smallworld/). Plus, hang out with our Radio Sponsor, [Radio K!](http://www.radiok.org/)

**TICKETS**DESSA CONCERT: FREE for U of M Students. Student Tickets available for reservation beginning Feb 19; 2/valid I.D. Tickets on sale to the general public for $20 beginning March 11. *\*All seating is general admission*

All other World Art Day activities at Northrop are free and open to the public.

**MORE ON DESSA**

[Dessa](http://www.doomtree.net/dessa/) is a rapper, a singer, and an essayist with the [Doomtree](http://www.doomtree.net/) collective—the ascendant Minneapolis hip hop crew. She's made the Billboard Top 200 list as a solo artist (for *Parts of Speech*) and as a Doomtree member (for *All Hands*). She's made a career out of bucking traditional genre designations--she's rapped at Lollapalooza, arranged for full choir, and co-written classical works for orchestra. As a writer, she's contributed to MPR, the *Star Tribune*, literary journals around the country, and has published two short collections of her own. Dessa splits her time between Minneapolis, New York, and a fifteen-passenger tour van.

**NORTHROP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

Northrop is an epicenter of discovery and transformation that connects the University of Minnesota and communities beyond by celebrating innovation in the arts, performance, and academics.

The University Collaborative Ambassadors for Northrop (U-CAN) is comprised of students from all disciplines who have a passion for performing arts, academics, cultural events, and student life. U-CAN members serve as ambassadors for Northrop by raising awareness of Northrop as a student destination, a performance venue, and a space for learning, creativity, innovation, and collaboration.

Artists and programs subject to change. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.