

**September 2020**

The Fulton Neighborhood's boundaries are 47th St to 54th St and France Ave to Penn Ave.

*Fulton Neighborhood News* is published bimonthly by the Fulton Neighborhood Association (FNA) with funding from the Fulton Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) and Community Participation Program (CPP).

FNA is a nonprofit organization created by and for the residents and businesses of the Fulton neighborhood. Board meetings are held at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month at Pershing Park. All meetings are open to the public. Fulton Finance is a committee of FNA that implements neighborhood improvement projects. Committee meetings are held at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month.

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Minneapolis, MN 55410  
[info@fultonneighborhood.org](mailto:info@fultonneighborhood.org)  
[www.fultonneighborhood.org](http://www.fultonneighborhood.org)  
612-922-3106

All FNA meetings and events are accessible. Requests for accommodations are welcome. Please make requests at least ten days in advance.

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# Fulton "Alt" Festival Begins on September 12

Normally at this time of year we are in full swing planning our big Fulton Fall Festival. Unfortunately, life threw us a curve ball this year and we are not able to get together and celebrate this great neighborhood in the way that we usually do. The easy thing to do would have been to cancel everything completely and wait for next year, but we aren't going to take the easy road! Instead, we are planning two ways for us to engage with one another, even if it's from a distance.

## Giveaways at the Fulton Farmers Market on Sept. 12

On Sat., Sept. 12, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (the day that WOULD have been the festival), we will be on hand and partnering with the Fulton Farmers Market to hand out some freebies to any Fulton residents attending the market. For adults we'll have a few Fulton t-shirts, coffee mugs or stickers and for the kids we'll have t-shirts or racial justice/equity themed books (while supplies last). We know this isn't the same as winning a prize playing a round of Bingo or a carnival game, but it's our way of saying that you are important to us. Plus, we get the side benefit of supporting the farmers market at the same time.

## Online Silent Auction Supporting Local Small Businesses Begins on Oct. 7

We're flipping the tables on the Silent Auction this year and will need your help to do it. The COVID-19 pandemic has hit our local businesses hard and, rather than having local businesses donate auction items, we'd like to support them this year. We're asking you to purchase gift cards to your favorite local restaurants or retailers and donate them to FNA for the Silent Auction; FNA plans to purchase many gift cards, too. Even though we can't be together for the festival, we can come together online for the Silent Auction. This is a great way to stay connected as a community, support our treasured local businesses and help raise money for the neighborhood.

*Fulton "Alt" Festival continued on page 4*

## Fulton Annual Meeting on October 14 Goes Virtual

Another casualty of the COVID-19 pandemic is our in-person annual meeting. We're planning a virtual meeting on Wed., Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. on Zoom. We'll have updates by our elected leaders, Board elections and our Friends of Fulton awards. Please see p. 4 for more details.

### Check out our art showcase!

In the May issue of the Fulton Neighborhood News, we offered an art activity for kids and adults to show us what Fulton neighborhood looks like to them. Check out all of the creative drawings on our website: [fultonneighborhood.org](http://fultonneighborhood.org).



West 47th Street

### Publication Information

To submit article suggestions, contact the Fulton Neighborhood at 612-922-3106 or send an e-mail to [info@fultonneighborhood.org](mailto:info@fultonneighborhood.org).

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West 54th Street

### Fulton Neighborhood Conversations on Racial Equity

Fulton Neighborhood News is devoting a section of each newsletter to racial equity including: ways to take action or be involved, ongoing learning and a book club.

### 3 Ways to Become an Ally

1. **Listen.** Listen to what marginalized people are saying. Leave any preconceived notions at the door and actively listen to what others are experiencing – whether it's face-to-face, in what you read or on social media. It's not about you, your feelings or opinions; it's about hearing theirs.
2. **Speak up.** Stand up and speak out when you hear something hateful or ignorant. Let your voice be heard even when it feels terrifying.
3. **Stay focused.** Keep the conversation centered on voices and experiences of the black, Indigenous and people of color communities.

### Education

#### For Adults:

Learn about the history of the racist practices that impact how we got to where we are today.

- Listen to NPR CodeSwitch: "A Decade of Watching Black People Die"
- Watch the PBS Documentary: *Jim Crow of the North*

#### For children:

- *A is for Activist* by Innosanto Nagara
- *Let's Talk About Race* by Julius Lester

### Taking Action

- Join the bookclub!
- Check out SURJ: [ShowingUpForRacialJustice.org](http://ShowingUpForRacialJustice.org)
- A list of black owned businesses to support: [bit.ly/34vWkPk](http://bit.ly/34vWkPk)



In an effort to appeal to a wide audience, we're going to try using a variety of media including books, documentaries, articles and podcasts.

**Sat., Sept. 12, 9-10 a.m.** (virtual)  
*How to Be an Anti-Racist* by Ibram Kendi.

Next up for the **end of October**: Watch *Jim Crow of the North* on PBS.

E-mail [rayklahr@gmail.com](mailto:rayklahr@gmail.com) to join either session.

France Avenue South

Penn Avenue South

# Spotlight on Fulton: Overdressed Duo

*Spotlight on Fulton features the unique people and places of Fulton neighborhood.*

Spring 2020 was the season when the music stopped. Fulton resident Elizabeth Chua and her friend, Carole Schultz, could not bear to give up their music despite the pandemic and Stay at Home orders. Both professional musicians, they still needed to feed their musical souls and this summer they took matters into their own hands and formed Overdressed Duo. The name comes from a quote by Oscar Wilde, "You can never be overdressed or overeducated." This description fits both women well, as they loved school and also love to get dressed up and perform.



Elizabeth, a pianist, grew up in Malaysia before moving to Middle Tennessee State University for her master's, then to the University of Minnesota for her doctoral studies. Elizabeth noted that she traded Tennessee for Minnesota because "I wanted to experience snow" and is happy to call Minnesota home now. Originally from Burnsville, Carole, a vocal soprano, trained at the University of St. Thomas and the University of Minnesota, where the two first met and have now become best friends. Elizabeth and her husband bought their home in Fulton about a year ago because of its proximity to the lakes and 50th & France. Carole, who lives in the Seward neighborhood, spends so much time at Elizabeth's house that they consider her an honorary Fulton resident.

In July 2020, Overdressed Duo began performing socially distanced "Tiny Lawn Concerts" in Elizabeth's front yard at 49th and Drew. Elizabeth mentioned it to a neighbor and, in just two days, word spread and their first concert was a success. The concerts average an audience of around 20 people and are 30 minutes in length. Overdressed Duo performs a variety of selections from operas, musical theater, folk and spirituals, with a little Disney for the kids. The selections are recognizable classics so that everyone can embrace the performance. Given the popularity of the series, they have invited some of their fellow musicians to join them, bringing in different voice types for more volume and opening up their selections to duets and trios.

With National Night Out canceled this year, the duo held a concert on that date, joined by two friends, soprano Carmelita Guse and baritone John Allen Nelson. The concert included songs from *Wicked*, *The Music Man*, *Susannah*, *The Magic Flute*, and popular songs like "Shenandoah" and "Danny Boy." Beautiful music floated along Drew Avenue, drawing passersby, dog-walkers, and bicyclists to stop and listen.

Fulton's music lovers can look forward to the joy of more live music. Save the date for the next big show: Tues., Sept. 15 at 6:30 p.m. near the intersection of 49th & Drew. They will have shorter pop-up shows in the meantime that they will announce on their Facebook page, @OverdressedDuo. Elizabeth and Carole plan to continue their shows until it is too cold to perform outdoors and are hoping to make this music series an annual summer tradition in Fulton neighborhood. The whole community is invited to attend! Bring a chair, bring a picnic and, of course, a face mask; and most importantly of all, bring your love for music and soak up the tunes!

  
**Overdressed**

## **Fulton "Alt" Festival continued from page 1**

We need your help to make this event a success! Here are some ideas for donations:

- Pick up a gift card when you are ordering take out/delivery. Several local businesses also have gift cards available to purchase online.
- Themed baskets with gift cards (e.g. movie night with movie tickets, popcorn, candy or book baskets).
- Do you have a special talent? Please consider donating your services, a gift card, or a gift basket.
- Experiences - brewery/distillery tours, catered dinners, craft demonstrations, photography classes, music lessons, a boat tour of a local lake, etc.



Donations are due by Oct. 1. We will launch the online auction on Oct. 7 and end it on Oct. 14, the day of the Fulton Neighborhood Annual Meeting. Please send your donations to:

FNA  
3523 W. 48th St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55410

Questions? Contact Ruth Olson at  
[info@fultonneighborhood.org](mailto:info@fultonneighborhood.org).

More than anything we want the Fulton "Alt" Festival to be a way for our community to re-connect. We are all tired of social distancing but need to keep it up for the health of our community. We hope this will be a fun way to come together and be reminded that we have an amazing neighborhood.

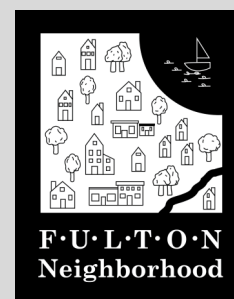
## **Fulton Annual Meeting and Board Elections**

*Wed., Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. on Zoom*

It's that time of year again when we gather to review the past year, recognize our treasured "Friends of Fulton" and elect half of the FNA Board.

**Run for the FNA Board!** Six seats are open this year (two-year terms). Individuals who reside or own property in the Fulton neighborhood, or who are the sole designated representative of a business, religious institution, or school in the Fulton neighborhood, are eligible (must be 18 or over). Renters and people of color are needed!

For questions or to add your name to the ballot, email [info@fultonneighborhood.org](mailto:info@fultonneighborhood.org). You may also add your name at the Annual Meeting.



## **Nominate a Friend of Fulton**

Do you know someone who is making Fulton a better place? We'd love to celebrate his or her contributions to the neighborhood with a Friend of Fulton Award. Let us know the name of the person you are nominating, your name, your phone or e-mail, nominee's phone or e-mail and why you feel this individual should be recognized as a Friend of Fulton. Submit entry to [info@fultonneighborhood.org](mailto:info@fultonneighborhood.org).

Questions? Send an email to the address above or call the FNA line at 612-922-3106. The deadline is Sept. 23. Awards will be presented at the FNA Annual Meeting on Oct. 14.