

One of the most difficult things for me to do is to write a concise, blanket description about Fargo Skateboarding. It always sounds like this to me... "Fargo Skateboard-

blanket description about Fargo Skateboarding. It always sounds like this to me... "Fargo Skateboarding is a skateshop and a 10,000 square foot indoor skatepark located in downtown Dekalb inside the historic Fargo Theatre. Built and run by skaters, for skaters, Fargo provides a year-round skateboarding experience, a great selection of skateboards, skateboarding apparel, and specializes in skateboarding lessons and classes. Skateboarding, skateboarding, skateboarding, skateboarding....." So yeah, Fargo is all things skateboarding. Our company name is actually "Skateboard Love LLC", and the reason I called it that was everything that we do will be in the name of love for skateboarding. All things we do, and decisions made, will be for the benefit of our community and to make skateboarding in Northern Illinois better.

Something that I think a lot of people can relate to as they get older, is when you look back on your life, it almost feels as though it's multiple lifetimes. You can think of times of your life as different eras. Trying to write about the history

of the skateshop is like recalling a dream (or nightmare) that you can't remember all the details, but you can remember how it made you feel. As amazing and beautiful as everything is now, it took a lot of failing and mistakes to get to where we're at today. Different people have come and gone, there have been broken hearts, hurt feelings. and burned bridges along the way. Despite the struggles, a lot of beautiful, lucky, and serendipitous things have come to fruition since the skate shop has opened in 2007. I am beyond grateful for the crew we have today, I feel blessed to be surrounded by the best humans and most talented skateboarders on the planet. I like to think if something is real, if it is really meant to be, it is unfuckwithable. Our foundation has been built, we are here, and I'm really proud of what we have and where we're going.

13 years in business and 13 years of having Skateboard Inspired Art Shows. This is deep ya'll this isn't a coincidence. Skateboarding is art, and this art show is how we come together and collaborate as a community to celebrate the art of skateboarding and all the visual and tangible art that influences it and is influenced by it. SO MUCH LOVE goes out to all the people who have made art, bought art, or come out to the art show, YOU make this art show, the skate park, and this community what it is. I love you all 02 26 2015 and I count my blessings everyday. Thank you for giving me purpose and making me feel like the luckiest girl in the world. 02/26/2015 02/25/2016



Chloe Topf and Photos by Jon Glass

33-34 Made in the Midwest

FEATURED ARTISTS

66 Taime Torraco, a.k.a. Kittens of Industry, currently lives and arts in DeKalb, IL and is a tattooer at 6 Finger Tattoo in Rockford, IL. She is also an active artist with 317 Art Collective, and a member of world famous experimental musical outfit, BOINGdweeby! Kittens of Industry has been spewing out technicolor cartoons since the Dawn Of Time, and plans to continue illustrating naughty little animals on people, walls, and other surfaces until her hands fall off. Kittens loves animals, nature, rainbows, and all manner of surrealistic subject matter, having cultivated a signature style that has people falling to their knees and going out of their d*mn minds {we swear...} Kittens of Industry is only one person {ok, but I contain multitudes?!} with a vast variety of influences and a love for DIY.

HEY! Check us out!
we have interviews
on pg 24 too!



Kittens of Industry

Kittens of Industry has worked as a graphic designer, illustrator, and muralist, and has been showing in gallery shows for ten years so far. If you're sick of reality, Kittens of Industry has a funny lil fantasy world, just for you!

Kittens of Industry works mainly in acrylic paints on wood, with the occasional foray into digital art and design. Kittens of Industry loves Fargo Skateboarding, and extends many thanks for this opportunity, even though she can't skate and doesn't want to fall over and crunch her drawing hand...Kittens of Industry doesn't usually speak in the third person.

Thanks for taking time to read about and look at my artwork!"

Follow my art adventures on instagram: @kittensofindustry



Chloe Topf

I ello. This is a photo of me.
I don't have a huge love for pineapples, but when looking for a photo of myself to put on this page,
I found this. You're welcome.

My name is Chloe Topf, I am a student at NIU currently residing in Dekalb. In my growth as an artist and designer, I've come to realize that I like making work that makes people think, makes people interact, and most importantly-- makes people laugh. Basically, I like making things that help my viewer to be present. Atleast for a moment.

I try to work across mediums and look forward to being challenged. I feel I make the best work in some of the most uncomfortable situations that allow me to take risks.

People always ask me what I'm going to do with my design degree

once I gradutate, and I've started telling them the truth: 'I want to do something fun.' Working with Fargo has been nothing but that. No matter what Ariel has going on, when I walk in that door, she always smiles and makes me feel like she is genuinely happy to see me.

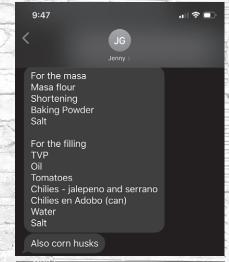
I'm so grateful to have worked with everyone at Fargo in designing this Magazine. It's been really amazing to be surrounded by such a good community of kind, helpful, and generous people. Fargo has a really special energy about it. Everything just always works out the best it could for everyone. I sincerally thank all the old friends, and new, for the time, laughs, and stories they've shared with me. I've loved every minute of it."

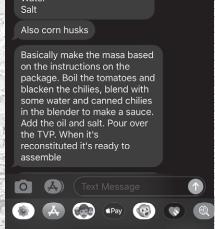
Check out my weird art on instagram: @c.topf.a.d

JENNYS FAMOUS

Vegan-tamale Recipe

Jenny's Tamales have Been consumed at almost every Art show ever, At Fargo."





on spotify as:

(I Fargo's Lycky Byth Art Show"

EASY FINDING.

MUSIC FROM THE ART GALLERY:

Lucky Penny - JD McPherson Bad Luck - Neko Case Luckiest Man - The Wood Brothers PLANLIST PUT TO GETHER Luck Be a Lady - Frank Sinatra ON SPOTIFY 84: Get Lucky - Daft Punk, Nile Rodgers, KITTENS OF INDUSTRY Pharrell Williams Good Luck - Broken Bells M0000 H000 \$ Star Sign - Teenage Fanclub The Luckiest Guy on the Lower East Side - The Magnetic Fields Lucky Lips - Ruth Brown Bad Moon Rising - Creedence Clearwater Revival Bad Luck Charm - Old 97's Bad Seed Sown - The Bellfuries Bad Luck - Social Distortion This just might Raw - White Reaper be the only luck-themed You're Dead - Norma Tanega Roll the Die - Killkiyoshi Four Leaf Clover - The Kooks Lucky Horse - Movie Star Junkies Superstition - Stevie Wonder Four Leaf Clover - Mellowdrone 13 Kinds - The Bones of J.R. Jones Gamblers Life - Nick 13 The Gambling Priest - Danger Mouse, Daniele Luppi Beginners Luck - Maribou State Trying Your Luck - The Strokes My Licky #3 - Mat Kerekes Eveky One - Tom Morello, K. Flan Luck of Lucien - A Tribe Called Quest Beginners Luck - King Gizzard + The Lizard Wizard Lucky Girl - Fazerdaze You Got Lucky . Tom Petry + the Heartbreakers Twinkle, Twinkle, Locky Star - Merle Haggard Good Luck, Kid - Joseph Lucky Girl - Red Velvet The Lick You Got - The High Strong Lucky Ball + Chain - They Might Be Grants

BANDS PLAYING:

a Fargo's
"Lucky" Thirteenth Annual
"Lucky" Skateboard -Inspired
Art Show



BOINGdweeby:

Spaced Out, Synthes Up, and Circuit
Bent all the way to the moon 'n' back!
The new face of the recording industry,
streamlined, sleek, trimming (most of)
the fat with the record button-of
course there's some fat in therethat's the flavor!

BOINGdweeby condenses all the instrument learning, practicing, song-writing, editing, drinking, drug-doing, and dinner-eating into tidy Tuesday night recording sessions.

BOINGdweeby are: Austin, Helen, Chris, Jake, Jag, and Jaime

Boingdweeby.bandcamp.com IG: @boingdweeby

The sound of a pulsating, hallucinogenic swamp. You fall in but shortly there after you're transported to a celestial dance floor of television static and cosmic wonder. The anxiety nearly consumes you before washing it all away with warm, poppy synth licks and crunchy rhythms to lift you to where you need to be.

energyvision.bandcamp.com



the Mondo Tones:



Swells:

Hungry for classic Rock n' Roll?
These three cool cats may look a little mismatched at first glance, but once they get playin', there's no doubt they're tighter than pants on Mick Jagger

Swells jigsaws all sorts of samples, seeking to recreate the sounds of your most recent daydream about running down a hill faster than you can pedal your legs. Formerly a studio project, and currently a fluid ensemble of friends in Chicago, IL.

Find us on Spotify! swellssound.bandcamp.com/ IG: @ssswellsss

Live music will be held in the skatepark on 2.29.20!



Energy Vision:



the Guap squad Gang:

A piece quartet formed in Joliet IL with dance-punk, jazz-rock influences. Featuring members of Blind Shrines, Sleepwalk, and the Moraine Valley Jazz band.

theguapsquadgang.bandcamp.com/releases

Modest Merch

Hand screen printed t-shirts & apparel. For your band, brand, school, event, business and everything else in between.

This year Modest Merch is live Screenprinting at Fargo's Lucky, Thirteenth Annual Skateboard inspired art show!

Website: https://www.modestmerch.com/

Instagram:

@modestmerch

Derangement Lab

Everyone has been in the lab, trying tricks for hours on end until you get it right. Then doing it all over again because 1 time doesn't count. Slamming so hard most sane people would lay there and wait for an ambulance to come. Not us. We get up, maybe we wipe the dust and blood off and go for another. Derangement Lab is derived from over 30 years of getting up and going for 1 more try (5 more times) because "Damnit, I'm landing this one" We've all been there many times and we will be there many more. The lab is always open, we'll see you there. Thanks for your support.

Instagram:
@derangement_lab

angement angement

w.derangementlab.com

Trabajando Fisheye
Film your friends with a
professional quality fisheye

Film your friends with a professional quality fisheye lens that fits right on your phone! No bulky / expensive camera gear needed. Photos below were taken standing in the exact same spot with/without the Trabajando Fisheye.

"Working to make your cell phone

clips better than ever."

Website: trabajandoskate.com





with Lens



Without Lens





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HEART-TO-HEARTS: W/Kittens of Industry+Chiloe Topf

Kittens of Industry(KOI): What is your favorite thing about Dekalb?

Chloe Topf (CT): I think its so cool to feel and hear the trains roll through town when I'm trying to fall asleep at night.

KOI: Who are your top three visual artists?

CT: I know you said visual, but I am super interested in the preformance work done by Marina Abramovic and Chris Burden. The Happenings and Post Modernist movements are where I get most of my inspiration.

KOI: What is your favorite subject matter to draw or design?

CT: I like working with people and textures. Whether that's drawing them, or using photographs of them.

KOI: Do you have any lucky charms or superstitions related either to your skateboarding or your art practice?

CT: I feel like if I can't focus when I'm skating, I'll hurt myself. So sometimes that keeps me from skating. When it comes to art I wouldn't say it's a superstition, but I don't like signing the front of my work.

KOI: What influenced you to go into the art/design field?

CT: My parents kept telling me they wanted me to be a dentist. But I was way more interested in the way my dad could draw. My dad has had these two photo-realistic drawings hanging in his office for as long as I can remember. The older I got, the more I felt like I could do anything if I was an Artist. Design was a bonus. I thought it was just "a way to have a job and support my weird art projects." I didn't know how much I actually loved it until I started the Visual Communications program at NIU.

CT: Have you always lived inDekalb? If not, where did you grow up?

KOI: I grew up in Carol Stream, but I came to Dekalb for school in 2000, so I kinda feel like I grew up here in some way. I've left and came back a few times. It's my third time living here, I got that curse where you touched the river haha...

CT: How long have you been making artwork for Fargo's Annual Skateboard Inspired Art Show?

KOI: I don't remember the exact first year I sent in art to this show, but I know it was when Fargo was still SMLTWN skate shop on the other side of downtown.

CT: Are you a self taught artist or did you go to art school? What did you study?

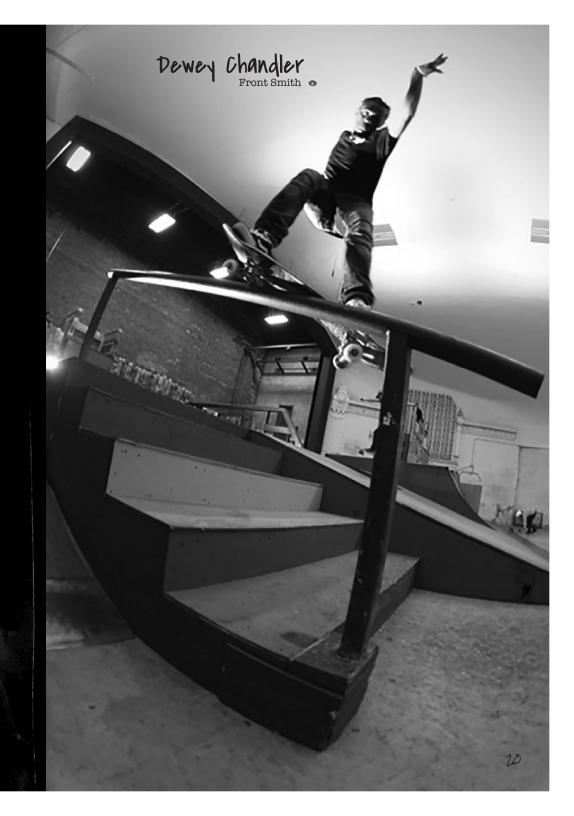
KOI: A little from column A, a little from column B. I've been doing art since I was a little kid, practicing my own way through it, but I also have a BFA in illustration from NIU and been to hella art classes in my life before that. I also had a year long tattooing apprenticeship, and I think I leaned a lot about my art in that time as well.

CT: Do you have any superstitions? Or anything that you do for good luck?

KOI: I usually catch the clock at 11:11 twice a day, and I make a wish every time.

CT: I didn't know you were in a band until I was putting together the content for this zine! That's so cool. What instrument(s) do you play? Or do you sing? And are you excited to play at the art show on the 29th?

KOI: Our band started out as friends jamming where many of us would switch off on instruments, so there are songs where I do some tribal type simple drum beats of occasional bass riffs, but I mainly sing and play theremin. I'm not formally trained in anything musical, so it's all and experiment to me.









INTERVIEWS WITH THE FARGONIANS!

CHLOE TOPF (CT): AT WHAT AGE DID YOU START SKATEBOARDING?

Nico Positano (NP):

1 started skating at age 8 or 9 and I haven't stopped since.

CT: WHEN DID YOU FIRST COME TO FARGO AND WHAT IS YOUR FAVOR-ITE MEMORY HERE?

NP: 1 started coming to fargo when it was just like an open warehouse to homies or people that new people that had access to it. And yeah, it was pretty cool.

CT: DO YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC MOMENT IN YOUR SKATEBOARD-ING CAREER THAT YOU KNEW YOU WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO PUT DOWN YOUR BOARD AGAIN?

NP: I found my love for skateboarding when I was just hanging out with my friends at night and having, like, late sessions in town and messin' shit up, I don't know.



CT: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MUSIC TO LISTEN TO WHILE YOU SKATE?

NP: If I'm going to skate and listen to music, I'm probably gonna listen to some rock and roll, but I usually like just hearing the sound of the board and everything around me.

CT: WHAT'S THE BEST PLACE YOU'VE TRAVELED TO SKATE?

NP: I would say a really enjoyable place to skate is just down town, in the middle of the street, through the cars and stuff. It's just a really cool feeling.

Instagram: @nicovitopositano



AGE: 24 y/o HOMETOWN: St. Charles, IL

STANCE: Regular

SPONSORS: Fargo Skateboarding

and Print Boys CT: DO YOU HAVE ANY SUPERSTI-TIONS WHEN IT COMES TO SKATE-BOARDING? AND IS THERE ANY-THING YOU DO FOR GOOD LUCK? NP: Not really. You don't need much to have a good time on a skateboard. As long as you got the skateboard itself. Homies definitely make it more

CT: HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN GOING TO THE ART SHOWS? DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST ONE YOU WENT TO? I don't think I've been to any other

art shows. But I look forward to the one this year.



"I started skating at age 5 or 6 and I haven't stopped since.

I first came out to dekalb when the shop was called SMLTWN, Fargo was just beginning so it was a walk down the street and 1 remember there was a Halloween Party. That was the first event that I ever attended.

Yeah, I think I fell in love with skateboarding when I was just a youngin in the driveway, falling left and right,



Back Side Judo

and just, like, gettin dirty, down and dirtyhaha Friends, good times, stayin out late and being able to do whatever you wanted at the skatepark. And Feeling free.

My favorite music to listen to when I skate is Rock and Roll, and nothing but. As loud as you can. Just anything that makes the moment feel right.

I would say my favorite place that I've ever skated is nothing specific city wise, but I would say I like cities with the most terrain, you know, hills, and action, and involves speed.

The couple things that I need when I skate is definitely loud music or just a good group of homies that gets the fire lit.

It just kind of funny because it's still in his bathroom and I see it still to this day. But yeah, that was the first art show that I went to, and we all shredded. It was, like, killer session. Really good."

My first art show was the 8th annual art

show, and I remember I drew something

up for art class. I was still in high school and No one really was backin' it too much and then henry's mom came up and bought

it and gave me the money, and I was like "Whhhaattt." and then we went out to eat.



HOMETOWN: East Dundee, IL

STANCE : Goofy

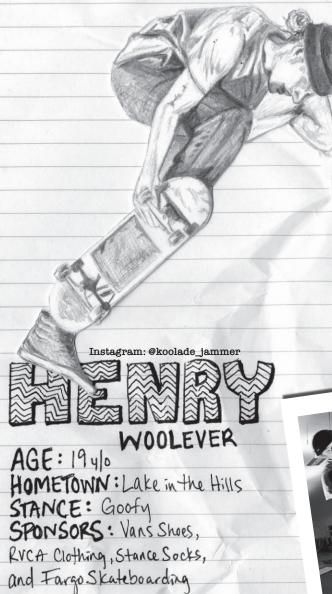
SPONSORS: Vans,

RVCA Clothing, Creature Skateboards,

OJ Whals, Mob Griptage,

Bronson Bearings, and Fargo Skateboarding

Instagram: @milazzo_joe



"I started skating at 5 or 6 also and I haven't stopped either.

I started coming to fargo back when it was SMLTWN too, and I came because I heard about the art shows, and then Ariel introduced me to the skatepark.

I think I found my love for skateboarding when, Just like going to the skate park and meeting up with all the friends and skating all the time. I just feel like right away I didn't want to do anything else. Everything else sucked.

I'd say the music I listen to when I'm skateboarding is definitely just like rock and roll loud shit that makes me wanna go fast.

I think my favorite places that i've ever been to skate have probably been, uh. Seattle is really sick. They have so many train parks and street spots. And I was actually lucky enough to get a Barcelona with Corey and that was an amazing experience.

I don't think I have any superstitions when it comes to skateboarding. I just skateboard. Haha.

I was like 13 or some shit. I was really young when I first went to the art show. And I met Ariel that way because I gave her some art to put in it, and we've been friends ever since."



Front Side Lean Air



SO MUCH LOVE GOES OUT TO ALL OUR SKATEBOARDERS, ARTISTS, FRIENDS, AND FAMILY WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT FARGO SKATEBOARDING. THANK YOU!

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and Jaime Torraco

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INDOOR SKATEPARK +SKATE SHOP