

MEDIA CONTACT

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BELWIN

UPDATE: LAND ART TO BE UNVEILED ON AUGUST 21st

Previously scheduled for July, "Roaming Stone" will now be Unveiled on August 21st as Part of a Larger Program Celebrating Valley Creek

UPDATE: Afton, MN — "Roaming Stone," a new long-term art installation at Belwin Conservancy, will now be unveiled on August 21st. Previously scheduled to have its opening on July 31st, "Roaming Stone's" unveiling will now be part of a larger event in August titled, **"4Ground: A Celebration of Valley Creek and David Sprecher Opening,"** from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

This free 4Ground event will begin at 2:00 pm at Belwin's Education Site (1553 Stagecoach Trail S., Afton MN 55001), where visitors can connect with Valley Creek through a Rewilding Ceremony by artist **Rachel Frank**, a presentation on Valley Creek by local historians (**Dr. Kate Thomas, Jean Huelster, Sherri Buss, and Kim Vukovich**), and a community poem led by **Angie Tilles**. At 3:30 pm, guests will move to Tallgrass Trails (15551 Division St., Afton MN 55001) for the unveiling of "Roaming Stone" and an artist talk from its sculptor, **David Sprecher**. Once unveiled, "Roaming Stone" will remain on Tallgrass Trails, where it can be visited by anyone during public trail hours, from dawn to dusk.

In addition, Belwin will now be hosting a different 4Ground event on July 31st. Indigenous multidisciplinary duo **Taiquaa//Ambe Omaa** will perform at the Hilltop Classroom (1553 Stagecoach Trail S., Afton, MN 55001) from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Their work combines throat singing, textile, storytelling, and visual symbols. This performance is part of a series that takes them from Rochester to Afton to Fargo in a northwest direction as a subversion of Manifest Destiny that pushed Natives past the Mississippi and beyond. This event is free, but guests are requested to RSVP for this event, which will have a limit of 50 attendees. To RSVP, guests can visit our website at belwin.org/events.

We invite the public to join us for both of these exciting events. Between the musical performance on July 31st and the activities and unveiling on August 21st, the public is sure to find new, personal ways to connect with Valley Creek and the treasured natural landscapes of Minnesota.

Major support for 4Ground: Midwest Land Art Biennial provided by the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation Fund at the St. Paul and Minneapolis Foundation, Blandin Foundation, Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation, Arts Midwest, Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation, and the Minnesota State Arts Board. Additional support provided by International Sculpture Center, ArtTable, and Sculpture Milwaukee. 4Ground: Midwest Land Art Biennial is a program of Franconia Sculpture Park.

The installation and opening of "Roaming Stone" is made possible in part by support from the St. Croix Valley Foundation.

INFORMATION

Please note: No dogs allowed at any Belwin event. Masks suggested but not required inside Belwin buildings.

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ABOUT 4GROUND

4Ground: Midwest Land Art Biennial is a contemporary art festival taking place June-August 2022. Conceived by Franconia Sculpture Park Executive Director & Chief Curator in collaboration with more than 20+ community partners including tribal organizations, art museums, and land conservationists, 4Ground is a far-reaching initiative spanning four states and tribal lands of the Upper Midwest. 4Ground is designed to raise awareness around important land and water issues affecting the region while celebrating the art, land and history of the rural Midwest and boosting tourism of the region through suggested road trips to experience site-specific land art.

ABOUT BELWIN CONSERVANCY

[Belwin Conservancy](#) is a nonprofit organization with a mission of inspiring connection and engagement with the natural world. At Belwin, we spark passion for wild places through a variety of innovative experiential programs that include the arts, astronomy, athletic fields, bison, education, and public access to our restored lands. Through land protection and habitat restoration, we revive threatened ecosystems so wildlife can thrive for generations to come. Located in Afton, Minnesota, on the ancestral home of the Wahpekute Dakota people, Belwin's 1,500 acres of permanently protected land includes woodland, prairie, oak savanna, ponds, streams, and wetlands.

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