UNTIL THREE DECADES AGO, MUCH OF THE PITTSBURGH REGION RELIED ON STEEL. IT BUILT THE ECONOMY, SHAPED THE WAY OF LIFE AND FUELED THE “STEEL CITY” IDENTITY. THEN THE BOTTOM FELL OUT. THE STEEL INDUSTRY CRUMBELED AND THOUSANDS OF JOBS DISAPPEARED. FROM 1973 TO 1983, THE NUMBER OF MANUFACTURING-RELATED POSITIONS PLUMMETED FROM MORE THAN 300,000 TO LESS THAN 200,000, AND THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ROSE TO 15 PERCENT. BUT THE REGION’S ECONOMY STEADILY REGAINED ITS FOOTING THROUGH THE INNOVATIVE, ENTREPRENEURIAL AND VISIONARY LEADERSHIP OF THE GOVERNMENT, UNIVERSITY, BUSINESS AND PHILANTHROPIC SECTORS. WHILE THERE IS STILL WORK TO BE DONE, PITTSBURGH’S PROGRESS HAS BEEN NOTEWORTHY, ESPECIALLY AS IT WEATHERED A RECESSION THAT CRIPPLED OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. TODAY, IT IS RENEWED, ENERGIZED AND, YES, EVEN MORE YOUTHFUL. THIS SPECIAL ISSUE OF h HIGHLIGHTS THE RESURGENCE, WITH YOUNG ADULT WRITERS TELLING STORIES ABOUT LIFE IN PITTSBURGH FROM THEIR POINTS OF VIEW.
Three Fridays a year, Pittsburgh Gallery Crawls draw visitors from across the region to the Downtown Cultural District to enjoy a showcase of free art and entertainment. Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, the imaginative presentations include exhibits such as the audiovisual installation “Unleashed Content” by Peter Bogers.
The Three Rivers Rowing Association is one of the largest community-based rowing and paddling clubs in the United States. The organization serves people representing a range of ages, skill levels and socio-economic backgrounds. Among them are students like these whose local high schools participate in rowing club programs.