

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council

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December 2023 Arts Calendar

Created by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, for the 9-county area of southern Minnesota.

Individuals can submit information for our calendar by emailing our office by the 15th of the preceding month.

***Dec. 1** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring Trevor McSpadden performing country music, 7-9 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

Dec. 1 Senior Show. Held at Conkling Gallery, Dept. of Art, MN State University, Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-6412 or <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/art/galleries/conkling-gallery/>.

Dec. 1 Member Show Afterparty with EZ Jazz performing, 7-9 p.m. \$15 for non-members and free for members. Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad St., Mankato. (507) 625-2730 or www.thecarnegiemankato.com.

Dec. 1-2 Minnesota State University Fall Dance Concert. Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. Adults \$10, seniors over 65 and youth under sixteen \$9. Held at the Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-6661 or www.mnsu.edu/theatre/.

Dec. 1-3 Christmas at Bethany Concerts, Dec. 1-2 at 5 p.m. and Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. Featuring the bands and choirs celebrating the season. Admission is free but advance reservations required. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

***Dec. 1-3** “The Christmas Express” theater performances. Dec. 1-2 at 7 p.m., Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, children 12 and under \$5, available online at www.statestreetnewulm.org. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statestreetnewulm.org.

Dec. 1-8 Fall Semester Campus Art Show. Held at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center Gallery, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Gallery hours: Sun.-Thurs. 1-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 1-8 p.m. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

***Dec. 1-14** Exhibit by the Prairie Star Quilters. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. The gallery is open to the public during regular business hours or by appointment. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

Dec. 1-16 Kristen Brown’s “Connective Issue” Photography Exhibition. (Reception, Dec. 1, 7-9 p.m.) Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m. www.the410project.com.

***Dec. 1-22** 15th Annual Artscape Juried Art Show, featuring artwork from local artists in two categories, students in grades 7-12 and adult. (Reception, Dec. 1, 6:30 p.m.) Held at 4 Pillars Gallery, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. Gallery hours: Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

***Dec. 1-23** Carnegie Member Show. (Reception, Dec. 1, 5-7 p.m.) Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Thurs. 1-6 p.m., Fri. 1-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (507) 625-2730 or www.thecarnegiemankato.com.

***Dec. 1-30** Wood Engravers Network Triennial Exhibit. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. Gallery hours: Wed.-Fri. 1-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sun. 1-5 p.m. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

Dec. 1-30 The North American Indian: Edward S. Curtis Photograph Exhibit of 95+ enhanced archival prints. Free admission. Held at Park Avenue Plaza Gallery, 48 N Park Ave., Le Center. Hours: Tues. & Fri. 1-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. (507) 357-6685.

Dec. 1-30 Holiday Boutique, unique handmade gifts created by local artists. Held at the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 First St. N. Hours: Thurs. & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

***Dec. 1-Jan. 6** Jack Dahl's Watercolor Painting Exhibit. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. Gallery hours: Wed.-Sat. 12 Noon-5 p.m. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

***Dec. 1-April 2024** The annual CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour artwork is installed in the city centers of Mankato and North Mankato. www.cityartmankato.com or (507) 388-1062.

***Dec. 2** Dueling Pianos Show by Rock It Man Entertainment, 7-9 p.m., as part of the annual Arli-Dazzle winter celebration in Arlington. Held at Arlington Dugout/Main Street Hall, 310 W. Main St., Arlington. Sponsored by 2B Continued, (507) 381-4082 or <https://www.2bcontinued.org/events/>.

Dec. 2 Holiday Bootlegger's Ball, including a costume contest, 5:30 p.m. Password at the speakeasy door is "Buttercup". Tickets \$20 or free for members. RSVP required. Held at the Waseca County Historical Society, 315 2nd Ave. NE, Waseca. www.historical.waseca.mn.us or (507) 835-7700.

Dec. 2 Holli-Stories Fundraiser, 7 p.m., with new stories and plays performed throughout the evening. Free will offering at the door, reservations available. Doors open at 5 p.m. to enjoy winter signature cocktails paired with small bites, seasonal soups and paninis along with charcuterie and butter boards. Held at Revival on Main, 213 1st St. S., Montgomery. Sponsored by Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

Dec. 2-3 "Christmas at the Hubbard House" Mystery of the Missing Mitten. Step into a Victorian Christmas and engage in the search; lend an ear to the tales given by the house's family, guests and servants; collect your own clues; and unravel the history mystery. Dec. 2, 3-7 p.m. and Dec. 3, 1-4 p.m. Adults \$10, Blue Earth County Historical Society members \$7, ages 5-17 \$5, and children under 5 free. Held at the Hubbard House, 606 S. Broad St., Mankato. (507) 345-5566 or <https://blueearthcountyhistory.com/>.

Dec. 2-3 "Unto Us a Child is Born" Christmas Concerts by the Martin Luther College Choirs and Wind Symphony. Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 3 at 4 p.m. Held at Chapel of the Christ, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990 or www.mlc-wels.edu.

***Dec. 2 & 9** Victorian Christmas at the Betsy-Tacy homes, 1-4 p.m. each day. Enjoy decorations, crafts, readings, music, and refreshments. Guests are encouraged to dress in period clothing, and costumed characters from the books, including Betsy, Tacy, and Tib, will make special appearances. Held at the Betsy-Tacy homes, 332 & 333 Center St., Mankato. Sponsored by the Betsy-Tacy Society. (507) 345-9777 or www.betsy-tacysociety.org.

***Dec. 3** Holiday Concert by the Minnesota River Bend Brass Choir, 4 p.m. Held at Holy Trinity Cathedral, 605 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 386-7003.

Dec. 3 Holiday Choral Concert, 3 p.m. General admission \$9, K-12 students and children \$7, held at Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church, 632 S. Broad St., Mankato. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/music/events-tickets/>.

***Dec. 5** “Tell Your Story” Book Release and Author Reading by adults with disabilities that attended the inclusive literary arts workshop with Cow Tipping Press and Open Arts Minnesota, 6 p.m. Held at the Waseca-Le Sueur Regional Library, 408 State St. N., Waseca. (507) 835-2910 or <https://wasecalesueurlibraries.com/>

Dec. 5 Virtual author event with Victoria Aveyard. She will discuss her young adult fantasy fiction books “Red Queen” and “Realm Breaker”, 6 p.m. Contact the library to register and to receive the link. Sponsored by the Blue Earth County Library. (507) 304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

Dec. 5 Gustavus Winds of Christmas Concert featuring the Wind Orchestra and Wind Symphony, 10 a.m. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

Dec. 6 Wednesday Movie Matinee, view “Elf”, 12 Noon. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. 507-304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

***Dec. 7** “A French Baroque Christmas” Concert by the La Grande Bande performing Baroque and Romantic era music with period instruments, 7:30 p.m. Tickets in section A \$20, section B \$15, and section C and students \$10; available at www.lagrandebande.org/tickets. Come early, at 6:45 p.m., with your ticket and enjoy a pre-concert talk with Michael Asmus as he discusses the musical selections for the concert. A free open rehearsal time will be announced. Held at First Lutheran Church, 1114 W Traverse Rd., St. Peter. www.lagrandebande.org or (507) 995-7086.

Dec. 7 Community Reading of “The Christmas Carol”, 7 p.m. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

Dec. 7 Author Allen Eskens will discuss his latest work, 6 p.m. Held at the North Mankato Police Annex Meeting Room, 1001 Belgrade Ave. Sponsored by North Mankato Taylor Library. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

Dec. 7-10 “The Nutcracker” presented by the Mankato Ballet Company. Dec. 7-8 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 9-10 at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Adults \$25, students 12 and under \$15, children under 2 free but must sit on a lap. Held at the Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 625-7716 or www.mankatoballet.org.

***Dec. 8** Holiday Concert by pianist Glenn Henriksen, 7 p.m. Adults \$15, students \$6, tickets available online. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

***Dec. 8** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring Eli Gardiner performing Americana and rock music, 7-9 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

Dec. 8-10 “Adaptation” theater performances. Dec. 8-9 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. Held at the Black Box Theatre, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

***Dec. 9** “Christmas with Musicorum” Choral Concert, 6:30 p.m. Held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 720 Second St., Mankato. General admission \$15 and students \$5. www.musicorum-mn.org or (507) 933-7370.

***Dec. 9** Waseca Latino Cultural Celebration with music by the Mexican Mariachi band Mariachi America, 6:30 p.m. Held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 111 4th St. NW, Waseca. (507) 835-1222.

Dec. 9 Holiday Harmony Concert by the Mankato Riverblenders and the Minnesota Valley Chorus, 7 p.m. Held at Waseca’s Central Building, 501 E. Elm Ave. Tickets are not required. A free will offering will be collected. Sponsored by Waseca Community Education and Waseca Art Center. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

Dec. 9 “See, Hear, Play: Holiday Favorites!” Family Concert Series, 10:30 a.m., free, created for children and their caregivers, all ages welcome. Great for families with young children who want to dance and clap along. Held at the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. Sponsored by the Mankato Symphony Orchestra. (507) 625-8880 or www.mankatosymphony.com.

Dec. 9 Robert Robinson’s “Holiday from the Heart” Concert, 7 p.m. Tickets \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, children 12 and under \$5, available online at www.statestreetnewulm.org. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statestreetnewulm.org.

***Dec. 10** Holiday Concert by the Minnesota River Bend Brass Choir, 7 p.m. Held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 720 S. 2nd St., Mankato. (507) 386-7003.

***Dec. 10** The Mankato Area Youth Choirs (Mankato Children’s Chorus) will present their Winter Concert “Peace On Earth” at 2 p.m. Adults \$12, seniors and children \$10. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 774-0597 or www.mankatochildrenschorus.org.

Dec. 10 Maker Market, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Shop for truly unique items created by local artists. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

***Dec. 10 & 24** Open Clay Studio in English or Spanish, 3-5 p.m. Try your hand at clay or develop your skills, with guidance and encouragement from an experienced potter. Free. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

Dec. 11 Movie Monday, view “Miracle on 34th Street”, 1 p.m. Held at the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

***Dec. 12** Noon Lunch with the Arts Program. Free musical entertainment by Bill Busse, Joyce Schultz, and Sandy Ettesvold. Bring a sack lunch if desired. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

Dec. 12 Virtual author event with Stephanie Land. She will discuss her memoir “Class: A Memoir of Motherhood, Hunger, and Higher Education”, 1 p.m. Contact the library to register and to receive the link. Sponsored by the Blue Earth County Library. (507) 304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

Dec. 12 Screening and discussion of “Inherit The Wind”, 6:30 p.m. Second in a film series looking at famous courtroom dramas. Hosted by The New Ulm Film Society. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmmn.gov/513/Library.

Dec. 13 Mal Murphy's first EP release show of "Grow Up", performance begins at 7 p.m. Free, donations to the art center are welcomed. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

Dec. 13 Wednesday Movie Matinee, view "Home Alone", 12 Noon. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. 507-304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

***Dec. 14** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents Open Mic Night with local artists performing, hosted by Molly & Sonny Boy, 7-9 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

***Dec. 15** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring Jason Helder performing folk and rock music, 7-9 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

Dec. 15 Mick Sterling's "A Grand Old Opry Christmas" Show, 7 p.m. Tickets: adult \$30 and students \$15, available online at <https://fairmontoperahouse.org/tickets/>. Concert will be held at Cutting Edge Fitness, 1130 Spruce St., Fairmont. Sponsored by the Fairmont Opera House, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.com.

***Dec. 16** The Mankato Symphony Orchestra's presents Handel's "Messiah" with the Mankato Area Messiah Chorus, 7 p.m. Adults \$25, students ages 13-17 \$10, 12 and under \$1. Held at St. Peter High School Performing Arts Center, 2121 Broadway Ave. www.mankatosymphony.com. (507) 625-8880.

Dec. 16 Holiday Concert by the Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet, 10:30 a.m. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. 507-304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

***Dec. 17** Holiday Concert by the Minnesota River Bend Brass Choir, 7 p.m. Held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 632 S. Broad St., Mankato. (507) 386-7003.

***Dec. 17** Handel's "Messiah" performed by the Mankato Symphony Orchestra and the Mankato Area Messiah Chorus, 4 p.m. Tickets: adult \$30 and students \$15, available online at <https://fairmontoperahouse.org/tickets/>. Concert will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 300 S. Grant St., Fairmont. Sponsored by the Fairmont Opera House, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.com.

Dec. 17 Virtual book discussion about "Betsy and Tacy Go Downtown" by Maud Hart Lovelace, 6-7:30 p.m. Open to all. Free for Betsy-Tacy Society members; \$10 for non-members. Pre-registration required for the Zoom link. Hosted by the Betsy-Tacy Society. (507) 345-9777 or www.betsy-tacysociety.org.

Dec. 20 Wednesday Movie Matinee, view Dr. Seuss' "How the Grinch Stole Christmas", 12 Noon. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. 507-304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

Dec. 21 View "The Sting", as part of the ArtHouse Film Series. 7-9:30 p.m., free. Refreshments will be served, and a cash bar will be available. Held at the Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

Dec. 21 Holiday Concert by the Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet, 7 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmnmn.gov/513/Library.

***Dec. 22** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring the Elmer Quartet performing jazz music, 7-9 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

Dec. 22 Celebrate the Solstice with Jazz10 performing, 7-9 p.m. \$25 for non-members and \$20 for members. Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad St., Mankato.

Dec. 22 Shaun Johnson's Holly Jolly Holiday Show, doors open at 6 p.m., show at 7 p.m. Tickets \$20-\$40. Held at the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Mankato. Tickets available at the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center Box Office, www.ticketmaster.com, or call 1-800-745-3000. www.mayoclinichealthsystemeventcenter.com

Dec. 27 Siama and Dallas Congo Music Concert, 1 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmmn.gov/513/Library.

Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Party at the Playhouse. 6 p.m., 4-course dinner with music by Tyler Herwig; 8 p.m. Mankato Playhouse Past, Present, Future Cabaret Show; 9:30 p.m. Skitzo Fonik takes the stage. Dinner and party \$90, party only \$50, tickets available at www.mankatoplayhouse.com. Held at the Mankato Event Center, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1700. (507) 508-6539 or www.mankatoplayhouse.com.

Youth Opportunities/Classes

Dec. 4 Paint a Ceramic Mug Class, 6-7:30 p.m. Grades 3-8. We will paint and decorate a ceramic mug. The mug will need to be fired in the kiln and picked up before the Christmas Holiday so you can keep or share as a gift! Register at www.mankato.ce.eleyo.com. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. (507) 387-5501 or www.mankatocer.com.

Dec. 5 Little Rembrandts Class, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades K-5, \$20. Students will use elements of art and principles of design to complete a project to take home. Registration required at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Dec. 5 Club Picasso Class, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades 6-12, \$20. Students will use elements of art and principles of design to complete a project to take home. Registration required at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Dec. 5 Make and Write Your Own Journal Session. 6-7:30 p.m., ages 12 and up. This session will be about creating and decorating your own journal. We will explore the many styles of crafting your own book. We will also brainstorm the many different ways to use your journal including creative writing prompts and other creative ideas. Free. Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. www.the410project.com.

Dec. 7 Wacky Wonders, 3:30-4:15 p.m. Grades 2-5. Class to focus on fun as we explore art, crafts, and STEM projects. Registration is required. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmmn.gov/513/Library.

***Dec. 9** Kidcasso, Open Art Studio, children of all ages, \$5, 9-11 a.m. An open art studio experience for creative learners from high chair to high-school to experience, explore, and create a variety of open ended arts and crafts using a variety of fun supplies and embellishments. Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration appreciated, however walk-ins welcome. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

Dec. 10 Register for the Minnesota Poetry Out Loud program for students in grades 9–12. Free lesson plans and resources are available for educators and students can participate in poetry recitation competitions as well as submit their self-written poetry to be published in an e-anthology. Visit <https://www.poetryoutloud.org> or contact mhillmann@mncsc.org for more information. Hosted by South Central Service Cooperative. www.mncsc.org or (507) 389-2509.

Dec. 11. Registration Opens for the Mankato Area Youth Choirs (Mankato Children’s Chorus) second semester. Participation is open to students in grades 1-12. Go to the Member Portal at www.mankatochildrenschorus.org to complete the online registration. (507) 774-0597 or www.mankatochildrenschorus.org.

Dec. 12 Craft Club, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades K-12, \$30. Come in and have a fun time creating an assortment of crafts. Registration required at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Meets second Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Dec. 13 Creative Kids, 4-4:45 p.m. Grades K-1. Class to focus on fun as we explore art, crafts, and STEM projects. Registration is required. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmmn.gov/513/Library.

Dec. 14 Youth Painting Class. \$25, contact the Carnegie for more information. Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad St., Mankato. (507) 625-2730 or www.thecarnegiemandato.com.

Dec. 15 Young Artist Concerto & Ensemble Competitions Deadline, The Mankato Symphony Orchestra is hosting their concerto and ensemble competition, with applications due on Dec. 15. The competition is Sat., Feb. 24, 2024 and has two categories: a solo competition and an ensemble competition. There will be cash prizes totaling up to \$5,000 plus an opportunity to perform with the Mankato Symphony Orchestra. Go to www.mankatosymphony.org/competitions for more information. Held at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato. (507) 625-8880 or www.mankatosymphony.org.

Dec. 16 Children's Learn to Paint Class with instructor Rhonda Johnson. 10 a.m.-12 Noon. Grades Kindergarten+, \$25. Children will be taught step-by-step painting techniques while also being given the freedom to make the artwork their own. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.org or (507) 359-9222.

Dec. 28 Journal & Sketchbook Club, 1-3 p.m., ages 9-18. Share your junk journals, sketchbooks, bullet journals, artwork, or anything crafty to others and become inspired by them in return. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. 507-304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

Dec. 28 Nutcracker Theme Dance Camp, 9 a.m.-12 Noon, ages 5-9. Children will learn a Nutcracker themed dance, enjoy an allergy free snack, work on a craft, jump in our bounce house. \$40, registration required, space is limited. Held at Mankato Ballet Company, 1650 Tullamore St., Mankato. (507) 625-7716 or www.mankatoballet.org.

Dec. 28 New Year Crafts, 10 a.m.-12 Noon, ages 2-8. Attend this come and go New Years craft event. Held at the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

Adult Opportunities/Classes

***Dec. 1-Jan. 31** Minnesota BIPOC Emerging Writer Award sponsored by the Blue Earth Review. Awards will be \$1,000 for fiction, \$1,000 for creative nonfiction, and \$1,000 for poetry. One submission per participant is

allowed. Eligible participants must self-identify as Black, Indigenous, and/or a Person of Color and have a history of producing artistic work. For guidelines and more information visit <https://blueearthreview.mnsu.edu/contests/mn-bipoc-award-guidelines/>

***Dec. 2 Old Fashioned Holiday Card Printing Class** with instructor Denis Crnkovic. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., \$35. Using the new additions to our collection of type and letterpress ornaments, create your own holiday card designs. You will learn how to set simple metal type and use borders and ornaments to make your own one-of-a-kind holiday cards. No experience required. Registration is required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

Dec. 3 Virtual Drop-In Writers Lounge. 1-3:30 p.m., with author Heather Vogel Frederick. This is a chance to work quietly while enjoying the fellowship of other writers. We will also provide breakout rooms for those who hope to chat with and bounce ideas off other writers. Pre-registration required for the Zoom link. Hosted by the Betsy-Tacy Society. (507) 345-9777 or www.betsy-tacysociety.org.

Dec. 4 Memoir Writing Group, Bring your own writing or a topic to write about and be a part of a group to keep you inspired and sharing your stories, 11-11:45 a.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmmn.gov/513/Library.

Dec. 4-Jan. 29 Open Pottery Studio Time, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. Punch cards are \$40 for 8 sessions and a clay coupon is \$25 including 25 pounds of clay, glaze and firing supplies. Our potter studio has potter's wheels, slab roller, extruder, hand tools, glazes, greenware storage, updated electric kilns and more. This is not an instructional class. Previous pottery experience is required. The studio manager will be present to help with technical questions. Register at www.mankato.ce.eleyo.com. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. (507) 387-5501 or www.mankatocer.com.

Dec. 5 or 6 Adult Craft Night, 6 p.m., choose a night. Make a decorative holiday ladder. Registration required. Held at the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

Dec. 5 & 19 Knit and Crochet Club. Join the club and bring a project you're working on, 2-4 p.m. Held at the Martin County Library, 110 N Park St., Fairmont. (507) 238-4207 or www.martincountylibrary.org.

Dec. 6 Cassatt Society Class, 4:30-6 p.m. \$20. Use elements of art and principles of design to complete a project to take home. Registration required at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Meets first Wednesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Dec. 6 & 20 Needlework Group, self-directed time to work on projects including quilting, embroidery, crochet, knitting, etc. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Bring your own supplies. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmmn.gov/513/Library.

Dec. 7 Monthly Fiber Arts Group. 6-8 p.m. Show and tell, demos, and more. Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad St., Mankato. (507) 625-2730 or www.thecarnegiemandkato.com.

Dec. 9 Southern Minnesota Poet's Society Meeting, 12 Noon. Different features each month. Enjoy a delicious lunch. Held at Wow! Zone, 2030 Adams St., Mankato. Sponsored by Southern Minnesota Poets Society. (507) 382-6351 or www.southernmnpoets.org.

Dec. 11 Poetry Group, each participant is encouraged to read aloud two or three poems, of their own or by others, and discuss them. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmmn.gov/513/Library.

Dec. 13 Crafters Guild, 4:30-6 p.m., \$30. Come in and have a fun time creating an assortment of crafts. Registration required at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Meets second Wednesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Dec. 13 Writers Group, 6-7 p.m. Bring a piece of writing to share or just come for the fun writing prompts. All genres welcome! Held at the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

Dec. 14 Generative Writing Workshop. 6-7:30 p.m. A writing experience for absolute beginners and anyone looking to shake up their creative process! The instructor will provide everything you need: paper, writing utensils, and prompts. Participants will be encouraged but not required to share what they produce. No registration required; drop-in fee \$10. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

Dec. 14 The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents **Open Mic Night** for local musicians, hosted by Molly & Sonny Boy, 7-9 p.m., held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.org.

Dec. 17-18 Auditions for the musical theater performances of “Little Shop of Horrors”, 7 p.m. each day. Please bring sheet music for a song you have already learned. Mankato Playhouse will provide a pianist at auditions to accompany you. Performances will be held Feb. 9-25. Held at the Mankato Event Center, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1700. Contact Davori Productions for more information, (507) 317-1245, info@davoriproductions.com, or www.mankatoplayhouse.com.

Dec. 18-19 Auditions for the musical theater performances of “9 to 5” music of Dolly Parton, 6 p.m. each day. Performances will be held March 7-10 & 14-17. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Contact Merely Players for more information, (507) 388-5483, info@merelyplayers.com, or www.merelyplayers.com.

***Dec. 20 Open Knitting**. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Bring your projects, make progress, and make new connections with fellow knitters. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

Grant Opportunities

Dec. 1 Fellowship Grant Deadline for Composers. American Composers Forum administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and four \$25,000 fellowships will be awarded to artists with a full range of musical approaches and perspectives, They are committed to supporting a diverse pool of artists who demonstrate compelling artistic work. Go online to <https://composersforum.org/programs/mcknight-composer-fellowships/> for more information. All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at <https://www.mcknight.org/programs/arts-culture/mcknight-artist-culture-bearer-fellowships/>.

Dec. 4 Fellowship Grant Deadline for Fiber Artists. Textile Center administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and two \$25,000 fellowships to recognize and support talented Minnesota fiber and textile artists whose work is of exceptional artistic and cultural merit, who have created a significant body of work over a period of at least 8 years. Go online to <https://textilecentermn.org/mcknight/> for more information.

All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at <https://www.mcknight.org/programs/arts-culture/mcknight-artist-culture-bearer-fellowships/>.

Dec. 11 Fellowship Grant Deadline for Writers. The Loft administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and five \$25,000 fellowships are awarded to accomplished Minnesota writers in creative prose and poetry/spoken word and children's literature/younger children. Go online to <https://loft.org/awards/mcknight> for more information. All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at <https://www.mcknight.org/programs/arts-culture/mcknight-artist-culture-bearer-fellowships/>.

Jan. 1 Fellowship Grant Deadline for Culture Bearers. The Indigenous Roots Cultural Arts Center administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and three \$25,000 fellowships are awarded to culture bearers who practice sacred and healing lifeways and share cultural art practices across generations. Go to <https://iroots-mcknight-culturebearers.org/> for more information. All of the McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at <https://www.mcknight.org/programs/arts-culture/mcknight-artist-culture-bearer-fellowships/>.

Jan. 1 PLRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Deadline. This grant is for organizations and schools that are producing or sponsoring an arts activity in dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual art, folk and traditional art. Grant maximums range from \$6,000-\$9,000. For more information and to apply online, contact Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, www.plrac.org. or (507) 833-8721.

Jan. 11 Fellowship Grant Deadline for Playwriting. The Playwrights Center administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and recognizes and supports mid-career playwrights living and working in Minnesota who demonstrate a sustained body of work, commitment, and attributes of artistic merit. The two fellowships include: a \$25,000 stipend, an additional \$2,500 to support a play development workshop and other professional expenses, and \$1,400 in travel funds. Go online to <https://pwcenter.org/programs/mcknight-fellowships-in-playwriting> for more information. All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at <https://www.mcknight.org/programs/arts-culture/mcknight-artist-culture-bearer-fellowships/>.