

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council
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**Youth Scholarship Recipients
Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund**



Youth must send a Thank You letter to your Senator and Representative from your area.

As you know, it is important to say Thank You for our state allocated funding; which is used for these Youth Scholarships. Send a letter to both your Representative and Senator from your area. Go to www.leg.mn.gov for an easy way to find out who your legislators are. The Thank You letters must be uploaded into your Final Report as documentation. These two letters are required as part of completing your Youth Scholarship, so keep a Word document of your letters if you email them.

It is easy to send a letter or email a note and tell each legislator how the Arts are vital to students, adults and those in your community. Say in the letter:

- I received a Youth Scholarship of \$300 or \$200 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, Waseca.
- I live in _____. I am taking lessons in _____ (dance, piano, violin, etc.).
- I would appreciate your continued support of Arts funding in the state’s budget.
- Thank you for supporting the “Clean Water, Land and Arts & Cultural Legacy Funding” that provided funds for my Scholarship.

Example Letter:

Dear Senator _____:

I want to thank you for your support of the arts in southern Minnesota. I recently received a Youth Scholarship of \$300 or \$200 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, Waseca. I am very appreciative of this scholarship and I used the funds to take classes or lessons for _____.

I am involved in the arts through (list a specific group) _____.

Examples:

(1.) I am involved in the Mankato Ballet Company / Dance Conservatory of Southern MN and this organization provides an opportunity for talented and motivated young dancers from several communities in southern Minnesota to participate in a high-caliber dance organization. I am taking dance classes with an instructor from this organization. This opportunity is not available in many smaller communities in rural Minnesota, and students like me are excited about the chance to rehearse and perform with other young dancers who share their passion for dancing.

(2.) I am involved in the Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra / New Ulm Suzuki School and this organization provides an opportunity for talented and motivated young musicians from several communities in southern Minnesota to participate in a high-caliber orchestra (or band). This opportunity is not available in many smaller communities in rural Minnesota, and students like me are excited about the chance to rehearse and perform with other young musicians who share their passion for music.

(3.) I am taking private lessons from a music instructor in _____. (piano, violin, etc.). I am learning _____.

Please continue to support funding for the arts in the state’s general fund budget; and through the Clean Water, Land and Arts & Cultural Legacy Fund. Youth Programs like this could not exist without these grant monies. I invite you to join us at one of our concerts this coming season to see what this investment in our young people is producing. I am proud to participate in the _____.

Sincerely, Name, Address, email and phone number