

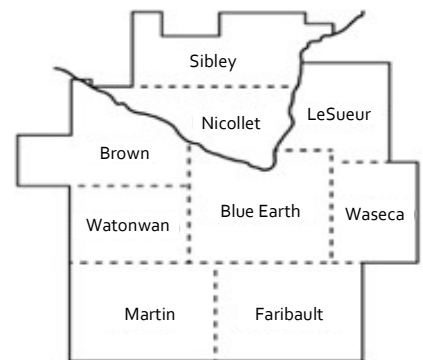


Prairie Lakes has awarded \$596,995 in Arts Grants for FY 2022.

Prairie Lakes has awarded 87 organizational arts grants (\$523,195), 31 Artist Grants (\$46,500), and 108 Youth Scholarships (\$27,300) for a total of \$596,995 in FY 2022.

We have concluded our grantmaking for the fiscal year as of April 2022.

New funds for FY 2023 will be available July 1, 2022 and continue through April 2023. We have an online grant application process and details are on our website. Grant program information for Arts Organizations, Community Groups, Schools and Youth Scholarships are on pages 9-10. New guidelines will be posted on our website on July 1st. The first deadline is July 1, 2022 for the Small Arts and School Arts Program; and August 1st for the Arts & Cultural Heritage grant. Details on pages 10-11.



We have five board positions open, see details on page 13. Apply by 5/13/22. Cities of Fairmont and Mankato, and the counties of Blue Earth, Nicollet, and Watonwan.

Two Minnesota State Arts Board Arts Grant Deadlines are happening in May 2022

Prairie Lakes is encouraging Artists and Arts Organizations to apply for the Minnesota State Arts Board's Creative Support grant for Individuals and Organizations. These grant programs are available statewide, but we encourage arts folks from our 9-county region to apply. Details are listed below.



Creative Support for Individuals May 6th Deadline

This program is meant to provide support to help Minnesota artists and culture bearers sustain their creative practices and meaningfully engage with their communities in a time of transition. This grant program is designed to be flexible and allow for adaptability in response to unexpected changes during the grant period. Grant range: \$2,000-\$10,000. Application deadline: May 6 at 4:30 p.m., a 2nd deadline will be July 15. For more information contact (800) 866-2787 or CreativeSupport-Individuals@arts.state.mn.us. For a link to the online application go to the MN State Arts Board website: www.arts.state.mn.us.

Creative Support for Organizations May 27th Deadline

This program provides support to help organizations deliver arts programming and meaningfully engage their communities in a time of transition. While the grants are designed to be flexible, applicants will be asked to align their activities with one of three program outcomes that address the intent of the legacy amendment and the Arts Board's goals. Grant range: \$5,000-\$30,000. Application deadline: May 27 at 4:30 p.m., a 2nd deadline will be Sept. 9. For more information contact (800) 866-2787 or CreativeSupport-Organizations@arts.state.mn.us. For a link to the online application go to the MN State Arts Board website: www.arts.state.mn.us.

Prairie Lakes FY 2022 Grants Awarded

(July 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022)

Total Awarded: \$596,995

\$422,705 - Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants
to 50 arts organizations & community groups

\$100,490 – State General funds (37 grants)
Small Arts Project & School Grants to date

\$27,300 - 108 Youth Scholarships to Students in
grades 3-12

\$46,500 – Artist Development Grant (31 grants)
Grant amount is \$1,500, with funds from the
McKnight Foundation.

Prairie Lakes receives funding from the Minnesota Legislature through the **Legacy Amendment** from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, State General funds, and the McKnight Foundation.



MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement of Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council

Approved 4/19 and updated 5/21.

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council (PLRAC) recognizes arts and culture as inherent and vital aspects of life. Art is a proven proponent of healthy, balanced, and prosperous communities. The creation and experience of cultural and artistic expression contribute to both individual and community well-being. We believe in the ability to build increased connectivity through supporting cultural and artistic expression of all social identities including race, tribal affiliation, ethnicity, national origin, age, gender, sexuality, religion, ability, socio-economic background and the intersectionality of these identities.

This may include historically marginalized and underserved groups such as: Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), Youth, Senior Citizens, People with Disabilities and LGBTQ+.

We are committed to closing access gaps in the arts with urgency and accountability. We believe sustained impact requires authentic relationships and transformative work, and to this end we are deeply invested. As stewards of public funds, including those allocated by the Legacy Amendment, PLRAC embraces the unique opportunity to ensure that all residents of the nine-county area have access to quality arts experiences. We celebrate our region as an artistic cultural hub where artists and community members from all walks of life intersect. PLRAC dedicates its work to providing key support at these vital intersections where art and community align. PLRAC is committed to engaging in the relationship building, self-reflection, community discourse, and hands-on work imperative to make our region a place where all artistic communities can thrive.

PLRAC will focus our resources to educate ourselves, modify our practices and shift our own organizational culture to challenge racial disparities as we move toward equitable arts communities. We embrace our responsibility to lead racial equity work in funding, while informing and learning from equity and inclusion in the artistic practices and programming of our constituents.



\$178,725 in Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded in Spring 2022

In FY 2022, a total of 23 arts organizations, community groups and schools were awarded Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) grants, totaling \$178,725 in February 2022 by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. The organizations are listed alphabetically. A total of \$422,705 was awarded for all ACH grants in FY 2022, spring and fall.

The grants are for arts activities in all artistic disciplines. A variety of activities including instrumental and vocal music concerts, theater and dance performances, exhibitions, festivals, public art, and classes for youth and adults are being funded. This fund was created by the people of Minnesota to support the arts and preserve our heritage. The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, passed by the voters in Nov. 2008, created new resources for land conservation, water conservation, parks and the Arts. In FY 2023 there are two ACH Grant deadlines August 1, 2022 and February 1, 2023. Organizations can apply once per year for this grant.

- 4-Unity, Cornstalk Festival, Dunnell - \$6,000.**
- City Center Partnership, Mankato - \$8,000.**
- Dance Conservatory of Southern Minnesota - \$13,000.**
- Good Thunder Reading Series - \$8,000.**
- Govenaires Drum & Bugle Corps - \$8,000.**
- Green Isle Community School - \$4,375.**
- Madelia Area Chamber of Commerce - \$6,000.**
- Mankato Area Community Band - \$4,400.**
- Mankato Area Public Schools - StoryArk - \$6,000.**
- Mankato Ballet Company - \$13,000.**
- Mankato Community Education – Pottery Studio - \$6,000.**
- Mankato School of Music - \$8,000.**
- Mankato Symphony Orchestra - \$8,000.**
- Mankato Youth Place - \$5,950.**
- Minnesota Original Music Festival - \$8,000.**
- Minnesota “Over-60” Band - \$8,000.**
- Minnesota State University, Mankato, Music Performance Series - \$8,000.**
- New Ulm Suzuki School of Music - \$8,000.**
- Old Town Mankato Day of the Dead Festival - \$8,000.**
- Rock Bend Folk Festival - \$6,000.**
- T-Bird Community Arts, Gibbon - \$8,000.**
- The Grand Center for Arts and Culture - \$13,000.**

(Continued on page 4)



These activities are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

\$243,980 in Arts & Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded in Fall 2021

[A total of 27 arts organizations, community groups and schools were awarded Arts and Cultural Heritage \(ACH\) grants, totaling \\$243,980 in fall 2021 by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.](#) The organizations are listed alphabetically.

These grants are for arts activities in all artistic disciplines. A variety of activities are being funded including: art classes and exhibitions, dance and theater performances, instrumental and vocal music concerts, festivals, public art, and youth field trips. This fund was created by the people of Minnesota to support the arts and preserve our heritage. The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, passed by the voters in Nov. 2008, created new resources for land conservation, water conservation, parks and the Arts.

- Arlington Chamber of Commerce, ArliDazzle - \$6,000.**
- Arts Center of Saint Peter - \$13,000.**
- Blue Earth Valley Concert Association - \$8,000.**
- DalekoArts, New Prague - \$13,000.**
- Davori Productions, Mankato Playhouse - \$13,000.**
- Fairmont Opera House - \$13,000.**
- La Grande Bande, Gaylord - \$8,000.**
- Mankato and North Mankato ACT on Alzheimer's - \$8,000.**
- Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra - \$8,000.**
- Mankato Children's Chorus - \$6,000.**
- Mankato Figure Skating Club - \$8,000.**
- Mankato Makerspace - \$13,000.**
- Martin Co. Preservation, Assoc. (Red Rock Center for the Arts) - \$13,000.**
- Merely Players Community Theatre - \$8,000.**
- Minnesota New Country School - \$6,000.**
- Minnesota Valley Chorale - \$8,000.**
- Musicorum, Mankato - \$8,000.**
- New Ulm Figure Skating Club - \$6,000.**
- Prairie Winds Middle School, Mankato - \$6,000.**
- Project 1590, Fairmont, public art - \$8,000.**
- Project G.E.M. - \$8,000.**
- ProMusica Minnesota - \$8,000.**
- South Central Service Cooperative - \$8,000.**
- State Street Theater Company, New Ulm - \$13,000.**
- Waseca Arts Council - \$13,000.**
- Waseca County Historical Society - \$5,980.**
- Waseca-LeSueur Regional Library - \$8,000.**



The Story of Arts & Cultural Heritage (Legacy) Grants



What's really made a difference in our region has been the Legacy Arts grants that were available starting in 2008. Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council receives Legacy funds that are used to award Arts and Cultural Heritage grants in the 9-county area we serve in south central Minnesota, noted Brenda Byron, Executive Director.

Prairie Lakes has supported many arts projects, artists, and arts organizations with these State funds. In the next year we will be sharing the story of the Impact that these grants have had in our region, through a series of videos. We'll be talking about projects, arts organizations, and communities that are better because of the Legacy Amendment. Arts events happening in the community stimulate the local economy, promote tourism, and people eat in local restaurants and buy gas while they are in town.

We want to thank the voters of Minnesota for this huge vote of confidence that the Arts are worth investing in, in our State.



Our first video is an overview of the availability of Legacy grants from Prairie Lakes. The second video features Arts and Cultural Heritage grantee Uniting Cultures/Uniendo Culturas in St. James, who sponsor the Multicultural Fiesta in their community.

Pat Branstad and Brenda Byron met in January to record the first video, with the assistance of Triple Falls Productions, Mankato. Pat noted that the Multicultural Fiesta held in September is the signature event of their group and its mission of acknowledging and celebrating the rich cultural diversity of the St. James community.

The Fiesta brings residents of the community together with a festive, family friendly atmosphere in an outdoor space in downtown St. James. Featuring ethnic music performances, international cuisine, and programming for children, the Fiesta's attendance has grown each year along with the involvement of other community groups.

Check out the Prairie Lakes YouTube channel or Facebook page to find these video links.

1. PLRAC Legacy Overview:
<https://youtu.be/SF-thYamiRE>
2. St. James Legacy Video:
<https://youtu.be/MGvoRARb8XA>



On left is Pat Branstad, organizer of the Multicultural Fiesta in St. James and the Uniting Cultures organization, with Brenda Byron, Prairie Lakes.

FY 2022 SMALL ARTS PROJECT and SCHOOL GRANTS

A total of 37 grants were funded totaling \$100,490.

The Small Arts Project Grant is available to non-profit arts organizations and community groups sponsoring arts activities for their community. School Arts Project Grants are for public or private non-parochial schools K-12 for artist residencies, arts presentations, & arts related field trips. These Small Arts grants were awarded July 2021 to April 2022. The next deadline is July 1, 2022.

BLUE EARTH COUNTY

Central High School & Freedom (Sober) School - \$3,000
GSR Fine Art Festival, artist fees - \$2,000
Juneteenth Celebration, workshops - \$5,000
Lake Crystal Community Band, performances - \$1,800
Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial Comm. Ed. - \$1,750
Mankato Community Ed., cultural performance - \$3,000
Mankato Community Ed., social justice theater - \$3,000
Mankato East High School, guest conductors - \$1,550
Open Arts Minnesota, theater - \$3,000
Safe Relations Space, Mankato, youth classes - \$5,000
Southern Minnesota Real Big Band, concerts - \$3,000

BROWN COUNTY

Hermann Monument Society, German festival - \$2,000
Springfield Community Theatre, performances - \$3,000
Two Rivers Community Orchestra, concerts - \$2,300

FARIBAULT COUNTY

Faribault County Fair, music performances - \$3,000

LESUEUR COUNTY

Arts and Heritage Center, Montgomery, exhibit - \$1,225
New Prague Area Arts Council, concerts - \$3,000

MARTIN COUNTY

South Central MN Interpretive Center, music - \$1,725

NICOLLET COUNTY

American Indian Cultural Events Group, events - \$3,000
Bothy Folk Club, performances - \$2,000
Minnesota Shorts Play Festival, performances - \$3,000
Saint Peter Community Ed., summer art classes - \$5,000
South Central Service Cooperative, writing contest - \$5,000

SIBLEY COUNTY

City of Winthrop, summer concerts - \$2,000
Gaylord Area Chamber of Commerce, concerts - \$3,000
Henderson Lions Club, music performances - \$2,000
Henderson Sauerkraut Days, performances - \$3,000
Sibley County Fair, performances - \$3,000
Sibley East Community Education, theater - \$3,000

WASECA COUNTY

American Indian Service Learning Project, classes - \$1,500
New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva School - \$3,000
Project G.E.M., Latino artist residency - \$3,000
Summerburst Concert Series, New Richland - \$3,000
Waseca Latino Cultural Celebration, music - \$1,660
Waseca Marching Classic, band clinics - \$1,980

WATONWAN COUNTY

Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet, performances - \$2,000
Madelia High School, field trip - \$2,000

Small Arts Grants Awarded in April Totaling \$9,725

Our Small Arts Project and School Arts Project Grant program funds non-profit arts organizations, community groups, public organizations, or schools producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community or students. Three Small Arts grants were awarded totaling \$9,725.

We encourage applications for artistic performances or the sponsorship of quality arts activities in the 9-county region. This may include dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual art, folk and traditional art, etc.

Funds are depleted for this program. Small Arts Grants can be submitted on July 1, 2022 for events taking place September to December 2022.

MN Statewide Juneteenth Celebration (SA) - \$5,000. They will sponsor a Juneteenth community event Saturday, June 18 at the St. Peter High School and arts activities will include two youth workshops, hip hop music and drumline performance. Funds will be used for artist fees.

Sibley East Community Education (SA) - \$3,000. They will sponsor Prairie Fire Children's Theatre production of "Peter Pan" for ages 7-18, June 19-25, 2022. Funds will be used for the Prairie Fire directors fees.

South Central Minnesota Interpretive Center, Heritage Trails - \$1,725. They will host their free, one day, music festival and threshing day, August 14, 2022 in Fairmont with The Leon Olsen Show, a four-piece band that plays polka music. Funds will be used for artist fees and publicity.

ARTS ADVOCACY WEEK

A SUCCESS IN MARCH

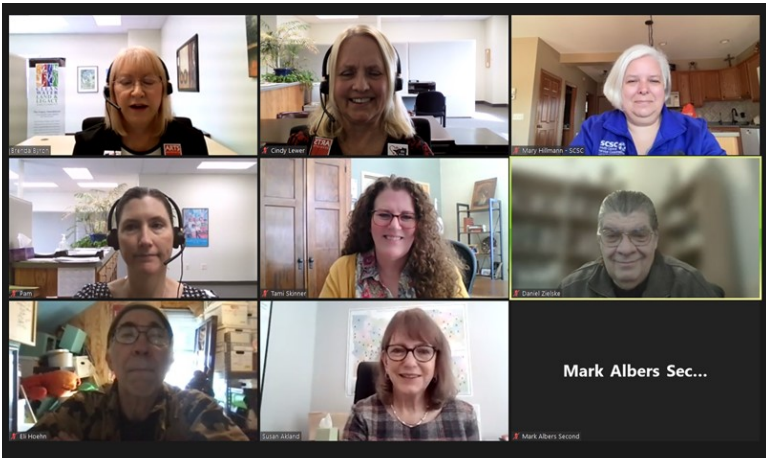
In March, we were able to do Zoom meetings with eight Legislators in our 9-county area and had many arts constituents from the region take part in the meetings coordinated by MN Citizens for the Arts and Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, noted Brenda Byron.

Our district meetings with legislators included: Sen. Gary Dahms, District 16; Rep. Paul Torkelson, 16B; Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen, 18B; Sen. Nick Frentz, 19; Rep. Susan Akland, 19A; Sen. Rich Draheim, 20; Rep. Todd Lippert, 20B; and Sen. Julie Rosen, 23.

We are Thankful that for many years our legislators have understood the “Value of the Arts” and many noted they were familiar with arts activities in their district. Several mentioned that they receive “Thank You Notes” from students who received youth scholarships from Prairie Lakes, and many arts organizations, schools and community groups that received State arts grants, noted Brenda Byron. **It was noted that the Arts have a positive economic impact on the community when arts activities happen in town**, and people also buy gas and food in town, and may do other shopping while being in town for an arts event. (Continued on page 8.)



(Above) Arts constituents met with **Senator Julie Rosen** from District 23. Pictured from the Zoom meeting are: Top Row: Brenda Bryon; Cindy Lewer; Sarah Fossen, Executive Director of MCA; and Dan Zielske. Middle Row: Pam Trumbull; Yvonne Cory; Alice De Yonge; and Steve & Karl Davis. Bottom Row: Senator Julie Rosen; Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerence; and Sen. Rosen’s staff.



(Left) Arts constituents met with **Representative Susan Akland** from District 19A. Pictured from the Zoom meeting are: Top Row: Brenda Bryon, Cindy Lewer, and Mary Hillmann. Middle Row: Pam Trumbull, Tami Skinner, and Dan Zielske. Bottom Row: Eli Hoehn, Representative Susan Akland, and Mark Albers.

Arts Organizations Need COVID Relief in Minnesota



Brenda Byron,
Executive Director

“It was great to participate in Virtual Arts Advocacy Week March 14-18, 2022 which was coordinated by MN Citizens for the Arts”, noted Brenda Byron, MCA board member and Executive Director of PLRAC.

Over 300 Arts advocates from across Minnesota participated and shared their stories with their Legislators.

We were pleased that so many artists and arts organization staff and board members could join us from the 9-county area as we did Zoom calls with legislators. Each person could share the importance of the arts to them personally, to their organization and their community. This discussion helped our Representatives and Senators understand that State funding for the Arts is critical and reaches every district in the region. A list of Arts grantees from Prairie Lakes for the last year was provided to the Legislators.

“In our meetings with Legislators we asked for their support of one-time COVID relief funds to help Arts and Culture across the state,” noted Brenda Byron. **The Bill called Cultural Community Rescue Restart Grants, S.F. 2551 and H.F. 2637 requests \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 from the State fiscal recovery fund to the**

commissioner of employment and economic development for grants to nonprofit arts and cultural organizations that have suffered financial losses during the COVID-19 pandemic. *The co-author of the bill is Senator Julie Rosen, District 23.*



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We need your help to raise the curtain for Minnesota's arts community! **Sign the petition.** Minnesota is recovering from the pandemic but there is more work to do! Half of the Minnesotan's employed in the arts and culture sector lost their jobs during the pandemic. The economic impact of arts and culture to the state of Minnesota is \$12.6 billion annually. That's why we need the legislature to pass the **Arts and Culture Covid Rescue legislation** that will impact every corner of the state. The legislation would use one-time COVID relief funds to help arts and cultural groups recover from a one-time challenge. <https://bit.ly/3tJA5Rg>. **Further details are on page 9 for an Arts Rally at the Capitol on May 5, 2022.**



COVID Relief for MN Arts & Culture Organizations



Over 1,400 Minnesota nonprofit arts and culture organizations would qualify for COVID relief funding if the bill [SF2551/HF2637](#) passes, noted MN Citizens for the Arts.

Does your organization qualify for the proposed \$100 million COVID relief bill? Do you have questions about your ability to qualify for these grants if the bill passes?

Sign-Up and Attend the
MCA COVID Relief Info Session
May 2nd, 2 p.m.
Ask questions and get more information about potentially qualifying for this relief funding!
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_m8BHcJuZQI-9DSvGioliTw

SIGN UP FOR THE RALLY AT THE CAPITOL
MAY 5TH, 2022 / 10 AM

Arts advocates will start on the front steps of the Minnesota State Capitol at **10 a.m. on May 5th** for an outdoor gathering and then go into the Capitol Rotunda at 11 a.m. for an indoor rally!

We really need arts and culture supporters to **SHOW LEGISLATORS THE IMPACT OF THIS SECTOR!** It is imperative that they see swarms of people supporting this \$100 million bill!

https://secure.everyaction.com/6165Y0y8mU-Q_od2Fz7I6Q2

Is your arts and cultural organization eligible for COVID relief?

If the \$100 million COVID relief bill for arts and culture passes this session, your organization may be eligible for a substantial grant. *Senate Bill 2551 + House Bill 2637*

If you can answer yes to these 3 questions:

1. Is your organization a nonprofit?
2. Have you received MN State Arts Board funding, Legacy funding, or Regional Arts Council funding?
3. Did your revenue drop 25% annually in any of the pandemic years 2019, 2020, or 2021?

YES!

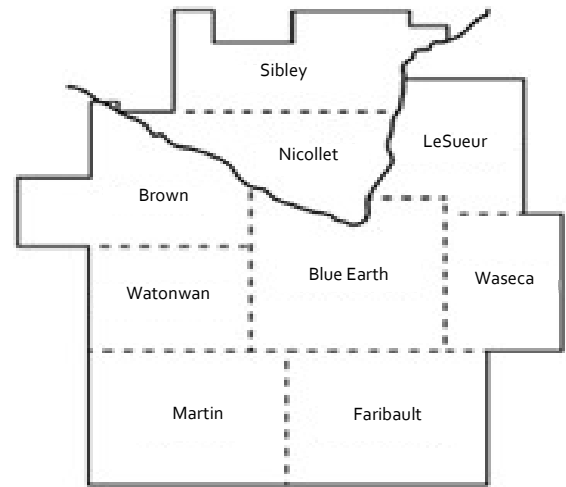
If you answered YES to all three questions... if the \$100 million COVID relief bill for arts and culture passes this session, your organization is probably eligible for a substantial grant!

Based on your 2019 budget:

- under \$25,000 receive \$10,000*
- \$25,000 to \$149,999 receive \$20,000
- \$150,000 to \$499,999 receive \$50,000
- \$500,000 to \$1,749,999 receive \$90,000
- \$1,750,000 to \$8,999,999 receive \$130,000
- \$9,000,000 to \$19,999,999 receive \$300,000
- \$20,000,000 or more receive \$725,000 each

* can't exceed 100 percent of 2019 budget

Help us pass this bill!
artsmn.org for how you can help!



FY 2023 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

Deadlines are: August 1 and February 1

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council will fund projects from non-profit tax-exempt 501c3 arts organizations or those using a fiscal sponsor that are producing or sponsoring an arts activity in dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual art, folk and traditional art. This includes arts and music festivals, community bands and choirs, theatre events, dance activities, literary readings, public art, visual arts exhibitions and classes, etc. **No specific cash match is required.**

ACH Arts Project Grant. Arts Programming and Access – maximum request \$7,000.

Funds may be used for Arts programming that is in-person or virtual. Expenses may include artist fees, artist travel, salaries, equipment, technology, training, promotion, monthly rent (lease payments) and utilities.

ACH Arts & Music Festivals Grant. Maximum request \$5,000. For non-profit tax-exempt 501c3 arts organizations that are sponsoring arts/music festivals and activities that represent diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions.

ACH Education Grant. Maximum request \$5,000. For arts education programs by non-profit community groups and schools. This may include arts classes, author reading, artist residencies, live art performances, mini-workshops, or arts related field trips for schools.

ACH Youth Scholarship. Youth Scholarship for Students (grades 7-12) – \$300, and (grades 3-6) - \$200. Students have the opportunity to study their chosen art with a practicing professional artist by taking lessons over a period of months. This is for all Art disciplines. Deadline for grades 7-12 is October 1; and grades 3-6 is November 1.



The applicant or organization must have an address and provide arts programming within the Prairie Lakes region; the counties are: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, or Watonwan County.

Small Arts Project Grant

Non-profit arts organizations, community groups, or public organizations producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community are eligible. The grant may be up to \$2,500. BIPOC projects can apply for up to \$4,000. Fundable activities include: arts and music festivals, community bands and choirs, theatre events, dance activities, literary readings, public art, visual arts exhibitions and classes, etc. **Deadline: July 1, and the 1st of each month until April.**

School Arts Project Grant

Grants are for **schools K-12 public and private.** Grants up to \$2,500 are available to fund Artist residencies, live art performances, mini-workshops or arts related field trips. **Deadline: July 1, and the 1st of each month until April.**

Artist Development Grant TBD

Artist Grants are for a specific project that contributes directly to their artistic growth and professional development in dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual art, folk and traditional art. Funds may be used for supplies, matting and framing, equipment, attending a workshop, studio time, studying with a mentor, artist time, and/or living expenses.

Deadline: September 1

Earliest start date: October 1

FY 2023 PLRAC GRANT DEADLINES

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Organizational Grants - Non-profit arts organizations, community groups, schools, or public organizations producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community are eligible. Fundable projects may include: community choirs & bands, dance activities, literary readings, music presentations, theatre productions, visual arts classes and exhibitions, folk and traditional art, etc. Maximums for the Arts and Cultural Heritage grants vary, please check guidelines for details.

Arts Project Grants for BIPOC cultural projects. Small Arts Project Grants for BIPOC cultural projects will be available. We are interested in receiving new applications for arts projects for cultural activities.

Artist Grants - Are for specific projects that will advance your work and arts career.

Applications will be available online at www.plrac.org beginning July 1, 2022.

Small Arts Project - \$2,500

BIPOC Projects - \$4,000

School Arts Project - \$2,500

1st of the Month Deadline
July 1, 2022 to April 1, 2023

FY 2023 grant applications will be available online at www.plrac.org beginning July 1, 2022. A tutorial that explains the online process is on our website.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

Aug. 1 and
Feb. 1 Deadline

Arts Project Grant - \$7,000

Arts Festivals Grant - \$5,000

Arts Education Grant - \$5,000

Artist Development Grant - TBD

Sept. 1, 2022 Deadline

Youth Scholarship Grades 7-12 - \$300

October 1 Deadline

Youth Scholarship Grades 3-6 - \$200

November 1 Deadline

If any of the information in the grant guidelines is unclear, contact the Prairie Lakes office at (800) 298-1254, (507) 833-8721 or plrac@hickorytech.net.

Upon request, Prairie Lakes grant application materials will be made available in an alternate format such as large print, computer flash drive, or on audiotape. Please call the Prairie Lakes office in Waseca at 1-800-298-1254. For TTY, contact the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529.



Prairie Lakes Updated our Mission and Value Statements in 2021

The Prairie Lakes board met several times in 2020 to discuss updates to their Mission Statement and Value Statements. It has been a few years since the mission statement has been revised. Since we were doing planning for FY 2022-23 it seemed like a good time to revisit this topic. Members provided information and feedback about the need to simplify the mission statement and to create some new value statements that would clarify the different categories we are trying to address through our arts grant programs and services. We were pleased with the outcome and everyone was comfortable with the updated information, which was approved at the January 2021 board meeting.

Mission Statement

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council serves the artistic communities of the 9-county area of southcentral MN by supporting the creation and presentation of diverse art forms, fostering equitable access to arts opportunities, and integrating arts and culture to enhance quality of life in our communities.

We value: The Arts, Artistic Merit, Creativity, Community, Accessibility, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.



Value Statements:

The Arts

We value all forms of artistic expression, and resist the notion that there is but one universal definition of art or one best type of art. Instead, we embrace all artistic disciplines, genres, and subgenres, and encourage work that uses imagination, emotion, and craft to communicate.

Artistic Merit

We value artistic merit that promotes growth and development of creative knowledge, skills and understanding.

Creativity

We value the dedicated pursuit of and engagement with the arts. Creative expression contributes to the health of individuals and communities alike.

Community

We value art that reflects a rich and expansive range of cultures, traditions, experiences, and perspectives. The art created by and supported by the community deepens our understanding of ourselves and each other.

Accessibility

We value arts programming and arts education that is available to everyone.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion

We value an equitable, diverse, and inclusive community. We are committed to countering systemic inequities that exclude individuals and communities from access to the arts based on race, gender, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, class, age, and geography.

We support the creation and presentation of diverse art forms, fostering equitable access to arts opportunities, and integrating arts and culture to enhance quality of life in our communities.

Prairie Lakes has Five Board Positions Open, Apply Now

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council has five positions on the Board for representatives for the **Cities of Fairmont and Mankato, and the counties of Blue Earth, Nicollet, and Watonwan.**

The deadline for submitting an application is May 13th. The first meeting will be June 23, 2022. Interested persons should contact Brenda Byron, Executive Director of Prairie Lakes to find out more about our board at plrac@hickorytech.net. **You will find a Board Application and Board Member Duties (PDF) on our website, www.plrac.org.** Click on About Us, then Board Meetings and Application.

This is a great opportunity to understand the workings of the granting process, to be more involved with the arts and artists of our region, and to enjoy camaraderie with others who appreciate the arts. The Council seeks to appoint people who represent a cross-section of art forms as well as various arts perspectives: Artists, teachers, and representatives of arts organizations. Since a primary function of the Council is to serve as a panel for arts project applications, members are chosen for their knowledge, expertise, and involvement in the arts in the areas of dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual art, folk and traditional art.

Board members can anticipate that their tasks will include reading and evaluating about 100 applications per year from art organizations, community groups and schools.

Volunteer board members serve a three year term. Monthly evening meetings are typically held the fourth Thursday of the month in Mankato, at Bethany Lutheran College. The monthly meetings have been conducted as online meetings this year and may continue virtually or in person. Attendance at several PLRAC funded arts events per year is required and board members are reimbursed for their mileage to meetings and arts events.

Prairie Lakes Board of Directors

Blue Earth County Liz Miller
Brown County Beth Steffl
Faribault County..... Julie Forderer
LeSueur County Larry Pint
Martin County.....Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerence
Nicollet County..... Rita Rassbach
Sibley County Dennis Van Moorlehem
Waseca County..... Karen Krause
Watonwan County Steve Davis
City of Fairmont..... Open
City of Mankato Diana Joseph
City of New Ulm Carolyn Borgen
City of North Mankato Dana Sikkila
City of St. Peter April Malphurs

Staff

Executive Director Brenda Byron
Program Manager..... Cindy Lewer
Program Assistant..... Pam Trumbull


FY 2022 Prairie Lakes Board of Directors and Staff



Front Row (L to R): Cindy Lewer, Program Manager; Dana Sikkila; Julie Forderer; Rita Rassbach; April Malphurs; and Brenda Byron, Executive Director. **Back Row:** Beth Steffl; Karen Krause; Pam Trumbull, Program Assistant; and Larry Pint. Not pictured: Carolyn Borgen; Steve Davis; Kristi Gaalswyk-Pomerence; Diana Joseph, Liz Miller, and Dennis Van Moorlehem.

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

***May 1** “Spring! Sing!” Concert by the Mankato Children’s Chorus, 2 p.m. Free admission, donations welcome. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 774-0597 or <https://sites.google.com/view/mankatochildrenschorus/home>. 

May 1 Czech May Day, 12 Noon-5 p.m. Including the St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers, Sokol Minnesota Tanecni Mladez youth dancers and Tanecni Teens, and ribbon dances around the May pole. Held at Heritage Park, corner of Vine and 1st St., Montgomery. (612) 756-1054.

May 1-2 Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert, 5 p.m. each day. Held outdoors on the green central part of campus, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

May 1-6 Undergraduate Research: Creative Works Exhibition. Held at Centennial Student Union Gallery, MN State University, Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 12 Midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to 12 Midnight, and Sun. 10 a.m. to 12 Midnight. www.mnsu.edu/artdept/ or (507) 389-6767.

May 1-7 Spring Campus Art Show. (Reception, May 5, 7 p.m.) 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.

***May 1-15** Mankato Playhouse presents dinner theatre performances of “Grease”. May 6-7 & 13-14, Friday and Saturday dinner seating at 6 p.m., show at 7:30 p.m. May 1, 8 & 15, Sunday lunch seating at 12:30 p.m., show at 2 p.m. Tickets \$42-\$58, depending on meal choice, tickets available at www.mankatoplayhouse.com. Show Only tickets \$20 can be purchased online and if available, can be purchased at the door 30 min. before each show. Recommended for ages 13 and older. Held at Mankato Event Center, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1700. (507) 508-6539 or www.mankatoplayhouse.com.

***May 1-15** “Once” theater performances. May 5-7 & 12-14 at 7:30 p.m.; May 1, 8 & 15 at 2 p.m. General admission tickets \$15, \$20 or \$25. There are a specific number of tickets at each price point; \$15 are sold first, then \$20, then \$25, shop early for best price. Held at DalekoArts, 110 E. Main St., New Prague. (952) 314-9077 or www.dalekoarts.com.


May 1-June 3 Cellar Press Exhibit of printmaking products and equipment, celebrating the 3rd Anniversary of the Grand’s Cellar Press. Held in the Smallest Museum in Minnesota display case, outside The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

May 2 Honor Choir Concert, 7 p.m., held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

May 2-6 Spring Senior Exhibition #3. 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 www.mnsu.edu/artdept/.

May 2-11 “Insides & Outsides: Mmmmmmmmm” Junior Studio Arts Major Exhibition. Held at the Schaefer Gallery, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Free and open to the public. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat. 2-5 p.m. <https://gustavus.edu/art/schaefer.php> or (507) 933-7200.

May 4-7 Vincent Kenobbie’s “Conversations Between the Veil” Paintings and Drawings Exhibition. Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m. www.the410project.com.

***May 4-June 1** Youth Member Exhibit in the Beckmann Gallery and Yvonne Cory’s “Joys and Tears in the Apron Strings” Fiber Exhibit of aprons in the Great Hall Gallery. (Reception for Yvonne Cory, June 1, 1-2:30 p.m. Yvonne will also present the program “Vintage Apron Art Woven in Today’s Textile Arts” beginning at 2:30 p.m.) Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. Gallery hours: Wed. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Thurs & Fri. 12 Noon-7 p.m. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701. 

***May 5** Fairmont Concert Association sponsors Branden and James, a tenor and cello with piano, 7 p.m. Concert Series tickets will be sold at the door. Adults \$50, students \$10, or family \$100. Held at Fairmont High School Performing Arts Center, 900 Johnson Street. “Fairmont Concert Association” on Facebook.

May 5-7 “Gloria” theater performance. May 5-6 at 8 p.m. and May 7 at 3:30 p.m. Held at Rob and Judy Gardner Laboratory Theatre, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

May 5-14 Tri-City United Schools Student Art Exhibit for grades 9-12. Held at the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 First St. North. Hours: Thurs. & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

May 5-19 St. Paul’s Lutheran School Student Art Show. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. Gallery Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. or by appointment. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

May 6 Gustavus Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

***May 6** Opening Reception for the Artist of the Month, 6 p.m. Each month students from area schools are invited to share their work with the community. Local school teachers work with students to prepare and opening receptions are held the first Friday of the month. Held at 4 Pillars Gallery, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

***May 6** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring The Galactic Cowboy Orchestra performing jazz music, 7-9:30 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 North Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

May 6-8 “Annie” musical theater performance by the students of Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School. May 6-7 at 7 p.m. and May 8 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$6, available at the door. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statestreetnewulm.org.



***May 6-June 3** “Spring Into Art” Youth Art Exhibit by students Pre-K through 6th grade. (Reception, May 6, 5 p.m.) Held at 4 Pillars Gallery, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota Street, New Ulm. Gallery hours: Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Viewing also available online in the virtual gallery. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

***May 6-June 25** Lisa Bierer’s Exhibit of New Work. 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. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.

May 7 Performance of musical soliloquies by Her Crooked Heart, 7 p.m. Adults \$25, seniors \$20, students \$10; available at www.fairmontoperahouse.com or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, www.fairmontoperahouse.com or (507) 238-4900.

May 7 Choral Showcase Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

May 7-21 Senior Studio Art Majors Exhibit. (Reception, May 7, 4-6 p.m.) Held at the Hillstrom Museum of Art, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Free & open to the public. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays and 1-5 p.m. weekends. www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom or (507) 933-7200.

May 8 The Mankato Symphony Orchestra’s “Mozart & Schumann” Music On The Hill, Chamber Music Concert, 3 p.m. Premium seating \$25, standard seating \$20, students and ages 13-17 \$10, 12 and under \$1. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. www.mankatosymphony.com or (507) 625-8880.

May 8 Spring Jazz Showcase Concerts. Gustavus Jazz, Adolphus Jazz and Vocal Jazz at 1:30 p.m., and Jazz Combos and Vocal Jazz Soloists at 4:30 p.m. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

May 10 Film screening and discussion of a film as part of the “Clint Eastwood Directs Series”, 6:30 p.m. 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/363/Library.

May 12 New Ulm Concert Association presents a concert by Broadway stars Josh Young and Emily Padgett, 7:30 p.m. Call (507) 766-1900 or (507) 766-0725 for ticket information. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. www.statestreetnewulm.org or (507) 359-9990.

***May 13** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring The Old Guy & The Kid performing favorite rock, country, blues, and Americana music, 7-9:30 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

***May 13-15 & 20-22** Merely Players Community Theatre presents “Matilda The Musical”, May 13-14 & 20-21 at 7 p.m. and May 14-15 & 21-22 at 2:30 p.m. Adults \$16, seniors \$14, and youth 12 and under \$11. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. (507) 388-5483 or www.merelyplayers.com.

May 13-28 James Taylor’s Photography Exhibition. (Reception, May 13, 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.

Arts Event Happening in Your Area?

Please submit the event information to us by the 15th of the prior month to be included in our newsletter!

Email the date, time, location, ticket price, and a brief description of the event to: plrac@hickorytech.net.

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

***May 14** Concert by folk and pop singer/songwriter Michael Shynes and guest violinist David Sutton, 7 p.m. Adults \$15, students \$8, tickets available online. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.

***May 14** Concert by the Southern Minnesota Real Big Band, with featured jazz trumpet artist Robert Baca and the EZ Jazz Trio, 7 p.m. Adults \$10, students \$5. Advance tickets are available at <https://buytickets.at/southernminnesotarealbigband/664768> or at Music Mart, 1014 N. Riverfront Drive, Mankato. Tickets will be available at the door; however seating is limited. Held at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Theater, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. (507) 386-7003.

***May 14-15** Mankato Ballet's spring recital, "Beauty", showcasing all levels of dancers telling the story of Beauty and the Beast, 12 Noon & 5 p.m. both days. Adults \$15, children 12 and under \$12, children 2 and under free but must sit on a lap. Held at St. Peter High School Performing Arts Center, 2121 W. Broadway Ave. (507) 625-7716 or www.mankatoballet.org.

May 19 Gustavus Choir Home Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

May 19-22 Fairmont Area Community Theater presents "A Midsummer Night's Dream", May 19-21 at 7 p.m. and May 22 at 2 p.m. Adults \$10, seniors \$8, students \$5; available at www.fairmontoperahouse.com or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, www.fairmontoperahouse.com or (507) 238-4900.

May 19-June 25 Quilts by Sue Westgaard Exhibit. 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. www.artsandheritagecenter.org or (507) 364-8107.

***May 20** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music, featuring Phil Berbig performing music like Johnny Cash, Jim Croce, John Denver, Beatles, and Rolling Stones, 7-9:30 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.com.

May 20 Gustavus Wind Orchestra Finale Concert, 7 p.m., held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

***May 20** "Court Entertainments" Concert by the La Grande Bande performing Baroque music with period instruments, 7:30 p.m. \$5, available at www.lagrandebande.org/tickets. Come early, at 6:30 p.m., with your ticket and enjoy a pre-concert talk with Michael Asmus as he discusses the musical selections for the concert. Held at Swiss and Madison (formerly Charlie's), 920 Madison Ave., Mankato. www.lagrandebande.org or (507) 995-7086.



***May 21** Singing Hills Chorus presents their "Songs in Bloom" Concert, 1:30 p.m. Admission \$10, children five and under are free. Email katoactionalz@yahoo.com to hold tickets at will call. Visit www.singinghillsschorus.org to find out if tickets will be available at the door. Held at Chapel of Our Lady of Good Counsel, 170 Good Counsel Dr., Mankato. www.singinghillsschorus.org.

***May 21-April 2023** The 2022 CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour artwork is installed in the city centers of Mankato and North Mankato. www.cityartmankato.com or (507) 388-1062.

May 22 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.



***May 21-22** Dance Conservatory of Southern Minnesota's student dance recital "Red, White, & Boogie". May 21 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. and May 22 at 2 p.m., \$10. Held at Mankato East High School, 2600 Hoffman Road. www.dcsmdance.com/performances or (507) 625-2005.

May 22-24 The Cesta Play Festival. DalekoArts commissioned three local playwrights to write three full-length plays based on patron ideas from the monthly YouTube show, The Script. There will be one staged reading each night at 7 p.m. May 22 "The Amazon Guy Cometh", May 23 "The Piano", and May 24 "Fostering Resentment". Festival pass for all three readings \$25, individual reading tickets \$10. Held at DalekoArts, 110 E. Main St., New Prague. www.dalekoarts.com or (952) 314-9077.

May 24 Bethany Choir Homecoming Concert, 7 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

May 25-28 "Barefoot in the Park" theater production, 7:30 p.m. each night. Adults \$17, seniors over 65 and youth under sixteen \$15. Held at the Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/theatre/ or (507) 389-6661.

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

***May 26** “Elder’s Celebration” Spring Program of plays and songs by K-6 students of Green Isle Community School honoring a local Elder by telling their story, 7 p.m. Plays by Bridget Stewart with music and lyrics by Kay Wilson. Held at the Green Isle Community School, 190 McGrann St., Green Isle. (507) 326-7144.

***May 26** Meet the local artists and the sponsors of the “Going Hog Wild in Martin County” project, 5-7 p.m. See the 36 painted hogs unveiled before they are distributed throughout the county after Memorial Day weekend. Held on W. 1st St., downtown Fairmont. (703) 307-7856.

May 26 Folk Music Concert by Hungrytown, 7 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. www.newulmmn.gov/363/Library or (507) 359-8334.

***May 27** The 7th Gen Kids Art Show, 4-6 p.m. Show support by buying art or donating quarters to their craft at the event. Held at Safe Relations Space, 1109 North Riverfront Dr., Mankato. “Safe Relations” on Facebook.

***ShopART Midwest** is a non-commission online gallery that connects Midwest artists to buyers. This is a service by Twin Rivers Council for the Arts for anyone to have access to handmade art. Search their ShopART gallery at: www.shopartmidwest.com

Area Wineries have live musical entertainment on Friday and Saturday evenings. Please contact them for times, musicians.

Chankaska Creek Ranch and Winery, 1179 E. Pearl St., Kasota. www.chankaskawines.com or (507) 931-0089.

Indian Island Winery, 18018 631st Ave., Janesville. www.indianislandwinery.com or (507) 234-6222.

Morgan Creek Vineyards, 23707 478th Ave., New Ulm. (507) 947-3547 or www.morgancreekvineyards.com.

Next Chapter Winery, 16945 320th St., New Prague. (612) 756-3012 or www.nextchapterwinery.com.

Youth Opportunities

May 1-2 Musical theater auditions for the Mankato Playhouse’s performances of “Disney Descendants, The Musical”, for students in grades 6-12, 5 p.m. each night. Please bring sheet music for a song you have already learned. A pianist will be provided to accompany you. Go to <https://mankatoplayhouse.com> for additional audition information. Performances will be June 24-26. Held at the Mankato Playhouse, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1700. (507) 508-6539 or www.mankatoplayhouse.com.

May 3 Club Picasso Class, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades 4-6, \$10. 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.wasecartcenter.org.

May 3 Make and Take Art Class, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades K-3, \$10. 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 the first Tuesday each month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

May 11 Craft Club, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades K-6, \$30, WAC Members \$15. Come have a fun time creating an assortment of crafts. Registration required at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecartcenter.org.

May 11 The Crafters Guild, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades 7 and up, \$30, WAC Members \$15. Come have a fun time creating an assortment of crafts. Registration required at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com>. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

***May 14** Open Art Studio, children of all ages, \$6, 9 a.m.-12 noon. Open studio invites children into the world of imagination through exploring, tinkering, making decisions, and enjoying the process of creating using selected materials in the studio to create their ideas at their own pace. Staff is present to support ideas and facilitate projects. Children under age 6 must be accompanied by a responsible caregiver. Meets the 2nd Saturday of each month. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

***May 21** Children's Learn to Paint Class with 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.com or (507) 359-9222.

Youth Summer Dance Class Opportunities:

Dance Conservatory of Southern Minnesota:
(507) 625-2005 or www.dcsmdance.com/performances.

Mankato Ballet Company: (507) 625-7716 or www.mankatoballet.org/classes/summer/.

(Adult Opportunities continued on page 18)

Arts Events and Opportunities

(An asterisk* denotes Arts Events funded by a Prairie Lakes Grant.)

Adult Opportunities

* **May 2-23** Open Pottery Studio, Mondays, 6-9 p.m. Purchase a punch card & clay coupon at the Mankato Community Education Office. Punch cards are \$39 for 8 sessions and a clay coupon is \$25 including 25 pounds of clay, glaze and firing. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. (507) 387-5501 or www.mankatocer.com.

May 4 & 18 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. www.newulmmn.gov/363/Library or (507) 359-8334.

May 4-25 Art Group, self-directed time for artists of all levels and abilities to join this adults-only group. Each artist should bring his/her own materials and ideas. All materials must be non-odorous. 2-5:30 p.m., meets every Wednesday. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 North Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmmn.gov/363/Library.

May 9 Poetry Group, each participant is encouraged to read aloud two or three poems, of their own or by others, and discuss them. 6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

May 10 Guest Nights with the Mankato Riverblenders Barbershop Chorus. Come May 10, June 7, July 5, or Aug. 2, 6:45-8 p.m., to see first-hand what the chorus is all about. There is no charge, and no prior experience is required. Held at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 222 Pfau St., Mankato. baileybleth1@gmail.com.

May 14 Southern Minnesota Poet's Society Monthly Meeting, 1-3 p.m. Free, visitors welcome. Held at Emy Frenz Arts Guild, 523 South Second Street, Mankato. Sponsored by Southern Minnesota Poets Society. (507) 345-1174 or www.southernmnpoets.org.

May 14-15 Creating a Barn Quilt Class, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on May 14 and 1-5 p.m. on May 15. Participants will choose a quilt pattern and learn how to enlarge their chosen pattern on a primed piece of 2' x 2' board, using paint colors of their choice. \$75, materials included. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

***May 25** Open Knitting. 4th Wednesday each month, 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.

May Art Appreciation Group, meets every Wednesday, except holidays, 10 a.m.-12 Noon. This group works on different techniques and learns new things from each other. Every week is different. Sign up at the Waseca Art Center or online at www.wasecaartscenter.org. Free for Art Center members or \$35 per session for non-members. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

May Art for All Open Studio. The space has art supplies for the public to use. Wed., Thurs, and Fri. 2-7 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Held at Sidetracked, 420 Park Lane, Mankato. sidetrackedmankato@gmail.com

May-Aug. Call for Panelists. The Minnesota Humanities Center is seeking Minnesota-based grant reviewers who understand the depth and breadth of the lived experiences of the legislatively named cultural groups and individuals working to create, celebrate, and teach the art, culture, and heritage of diverse Minnesota communities. Pay range of \$250-\$750 is based on participation. If interested, contact Laura at laura@mnhum.org or (651) 772-4244

Adaptive Recreational Services offers a monthly "Painting with Rhonda Class" for teens and adults with disabilities, 6:15-7:30 p.m. Classes are free; however registration is required. There will be some canvases available for painting at home. For more information contact Adaptive Recreational Services Coordinator Karrie Borchert, (507) 217-0383, arsnu@newulmtel.net, or www.nuars.org.

Mankato Makers Space is offering art classes in ceramics, leather, glass work, metal sculpture, woodworking and more. Visit their website to view the list of classes and the restrictions for each class. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

The Grand Center for Arts and Culture in New Ulm has an opportunity for artists, historians, and makers in all disciplines to curate a bi-monthly exhibit in "The Smallest Museum in Minnesota". The museum cabinet is 31.75" wide, 32.75" high and 7.5" deep. The museum is located outside the front entrance at 210 North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. For more information visit www.thegrandnewulm.com/smallest-museum-in-mn.

Non-profit Art Centers

Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 N. First St. Various events and monthly exhibits. Gallery hours: Thurs. & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. Monthly exhibits, an extensive variety of children, youth, and adult art classes and clay classes are offered at www.artscentersp.org/classes. Register online for classes at www.stpetercommunityedonline.com or www.artscentersp.org/classes/. Gallery hours: Tues. & Wed. 1-6 p.m., Thurs. 1-8 p.m., Fri. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. info@artscentersp.org, (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

Carnegie Art Center, 120 South Broad Street, Mankato. Artist studios, monthly exhibits and a unique Gift Shop featuring original art work by local artists. Wheelchair accessible. The Carnegie is closed one week each month for gallery installation. Gallery hours: Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Fri. 1-4 p.m. & Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. www.thecarnegiemandkato.com, artctr@hickorytech.net or (507) 625-2730.

Emy Frenz Arts Guild Gallery, (Temporarily Closed) 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Artist studios and gallery space. emyfrenzartsguild@gmail.com or (507) 779-7206.

Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave., Mankato. They offer art classes in ceramics, leather, glass work, metal sculpture, woodworking and more. Visit their website to view the list of classes offered. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. Hours: Tues., Wed., & Fri. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and evenings & weekends by appointment. Monthly art exhibitions, artist receptions, workshops, various events for all ages and ballroom dances. www.redrockcenter.org, (507) 235-9262, or redrockcenter@frontiernet.net.

The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Monthly exhibits. Hours: Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m. www.the410project.com or the410project@hotmail.com.

The Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. Music will be promoted via our website and social media. Gallery shows held monthly, with virtual slideshows online. Gallery and gift shop hours: Tues.-Fri. 12 Noon-5 p.m., office hours Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Smallest Museum in MN display case is located outside. Artist studios available for rent on third floor. www.thegrandnewulm.com, (507) 359-9222, or grand@thegrandnewulm.com.

Waseca Art Center, 200 N. State Street. Monthly exhibits and educational programs. Hours: Wed 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Thurs.-Fri. 12 Noon-7 p.m. (507) 835-1701, www.wasecaartcenter.org, or info@wasecaartcenter.org.

College Galleries

Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. Art exhibits are held at Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours: Sun.-Thurs. 1-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 1-8 p.m. www.blc.edu/art-exhibits.

Conkling Art Gallery, 139 Nelson Hall, MN State University, Mankato. Monthly exhibits. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-6412 or www.mnsu.edu/artdept.

Hillstrom Museum of Art, 800 W. College Ave., Gustavus Adolphus, College, St. Peter. Events are free and open to the public. Hours: weekdays 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and weekends 1-5 p.m. (507) 933-7200 or www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom/.

South Central College Lookout Gallery, Room C167, 1920 Lee Blvd., North Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. To inquire about displaying artwork, email: michelle.johnson@southcentral.edu.

Student Union Gallery, lower level of the Centennial Student Union, MN State University, Mankato. Hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 12 Midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to 12 Midnight, and Sun. 10 a.m. to 12 Midnight.

Community Theaters

Curtain Call Theatre. Performances are held in different LeSueur County locations. www.curtaincalltheatre.net or (507) 744-8497.

Mankato Playhouse. 12 Civic Center Plaza Ste 1700, Mankato. www.mankatoplayhouse.com, (507) 317-1245 or (507) 338-5800.

Merely Players Community Theatre. Performances at Lincoln Community Center, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. info@merelyplayersmn.org, www.merelyplayers.com or (507) 388-5483.

Springfield Community Theatre. Performances are held at the Springfield High School, 12 Burns Ave. (507) 723-6315, go to "Springfield Community Theatre, Springfield, MN" on Facebook.

State Street Theater Company. Performances at their building, 1 N. State Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9990, info@statestreetnewulm.org, www.statestreetnewulm.org.

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council

105 22nd Ave. NE, Suite A, Waseca, MN 56093-2612
 (507) 833-8721 or (800) 298-1254
 plrac@hickorytech.net or www.plrac.org



Grant Opportunities

May 4 Jerome Hill Artist Fellowship Deadline. This program is meant to support artists who embrace their roles as part of a larger community of artists and citizens, and consciously work with a sense of service, whether aesthetic, social or both. Support is directed to artists who are at an early point in their careers in creating such work, generally in their 2nd–10th year as a generative artist. It is for Minnesota and New York City-based artists who generate new work that takes creative risks in expanding, questioning, experimenting with or re-imagining conventional artistic forms. The fellowship is for \$50,000 over two years, (\$25,000 each year). Go online to www.jeromefdn.org/jerome-hill-artist-fellowship for more information.

May 6 Minnesota State Arts Board Creative Support for Individuals Deadline. (See details on page 1.)

May 20 McKnight Ceramic Artist Fellowship Deadline. The McKnight Ceramic Artist Fellowships are administered by the Northern Clay Center in partnership with the McKnight Foundation. It is intended to recognize and support midcareer ceramic artists living and working in Minnesota, who demonstrate a sustained level of accomplishment, commitment, and artistic excellence. Two \$25,000 Fellowships will be awarded. For more information go to <https://northernclaycenter.org/artist-services/grants-for-artists/mcknight-fellowships/> or contact nccinfo@northernclaycenter.org or (612) 339-8007.

May 27 Minnesota State Arts Board Creative Support for Organizations Deadline. (See details on page 1.)

May 31 Minnesota Humanities Center Cultural Heritage Grants Deadline. This program is for individuals and nonprofit organizations in Minnesota with projects that create, celebrate, and teach the art, culture, and heritage of diverse Minnesota communities, including Asian and Pacific Island communities, Somali diaspora and other African immigrant communities, Indigenous communities with a focus on the 11 Tribes in Minnesota, African American community, Latinx community and other underrepresented cultural groups including communities of Black, Indigenous, and people of color. Grant maximum is \$75,000. For more information contact (651) 772-4244 or laura@mnhum.org. For a link to the online application go to the Minnesota Humanities Center website: <https://www.mnhum.org/funding-grant-opportunities/community-heritage-and-identity-grant/>.

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Open Call for Grant Application Reviewers

The Minnesota State Arts Board seeks volunteers to review grant applications remotely, serving a four-week term during July 2022-February 2023. Minnesota residents will commit 30 hours and participate in a full day panel meeting. Participants will receive a financial stipend for their time.

For more information contact Jenea at (651) 539-2657
 or Jenea.Rewertz-Targui@arts.state.mn.us.
<http://www.arts.state.mn.us/reviewer/reviewer.htm>