

## Minnesota Citizens for the Arts Staff visits Waseca

We were pleased to welcome Sarah Fossen, the new Executive Director of Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA) to Waseca on August 12th. She is starting to visit outstate artists and arts organizations and finding out what arts programming is happening and how the Legacy funding is positively impacting communities.

MCA is the statewide Advocacy organization that lobby's the Legislature for State funding. We met at the Waseca Art Center (WAC) and Monica Priebe and Jessica Stuckmayer discussed their monthly gallery exhibits and youth art classes. The WAC is a recipient of an Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) grant through Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, with funds from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

Other ACH Arts grantees and participants discussed their arts activities including Stacy Lienemann, Director of the Waseca-LeSueur Regional Library, that partners with Cow Tipping Press to provide writing classes for people with disabilities; and Alice DeYonge, from Project Growth, Experience, and Motivation (GEM), which provides arts and writing classes to at-risk youth in St. Peter and St. Clair; with funding from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.



(L to R) Sarah Fossen, Minnesota Citizens for the Arts with Brenda Byron, Prairie Lakes, Executive Director; in the gallery of the Waseca Art Center, with artwork by Jacky Garlock.



The Waseca Art Center was part of a postcard and Billboard project to promote the City of Waseca. *These are hometown and historic inspired graphics created by a local artist and the billboards are at the entrances to Waseca.*



(L to R) Jessica Stuckmayer and Monica Priebe, Waseca Art Center; Stacy Lienemann, Waseca-LeSueur Regional Library; Alice De Yonge, Project GEM; Brenda Byron, Prairie Lakes Executive Director; and Sarah Fossen, Executive Director of Minnesota Citizens for the Arts; in the gallery of the Waseca Art Center, with artwork by Jacky Garlock in the background.

# Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded

## A total of \$182,000 was awarded to 20 Area Organizations

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council is pleased to announce that **Arts and Cultural Heritage grants of \$182,000 were awarded to twenty arts organizations in the region on August 26, 2021.** The organizations are listed alphabetically with a brief description of their artistic activities and events. Additional ACH grants will be approved at the September and October board meetings.

The grants are for arts activities in all artistic disciplines. A variety of activities including instrumental and vocal music concerts, theater performances, art classes and exhibitions, festivals, and youth field trips 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. The next ACH Grant deadlines are September 1 and October 1, 2021 and February 1, 2022. Organizations can apply once per year for this grant.

**Arlington Chamber of Commerce, ArliDazzle - \$6,000.** They will sponsor the annual ArliDazzle celebration, including music and entertainment from the Sakatah Carvers, DeCantus Christmas Carolers, Frozen Characters, Insphyre Performance, and the Shell's Hobo Band Quartet, December 2021. Funds will be used for artists fees, publicity, and rental fees.

**Arts Center of Saint Peter - \$13,000.** They will provide gallery exhibitions, a Holiday Market for artists, outdoor music performances, and workshops and classes in-person and through Zoom; September 2021 through June 2022. Funds will be used for artist fees, publicity, salaries, and facility costs.

**Blue Earth Valley Concert Association - \$8,000.** They will sponsor their 2021-22 subscription series of music concerts at the Blue Earth Area Schools Performing Arts Center, October 2021-April 2022. The five concerts will include several different music genres. Funds will be used for artist fees.

**DalekoArts, New Prague - \$13,000.** They will present their 2021-22 main stage season of three theater productions: A Holiday Show in November 2021, "Lone Star Spirits" in February 2022, and "Once" in May 2022. Funds will be used for artist fees.

**Fairmont Opera House - \$13,000.** They will use funding for three shows during their 2021-22 season including "Ole and Lena Live" in September 2021, "Okee Dokee Brothers" in October 2021, and "Fairytale on Ice" in April 2022. Funds will be used for artist fees.

**La Grande Bande, Gaylord - \$8,000.** They will present their concert season of Renaissance and Baroque music with five concerts between September 2021 and May 2022. They will also conduct multiple masterclass sessions with students at Sibley East High School and juried high school vocalists, and host open rehearsals and pre-concert talks. An outreach concert will also take place at a long-term care facility. Funds will be used for artist fees, concert programs, and rental fees.

**Mankato/North Mankato ACT on Alzheimer's - \$8,000.** They will sponsor the Singing Hills Chorus, a singing group made up of people with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias and their care partners. They facilitate two chorus sessions and concerts, one in the fall and one in the spring. They also offer free monthly Summer SingAlongs. Funds will be used for artist fees, rental fees, and publicity.

**Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra - \$8,000.** They will present multiple concerts during their 2021-22 season with opportunities for students to participate with the Youth Symphony Orchestra, Youth Philharmonic, North Star Strings, Chamber Strings, Summer Orchestra, and Summer Jazz. Funds will be used for sectional coaches, membership & lesson scholarships, mileage scholarships to students, director salaries, and venue rentals.

**Martin Co. Preservation, Assoc. (Red Rock Center for the Arts) - \$13,000.** They will sponsor their 2021-22 season of arts programming; including the "Lunch with the Arts" series; art education classes for children and

(Arts and Cultural Heritage continued on page 3)



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.

# Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded

(Arts and Cultural Heritage continued from page 2)

adults; and musical performances by Minnesota-based singer songwriter Michael Shynes, and pianist Glenn Henriksen. Funds will be used for artist fees, art class supplies, salaries, and publicity.

**Merely Players Community Theatre - \$8,000.** They will present their 2021-2022 season of plays in Mankato, including: “Rocky Horror Picture Show” in October 2021 at the Kato Ballroom; and “Rex’s Ex’s” in November 2021, “Matilda” in March 2022, and “The Spider’s Web” in May 2022, held at Lincoln Community Center. Funds will be used for artist fees, publicity, and production expenses.

**Minnesota New Country School - \$6,000.** They will provide ten art and cultural field trips for students during the 2021-22 school year to promote life-long appreciation of all art forms. Activities are divided among several grade levels and include Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Children's Theater, Park Square Theater, Guthrie Theater, Stages Theater, The Minnesota Orchestra, Walker Art Center, and a tour of Southern Minnesota Art Galleries. Funds will be used for ticket costs.

**Minnesota Valley Chorale - \$8,000.** They will perform four concerts in Mankato for the 2021-2022 season; two winter concerts in November 2021, including their own commissioned piece “Do You Remember Falling Stars” by local composer Benji Inniger; and two spring concerts in April 2022. Funds will be used for artist fees, membership scholarships, salaries, and concert and rehearsal venue rental.

**New Ulm Figure Skating Club - \$6,000.** They will present their 2022 Ice Skating Show “Hero’s On Ice”, based on popular heroes and heroines of movies and TV shows in February 2022. Funds will be used for the show director’s fee and ice time rental.

**Prairie Winds Middle School, Mankato - \$6,000.** They will present their first live, middle school theater production in the Spring of 2022. They will hire a local playwright to create the melodrama script and a local theatrical director and choreographer to work with the students. Funds will be used for artist fees, costumes, sets, and stage rental.

**Project G.E.M. - \$8,000.** The Growth, Experience & Motivation Project will provide arts education program activities to at risk youth, ages 6-19, in Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties in 2021-22. This includes instruction in art, music, creative writing, and drama in a variety of

locations, taught by college students going in the education field. Funds will be used for artist fees, travel expenses, salaries, and supplies.

**ProMusica Minnesota - \$8,000.** They will host their series of three high quality chamber music concerts in New Ulm. “Love Sweet” in September 2021; “Trumpet Flourish” in February 2022; and “Cello Treasures” in March 2022. The guest musicians will also lead free masterclasses and lectures at area schools. Funds will be used for artist fees and publicity.

**South Central Service Cooperative - \$8,000.** They will host the Young Writers & Artists Conference in March 2022 for students in grades 3-8, at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato. Students can participate in a variety of subjects related to writing and creative arts. Funds are used for artist stipends and student scholarships.

**State Street Theater Company, New Ulm - \$13,000.** They will present two fall theater performances including “Over the River and through the Woods” in October 2021, and “Velveteen Rabbit Christmas,” in November 2021; and host Duelyly Noted, a dueling piano duo in November 2021. Funds will be used for artist fees, production costs, salaries, and to purchase a sound board and replacement microphones.

**Waseca Arts Council - \$13,000.** They will sponsor exhibitions throughout 2022 that include the Annual Regional High School Art Exhibit, the Youth Member Exhibit, and an exhibit by Cow Tipping Press to display the poetry and book covers created during classes for adults with disabilities that are held in Waseca. Funds will be used for salaries, publicity, and facility costs.

**Waseca-LeSueur Regional Library - \$8,000.** They will collaborate with Cow Tipping Press, a Minneapolis-based organization run by Waseca native Bryan Boyce. The library will host literary classes for 10 adults with developmental disabilities in the Waseca area. Classes culminate in book publication, an in-person community reading event, and videos of each participant reading their work, accompanied with graphics. Funds will be used for artist fees, salaries, and recording equipment.



# Prairie Lakes FY 2022 Grants Available

(July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)

**September 1** - Small Arts Project and School Project Grant. Due the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month through May 2022

**September 1 & October 1**  
Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants

**September 1**  
Artist Development Grant \$1,500

**October 1**  
Youth Scholarship (grades 7-12)

**November 1**  
Youth Scholarship (grades 3-6)

Details are listed on pages 7-8 in the newsletter.

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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**

## Grant Writing Workshop

**Tuesday, September 7**

Held virtually through Zoom.

### **Arts Organization, Community Group, and School Grant Workshop at 4 p.m.**

Our Executive Director, Brenda Byron, will conduct an online webinar about the new guidelines for the grant program, project timelines, and what projects can be funded. We encourage new applicants to attend.

**Please email [plrac@hickorytech.net](mailto:plrac@hickorytech.net) to obtain meeting login information.**

If you're not able to participate in our virtual workshop, check out our new Grant Writing Workshop Videos and Workshop documents that are available on [www.plrac.org](http://www.plrac.org). Click on the Services Tab, then Workshops to access the videos and documents.

## **WORK OF ART: BUSINESS SKILLS FOR ARTISTS**

Springboard for the Arts [Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists](#) is a professional development curriculum designed to teach business skills to artists in all disciplines: visual, performing and literary arts. Artists can take the whole series, customized combinations, or individual workshops that best suit their needs, and the curriculum is available for people interested in leading the workshops and offering professional development resources.

**Springboard offers The Work of Art Toolkit; available for Free as a digital download.**



Read a brief description of all Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists topics and find upcoming Work of Art workshops, panels, classes or events on their website <https://springboardforthearts.org/professional-growth/work-of-art-program/>

# FY 2022 Arts Grants and Funding Has Increased (7/1/21 to 6/30/22)

We are pleased to let constituents know that our State funding for this fiscal year has increased. Arts grants are available for non-profit arts organizations, community groups and schools, that are sponsoring arts activities, in the 9-county area. Deadlines for applying are September 1st and October 1 for our Small Arts Project, School Arts Project, or September 1 and October 1 for the Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) Grant.

We encourage new applicants and especially BIPOC artists and BIPOC community focused arts activities to apply as well as activities to benefit people with disabilities, LGBTQ+, youth and seniors. Grant information is on pages 7-8.

The ACH Youth Scholarships for grades 3-6 and 7-12 have deadlines on Oct. 1, and Nov. 1, 2021.

We are estimating that ACH grant funds for organizations will be about \$427,218 in FY 2022 which is a substantial increase. Details are listed below about the Distribution of Funds for the year.

The board may not award all of the Arts and Cultural Heritage funds and could carry-over some money into FY 2023, based upon the number of requests this year.

## FY 2022 Distribution of Funds by Grant Program

State Small Arts and School Arts Project Grant	\$95,000
Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) Grants to organizations	\$427,218
ACH Youth Scholarships	\$34,000
McKnight Artist Development Grant	\$49,500
	<b>Total: \$605,718</b>

### **In FY 2021 Prairie Lakes awarded 196 Grants totaling \$387,239**

Here's a summary of Grants awarded:

**\$52,500** - McKnight Artist Grants (35 grants)

**\$79,309** - State General funds (24 grants) Small Arts Project & School Grants

**\$255,430** - Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) (137 grants); 29 organizational grants & 108 Youth Scholarships.

The three categories of ACH grants and the amounts awarded were:

- (1) Arts Programming/Arts Access \$213,552, which includes grants to 27 nonprofit arts organizations and community groups, for their arts programs and activities.
- (2) Arts Education \$41,878, which includes 2 school grants and 108 Youth Scholarships of \$300 or \$200 each.
- (3) Arts & Cultural Heritage Festivals \$0; most community festivals were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



# Five Small Arts Project Grants Were Awarded Totaling \$9,800

Our Small Arts Project Grant program funds non-profit arts organizations, community groups, or public organizations producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community. In August, five arts organizations were awarded a Small Arts Grant, which totaled \$9,800.

**The next FY 2022 Small Arts Grant deadlines are September 1 and October 1, 2021.** The Small Arts Grant maximum is \$2,000 or \$3,000 for BIPOC projects and underserved Arts activities. No cash match is required this year.

“Prairie Lakes is encouraging arts projects for cultural activities and underserved populations as identified in our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement. This includes: Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), Youth, Senior Citizens, People with Disabilities and LGBTQ+,” noted Brenda Byron, Executive Director. Contact our office at [plrac@hickorytech.net](mailto:plrac@hickorytech.net) to discuss your project idea, we would be happy to assist you!

**Bothy Folk Club - \$2,000.** They will sponsor folk, bluegrass, and Celtic music concerts held at the Emy Frenz building in Mankato. The concerts will take place October 2021 through May 2022.

**GSR Fine Art Festival - \$2,000.** They will host the festival to provide artists a regional venue to sell their goods during the holiday season. The festival will be held November 27-28, 2021, at the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center in Mankato. Musicians will also play throughout the two-days.

**Hermann Monument Society - \$2,000.** They will sponsor HermannFest with ethnic music, speeches, and songs celebrating German heritage and the Hermann Monument in New Ulm, September 11, 2021. Events will be held at Hermann Heights Park and Harman Park throughout the day.

**Lake Crystal Community Band - \$1,800.** They will perform free concerts around the Lake Crystal area during the summer of 2022. Musicians of all ages can participate in the band. Funds will be use for the director’s stipend and new music.

**Springfield Community Theatre - \$2,000.** They will partner with Springfield Community Education and present the musical, “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”, November 19-21, 2021. Performances will be held at the Springfield school’s performing arts auditorium.

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. The Small Arts Project Grants are made possible by funds provided by the Minnesota State Legislature.

These Small Arts and School Arts Project Grants are reflected below in a list by County, which we keep updated for the fiscal year.

## FY 2022 SMALL ARTS PROJECT and SCHOOL GRANTS

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.

### **BLUE EARTH COUNTY**

GSR Fine Art Festival, artist fees - \$2,000  
Lake Crystal Community Band, performances - \$1,800  
Mankato Community Ed., cultural performance- \$3,000

### **BROWN COUNTY**

Hermann Monument Society, German festival - \$2,000  
Springfield Community Theatre, performances - \$2,000

### **NICOLLET COUNTY**

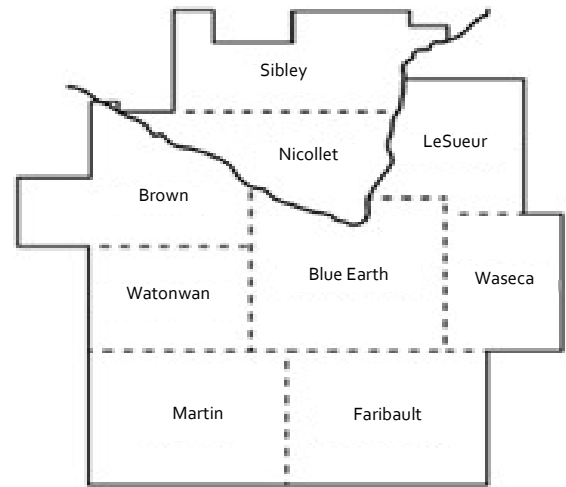
American Indian Cultural Events Group, events - \$3,000  
Bothy Folk Club, performances - \$2,000

### **WASECA COUNTY**

American Indian Service Learning Project, classes - \$1,500  
Waseca Marching Classic, band clinics - \$1,980

### **WATONWAN COUNTY**

Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet, performances - \$2,000



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## **FY 2022 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant**

**Deadlines are: Aug. 1, Sept. 1, Oct. 1, and Feb. 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 Large Arts Organization Stability Grant.** Arts Programming and Access – maximum request \$13,000. **Eligibility:** They must be a 501c3 Arts Organization that has year-round arts programming, has paid staff, and owns their building (or have a yearly lease for performance space).

**ACH Arts Project Grant.** Arts Programming and Access – maximum request \$8,000.

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 \$6,000. 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 \$6,000. 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.

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## **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 \$2,000. BIPOC projects can apply for up to \$3,000. 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 May.**

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## **School Arts Project Grant**

Grants are for **schools K-12 public and private.** Grants up to \$2,000 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 May.**

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## **Artist Development Grant \$1,500**

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 2022 PLRAC GRANT DEADLINES

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

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.

**Organizations can only receive one grant per year.** We encourage arts projects for BIPOC arts and cultural activities and underserved populations.

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

Applications are online at [www.plrac.org](http://www.plrac.org).

**Small Arts Project - \$2,000**

**BIPOC Projects - \$3,000**

**School Arts Project - \$2,000**

1st of the Month Deadline

July 1, 2021 to May 1, 2022

**FY 2022 grant applications are online at [www.plrac.org](http://www.plrac.org).**

A tutorial that explains the online process is on our website.

**Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant**

Aug. 1, Sept. 1, Oct. 1, and Feb. 1 Deadline

Large Arts Organization

Stability Grant - \$13,000

Arts Project Grant - \$8,000

Arts Festivals Grant - \$6,000

Arts Education Grant - \$6,000

**Artist Development Grant - \$1,500**

Sept. 1, 2021 Deadline

**Youth Scholarship Grades 7-12 - \$300**

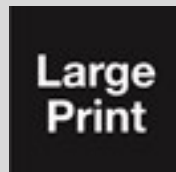
October 1 Deadline

**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](mailto: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.*

# 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)
- People with Disabilities
- LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, etc.)
- Youth and Seniors

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.

## The Prairie Lakes Equity Taskforce Members Concluded their Meetings in April 2021.

The Prairie Lakes Equity Taskforce meetings concluded in April and we are thankful to the six community members that participated. A diverse group of BIPOC individuals participated (Black, Latinx, and Native American), two people from the disability community, and one person who works with at-risk youth. It should also be noted that three members of the Executive Committee participated in these five meetings and were considered as members of the Taskforce. *In addition, the three Prairie Lakes staff members participated, and minutes were compiled for each meeting.*

**It was nice to get to know these individuals and discuss equity and inclusion topics.** We really appreciated their time to learn about our non-profit organization and make suggestions on how Prairie Lakes can adjust our systems and processes to identify barriers that underserved communities have in participating with us.

**Prairie Lakes was able to create more inclusive language in our grant application guidelines based**

**upon suggestions from the group. More importantly, we learned more about listening and hearing how others perceive our organization.**

“We have made some small steps forward on our journey of understanding how our organization can be more inclusive in our programming, and these individuals were part of that journey,” noted Brenda Byron.



# Prairie Lakes Board Positions are Open for the Cities of Fairmont and New Ulm, and Sibley County

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council has three vacant positions on the Board for representatives for the **City of Fairmont, City of New Ulm, and Sibley County.**

**The deadline for submitting an application is Oct. 1.** Interested persons residing in Fairmont, New Ulm, or Sibley County should contact Brenda Byron, Executive Director of PLRAC at [plrac@hickorytech.net](mailto:plrac@hickorytech.net) to find out more about our board. **You will find a Board Application and Board Member Duties (PDF) on our website, [www.plrac.org](http://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.

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 will continue virtually until further notice. 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 ..... Open
- Waseca County..... Karen Krause
- Watsonwan County ..... Steve Davis
- City of Fairmont..... Open
- City of Mankato ..... Diana Joseph
- City of New Ulm ..... Open
- City of North Mankato .... Dana Sikkila
- City of St. Peter ..... April Malphurs

### Staff

- Executive Director ..... Brenda Byron
- Program Manager..... Cindy Lewer
- Administrative 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, Administrative Assistant; and Larry Pint. Not pictured: Steve Davis; Kristi Gaalswyk-Pomerence; Diana Joseph, and Liz Miller.

# Arts Events and Opportunities

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

**Sept. 1-3** The Heinselmannchen Familie' Whimsical Exhibit of German Fairytale. 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](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com).


\***Sept. 1-10** Mary Walchuk's "Then Sings My Soul: A Celebration in Color" Drawing Exhibit and Jacky Garlock's Painting Exhibit. 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](http://www.wasecaartcenter.org) or (507) 835-1701.

**Sept. 1-11** "Selfhood" Exhibit by Minnesota based female, femme, trans, and non-binary artists. Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m. [www.the410project.com](http://www.the410project.com).

**Sept. 1-30** "Marian Anderson: Her Personal Collection" Exhibit highlighting many of Marian's original works that her fine art prints have been made from. Held at Blue Earth County Historical Society, 415 E. Cherry St., Mankato. Hours: Tues.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. [www.blueearthcountyhistory.com](http://www.blueearthcountyhistory.com) or (507) 345-5566.

**Sept. 1-30** Kay Herbst Helms' "Pity the Water" Photography and Word Exhibit. Held at Blue Earth County Historical Society Art Gallery, 415 E. Cherry St., Mankato. Hours: Tues.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. [www.blueearthcountyhistory.com](http://www.blueearthcountyhistory.com) or (507) 345-5566.

\***Sept. 1-April 30, 2022** The 2021 CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour artwork is installed in the city centers of Mankato and North Mankato. [www.cityartmankato.com](http://www.cityartmankato.com) or (507) 388-1062.

**Sept. 2** Music in the Park Series: Rain Kings performing 5:30-7:30 p.m. Held at Wheeler Park, 402 Page Ave., North Mankato. Sponsored by the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. [www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary](http://www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary) or (507) 345-5120. 

\***Sept. 2-4** Czech Heritage Club's Exhibit featuring memorabilia of the Czech Republic. 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](http://www.artsandheritagecenter.org).

\***Sept. 3-25** David Hyduke and Andrew Hellmund's Sculpture 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](http://www.artscentersp.org).

**Sept. 4** Performance by the Czech Concertina Club. Contact the Heritage Center for the time. Held at the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, (507) 364-8107 or [www.artsandheritagecenter.org](http://www.artsandheritagecenter.org).

**Sept. 9** Music in the Park Series: BullyPulpit Bluegrass performing 5:30-7:30 p.m. Held at Wheeler Park, 402 Page Ave., North Mankato. Sponsored by the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. (507) 345-5120 or [www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary](http://www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary).

\***Sept. 9-10** 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Shorts Play Festival, 7:30 p.m. each night. The festival features 12 different ten-minute plays, six each night, from across the state and country and two sets of four 1-minute plays. Tickets \$10, available at [www.merelyplayers.com](http://www.merelyplayers.com). Held at Lincoln Community Center Theater, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. (507) 388-5483 or "Minnesota Shorts Play Festival" on Facebook.

\***Sept. 9-26** "Carnegie Unhinged: Living Rhythms" Interactive Art Installation that is a celebration of nonverbal creativity. Sept. 18, 2-4 p.m., community sculpture build collaboration with Mankato Makerspace. Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Fri. 1-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

\***Sept. 9-Oct. 30** Exhibit of works done by LeSueur County artists, artwork is owned by the LeSueur County Historical Society. 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](http://www.artsandheritagecenter.org).


\***Sept. 10** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music in the Kabaret, featuring Generation Gap performing popular music from the 60's to the 90's, 7-9:30 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com).

\***Sept. 10-Oct. 9** Gerry Tostenson's Drawing Exhibit. (Reception, Sept. 10, 5 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. Viewing also available in our Virtual Gallery at [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com). (507) 359-9222.

**Sept. 11** Author Allen Eskens will read from his new novel, "The Stolen Hours", 10:30-11:30 a.m. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. (507) 304-4001 or [www.beclibrary.org](http://www.beclibrary.org).

# Arts Events and Opportunities

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

**Sept. 11** The Mankato Symphony Orchestra's "Symphony on the Prairie" concert, 6 p.m., free. The concert will commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11 with many patriotic favorites. Held at Benson Park, 2000 Carlson Dr., North Mankato. Sponsored by the City of North Mankato and the Mankato Symphony Orchestra, (507) 625-8880 or [www.mankatosymphony.com](http://www.mankatosymphony.com). 

\***Sept. 11** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents Table Salt Productions performing, 7-9 p.m. This performing group will share their musical, comedic, and theatrical talents with the audience in an entertaining performance. Contact the Grand for ticket pricing. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com).

\***Sept. 11** HermannFest 2021, including ethnic music beginning at 11:30 a.m. in Hermann Heights Park, 10 Monument Street, New Ulm. Additional musical performances and fireworks will be held beginning at 6 p.m., Harman Park, 101 N. Garden St., New Ulm. For a complete schedule go to: [www.hermannmonument.com](http://www.hermannmonument.com). (507) 359-8233.

**Sept. 11** Family Fun Day, 1-4 p.m., including outdoor interactive activities like make a puppet, paint a mural, and more. Indoor performance by Tricia and the Toonies at 2:30 p.m., with a unique blend of high-energy music, comedy, colorful puppets and lots of audience participation. Free admission all day. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or [www.redrockcenter.org](http://www.redrockcenter.org).

**Sept. 11** Original historical stories and skits with Bette Traxler and her troupe of entertainers, performances at 2:15, 3:30, and 4:45 p.m., held at the Rustic Farmer on Main, 209 1<sup>st</sup> St. S., Montgomery. You can also register in advance to experience two escape rooms. Register with Community Education at [www.tcu2905.us](http://www.tcu2905.us), adults \$25, children 12 and under \$15, held at the Revival on Main, 213 1<sup>st</sup> St. S., Montgomery. Events sponsored by the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 First St. N. (507) 364-8107 or [www.artsandheritagecenter.org](http://www.artsandheritagecenter.org).

\***Sept. 11-12** 30th Annual Rock Bend Folk Festival in St. Peter. The festival features art by many local artisans and a variety of music including blues, folk, jazz, rock, etc. on two stages, in a family friendly setting. Free; Sept. 11 at 12 Noon-10 p.m. and Sept. 12 at 12 Noon-6 p.m. Food vendors are on site or bring your own food and beverages. Bring lawn chairs and blankets, no pets. Held at Minnesota Square Park, on Hwy 169, St. Peter. For a complete list of performers go to [www.rockbend.org](http://www.rockbend.org).

**Sept. 12** The Summerland Tour Concert, featuring Everclear, Living Colour, and Hoobastank. Doors open at 5 p.m., show at 6 p.m. Tickets \$29.50-\$49.50. Held at the Vetter Stone Amphitheater, Riverfront Park, 310 West Rock Street, Mankato. Tickets available at the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center Box Office, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), or call 1-800-745-3000. [www.vetterstoneamphitheater.com/home-vetterstone](http://www.vetterstoneamphitheater.com/home-vetterstone).

**Sept. 13-Nov. 7** Art for All: The Swedish Experience in Mid-America Exhibit, co-organized with the Birger Sandzén Memorial Gallery in Lindsborg, Kansas. (Reception, Sept. 13, 7-9 p.m. and Nobel Conference Reception, Oct. 5, 3:30-5:30 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. (507) 933-7200 or [www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom](http://www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom).

\***Sept. 14** Community Common Ground Series including fun and educational conversations that take two seemingly unrelated topics, learn about them from local community experts, and then work together to find the common ground that connects them, 5:30-7:30 p.m. September's event will feature the Minnesota Hip Hop Coalition and a presentation by Scott Hays, who raises hairy pigs. The event will be held virtually on Zoom. Sponsored by the Living Earth Center, 170 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato. [www.livingearthcentermn.org](http://www.livingearthcentermn.org) or (507) 389-4272.

**Sept. 14** Film screening and discussion of "Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse", as part of the Animated Film Series, 6:30 p.m. Hosted by The New Ulm Film Society. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. [www.newulmlibrary.org](http://www.newulmlibrary.org) or (507) 359-8334.

**Sept. 15-19** "I Am A Camera" theater production, 7:30 p.m. each day. Adults \$10, seniors over 65 and youth under 16 \$9. Held at Andreas Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. [www.mnsu.edu/theatre/](http://www.mnsu.edu/theatre/) or (507) 389-6661.

\***Sept. 15-Nov. 5** Stitcher's In Time, a Local Quilters Guild Exhibit and the Waseca Art Center Member Show. 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.wasecartcenter.org](http://www.wasecartcenter.org) or (507) 835-1701.

**Sept. 16** Music in the Park Series: Still Jammin' Too performing 5:30-7:30 p.m. Held at Wheeler Park, 402 Page Ave., North Mankato. Sponsored by the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. (507) 345-5120 or [www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary](http://www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary).

# Arts Events and Opportunities

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

**Sept. 16** Good Thunder Reading Series featuring author Jaquira Diaz. Workshop, 10-11 a.m., at, Emy Frenz Arts Guild, 523 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Mankato. Craft talk, 3-4 p.m., at Centennial Student Union Room 245, MN State University, Mankato. Reading, 7:30 p.m., at Centennial Student Union Room 245, MN State University, Mankato. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5500 or <http://gt.mnsu.edu/>.

**\*Sept. 17** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents live music in the Kabaret, featuring Betty and Ocho performing folk music, 7-9:30 p.m., free. Food and beverages will be available. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com).

**\*Sept. 17** “The Virtuosos” Concert by the La Grande Bande performing Baroque music with period instruments, 7:30 p.m. \$5, available [www.lagrandebande.org/tickets](http://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. Watch the La Grande Bande prepare for the concert at a free open rehearsal at 3 p.m. Held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 312 5<sup>th</sup> St., Gaylord. [www.lagrandebande.org](http://www.lagrandebande.org) or (507) 995-7086.



**Sept. 17** Fairmont Opera House presents “The Sweet ft. A Rising Force” performance, 7 p.m. Adults \$50; seniors \$40; students 14 and under \$20; tickets available at [www.fairmontoperahouse.com](http://www.fairmontoperahouse.com) or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, (507) 238-4900 or [www.fairmontoperahouse.com](http://www.fairmontoperahouse.com).

**\*Sept. 17-19** Wacipi 2021, Mankato PowWow. Event hours: Fri. 4-10 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. PowWow Grand Entry times: Fri. 7 p.m.; Sat. 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.; and Sun. 1 p.m. General Admission \$7 for the whole weekend, seniors 60 and older and children 12 and under are free. Held at Land of Memories Park, 100 Amos Owen Lane, Mankato [www.mahkatowacipi.org](http://www.mahkatowacipi.org).



**Sept. 17-Oct. 2** “But I Guess I’m Already There” Group Exhibition by Izel Vargas, Kathleen Hawkes, Alessandra Sulpy, James Wade, and Rachel Cox. (Reception, Sept. 17, 7-9 p.m.) Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. [www.the410project.com](http://www.the410project.com). Gallery hours: Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m.

**Sept. 17-Nov. 5** Joan Krikava’s collection of Czech glassware. 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](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com).

**\*Sept. 18** 34th Annual Waseca Marching Classic, parade at 12 Noon in downtown Waseca and includes competing High School Marching Bands, Floats, Royalty, Classic Car Cruise, and more. Field competition for H.S. Marching Bands, 5:15 p.m., fireworks after the awards ceremony, held at the Waseca High School football field, 1717 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW. Advance purchase admission \$5 or at the field \$8 with a program. [www.wasecamarchingclassic.com](http://www.wasecamarchingclassic.com).



**Sept. 19** Adventures of Thin Man “The Case of the all-American Menace” Radio Show. The link to the virtual show will be posted online and will be available to view for 3 months. Donations will be accepted to view the show. Sponsored by the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. [www.statestreetnewulm.org](http://www.statestreetnewulm.org) or (507) 359-9990.

**Sept. 19** Come hear the debut of the commissioned musical score and lyrics of the new “New Ulm Anthem” performed by the New Ulm Municipal Band and local choir members, 4 p.m., held at German Park, 200 N. German Street, New Ulm. Sponsored by the New Ulm Chamber of Commerce. (507) 233-4300 or [www.newulm.com/chamber-of-commerce/](http://www.newulm.com/chamber-of-commerce/).

**Sept. 20-Oct. 20** Arlene Birt’s “Putting Data Into Context” Installation Exhibit featuring participant based art which uses data as a means of visual creativity. (Reception, Oct. 5, 5-7 p.m. and Artist Talk, Oct. 6, 6-8 p.m.) Held at the Schaefer Gallery, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Free & open to the public. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 933-7200 or [www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom](http://www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom).

**Sept. 21** MN State University’s Minnesota Songwriters Showcase Concert by Erik Koskinen and Molly Maher, 7:30 p.m. In advance \$10, at the door \$12, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or [www.mnsu.edu/music/events](http://www.mnsu.edu/music/events).

## Arts Event Happening in Your Area?

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

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



## Arts Events and Opportunities

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

**Sept. 21** Author Metra Ferrari will discuss her new book “All the Blues Come Through”, 6-7:30 p.m. Held at the North Mankato Police Annex Meeting Room, 1001 Belgrade Ave. Sponsored by North Mankato Taylor Library. [www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary](http://www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary) or (507) 345-5120.

**Sept. 23** Music in the Park Series: Lost Walleye Orchestra performing 5:30-7:30 p.m. Held at Wheeler Park, 402 Page Ave., North Mankato. Sponsored by the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. [www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary](http://www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary) or (507) 345-5120.

**Sept. 23-25 & Sept. 30-Oct. 3** “H.M.S. Pinafore” theater production, Sept. 23-30 & Oct. 1-2 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 2 & 3 at 2 p.m. Adults \$24, seniors over 65 and youth under sixteen \$21. Held at the Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. [www.mnsu.edu/theatre/](http://www.mnsu.edu/theatre/) or (507) 389-6661.

**\*Sept. 24** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents Open Mic Night with local artists performing, 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](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com).

**\*Sept. 25** Dibaajimowin: A Lifetime Collection of Indigenous Stories, History, and Cultural Practice Event, 4-8 p.m. The event will share the cultural practice of stories and storytelling while providing information on the history, culture, and community of the Ojibwe and Dakota people of Minnesota. Author Kade Ferris, an indigenous historian and researcher, will share his books about the Ojibwe, Cree, and Metis people. The event is free and open to the public. Held at Benson Park, 2000 Carlson Dr., North Mankato.

**Sept. 25** Concert by Chevelle, doors open at 6:30 p.m., show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$37.50-\$47.50. 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](http://www.ticketmaster.com), or call 1-800-745-3000. [www.mayoclinichealthsystemeventcenter.com/events-and-tickets](http://www.mayoclinichealthsystemeventcenter.com/events-and-tickets).

**\*Sept. 25** Fairmont Opera House presents “Ole and Lena Live” performances, 2 p.m. or 7 p.m. Adults \$20; seniors \$15; students 14 and under \$10; available at [www.fairmontoperahouse.com](http://www.fairmontoperahouse.com) or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, (507) 238-4900 or [www.fairmontoperahouse.com](http://www.fairmontoperahouse.com).

**\*Sept. 26** ProMusica Chamber Music Series in New Ulm: “Love Sweet” Concert, 3 p.m., with violinist Susie Park, cellist Tony Ross, soprano vocalist Heather Hjelle, and pianist Bethel Balge. Tickets sold in a three-concert series pass: individual pass \$50, family pass \$100. Passes can be purchased online at [www.promusicamn.com/concerts](http://www.promusicamn.com/concerts). Additional concerts on Jan. 16 and March 27, 2022. Held at Chapel of the Christ, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 205-2249 or [www.promusicamn.com](http://www.promusicamn.com).

**Sept. 26** MN State University presents the Minn. River Valley Wind Ensemble Concert, 3 p.m. Admission \$9, K-12 students and children \$7, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or [www.mnsu.edu/music/events](http://www.mnsu.edu/music/events).

**Sept. 30** The Mankato Symphony Orchestra will be featured in an online program hosted by the United Symphonies of America at 5:30 p.m. One orchestra from each state has been chosen to participate. Watch the Symphony’s website for the program link. Mankato Symphony Orchestra, [www.mankatosymphony.com](http://www.mankatosymphony.com) or (507) 625-8880.

**Sept. 30** Music in the Park Series: Nate Boots & The High Horses performing 5:30-7:30 p.m. Held at Wheeler Park, 402 Page Ave., North Mankato. Sponsored by the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. [www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary](http://www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary) or (507) 345-5120.

**\*GSR Fine Art Festival** in Mankato continues as a virtual gallery to purchase local artists’ work. Search their ShopART gallery at: <https://shopart.gsrfineartfestival.com>

**Area Wineries** have brought back 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](http://www.chankaskawines.com) or (507) 931-0089.

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

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

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

Prairie Lakes is on Facebook!



“LIKE” Prairie Lakes  
Regional Arts Council’

Look for upcoming events, grant deadlines, photos  
and other important information to be posted!

# Arts Events and Opportunities

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

## Youth Opportunities

**Sept. 7** Make and Take Art Class, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades K-3, \$10. Students will use elements of art to complete a project. This month is "Rainbow Tree" creating a multi-color fall tree with drawing and special color mixing. Registration required with Waseca Community Education at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com/>. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. North. [www.wasecaartcenter.org](http://www.wasecaartcenter.org) or (507) 835-1701.

**Sept. 7** Club Picasso Class, 4:30-6 p.m. Grades 4-6, \$10. Students will use elements of art to complete a project. This month is "Folk Art Landscapes." Register with Waseca Community Ed. at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com/>. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. North. [www.wasecaartcenter.org](http://www.wasecaartcenter.org) or (507) 835-1701.

**\*Sept. 18** 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 technique. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com).

## Adult Opportunities

**\*Sept. 1** GSR Fine Art Festival Applications. The GSR Fine Art Festival is a juried exhibition held at the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center in Mankato. Applications are now being accepted through Sept. 1. All sales from the festival go directly to the artists. Accepted artists will also be included in the online gallery, ShopART, <https://shopart.gsrfineartfestival.com/>. Festival dates are Nov. 27-28, 2021. For more information contact (507) 351-5008 or [www.gsrfineartfestival.com](http://www.gsrfineartfestival.com).

**\*Sept. 1** Holiday Market Applications. The Holiday Market is a multi-week event at the Arts Center of Saint Peter for artists to sell their work, Oct. 13-Dec. 23. Different mediums will be featured different weeks. Go to <https://www.artscentersp.org/home/holiday-market/> for more information and to download the application, return it to the Arts Center in person, by mail, or by email. Sponsored by the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or [www.artscentersp.org](http://www.artscentersp.org).

**Sept. 1 & 15** 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.newulmnmn.gov/363/Library](http://www.newulmnmn.gov/363/Library) or (507) 359-8334.

**Sept. 3-24** Intro to Fusion Belly Dance Class, Fridays, 6-7 p.m. Learn shimmies with variations, hip and chest circles with variations, figure 8 movements with variations, arm pathways, and simple traveling steps. We will begin with the easy movements and progress from there, so you can relax and enjoy learning this captivating art form. \$30, registration required with Waseca Community Education at <https://waseca.ce.eleyo.com/>. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or [www.wasecaartcenter.org](http://www.wasecaartcenter.org).

**\*Sept. 11** Colored Pencil Workshop with instructor Gerry Tostenson, 1 p.m. Gerry will give an in-depth look at the use of colored pencils as a fine arts medium. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com) or (507) 359-9222.

**Sept. 13** 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](http://www.newulmlibrary.org).

**\*Sept. 13-Oct. 4** Scandinavian Knitting Motifs Class. Mondays, 6-8 p.m. Learn how to knit your own traditional Scandinavian motifs. Learn how to work with multiple strands of color, follow motif patterns, and design your own motifs in the Fair Isle style. Provide your own supplies. Basic knitting skills are required. \$40, classes will be held as Zoom Meetings. Register at [www.artscentersp.org/classes/](http://www.artscentersp.org/classes/). Sponsored by the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or [www.artscentersp.org](http://www.artscentersp.org).

**\*Sept. 14-Oct. 26** Somali Dress Sewing Class. Tuesdays, up to 6 Somali participants will be included. Sept. 14, 12 noon-6 p.m. The class will meet in the St. Peter Community Center parking lot. A city of St. Peter van will take participants to SR Harris Fabrics in Brooklyn Park. Seamstress and instructor Kay Brandt will help each person pick out enough fabric for one dress. Bring your own food and beverages. Sept. 21, 28, Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2-4 p.m., Kay Brandt and Ann Rosenquist Fee will guide participants through basic machine sewing and using a pattern. Participants will make one dress with the fabric purchased from SR Harris Fabrics. The Arts Center sewing studio has limited space and equipment, so plan to take turns with machines and other equipment. Cost is free, but registration is required. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or [www.artscentersp.org](http://www.artscentersp.org). Sponsored by the Saint Peter Public Library. (507) 934-7420.





# Arts Events and Opportunities

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

**\*Sept. 16-Oct. 7** Living the Writing Life: Writing Down the Bones Class. Two sessions available on Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12 noon or 6-7 p.m. We will read Natalie Goldberg's book "Writing Down the Bones; Freeing the Writer Within", then use it to get back to the basics of generative writing, revision, and the habit of showing up to the page. Tips and tricks for firing up your writing mind will be shared. \$40, participants can join in-person or virtually via Zoom. Register at [www.artscentersp.org/classes/](http://www.artscentersp.org/classes/). Sponsored by the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 South Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or [www.artscentersp.org](http://www.artscentersp.org).

**\*Sept. 16** Painting with Rhonda Class for teens and adults with disabilities, 6:15-7:30 p.m. Classes are free; however registration is required via call, text, email or website and class size is limited to 35 participants. The in-person class will be held outside at the New Ulm Community Center lower level parking area, 600 N. German St. For more information contact Adaptive Recreational Services Coordinator Karrie Borchert, (507) 217-0383, [arsnu@newulmtel.net](mailto:arsnu@newulmtel.net), or [www.nuars.org](http://www.nuars.org).

**\*Sept. 18** Introduction to Spinning Class. 1-4 p.m. Start with raw sheep's wool and go home with a freshly hand-spun ball of yarn. Learn to clean, card, spin, and ply wool into fiber you can use for weaving, knitting, crocheting, or other projects. The Arts Center will provide spinning tools and raw fiber. \$20, classes will be in-person, masked and distanced. Registration required at [www.artscentersp.org/classes/](http://www.artscentersp.org/classes/). Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or [www.artscentersp.org](http://www.artscentersp.org).

**Sept. 18** Telling True Stories: A Memoir Writing Workshop with instructor Rachael Hanel, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Try your hand at writing exercises to spark your memory and tell your history. Space is limited, so please call 507-304-4002 to reserve your place. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main Street, Mankato. [www.beclibrary.org](http://www.beclibrary.org) or (507) 304-4001.



**\*Sept. 22-Oct. 13** Introduction to Weaving on a Table Loom Class. Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. Learn basic weaving skills by exploring a variety of twill structures while experimenting with texture. Learn to operate a loom and the terminology to create a solid foundation of weaving knowledge. You will create a weaving sampler that can serve as a wall hanging or a helpful reference for future projects. The Arts Center will provide looms and fiber materials in advance. \$40, classes will be held as Zoom Meetings. Register at [www.artscentersp.org/classes/](http://www.artscentersp.org/classes/). Sponsored by the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or [www.artscentersp.org](http://www.artscentersp.org).

**\*Sept. 24** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents Open Mic Night for local musicians, 7-9:30 p.m., held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com) or (507) 359-9222.

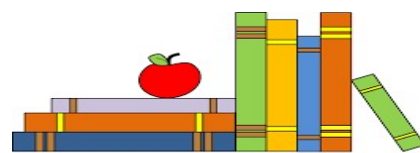
**\*Sept.** Singing Hills Chorus Fall Session Registration. Rehearsals for the "Hearts & Harmony" fall season will be held from Thursday, Sept. 9-Dec. 9, 9:30-11:30 a.m., including a half hour social time. Fee: \$25.00 per person. The chorus is accepting registrations for "singing duets", a person living with Alzheimer's or a related dementia and a care partner (family or friend). The fall concert will be held on December 11. Held at School Sisters of Notre Dame, 170 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato. Visit [www.singinghillschorus.org](http://www.singinghillschorus.org) for more information.

**Sept.** 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](http://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](http://www.wasecaartcenter.org).

**Sept.** Call for Artists. Do you have an idea for an exhibit at the Red Rock Center for the Arts? Solo and group shows welcome. Visit <https://www.redrockcenter.org/current-and-upcoming-exhibits.html> or call the Red Rock Center to submit a 2022 Exhibition Proposal today! [www.redrockcenter.org](http://www.redrockcenter.org) or (507) 235-9262.

**Mankato Makers Space** is offering art classes in ceramics, leather, glass work, metal sculpture, woodworking and more. Classes may have limited numbers of participants. Visit their website to view the list of classes and the restrictions for each class. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. (507) 514-2921 or [www.mankatomakerspace.org](http://www.mankatomakerspace.org).

**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, to visit anytime. Go to [www.thegrandnewulm.com/smallest-museum-in-mn](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com/smallest-museum-in-mn) for more information.



Back To School



# *Non-profit Art Centers*

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

**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](http://www.artscentersp.org/classes). Register online for classes at [www.stpetercommunityedonline.com](http://www.stpetercommunityedonline.com) or [www.artscentersp.org/classes/](http://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. Contact (507) 931-3630, [info@artscentersp.org](mailto:info@artscentersp.org), or [www.artscentersp.org](http://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](http://www.thecarnegiemandkato.com), (507) 625-2730, or [artctr@hickorytech.net](mailto:artctr@hickorytech.net).

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

**Mankato Makerspace**, 1700 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.redrockcenter.org), (507) 235-9262, or [redrockcenter@frontiernet.net](mailto:redrockcenter@frontiernet.net).

**The 410 Project**, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Monthly exhibits. Gallery hours: Thurs. 3-6 p.m., Fri. 2-6 p.m., and Sat. 3-6 p.m. [the410project@hotmail.com](mailto:the410project@hotmail.com) or [www.the410project.com](http://www.the410project.com).

**The Grand Center for Arts & Culture**, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. Music will be scheduled in-person as possible and virtually, promoted via our web site 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 of The Grand. [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com), (507) 359-9222, or [grand@thegrandnewulm.com](mailto:grand@thegrandnewulm.com).

**Waseca Art Center**, 200 N. State Street. Monthly exhibits, educational programs, and weekly art appreciation discussions. Gallery hours: Wed 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Thurs.-Fri. 12 Noon-7 p.m. (507) 835-1701, [www.wasecaartcenter.org](http://www.wasecaartcenter.org), or [info@wasecaartcenter.org](mailto: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](http://www.blc.edu/art-exhibits).

**Conkling Art Gallery**, 139 Nelson Hall, MN State University, Mankato. Monthly exhibits are on display. Gallery hours: Mon. through Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-6412 or [www.mnsu.edu/artdept](http://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/](http://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](mailto:michelle.johnson@southcentral.edu).

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

**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

**Sept. 17 MCAD – Jerome Foundation Fellowship Deadline.** This program, administered by the Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD), is made possible by the support of the Jerome Foundation. The goal of this fellowship program is to support visual artists in Minnesota, early in their careers, with 2-10 years of generative experience, creating bold, innovative, and risk-taking new work that challenges conventional artistic forms. Four fellowships of \$10,000 each will be awarded. For more information contact: [galler@mcad.edu](mailto:galler@mcad.edu), (612) 874-3667, or <https://mcad.submittable.com/submit>.

**Oct. 1 Minnesota State Arts Board Creative Support for Organizations Deadline.** This program is flexible support for Minnesota arts organizations and for non-arts organizations that regularly offer arts programming as an integral part of their missions. It is meant to help rebuild, reimagine, and continue to adapt arts programming in response to the changing environment caused by the global pandemic. This grant program is intended to help Minnesota organizations maintain the long-term viability of their arts programming so that Minnesota residents and communities will maintain access and connection to the arts. Grant range: \$5,000-\$25,000. Application deadline: October 1 at 4:30 p.m. For more information contact [CreativeSupport-Organizations@arts.state.mn.us](mailto:CreativeSupport-Organizations@arts.state.mn.us) or (800) 866-2787. For a link to the online application go to the MN State Arts Board website: [www.arts.state.mn.us](http://www.arts.state.mn.us).

**Oct. 18 Forecast Public Art Grant Deadlines.** Forecast Public Art is offering four different grant programs to support Minnesota artists looking to advance their work in public art. All programs have a deadline of Oct. 18. Grants available: Five Mid-Career Project Grants of \$10,000 will be awarded; two Mid-Career Professional Development Grants of \$5,000 will be awarded; two Early-Career Artist Project Grants of \$8,000 will be awarded; and four Early-Career Artist Research and Development Grants of \$2,500 will be awarded. For more information contact <https://forecastpublicart.org/artist-support-2-2/mid-career-project-grant/> or (651) 641-1128. There will be two virtual information sessions offered via Zoom: Sept. 1 from 6-7 p.m. and Sept. 12 from 3-4 p.m. Contact [info@forecastpublicart.org](mailto:info@forecastpublicart.org) to register and to receive the Zoom link.

**Oct. 29 Minnesota State Arts Board and Arts Midwest American Rescue Plan Grant Deadline.** American Rescue Plan Grants will help small and mid-sized Minnesota nonprofit arts organizations and arts affiliates support costs related to their employees or contractors, facilities, health and safety, and marketing or promotion. These will be flexible operating grants that can be used to help organizations sustain their people and programming, rebuild, and reopen from COVID-19. Approximately 65 grants of \$15,000 each, will be awarded. Grants will be distributed proportionally based on population, to organizations in each of Minnesota's eleven arts regions. Application deadline: Oct. 29 at 4:30 p.m. For more information contact (800) 866-2787 or [richard.hitchler@arts.state.mn.us](mailto:richard.hitchler@arts.state.mn.us). For a link to the online application go to <http://www.arts.state.mn.us/grants/arp.htm>.

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