April 2019 Newsletter

Artist Grants of $14,000 Awarded

Front Row (L to R): Kay Herbst Helms, Mankato; Deborah Groebner North Mankato; Marjie Laizure, Mankato; Kirstin Cronn-Mills, North Mankato; Esther Marcella Hoffman, Mankato; Geraldine Leavens, New Ulm and Kristin Anderson, Lake Crystal. Back Row: Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director, Neil Neidit, Springfield; Dave Sandersfeld, North Mankato; Patrick Ryan, Mankato; Andrew Breck, Waseca; Bradley Donner, Waseca; and Jason Schroeder, New Ulm.

Fourteen artists received a PLRAC/McKnight Artist Career Development Grant of $1,000 each. The purpose of the grant is to provide financial support to artists committed to advancing their work and careers. An alphabetical list of the fourteen artist grantees and a brief description of their projects is listed below.

“We are excited that these fourteen artists will be creating new works in a variety of media” noted Byron. We hope that other artists will be inspired and plan to apply for a future grant from Prairie Lakes. The next deadline for a $3,000 Professional Mid-Career Artist Grant is September 15, 2019 and the deadline for a $1,000 Artist Career Development Grant is January 15, 2020. Grant program information and a link to the online applications are available at www.plrac.org.

Kristin Anderson, Lake Crystal. Kristin is a stained-glass artist and will use the artist grant to attend a 7-day class on glass kaleidoscope making at John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, North Carolina. Grant funds will be used for the class fee, supplies, and lodging to attend the class. She plans to exhibit her new work at The Depot Mercantile in Amboy, in 2019.

Bette Blaisdell, Mankato. Bette is a writer and will use the artist grant to complete her children’s book "The Adventures of the SuperheroGirls", about the strengths each person carries inside and how those strengths can be used to help others in need and protect the earth. Grant funds will be used to hire a professional illustrator for the cover design and other illustrations throughout the book, hire a professional editor, and purchase author copies to

(Continued on page 2)
leave in classrooms and sell at art and book fairs. She plans to present readings at Jefferson, Kennedy, Monroe, and Washington Elementary schools in Mankato and participate in the GSR Fine Art Festival, November 2019.

Andrew Breck, Waseca. Andrew is a visual artist and will use the artist grant to create a multi-evening, outdoor, digital video installation that will take place at the Waseca County Courthouse Park. Images and videos will be projected onto geometric, semi-transparent, and opaque large format sculptures. Grant funds will be used to purchase two projectors, a digital camera, sculpture supplies, and for framing prints of the installation. He plans to exhibit the installation at Courthouse Park, and have an exhibit of 2D images of the installation at the Waseca Art Center in 2020.

Kirstin Cronn-Mills, North Mankato. Kirstin is a writer and will use the artist grant to promote her young adult novel WRECK, about a teenager dealing with her father’s ALS diagnosis, which will be published in April 2019. Grant funds will be used to hire Deb Shapiro & Company to coordinate the publicity. She plans to present a public reading at the North Mankato Taylor Library in the spring of 2019 and a book launch at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, May 2019.

Bradley Donner, Waseca. Bradley is a visual artist and will use the artist grant to create a series of paintings and drawings depicting Native American lives in the 19th century, titled "A Cultural Heritage". Grant funds will be used to purchase oil paints, canvas, a large sized easel, and for matting and framing of the work. He plans to exhibit the new work at the Grand Center for Arts and Culture in New Ulm in July 2020.

Deborah Groebner, North Mankato. Deborah is a visual artist and will use the artist grant to create ten paintings created with encaustic wax and mixed media on cradled wood panels. The work will be visual interpretations of change observed on our landscape and the health of water resources in the Minnesota River Valley watershed. Grant funds will be used to purchase supplies including wax, paint blocks, pigment sticks, and wood panels. She plans to exhibit the new work at a local gallery in 2020.

Kay Herbst Helms, Mankato. Kay is a writer and a photographer. She will use the artist grant to work with a writing mentor, Patricia Weaver Francisco of Hamline University, and plans to submit at least twelve pieces for publication. Grant funds will be used for the mentoring fee and to purchase a laptop computer. She plans to have a solo reading or group reading at the Arts Center of Saint Peter towards the end of 2019 or early in 2020.

Esther Marcella Hoffmann, Mankato. Esther is a writer and performance artist. She will use the artist grant to create a short film while hiking twenty-five miles of the Lake Superior Hiking trail. Grant funds will be used to purchase a HP Chromebook, LG Stylo 4 camera phone, a GoPro, tripod, and publicity. She plans to have a public screening of the film at Vagabond Village or Twin Rivers Council for the Arts in September 2019.

Marjie Laizure, Mankato. Marjie is a visual artist and will use the artist grant to create new paintings using uncommon materials, including copper panels and lead based paint. She will use funds to attend the Figurative Art Convention in Williamsburg, Virginia, to purchase painting supplies, “The Artist’s Complete Guide to Figure Drawing: A Contemporary Perspective on the Classical Tradition” book, and for lodging at the convention. She plans to exhibit the new work at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, Waseca Art Center, or Arts Center of Saint Peter in 2020.

Geraldine Leavens, New Ulm. Geraldine is a visual artist and will use the artist grant to photograph animals at a local sanctuary and create fifteen pieces of art from the photos in watercolor, acrylic, or colored pencil. Grant funds will be used to purchase a new camera and for matting and framing. She plans to exhibit the new work at the Grand Center for Arts and Culture in New Ulm, June 2020.

Neil Neidt, Springfield. Neil is a visual artist and will use the artist grant to create eight to ten oil paintings, watercolor paintings, and digitally enhanced photos depicting land, sea, and sky based on images from both Southwest, Minnesota and Eastern South Carolina. Grant funds will be used to purchase brushes, paints, paper, canvas, stretchers and framing supplies. He plans to exhibit the new work at the Aftermatt Gallery in Springfield or the Grand Center for Arts and Culture in New Ulm, in 2020.

Patrick Ryan, Mankato. Patrick is a writer and will use the artist grant to produce “Paddy’s Wake”, a multi-cultural night of music, dance, humor and Irish views on death and dying. Grant funds will be used for publicity, props, costumes, ten hours of creative time and performer stipends. Performances will be March 14-16 at the Loose Moose Entertainment Center in Mankato. A free performance will be March 17 at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts.

Dave Sandersfeld, North Mankato. Dave is a musician and will use the artist grant to record and release a five-song extended play album by March 2020. Grant funds will be used for recording studio costs.

Jason Schroeder, New Ulm. Jason is a musician and will use the artist grant to incorporate the mandolin into his written and recorded acoustic songs. Grant funds will be used to purchase a higher quality, hand crafted mandolin. Performances will be in New Ulm or Cambria in the summer and fall of 2019.
Engaging People with Disabilities in the Arts
Tuesday, April 16, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Room 215 Honsey Hall, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato

Free Workshop sponsored by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council
Register by April 15. Please contact Brenda Byron at plrac@hickorytech.net

The presenter is Craig Dunn, Executive Director, VSA Minnesota; the State Organization on Arts and Disability.

If one of every five Minnesotans lives with a disability – a hefty portion of your potential arts audience – how many are you actually seeing at your arts events? And how can you entice more to participate simply by addressing their hearing, vision, mobility, sensory and other needs?

This presentation will help your arts group think about, plan and prioritize ways to welcome people with disabilities to your activities and venues. VSA Minnesota staff and a couple arts consumers with disabilities will share experiences, barriers (real or perceived) and solutions including:

- accepting the accessibility challenge at the board and staff level
- surveying your access needs
- making improvements with accessible publicity (flyers, news releases, website, email, social media), physical access, event communication accommodations, admission prices, etc.
- more ways of meeting the spirit and letter of the law in engaging people with disabilities.

You’ll get tools and resources to develop your access planning process and determine what could, should and must be addressed to more effectively involve one-fifth of the population in your arts activities.
Arts Advocacy Day at the Capitol March 12th

Arts Advocacy Day at the State Capitol is really important each year as we work to protect the Arts when legislators discuss the state budget and Legacy funding, known as “Arts and Cultural Heritage” funding that provides money to the MN State Arts Board and eleven Regional Arts Councils, including Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. The meetings were very successful.

Members of Prairie Lakes and local residents joined over 500 arts advocates from around the state, at the Capitol. The team led by Brenda Byron met with legislators from south-central MN. “Your input is important to your legislators, whether it be letters, meetings, phone calls or even a simple email. It’s important to make your voice heard”, noted Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director. To contact Legislators, use the Minnesota Citizens for the Arts website: www.artsMN.org

Row 1 (L to R): Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director, Waseca; Chue Lor, Walker Art Center; Rep. Jeremy Munson; Dana Sikkila, 410 Project art gallery, Mankato and board member of PLRAC; Heather Lawrenz, Northfield Arts Guild and Lill Robinson, Blue Earth Town and Country Players. Row 2: Dan Zielske, Mankato; Jenny Keight, Walker Art Center; Blake Potthoff, Fairmont Opera House; Tom Barna, Eagle Lake; and Bridget Novak, Northfield Arts Guild.

Arts Constituents with Rep. Jack Considine, District 19B
Arts Advocacy Day at the Capitol March 12th

Arts Constituents with Sen. Nick Frentz, District 19

Arts Constituents with Sen. Rich Draheim, District 20

Arts Constituents with Rep. Bob Gunther, District 23A
Celebrating 10 Years of Arts Legacy Funding in Region 9

“We were pleased to see so many Arts supporters at our January 24th celebration in Mankato,” noted Brenda Byron, Prairie Lakes Executive Director, “I discussed the 10 Year Impact of the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund of the Legacy Amendment in the 9-county region and details are listed below showing the amount of grants awarded from FY 2009 to FY 2018.” Sheila Smith, Director of Minnesota Citizens for the Arts, presented information about how the Arts Give Back to our communities and the statewide Creative Minnesota Study.

In the last 10 years PLRAC has awarded over $2.6 million dollars in grants from the Arts and Cultural Heritage fund (Legacy dollars). In total, PLRAC has invested $3.8 million from all sources in the region, including $803,658 from state General Funds. These investments have increased attendance and the economic impact from arts activities in communities across the region, according to the Creative Minnesota study.

The Legacy Amendment was passed by a statewide vote of the people of Minnesota in 2008 to dedicate a portion of the state’s sales tax to create four new funds for 1. land conservation, 2. water conservation, 3. parks and trails, and 4. arts and culture. The legislature appropriates the dollars from the Legacy Arts and Culture Fund to the Minnesota State Arts Board, Regional Arts Councils, Minnesota Historical Society and other entities to provide access to the arts and culture for all Minnesotans.

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council is a group of dedicated individuals committed to supporting, nurturing and expanding the arts; knowing that the arts improve the quality of life in our region. Our purpose is to provide promotion, technical assistance and grants to non-profit arts organizations, community groups, schools and individual artists. The nine counties served are Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan.

| Ten Year Summary of Grants funded by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| FY 2009   | ACH -$0- | State $103,901 | McKnight $24,000 | = $127,901 |
| FY 2010   | ACH $295,000 | State $76,930 | McKnight $13,500 | = $385,430 |
| FY 2011   | ACH $277,400 | State $65,110 | McKnight $39,000 | = $381,510 |
| FY 2012   | ACH $252,867 | State $31,680 | McKnight $39,000 | = $323,547 |
| FY 2013   | ACH $310,595 | State $89,153 | McKnight $42,000 | = $441,748 |
| FY 2014   | ACH $259,212 | State $98,635 | McKnight $44,000 | = $401,847 |
| FY 2015   | ACH $333,142 | State $88,497 | McKnight $43,000 | = $464,639 |
| FY 2016   | ACH $293,110 | State $82,015 | McKnight $46,000 | = $421,125 |
| FY 2017   | ACH $334,088 | State $85,032 | McKnight $45,000 | = $464,120 |
| FY 2018   | ACH $282,625 | State $82,705 | McKnight $44,000 | = $409,330 |

Totals: ACH $2,638,039 | State $803,658 | McKnight $379,500 | = $3,821,197 |

Pam Trumbull, PLRAC Administrative Assistant; Lauren Shoemaker, PLRAC Board President; Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director; and Cindy Lewer, PLRAC Program Manager.
Learning about Diversity, Inclusion and Equity in the Arts

For the past year Brenda Byron, the Prairie Lakes Executive Director has been attending meetings and workshops on the topic of **diversity, inclusion, and equity** in the Arts. This effort is also in collaboration with the eleven Regional Arts Councils in Minnesota that will focus on Intercultural Competence in FY 2019. Four meetings of the Regional Arts Council (RAC) Director’s were held in April, May, August, and October in St. Cloud with a consultant that led the RAC’s through this discussion. It included an individual assessment survey completed by all Directors focusing on their “intercultural competence” through survey questions and several learning sessions.

Byron noted that “It’s been very interesting to explore tactical ways boards and leadership can expand our understanding of diversity, inclusion and equity and build it into our organizational culture and decision making. It was important to learn some definitions in this area and to bring back the information to our Prairie Lakes board at several meetings.” This information may also be helpful to the arts organizations and community groups we serve in the nine-county area.”

“Although we may have a small percentage of racial diversity in our region, it still important to be aware of including all people in the Arts, noted Byron. In our nine county region the White population is about 90% or higher in 8 counties and our 9th county Watonwan has 77% White, 20% Hispanic, and 3% other. **The goal of PLRAC as an organization in FY 2019 is to strive for Equity and Inclusion in our policies, programs and the communities we serve.**”

Therefore, a few new questions are being asked about Equity and Inclusion in our grant applications if an organization’s project is to provide Access to the event. These questions encourage applicants to think broadly and plan intentionally to reach more people through their arts programming and activities. **Arts Access activities that plan to reach new audiences and engage the public in new ways, should also think about Equity and Inclusion.**

Within the context of your community, describe how your project identifies and proactively addresses barriers to engaging historically marginalized, targeted, and underserved people and identities that may otherwise have limited access to your proposed activity.

Examples might include:
* IPOC (Indigenous people and People of Color including Native American, Black/African/African American, Afro Latino, Caribbean, Chicano/Mexican, Central American, South American, Middle Eastern/North African, Southeast Asian/Asian/Pacific Islander, Immigrants, Refugees, and Muslim individuals.)
* Economically disadvantaged
* Youth and Seniors
* People with Disabilities
* LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, etc.)

The RAC Staff and Board Members from around the state met together in August 2018 to continue the discussion on this topic. RAC Staff also met in October 2018. Here are a few definitions we’d like to share to inform you about this topic.

**Diversity.** The presence of difference within a given setting. Include race, gender, ethnicity, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, language, socio-economic status, ability, geographical location and more …

**Culture.** A culture is a way of life of a group of people: the behaviors, beliefs, values, and symbols that they accept, generally without thinking about them, and that are passed along by communication and imitation from one generation to the next. “The way we do things around here.”

**Cultural difference.** The fact of human difference that makes a difference in how we interact with one another.

**Inclusion.** Individuals with different identities feeling and/or being valued, leveraged, and welcomed to fully participate within a given setting.

**Equity.** Promote justice, impartiality and fairness within the procedures, processes and distribution of resources by institutions or systems. Eliminate root causes of outcome disparities within institutional and societal systems.

**Intercultural Competence.** The capability to shift cultural perspective and appropriately adapt behavior to cultural difference and commonalities.

**Learning Strategies Toward Intercultural Competence.** Cultural self-awareness including around power and privilege. Recognize overemphasis on commonalities. Increase understanding of cultural differences and understanding of cultural-general frameworks. Interact across cultural difference in ways that expand cultural understanding. Continue to build on knowledge of cultural difference and further develop skills to adapt across differences.
In 2019 All PLRAC Grant Applications are Online.

We will continue the online Grants Management from Foundant technologies for all our grant programs!

The “Applicant Login” button can be seen on the Home page and the Grant Programs page of the PLRAC Website.

http://www.plrac.org/grants.html

New Grant Guidelines & Applications are available.

On the “Grants Program Page” of the website, each is a downloadable link. Four program grants are listed:

- Arts and Cultural Heritage
- Youth Scholarship, grades 7-12 and 3-6
- Small Arts or Arts-In-Education for schools
- Artist Grant

Prairie Lakes has identified three primary goals for this change to online applications.

Goal 1: Increased accountability: Grantees will submit data collection information needed for our state funding, through the online application, which can be easily reported to the MN State Arts Board to document evaluation goals, outcomes, etc. that are needed for our Arts and Cultural Heritage funds.

Goal 2: Increase efficiency with the online application, contract, and final report for grantees.

Goal 3: Allow our Prairie Lakes board members to easily read, comment and score applications in a secure online format.

Have you visited www.plrac.org lately?

Prairie Lakes has great information to share that is just a click away!

Find the latest grant applications and guidelines, monthly newsletters and arts calendar, helpful links, & more!

FY 2019 PLRAC GRANT DEADLINES

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

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, etc. Maximums for the Arts & Cultural Heritage grants vary as well as matching fund requirements; check guidelines for details. Organizations can only receive one grant per year. Details are on page 9.

Artist Grants - Are for specific projects that will enhance your arts career. Applications are online at www.plrac.org.

| Arts-In-Education & Small Arts Project - $2,000 | Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant - $8,000 | Professional Mid-Career Artist Grant - $3,000 |
| 1st of the Month Deadline | ACH Education- $4,000 | September 15 Deadline |
| July 1, 2018 to May 1, 2019 | Arts Festivals - $5,000 | Artist Career Development Grant - $1,000 |
| Youth Scholarship Grades 7-12 - $300 | August 1 Deadline & February 1 Deadline | January 15 Deadline |
| October 1 Deadline | | |
| Youth Scholarship Grades 3-6 - $200 | | |
| November 1 Deadline | | |

All grant applications are online in 2019. A tutorial that explains the online process is on our website.
FY 2019 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant
Deadlines are: Aug. 1 and Feb. 1

1. Arts and Arts Access – Maximum $8,000.
   Projects that focus on arts programming by an organization, maintaining on-going arts programs and services, and offering new and different activities. A variety of activities including art and music festivals, community choirs, dance performances, literary readings, instrumental and vocal music concerts, theater productions, visual art classes and exhibitions are eligible.

   Also equipment that enhances the artistic capabilities of the organization. This may include office equipment and software, instruments, risers, theater lighting, theater curtains, sound system, display cases, etc. This also includes public art, sculpture, murals, etc; and activities that plan to reach new audiences such as youth, ethnic groups, senior citizen groups, people with disabilities, etc. and engage the public in new ways. A 50% cash match is required.

2. ACH Arts Education:
   There are three categories of support.
   A. Schools – Maximum $4,000. This is available to all public or private non-parochial elementary, middle or secondary schools (K-12) in the nine county area. Grants may fund Artist residencies, live art performances, mini-workshops or arts related field trips. A 10% cash match is required for schools.

   B. Non-profit and Community Groups – $4,000

   C. Youth Scholarship for Students (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.

3. ACH Arts & Music Festivals - Maximum $5,000. For arts and music festivals and activities that represent diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions. A 50% cash match is required.

Small Arts Project Grant
Non-profit arts organizations, community groups, or public organizations producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community are eligible. The maximum grant is $2,000, with a 10% cash match. For arts and music festivals, community bands and choirs, theatre events, dance activities, literary readings, visual arts exhibitions and classes, etc. Deadline: 1st of each month.

Arts-In-Education Grant
Grants are for public and private schools K-12. The maximum is $2,000 with a 10% cash match. Funds are available for Artist residencies, live art performances, mini-workshops or arts related field trips. Deadline: 1st of each month.

Individual Artist Grant
These McKnight Artist Grants are for specific projects that contribute directly to an Artists growth and professional development in dance, music, theater or visual art. Funds may be used for matting and framing, equipment, attending a workshop, studio time, or studying with a mentor, etc. Deadlines are:

- **September 15** - Professional Mid-Career Artist Grant, $3,000 each.
- **January 15** - Artist Career Development Grant, $1,000 each.
Prairie Lakes Board of Directors and Staff

Front Row (L to R): Cindy Lewer, Program Manager; Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerene; Dana Sikkila; Carol Soma; Denice Evers; Diane Harms; and Brenda Byron, Executive Director. Back Row: Charles Luedtke; Margie Larson; Karen Krause; Pam Trumbull, Administrative Assistant; Randy Mediger; Steve Davis; Lauren Shoemaker; and Dennis Van Moorlehm. Not pictured: Liz Miller.

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council has One Board Position Open

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council has one vacant position on the Board for a representative from the City of Fairmont.

The deadline for submitting an application is May 15, 2019. Interested persons residing in Fairmont should contact Brenda Byron, Executive Director of PLRAC at (800) 298-1254 or plrac@hickorytech.net to find out more about our board. We will email you a Board Application and a list of responsibilities.

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. Board members serve a three year term. Monthly evening meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month in Mankato, at Bethany Lutheran College; no meetings in June or December. 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 ............. Denice Evers
Faribault County ........... Carol Soma
LeSueur County ............. Randy Mediger
Martin County .......... Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerene
 Nicollet County ........... Rita Rassbach
Sibley County .......... Dennis Van Moorlehm
Waseca County .......... Karen Krause
Watonwan County ........ Steve Davis
City of Fairmont............. Open
City of Mankato .......... Margie Larson
City of New Ulm .......... Charles Luedtke
City of North Mankato ... Dana Sikkila
City of St. Peter .......... Lauren Shoemaker

Staff

Executive Director .......... Brenda Byron
Program Manager .......... Cindy Lewer
Administrative Assistant .. Pam Trumbull
Creative Minnesota 2019 Report

South Central MN and Prairie Lakes region are doing great!

In March 2019 Minnesota Citizens for the Arts and the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council released the new 2019 Creative Minnesota report. They found that the combined economic impact of nonprofit arts organizations, their audiences and artists and creative workers is over **$2.167 billion annually in Minnesota**. This includes $902 million spent by nonprofit arts organizations, $594 million spent by audiences, and the direct spending of artists in their communities, on things such as art supplies and studio rental, of $671 million. It includes statewide, regional and local looks at nonprofit arts and culture organizations, their audiences, artists and creative workers.

**It also indicated that the arts and culture sector in South Central MN is growing.** Although sixth in population size among the state’s eleven regions, South Central Minnesota and the Prairie Lakes 9-county region ranks 2nd in youth attendance, 3rd in economic impact from audiences, 3rd in average hourly wages for creative workers and 4th in overall audience attendance. The region also ranks 5th in economic impact per capita and in overall economic impact generated from the arts sector.

The study found that the combined economic impact of nonprofit arts organizations, their audiences and artists and creative workers in **South Central Minnesota is over $36.9 million annually.**

- This includes $8.6 million spent by nonprofit arts organizations, $17.3 million spent by 879,364 attendees, and the direct spending of artists in their communities, on things such as art supplies and studio rental, of $11 million.
- There are 139 nonprofit arts and culture organizations in South Central Minnesota that served 879,364 attendees at arts and cultural events in 2016.
- The report found that there are over 3,161 artists and creative workers in South Central Minnesota. Of that amount 1,032 are full-time artists. **Creative workers are defined as people who make their living wholly, or in part, by working for for-profits, non-profits, or self-employed, in 40 creative occupations.**
- The most common creative worker jobs in the region are photographers, graphic designers, and musicians and singers.
- The results for the 9-county region are summarized here, but much more information is on the website: [www.CreativeMN.org](http://www.CreativeMN.org). Further details for Region 9 are listed on page 12-13.
REGION 9: SOUTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA
COUNTIES: BLUE EARTH, BROWN, FARIBAULT, LESUEUR, MARTIN, NICOLLET, SIBLEY, WASECA, WATONWAN

NONPROFIT ARTS & CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR AUDIENCES

TOTAL SPENT BY NONPROFIT ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS $8,624,330
TOTAL SPENT BY ARTS AND CULTURE ATTENDEES $17,332,264
TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR NONPROFIT AUDIENCE $25,956,594

ARTISTS & CREATIVE WORKERS

SPENDING BY FULL-TIME ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS $4,944,183
SPENDING BY PART-TIME ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS $6,044,383
TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT FROM ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS $10,988,565

TOTAL ANNUAL IMPACT FROM
- NONPROFIT ARTS & CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS
- THEIR AUDIENCES
- ARTISTS & CREATIVE WORKERS
$36,945,160

Change in impact since 2017 report: +$3,701,899 | Economic impact per capita in this region: $160 | Area population in 2016: 231,336

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

BY DISCIPLINE
50 Performing arts
17 Arts multipurpose
6 Visual arts and architecture
3 Media and communications
1 Literary arts
1 Humanities
25 History and historical preservation
36 Other
139 TOTAL

BY BUDGET SIZE
89 Under $25K
27 $25K – $100K
14 $100K – $250K
8 $250K – $1M
1 $1M – $5M

ATTENDEES
TOTAL ATTENDEES 879,364
NUMBER OF STUDENTS SERVED 289,809
AVERAGE AMOUNT ATTENDEES IN THIS REGION SPEND PER PERSON ABOVE THE COST OF THEIR TICKET $19.71
CHANGE IN ATTENDEES SINCE 2017 REPORT +141,847

NUMBER OF FULL-TIME ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS 1,032
NUMBER OF PART-TIME ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS 2,129
TOTAL NUMBER OF ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS 3,161
Includes creative workers employed full or part-time by others, as well as self-employed. Does not include student, retired or hobbyist artists.

TOP 3 CREATIVE JOBS
PHOTOGRAPHERS | GRAPHIC DESIGNERS | MUSICIANS AND SINGERS

AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE FOR CREATIVE WORKERS $20.02
This is $1.46 above the average for all workers in this area.

STUDY HIGHLIGHTS
Although sixth in population size among the state’s eleven regions, South Central Minnesota ranks 2nd in youth attendance, 3rd in economic impact from audiences, 3rd in average hourly wages for creative workers and 4th in overall audience attendance. The region also ranks 5th in economic impact per capita and in overall economic impact generated from the arts sector.

Total economic impact from the arts and cultural sector in South Central Minnesota is $36.9 million per year.

Creative Minnesota 2019 creativeMN.org
REGION 9: SOUTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUES

GOVERNMENT REVENUE (TAXES & FEES) GENERATED BY ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR AUDIENCES

$2,579,725

GOVERNMENT REVENUE GENERATED BY SPENDING OF ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS

$1,270,986

TOTAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE (TAXES & FEES) GENERATED BY THE ARTS SECTOR

$3,850,711

M.A.C. (Mankato Arts and Culture) is a Public Access Program creating awareness and advocacy for Minnesota’s creative communities.

M.A.C. is produced by KTV, a public access station that plays community interest programming in the Mankato and North Mankato Area. M.A.C.’s goal is to engage the greater Mankato area with unique forms of arts and culture, innovative creative leaders, and breaking down the stereotype of who and what makes an artist. Dana Sikkila, Director and Producer. Kurt Shrader, Bethany Lutheran College, Producer, Director of Photography, and Editor.

The first episode of M.A.C. is live and can be viewed easily by going to the M.A.C. Facebook page or on YouTube at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVJIS_qtxKY

The first episode features Mankato illustrator and musician Jason Knudson as well as St. Peter painter and arts advocate Pam Bidelman. Each share their personal story of becoming a maker, as well as struggles and strengths they’ve encountered along the way.

*This activity received a Small Arts Grant from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council in 2018.
**Arts Calendar**

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

**April 1-6** Senior Art Majors Exhibit #1. (Reception, April 4, 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.

**April 1-10** Senior Show #1, (Reception April 1, 7 p.m.) 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/.

**April 1-13** Gregory Wilkins’ “Whose Truth & Justice?” Exhibit featuring mixed media work of Indigenous people, culture, and environment. Held at South Central College Lookout Gallery, Room C167, 1920 Lee Blvd., North Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-7396.

**April 1-18** “For the Gods: Photographs of India” Exhibit by Priscilla Briggs. 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.

**April 1-29** Open Pottery Lab, Mondays & Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m. Purchase a punch card & clay coupon at the Mankato Community Ed. 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, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. www.mankatococer.com or (507) 387-5501.

**April 1-30** The 2018/19 CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour artwork is installed in the city centers of Mankato and North Mankato. www.cityartmankato.com or (507) 388-1062.


**April 2** University Songwriting Showcase, 7:30 p.m. General admission $9, K-12 students and children $7. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

**April 2** Author and Minneapolis native Larry Millett will discuss his work, 12 Noon. Held at the North Mankato Police Annex Meeting Room, 1001 Belgrade Ave. Sponsored by North Mankato Taylor Library. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

**April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30** Weekly Open Houses sponsored by the Minnesota Makers & Artist Guild, 3-6 p.m., Tuesdays. Tour the shops, check out the tools, and purchase memberships. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

**April 2-9** Undergraduate Research Symposium Exhibit (Reception, April 2, 3-5 p.m.), 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. (507) 389-6767 or www.mnsu.edu/artdept/.

**April 2-10** Vicki Swanson and her father-in-law Don Swanson’s Wood Works Exhibit, held at 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. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

**April 2-12** Minnesota State University, Mankato Graduate Student Exhibit, including ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, installation, and drawing. Held at 4 Pillars Gallery, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota Street, New Ulm. Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

*A**April 2-19** Stitchers in Time Quilt Guild Exhibit in the Beckmann Gallery and Joellen Preston’s Mixed Media Exhibit in the Great Hall Gallery. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

**April 2-29** Shelley Caldwell’s Installation Exhibit and Cyle Gruve’s Clay Exhibit. (Reception, April 6, 3-5 p.m.) Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. Gallery hours: Tues. & Wed. 1-6 p.m., Thurs. 1-8 p.m., Fri. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. & Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (507) 931-3630 or www.artcentersp.org. Shelley received a PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grant in 2018 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

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**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!
April 3  Author Reading and Book Release by adults with developmental disabilities who participated in a 5-week writing workshop, 6 p.m. Held at Trio Coffee, Wine & Ale House, 100 N. State St., Waseca. Sponsored by the Waseca Public Library, 408 N. State St. (507) 835-2910 or www.wasecalesueurlibraries.com.

April 3-30  Project GEM’s Annual Creative Youth Show, showcasing student artwork from the area in several locations: Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato (this location runs through April 29th); St. Peter Community Recreation Center, 600 S. 5th St.; St. Clair High School, 121 W. Main St.; and St. Clair Bank, 100 E. Main St. The artwork can be viewed during normal business hours. www.projectgemMN.org or (507) 726-6047.

April 4  University Percussion Ensemble Concert, 7:30 p.m. General admission $9, K-12 students and children $7. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnmsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

April 4  “Those Were the Days” Concert by William Florian performing songs from the 1960s. Sponsored by the Fairmont Concert Association. Held at the Fairmont High School Auditorium, 900 Johnson St. Tickets by series membership only, $50. mddmiller2@bevcomm.net or (507) 893-4554.

April 4-6  Social Justice + Theatre Drama Ministry presents “On Golden Pond” theater production. Contact the Centenary Church for performance times. Held at Centenary Church, 501 S. 2nd St., Mankato. (507) 225-6370 or www.mankacentenary.org.

April 4-13  Elementary Art Exhibit by students from Montgomery, Lonsdale, and LeCenter. Held at the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 B. First St. Hours: Thurs & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

April 5  Fairmont Opera House presents The Blake and Co. Show, Executive Director Blake Pothoff and his friends and family perform their annual Capital Campaign fundraiser, 7:30 p.m. Tickets $30; available online at www.fairmontoperahouse.org or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.org.

April 5-6  The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7:30 p.m. each night, free. April 5: Cottonwood Special performing folk and rock music. April 6: The Tony Rook Band performing bluegrass music. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

April 5-6  Riverfront Performing Arts presents “Napoli Reimagined” Ballet Performance. April 5 at 7 p.m. and April 6 at 3 p.m. Adults $11.25 and children under 18 $6.25. Held at Fitzgerald Middle School Auditorium, 110 N. 5th St., Mankato. www.riverfrontartsmn.org or (507) 469-4351.

April 5-7  State Street Theater Company presents Tom Smith’s “Drinking Habits” comedy. April 5 & 6 at 7 p.m. and April 7 at 2 p.m. Tickets in advance $12.50, online at https://ssst_drinkinghabits.eventbrite.com, at New Ulm Chamber of Commerce, or HyVee; at the door $15. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. April 5: Theatre After Hours, a gathering after opening night. This age 21 and over event includes aperitifs, local wines, and hors d’oeuvres, $10. Held at MonaLena, 225 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.statenewulm.com or (507) 359-9990.

April 5-7 & 12-13  “Letters to Anne of Green Gables” theater performances, April 5, 6 & 12 at 7:30 p.m. and April 7 & 13 at 2 p.m. Tickets $10. Held at Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Lutheran Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

April 5-26  Minnesota Black Fine Art Show, featuring ten Black Minnesota artists in a variety of mediums. (Reception, April 5, 5-7 p.m.) Held at the Eny Frenz Gallery, Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (507) 387-1008 or www.twinriversarts.org.


April 6-7  31st Annual Bernice Jones Piano Festival by students in grades 6-12. April 6: Individual performances from 8 a.m.-12 Noon, awards after sandwich and salad luncheon. April 7: Honors Piano Recital by festival winners 2:30 p.m. Held both days at Gustavus Adolphus College, 800 W. College Ave., St. Peter. Sponsored by The Minnesota Valley Music Teachers Association. (507) 381-7705 or www.mvmta.com/bernicejonesfestival.htm.

April 7  Concert by Sons of Serendip, 7:30 p.m., held at Wittenberg Collegiate Center Auditorium, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990 or www.mlc-wels.edu.

**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.
*April 7 Kearney International Center presents “Fusion and Inclusion” the Mankato Area International Festival for cross cultural education, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Ethnic performances, international food, flag parade, Children’s World activity center, and more activities for all ages. Free admission and parking. Held at Centennial Student Union, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-1224 or www.mnsu.edu/international/festival.

April 8 Regional Handbell Concert, 2 p.m., held at Chapel of the Christ, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990 or www.mlc-wels.edu.

April 8-17 Senior Art Majors Exhibit #2. (Reception, April 11, 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.

*April 8-21 “Creativity is Contagious” Exhibit, artwork by District 77 K-12 grade students at Bridges; Hoover, Monroe, and Rosa Parks Elementary Schools; Dakota Meadows and Prairie Winds Middle Schools; and East and West High Schools. (Receptions, April 9: Grades K-5 at 5 p.m., grades 6-8 at 6 p.m., grades 9-12 at 7 p.m.) Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m., and Sun. 1-4 p.m. www.the410project.com.

April 9 Concert by internationally acclaimed organist David Briggs, 7:30 p.m. Adults $12, seniors and students $9. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Sponsored by the Sioux Trails Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. www.agosioxtrails.org or (507) 933-7447.

*April 9 Lunch with the Arts, 12 Noon, featuring area entertainers, free. Bring a bag lunch. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

*April 9 Blue Earth Valley Concert Association sponsors the Artaria String Quartet, 7 p.m. Series tickets will be sold at the door, adults $50, students $10, or family $100. Held at Blue Earth Area High School Performing Arts Center, 1125 N. Grove St. (507) 866-4668 or www.blueearthvalleyconcerts.com.

April 9 Gustavus Artist Series: Concert by pianist William Chapman Nyaho, performing works from Africa and African Diaspora, 7:30 p.m. General admission $12, seniors and students $9. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

April 9 Film screening and discussion of “Dazed and Confused”, as part of the Coming of Age Films Series. Hosted by The New Ulm Film Society, 6 p.m. Held at The New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

April 9 “A Reading with Michael Bazzett”, author of three poetry collections – You Must Remember This, Our Lands Are Not So Different, and The Interrogation, as well as a recently published verse translation of the Mayan creation epic, The Popol Vuh, 7 p.m., free. Held at Honsey Hall 129, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Sponsored by Inkwell Literary Magazine and Bethany Lutheran College. inkwell@blc.edu or (507) 344-7394.


April 10 Gustavus Artist Series: Organ Recital by David Briggs, 7:30 p.m. General admission $12, seniors and students $9. Held at Björing Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

April 10-11 Good Thunder Reading Series featuring novelist Lidia Yuknavitch and poet Lorna Pecard. April 10: Yuknavitch will speak about “Mapping the Body: Learning to Translate our Life Stories”, 7:30 p.m., held at Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. April 11: Writing Workshop by Yuknavitch, 10-11 a.m., at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, Emy Frenz Gallery, 523 S. 2nd St., Mankato. Craft talk by Yuknavitch, 3-4 p.m., at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 150 Stadium Ct., Mankato. Reading by Yuknavitch and Pecard, 7:30-8:30 p.m., held at Centennial Student Union Room 245, MN State University, Mankato. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato. http://gt.mnsu.edu/ or (507) 389-1354.


April 11-13 & 18-20 “The Hunchback of Notre Dame” theater production, April 11-13 & 18-20 at 7:30 p.m. and April 20 at 2 p.m. Adults $22, seniors over 65 and youth under sixteen $19. Held at the Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/theatre/ or (507) 389-6661.

April 11-14 Mankato Figure Skating Club presents “Aladdin & The Magic Lamp on Ice” show. April 11-13 at 7 p.m. and April 14 at 1 p.m. Adults $7, Senior Citizens and children $5. Held at All Seasons Arena, 1251 Monks Avenue, Mankato. www.mankatofigureskatingclub.org.
April 12 Fairmont Opera House presents Femme Fatale, a performance of music, song, and vintage film clips, 7:30 p.m. Adults $20; seniors $15; Veterans, active duty, or students $10; under 10 $5; available online at www.fairmontoperahouse.org or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.org.


April 12-13 8th Annual Murder Mystery Dinner starring local cast members, 6 p.m. each night. Members $39, nonmembers $45, table of 8 $280, advanced purchase required. Meal choices are smoked chicken or broiled cod. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Avenue, Fairmont. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.

April 13 Gustavus Wind Orchestra Home Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

April 13 Wind Symphony Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at Wittenberg Collegiate Center Auditorium, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990 or www.mlc-wels.edu.

*April 13-14* Minnesota Valley Chorale will present their spring concert, featuring works by Bach and Handel, including Zadok the Priest, choral selections from Handel's Messiah, and J.S. Bach's Cantata No. 106. *April 13,* 7 p.m., held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. *April 14,* 3 p.m., held at First Lutheran Church, 1114 W. Traverse Road, St. Peter. In advance $10, available from a Choral member or at www.minnesotavalleychorale.org/tickets/, at the door $12. www.minnesotavalleychorale.com or (612) 251-8492.

*April 14* Summit Avenue Music Series: Chamber Music Concert by pianist Lydia Artymiw and cellist Wilhelmina Smith, 3 p.m. Adults $13, students and children $5. Held at Chapel of the Christ, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 354-8221 or www.summitavenuemusic.com.

April 14 Open Clay Studio, 3-5 p.m. For all ages and ability levels, under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. An instructor will be available. Held at Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. www.artscenterstp.org or (507) 931-3630.

April 14 Bethany Jazz Band Concert, 4 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

April 14 “Voices of Angels” Concert by The Rose Ensemble, featuring Benedictine Gregorian Chant and choral music from Baroque Italy, 2 p.m. General admission $15, seniors and students with ID $10, and children 12 and under free. Held at Chapel of Our Lady of Good Counsel, 170 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato. www.roseensemble.org or (651) 225-4340.

April 14 University Concert Bands Concert, 3 p.m. General admission $9, K-12 students and children $7. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, Minnesota State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

April 15-23 Senior Show #2, (Reception April 15, 7 p.m.) 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/.

April 15-May 1 Mika Laidlaw, Todd Shanafelt & Amy Toscani’s Exhibit (Reception, April 15, 7 p.m.), held at Centennial Student Union Gallery, 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. www.mnsu.edu/artdept/ or (507) 389-6767. Mika and Todd each received a PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grant in 2017 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

April 16 New Music Recital, featuring student compositions completed during the academic year, 7 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

April 18-May 11 Middle School Students Art Exhibit. (Reception, April 25, 5-7 p.m.) Held at the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 B. First St. Hours: Thurs & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

April 18-May 25 Carnegie Art Center’s Juried Exhibition. (Reception and awards presentation, April 27, 7-9 p.m.) At the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad Street, Mankato. Wheelchair accessible. Gallery hours: Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Fri. 1-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (507) 625-2730 or www.thecarnegiemankato.com.

April 19 The Optimist Club and The New Ulm Film Society host a family friendly movie night to view “Honey, I Shrunk the Kids”, 6:30 p.m., $2. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statестreetnewulm.org.

*April 19-20* The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7:30 p.m. each night. *April 19:* Open Mic Night with local artists performing, hosted by Dave “Ocho” O’Connell, free. *April 20:* Machinery Hill performing folk, Celtic, and rock music, $5 admission. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 North Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.
April 19-May 17 Mary Gulden Groebner’s “Interwoven” Textile Art Exhibit. Held at 4 Pillars Gallery, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

April 20 “Viva Vivaldi” Family Concert Series, 3 p.m., created for children and their caregivers, all ages welcome. Features musicians, actors, storytelling, and musical activities. Free admission one hour prior to the show. Held at the Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota, 224 Lamm St., Mankato. Sponsored by the Mankato Symphony Orchestra. (507) 625-8880 or www.mankatosymphony.com.

April 20 Betsy’s Birthday Party, 1-4 p.m. Costumed living history actors, games, and refreshments, adults $5, children 6-16 $2, under 6 free. Tour the home for an additional ticket. Held at Tacy’s house, 332 Center St., Mankato. Sponsored by the Betsy-Tacy Society. (507) 345-9777 or www.betsy-tacyorganization.org.

*April 22-May 1 Area High School Art Exhibit, held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and weekends by appointment. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

April 23 Annual Student Recital by organ students from Bethany Lutheran College, Martin Luther College, and Gustavus Adolphus College, 7:30 p.m., free. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Sponsored by the Sioux Trails Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, 507-933-7447 or www.sosaltails.org.

April 23 University Community Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m. General admission $9, K-12 students and children $7. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

April 23 Author and Translator Kevin Hoffmann will discuss his English translation of the book “Trial and Triumph”, 6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 North Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

*April 23-May 24 WAC Member’s Show in the Beckmann Gallery and Kathy Nottingham’s Painting Exhibit in the Great Hall Gallery. (Reception, April 26, 5-8 p.m.) Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

April 24-27 “Brainpeople” 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. (507) 389-6661 or www.mnsu.edu/theatre/.

April 25 University Contemporary Vocal & Instrumental Ensembles Concert, 7:30 p.m. General 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.

April 25 “Tell Me a Story”, Storytelling, this month’s theme is “lost”. Put your name in the hat if you would like to share a story about something you lost. Refreshments at 7 p.m. and stories at 7:30 p.m., free. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

April 25 Sue Happel of Village Arts and Pottery will discuss the artistry and apply art of Cairo tentmakers from Egypt, 6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

April 25-May 6 Student Art Show. (Reception, April 25, 7 p.m.) Held at the Ylisaker 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.

April 26 Acappella Ensemble Concert by Tonic Sol-fa, 7 p.m. Tickets in advance $20, available online at www.statesstreetnewulm.org, the New Ulm Chamber of Commerce, or HyVee; at the door $25. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statesstreetnewulm.org.

April 26 Concert by the Tony Rook Band performing bluegrass music, 7:30 p.m., $10. Held at Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

April 26 J.A.M. the Arb, Gustavus Jazz Combos perform, 4:30 p.m., held at Linnaeus Arboretum, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

**Artist Studios Available**

Artist studios & music teachers can rent space for lessons at The Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Studio Space Available for visual artists and musicians located at 28½ North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. (507) 327-2130 or dreamingelkstudio@gmail.com.
April 26 “A Night at the Speakeasy”, step back in time to the roaring 20s with music and entertainment, prohibition-style cocktails, delicious food, and more, 6 p.m. Adults $55, Jazz Ticket Package $75. Held at Blue Earth County Historical Society Art Gallery, 415 East Cherry St., Mankato. www.blueearthcountyhistory.com or (507) 345-5566.

April 26 Colloquium Series: Concert by John Sharp, Principal Cello of the Chicago Symphony and Liba Schacht, violinist of Grant Park Symphony Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. Held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

*April 26-27* The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7:30 p.m. each night. April 26: Gary Rue & Randy Sabien performing comedy and music; members $8, non-members $12. April 27: The Organic Cowboys performing folk, country and rock music, free. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

*April 26-28* Wells Historical Society Art Expo, featuring visual art from individuals with a connection to Wells. Classes and demonstrations will take place throughout the event. (Reception, April 26, 7-9 p.m., $5 admission.) Free gallery hours: April 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and April 28, 9 a.m.-12 Noon. Held at the Wells Community Building, 189 2nd St SE. Sponsored by Wells Historical Society. www.wellsdepotmuseum.com or (507) 380-0139.

April 26-28 “Suspended Between the Worlds” Gustavus Dance Company Concert. April 26 & 27 at 8 p.m. and April 28 at 2 p.m. Held at Anderson Theatre, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

April 26-May 12 Emily Dziewuczynski and Betsy Ruth Byers “0 ºC, -3 ºC” Collaborative Work Exhibit. (Reception, April 26, 7-9 p.m.) held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Wed., Fri., Sat. 2-6 p.m. and Sun. 1-4 p.m. www.the410project.com.

*April 27* Spring Concert by Musicorum performing Johannes Brahms’ Liebeslieder Waltzes, 7:30 p.m. Adults $15, seniors and students $12. Held at Chapel of Our Lady of Good Counsel, 170 Good Counsel Dr., Mankato. www.musicorum-mn.org or (507) 933-7370.

*April 27* An Evening of Experimental Sound with Dave Perron, 7:30 p.m. Held at Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.

*April 27* Gustavus Symphony Orchestra Cencerto Concert, 1:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

*April 27* The Mankato Riverblender’s annual spring show, “Music the Final Frontier: Voyage of the Starship Harmonize” including the Chord Smash Quartet from the Twin Cities, 3 p.m. In advance $13, available at Cub Foods and HyVee in Mankato and Nutter Clothing in St. Peter; at the door $15; students $5. Held at Crossview Covenant Church, 2000 Howard Dr., North Mankato. Also on April 27, the Mankato Riverblender’s will have a dinner show with more barbershop style music, 5:30 p.m. cocktail hour and dinner, 7:30 p.m. show. Dinner show $40. Held at Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, 903 Raintree Road, Mankato. Joint tickets for both shows are available for $50. www.singmankato.com or (507) 420-5847.

*April 27* Fairmont Opera House presents the Minnesota State Band, performing music from throughout its history, beginning in the 1900s, 7:30 p.m. Adults $20; seniors $15; Veterans, active duty, or students $10; under 10 $5; available at www.fairmontoperahouse.org or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, www.fairmontoperahouse.org or (507) 238-4900.

*April 27* Concert by the professional choral ensemble Age to Age, featuring music by Minnesota composers, 3 p.m. $10 suggested donation at the door. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

*April 28* Maker Market, sponsored by the Minnesota Makers & Artist Guild, 12 Noon-5 p.m. Shop for truly unique items created by local artists. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Avenue. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

*April 28* University Spring Choral Concert, 3 p.m. General admission $9, K-12 students and children $7. Held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 105 N. 5th St., Mankato. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

*April 28* Concert Band and Chamber Orchestra Concert, 4 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. www.blc.edu or (507) 344-7000.

*April 28* Gustavus Percussion Ensemble Spring Concert, 1 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

*April 28* 2019 Brassworks Concert by the Gustavus Department of Music, 3:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

*April 29-May 7* Senior Show #3, (Reception April 29, 7 p.m.) 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/.
April 30 Minnesota Storytellers Series Concert by Dave Simonett, performing acoustic music, 7:30 p.m. $12, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

April 30 Spring Author Series Presentation by novelist Alison McGhee, 7 p.m. Held at the Waseca Public Library, 408 North State Street. (507) 835-2910 or www.wasecalesueurlibraries.com.

April 30 Authors Julie Shrader and Bryce Stenzel will discuss their new book, “The Boy in Blue: Blue Earth County Minnesota’s Civil War Memorial”, detailing the history of the original Civil War monument erected in Mankato’s historic Lincoln Park in 1893, its demise, and reconstruction, 6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

*May 1 Play With Your Food Dinner Theatre presents music, dance, and four new hilarious plays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free; option to purchase food on your own. Held at the Coffee Hag, 329 N. Riverfront Dr., Mankato. Call or text (507) 995-4392, pwyf.openmic@gmail.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PWYFmankato.


Grant Opportunities

May 15 Deadline
Paint the Town Grant
Free paint and coating products for a community mural, community welcome sign, or historic structure projects. Up to 10 projects will be awarded to small communities with a population under 10,000. Grant applications and guidelines are available online at www.smifoundation.org. Contact Jennifer at Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation for more information, jenniferh@smifoundation.org or (507) 214-7040.

May 17 Minnesota State Arts Board Folk and Traditional Arts Deadline. This program is designed to enrich Minnesota communities through folk and traditional art forms being passed on, documented, practiced and shared. $5,000-$75,000. Application deadline: May 17 at 4:30 p.m. For more information contact (800) 866-2787 or rina.rossi@arts.state.mn.us. For a link to the online application go to the MN State Arts Board website: www.arts.state.mn.us.

May 24 Ceramic Artist Grant and Residencies Deadline. The Northern Clay Center administers fellowships and residencies on behalf of the McKnight Foundation. Two $25,000 fellowships and three $6,000 three month residencies are awarded to ceramic artists. The goal is to find artists whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, and who are at a career stage beyond emerging. Go to https://pwcenter.org/programs/mcknight-theater-artist-fellowships. All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at https://www.mcknight.org/grant-programs/arts/artist-fellowships.
Youth & Adult Opportunities

Youth Classes

April 2 Club Picasso, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Grades 4 and up, $10. With a focus on skill building, our students will incorporate design elements using a variety of media. Classes reinforce skills and learning new techniques. This month is “Mandala Designs” with emphasis on variety and balance. Registration required with Waseca Community Education https://isd829.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/ or (507) 835-5626. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State Street North. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

April 4 Make and Take Art Class, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Grades K-3, $10. Students will be introduced to a variety of media; exploring and creating works of self-expression, while learning new art ideas and techniques to improve current skills. This month is “April Showers Bring May Flowers”, using watercolors. Registration required with Waseca Community Education https://isd829.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/ or (507) 835-5626. Meets first Thursday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

April 6 Polymer Clay Key Chain Class, 10:30 a.m.-12 Noon, ages 8-14. Experiment with clay, $15, parents can stay and take the class for $10. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.


April 23 Parent/Child Date Night Pottery Class led by Felicia DeWald, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Learn the basics to wheel-thrown pottery and make a project together. No prior clay wheel experience required. $45. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by the Mankato Area Community Education, (507) 387-5501 or www.mankatocer.com.


Individual Art Classes and Mentoring at The 410 Project, for ages 4-18. Director, Dana Sikkila, will give individual lessons based on the child’s artistic interest, classes can be scheduled around family schedules. $15 per hour with student bringing supplies, $20 per hour with The 410 Project’s supplies, $12 per hour for students 5 and under. Email for more information 410project@hotmail.com. At The 410 Project, 523 South Front Street, Mankato. www.the410project.com.

Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota offers unique and hands on programs and events for youth of all ages. Hours: Tues.-Sun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Thurs. until 7:30 p.m. $8 per person 1 year and older. Located at 224 Lamm St., Mankato. (507) 386-0279 or www.cmsouthernmn.org.

Adult Artists


April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 Jam Sessions, Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 Intro to the Wheel Ceramics Classes, Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. $35, members receive a 25 lb. bag of clay for free. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

April 3, 10, 17 & 24 Art Group, self-directed time to work on projects including visual art, literary art, etc. 2-5:30 p.m., meets on Wednesdays. Bring your own supplies. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

April 3 & 17 Needlework Group, self-directed time to work on projects including crochet, quilting, knitting, embroidery, etc. Meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Bring your own supplies. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 North Broadway. www.newulmlibrary.org or (507) 359-8334.

April 4, 11, 18 & 25 Wire and Wine Design Classes, 6-9 p.m., Learn wire wrapping and create your own jewelry pieces. Different project each session. Members $40, non-members $45, each session. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

(continued on page 22)
Adult Arts Opportunities

April 4-25  Beginning Pottery Class led by Felicia DeWald, Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Learn how to form a piece of fully functional pottery. No prior clay wheel experience required. $45. Register with Mankato Area Community Education. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by the Mankato Area Community Education, (507) 387-5501 or www.mankatocer.com.

April 7, 14, 21 & 28  Beginning Woodworking Classes, Sundays, 2-3 p.m. Members $10, non-members $15. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Avenue. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

April 8  Poetry Reading Group, each participant will read aloud at least two 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.

April 11  Glass Torchwork with Basic Color Class, 6-9 p.m. Learn to make your own colored necklace pendants, $80. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

April 12  Attention Music Teachers: The Minnesota Valley Music Teachers Association refreshments and business meeting at 9 a.m. Program 9:30-11 a.m., Dr. Sarah Miller will present “Telling a Story with Music: Composition for Everyone!” Annual membership is $30, guests can attend a meeting free of charge. Held at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. 2nd St., Mankato. www.mvmta.com or (507) 514-3970.

April 12  Pottery Date Night Class with Felicia DeWald, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Bring your significant other, learn to make basic forms on the potter’s wheel, choose 1-2 pieces to be glazed and fired. No prior experience with a clay wheel required. $45. Register with Mankato Area Community Education. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by the Mankato Area Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

April 13  Southern Minnesota Poet’s Society Monthly Meeting, 12:30-3 p.m., come have soup and bring 10 copies of a one page poem you want critiqued. SMPS members will work in groups to help you whip your poem into shape. Free, visitors welcome. Held at the Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Sponsored by Southern Minnesota Poets Society. (507) 345-1174 or www.southernminnpoets.org.

April 14  Writers’ Critique Group, 3-4:30 p.m. Bring work in progress and a question or two for the group. Read for five minutes, get critiqued for ten. Leave with good vibes and new ideas for moving forward. Hosted by Ronda Redmond. All levels of writing welcome, there is no previous participation or experience necessary. $5, no advanced registration required. Held 2nd Sunday of the month at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artcentersp.org.

April 15  Deadline to participate in the “New Life Through Transition” exhibit. Looking for family friendly art including painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, ceramics, sculpture, fibers, book arts, and mixed media. All work must be original and be installation ready. There is no entry or participation fee. Exhibit will be held in June and July, 2019 at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 150 Stadium Road, Mankato. Contact Doug Wood at bawood@charter.net for information and submission requirements. (507) 387-6592.

April 19  The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents Open Mic Night for local musicians, hosted by Dave “Ocho” O’Connell, 7:30 p.m., held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 North Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

April 20  Monoprinting Class with instructor Rachel James. 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., $30. Learn to create colorful monoprints using plants native to Minnesota and cut stencils to add to your creation. All materials provided. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

April 23  Non-Profit Directors’ Lunch, 12 Noon-1 p.m. Nonprofit leaders can network while sharing resources, challenges, and successes; free. You are responsible for your own lunch. Held at Massad’s Mediterranean Grill, 1633 Monks Avenue, Mankato. Sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits. www.minnesotanonnprofits.org or (507) 469-2217.

April 28  Maker Market, 12 Noon-5 p.m. Members can exhibit for free, non-members pay $30 fee. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Individual or Small Group Art Lessons. Artist, Kevin Kroebel, will give individual or small group lessons in drawing and watercolor painting at his studio. Kevin has MFA and MA degrees in art and has training in the French technique of realism at the Atelier Lack. Contact kkroebel@hickorytech.net or (507) 420-3760 to set up lessons. Held at 723 Warren St., Mankato.

Happy Easter
Non-profit Art Centers

Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 B. First St. Various events and monthly exhibits. Hours: Thurs. & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. 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. Register for classes at www.stpetercommunityedonline.com. Gallery hours: Tues. & Wed. 1-6 p.m., Thurs. 1-8 p.m., Fri. and Sun. 1-5 p.m. & Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact (507) 931-3630, info@artscentersp.org or www.artscentersp.org.

Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. 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.thecarnegiemankato.com, (507) 625-2730, or artectr@hickorytech.net.

Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Faribault. 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. Gallery hours: Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. 2-6 p.m., and Sun. 1-4 p.m. the410project@hotmail.com or www.the410project.com.

The Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. Music every Fri. & Sat. and monthly exhibits. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sat. during shows 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Artist studios available for rent on second and third floor of the Grand. Contact: grand@thegrandnewulm.com, (507) 359-9222, or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Twin Rivers Council for the Arts and the Emey Frenz Art Guild Gallery, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Artist studios, gallery space, and Ticket Box Office for arts events in Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. info@twinriversarts.org, (507) 387-1008, or www.twinriversarts.org. Also find other arts events at www.greatermankatoevents.com. Gallery Application link: www.twinriversarts.org/exhibition-schedule

Waseca Art Center, 200 N. State Street. Monthly exhibits, educational programs, weekly art appreciation discussions, and spring concert series. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. info@wasecaartcenter.org, www.wasecaartcenter.org, or (507) 835-1701.

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 are on display. Gallery hours: Mon. through 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. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. to Midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to Midnight, and Sun. 10 a.m. to Midnight.
In FY 2018 Prairie Lakes awarded 214 Grants totaling $409,330

Here’s a summary of Grants awarded:

$44,000 - McKnight Artist Grants (24 grants)

$82,705 - State General funds (48 grants)
Small Arts Project & Arts-In-Education Grant

$282,625 - Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH)
(142 grants); 40 organizational grants and 102 Youth Scholarships.

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

(1) Arts Programming/Arts Access $224,090,
which includes grants to 32 nonprofit arts organizations and community groups, for their arts programs and activities.

(2) Arts Education $43,945, which includes 4 school grants and 102 Youth Scholarships of $300 or $200 each.

(3) Arts & Cultural Heritage Festivals $14,590;
which was awarded to 4 community festivals.

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