10th Annual PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grantee Exhibit and Reception on January 12, 2020 was a Success!

“We had a great turnout of people who attended the Reception January 12, at the Waseca Art Center for the Prairie Lakes - McKnight Artist Grantee Exhibit. We were pleased to have visual artists discuss their work, writers read from their work, a film excerpt was shown, and musicians performed”, noted Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director. You can see a Live Stream of the reception on the Prairie Lakes Facebook page or see photos of the event and artwork. The Art Exhibition continues through Feb. 6, 2020. At the reception Byron commented “What’s unique about the exhibit is that other artists can be inspired by a local artists journey in their career, learn about how they used their artist grant from Prairie Lakes to achieve their career goals and see the final product of that endeavor”.

Prairie Lakes did a video of the artwork and posted it on YouTube. Here is the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfi1pGnY_0

Below is a photo of artists that participated in the Reception. There are more photos on pages 2-5.
PLRAC/McKnight Exhibit Reception, January 12, 2020

Brenda Byron and musicians John Kruse and Andrea Gehrke.

Jack Williams, writer.

Inside the gallery at the Waseca Arts Center.

Brenda Byron and visual artist Reed White.

PLRAC staff, Brenda Byron, Cindy Lewer, and Pam Trumbull at the reception next to artwork by Andrew Judkins.
Visual Artists Displaying at the PLRAC/McKnight Exhibit

Here is a sample of the artwork which is on display through Feb. 6 at the Waseca Art Center. (More on page 4)

Betsy Byers, St. Peter, Oil

Kimberly Baerg, Waterville, Fibers

Shelley Caldwell, Delavan, Mixed Media

Judith Forster, St. Peter, Mixed Media

Jane Horton, Mankato, Acrylic
Rachel James, St. Peter
Mixed Media

Andrew Judkins, North Mankato
Gouache

Reed White, North Mankato
Oil

Mika Laidlaw, Mankato, Slip-cast porcelain

Todd Shanafelt, Mankato
Mixed Media

Mary Walchuk, Elysian, Colored Pencil

THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION
Artists who participated in the PLRAC/McKnight Exhibit Reception

Colin Scharf, Mankato, discussed the excerpt of his film that was shown.

Richard Robbins, Mankato, read from his poetry.

Ronda Redmond, St. Peter, read from her poetry.

Pegeen Rozeske, New Ulm, discussed and demonstrated her shoemaking.
Arts Advocacy Day will be March 19, 2020

Sign up now at WWW.ARTSMN.ORG

Arts Advocacy Day is important to show the strength of MN’s statewide arts community; especially 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.

Brenda Byron, PLRAC, will lead a team of Arts Advocates at the capital to meet with legislators from our region. We encourage you to register with Minnesota Citizens for the Arts’ for Arts Advocacy Day on March 19, 2020. We start with a rally and then split into teams to talk to legislators about why they should support the arts. Arts people from every corner of the state come together in St. Paul.

On March 19, 2020 Minnesota Citizens for the Arts will bring hundreds of arts advocates from around the state to the State Capitol for “Arts Advocacy Day”. They will educate legislators about the arts in their communities and ask them to support the arts funding promised through the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment that dedicated funds to conservation and the arts. In 2017 1,000 arts advocates filled the capitol! MCA hopes to have a similar amount in 2020.

Register Now and Find out More at: http://artsmn.org/act/events/arts-advocacy-day/
Registration Deadline is March 15, 2020

Arts Advocacy Day Schedule:

7:30 a.m. MN History Center in St. Paul
8:00 a.m. Registration & the Creative Minnesota 2018 Report: New Local Studies
8:30 a.m. Advocacy Class for New Attendees
9:00 a.m. Rally and Join Your Team
10:00 a.m. Walk or Take MCA Shuttle to Capitol
10:15-2:00 p.m. Legislator Appointments

Brenda Byron, PLRAC and Arts Advocates from the Region 9 area at the Capitol.
**Interview on KEYC about the 10th Annual PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grantee Exhibit**

In January 2020, Brenda Byron, Executive Director of Prairie Lakes was interviewed on the KEYC Midday News program by Lauren Andrego. Bryon invited the public to attend the 10th Annual PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grantee Exhibit being held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State Street North, from Jan. 7 to Feb. 6, 2020. Gallery hours are Tues.-Fri. 11-5 p.m. and Sat. 10-1 p.m. To find out more information about the exhibit or our grants please contact us at plrac@hickorytech.net or (507) 833-8721.

Here is a link to the story online: https://www.keyc.com/2020/01/06/th-annual-plracmcknight-grantee-exhibit-opens-this-week/?fbclid=IwAR08LymGkj9UjhRfvmp_BIHgeP3BtYvn7fpaWeps--1_3ybjZy97fHjChL1

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**FY 2020 SMALL ARTS PROJECT COMMUNITY and SCHOOL ARTS PROJECT GRANTS**

*These grants were awarded July 2019-January 2020.*

The Small Arts Project Community 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. The deadline is the 1st of each month.

**BLUE EARTH COUNTY**
Bethany Lutheran College, film festival - $2,000
Carnegie Unhinged, interactive exhibits - $1,110
Davori Productions, Mankato Playhouse - $2,000
Deep Valley Book Festival, author talks - $2,000
GSR Fine Art Festival, musicians - $2,000
ProMusica Minnesota, concerts - $2,000
South Central Minnesota Pride, mural - $2,000

**BROWN COUNTY**
Adaptive Recreational Services, art classes - $2,000
Hermann Monument Society, festival musicians - $2,000
Martin Luther College Wind Symphony, classes - $1,730
Musical Tales Concerto, New Ulm, festival - $2,000
Sleepy Eye High School, field trip - $1,820
Two Rivers Community Orchestra, concerts - $2,000

**LE SUEUR COUNTY**
Tri-City United Community Education, dance - $2,000
Tri-City United High School, artist residency - $2,000

**MARTIN COUNTY**
Fairmont Concert Association, concert series - $2,000

**NICOLLET COUNTY**
Minnesota Shorts Play Festival, artist fees - $2,000
St. Peter High School Band, guest artist - $2,000

**SIBLEY COUNTY**
City of Winthrop, concerts - $1,820
Henderson Sauerkrat Days, music performances - $2,000
Minnesota New Country School, theater - $2,000
Minnesota Valley Music Teachers Assoc., festival - $2,000
Sibley County, Arlington Book Project Festival - $2,000
Winthrop Chamber of Commerce, festival - $1,400

**WASECA COUNTY**
American Indian Service Learning Project - $1,500
Janesville Matters, public art - $2,000
Project GEM, African art artist residency - $2,000
Project GEM, American Indian artist residency - $2,000
Sacred Heart Church, Mexican Mariachi Band - $2,000
TEAM Academy, Waseca, author residency - $1,316
Waseca Marching Classic, clinicians - $1,975
In FY 2020 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 Prairie Lakes Website.
http://www.plrac.org/grants.html

Grant Guidelines & Applications are available
On the “Grants Program Page” of the website, each will be a downloadable link. Four program grants will be listed:

• Arts and Cultural Heritage
• Youth Scholarship, grades 7-12 and 3-6
• Small Arts Project Community or School Arts Project
• 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 2020 PLRAC GRANT DEADLINES

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Small Arts Project Community &amp; School Arts Project - $2,000</th>
<th>Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant</th>
<th>Professional Mid-Career Artist Grant - $3,000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st of the Month Deadline</td>
<td>Arts Programming - $7,000</td>
<td>September 15 Deadline</td>
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<td>May 1, 2020</td>
<td>ACH Education- $4,000</td>
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<td>Youth Scholarship</td>
<td>Arts Festivals - $5,000</td>
<td>Artist Career Development Grant - $1,000</td>
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<td>Grades 7-12 - $300</td>
<td>August 1 Deadline &amp;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grades 3-6 - $200</td>
<td>All grant applications are online.</td>
<td>A tutorial that explains the online process is on our website.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1 Deadline</td>
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FY 2020 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

Deadlines are: Aug. 1 and Feb. 1

1. Arts and Arts Access – Maximum $7,000.
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 community bands and 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. Equipment 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 Community Grant

Non-profit arts organizations, community groups, or public organizations producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community are eligible. Matching grants up to $2,000 are available. Fundable activities include: arts and music festivals, community bands and choirs, theatre events, dance activities, literary readings, visual arts exhibitions and classes, etc. Cash match is 10%. Deadline: 1st of each month.

School Arts Project Grant

Grants are for schools K-12 public and private. Matching grants up to $2,000 are available to fund Artist residencies, live art performances, mini-workshops or arts related field trips. Cash match is 10%. Deadline: 1st of each month.

Individual Artist Grant

These Artist Grants are for specific projects that contribute directly to an Artists growth and professional development in dance, literature, media arts, 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 Regional Arts Council
Board of Directors and Staff

Front Row (L to R): Cindy Lewer, Program Manager; Denice Evers; April Malphurs, Dana Sikkila; Carol Soma; Rita Rassbach, and Brenda Byron, Executive Director. Back Row: Charles Luedtke; Karen Krause; Liz Miller; Pam Trumbull, Administrative Assistant; Randy Mediger; Steve Davis; and Teresa Konechne. Individual photos: left: Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomereneke, and right Margie Larson.

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council has One Board Position Open

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

The deadline for submitting an application is Feb. 29, 2020. 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-Pomereneke
Nicollet County .......... Rita Rassbach
Sibley County ............. Teresa Konechne
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 .......... April Malphurs

Staff
Executive Director .......... Brenda Byron
Program Manager .......... Cindy Lewer
Administrative Assistant .. Pam Trumbull
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 2020. Six meetings of the Regional Arts Council (RAC) Director’s were held in 2018-2019 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 2020 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 2018-2019 to continue the discussion on this topic. 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.
**Arts Calendar**

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

Feb. 1 Fairmont Opera House presents The Blake and Co. Show, Executive Director Blake Potthoff and his friends and family perform their annual Capital Campaign fundraiser, “Love Songs”, 7:30 p.m. Tickets $5, available 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.

Feb. 1 The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents Mark Braun and Kaleb Braun, Old Guy and the Kid, performing hits from the 60′s to present day music, 7-10 p.m., free. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.


Feb. 1-8 Juana Arias’ Ceramics Exhibit. 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.

Feb. 1 & 5-9 “A Doll’s House” theater production, Feb. 1 & 5-8 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 2, 8 & 9 at 2 p.m. Adults $16, seniors over 65 and youth under sixteen $14. Held at the Andreas Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-6661 or www.mnstateu.edu/theatre/.

Feb. 1-2 & 7-8 “Annie Get Your Gun” musical theater performance by the Choraliers, Feb. 1 & 7-8 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 2 & 8 at 2 p.m. Tickets $15. Held at Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

Feb. 1-9 David Rogers’ Text-Based, Mixed-Media Exhibit 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.

Feb. 1-10 Art Education Books Exhibit, 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. (507) 389-6767 or www.mnsu.edu/artdept/.

Feb. 1-21 Sarah Huttner and Joshua Guth’s “Terra Marique” Printmaking 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. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.


*Feb. 1-29 Bill Bukowski’s “Landscapes” Exhibit. (Reception, Feb. 1, 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. www.artscenterstp.org or (507) 931-3630.


Feb. 1-29 Edward S. Curtis’ “The North American Indian” Photographic Exhibit. (Open House, Feb. 2, 2-5 p.m.) Held at the Arts and Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 B. First Street. Hours: Thurs & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

Feb. 1-March 30 Jane Horton’s “Here!” Exhibit of works depicting scenes, structures, and memories of Blue Earth County. Held at Blue Earth County Historical Society Art Gallery, 415 E. Cherry St., Mankato. Hours: Tues.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 345-5566 or www.blueearthcountyhistory.com. Jane received a PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grant in 2018 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

*Feb. 1-April 30 The 2019/20 CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour artwork is installed in the city centers of Mankato and North Mankato. www.cityartmankato.com or (507) 388-1062.

*Feb. 3 Blue Earth Valley Concert Assoc. sponsors Harps n’ Chords, acoustic and electric harps performing pops music, 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 Street. www.blueearthvalleyconcerts.com or (507) 866-4668.
Feb. 3 MN State University, Mankato, Performance Series Concert by the Cold/Zivanović Duo, performing classical music, 7:30 p.m. $9, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or www.mnsu.edu/music/events.

*Feb. 3-April 29* Open Pottery Lab, Mondays and 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. (507) 387-5501 or www.mankatocer.com.

Feb. 4 Gripping Minnesota Tales with Charlie Maguire, the Songwriting Sleuth. Charlie will perform songs about events in Minnesota history, 6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

Feb. 4, 11, 18 & 25 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.

Feb. 6 Come meet crime fiction author David Housewright, 6-7:30 p.m. Held at the North Mankato Police Annex Meeting Room, 1001 Belgrade Ave. Sponsored by North Mankato Taylor Library. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

*Feb. 6-22* Gregory Wilkins’s “Thoughts and Prayers” Mixed Media Exhibit in the Rotunda and Fireplace Galleries. Patti Ruskey, Lynn Rozen, and Jason Toupenèe’s “Carnegie Unhinged: Stillness and Motion” Interactive Art Installation in the Fireplace Gallery, visitors can add their own weaving to the nest or the weaving wall. (Reception and Interactive Art, Feb. 8, 3-5 p.m.) Feb. 15, 2-4 p.m., Community Art Experience and Dance Performance. Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 South Broad St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Fri. 1-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. www.the Carnegie mankato.com or (507) 625-2730. Gregory received a PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grant in 2019 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

Feb. 7 Dick Kimmel and Lori Jean perform bluegrass music, 7-10 p.m. Held at MonaLena, 225 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 276-1808 or www.dickkimmel.com.

Feb. 7 Concert by Aaron Lewis, performing country music, doors open at 7 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Held at the Mankato Civic Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Mankato. Tickets range from $39.50-$77.50, available at the Civic Center Box Office, www.ticketmaster.com, or call 1-800-745-3000. www.mankatociviccenter.com or (507) 389-3000.

Feb. 7 “Harriet” Film Screening, about Harriet Tubman’s escape from slavery, 7 p.m. Held at Ostrander Auditorium, MN State University, Mankato. Sponsored by African American Affairs (507) 389-5296 or www.mnsu.edu/afcultiv/departments/aficanamerican.

Feb. 7-8 The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7-10 p.m. each night. Feb. 7: 10 Year Kabaret Anniversary celebration with Kit Kildahl and Josh Gravel at 7 p.m. and the Erik Koskinen Band at 8 p.m. performing American, soul, and country blues music. Free for members, non-members $10. Feb. 8: DD & Rosco performing ghostly folk and raw country, free. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Feb. 7-23 Mankato Playhouse presents dinner theatre performances of “I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change”. Friday and Saturday dinner seating at 5:45 p.m., show at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday lunch seating at 12:15 p.m., show at 2 p.m. Dinner theater tickets $45-$50, available at www.mankatoplayhouse.com. Limited number of show only tickets available at the door $17-$19. Held at the Mankato Event Center, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1700. www.mankatoplayhouse.com or (507) 508-6539.

*Feb. 7-28* Neil Neidt’s Painting Exhibit. (Reception, Feb. 7, 6:30-8 p.m.) Held at the Altermatt Gallery, Springfield Public Library, 120 N. Cass Ave. Gallery Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. and Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. www.springfieldpubliclibrarymn.org or (507) 723-3510. Neil received a PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grant in 2019 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

Feb. 8 “Pinocchio” improv performance by students that attended the Children’s Theatre Workshop, 1 p.m. Held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

Feb. 8 The Whitesidewalls in concert performing 50’s and 60’s music, 7:30 p.m., Show only, in advance $22 and at the door $25. Buffet dinner available before the show for an additional $20, doors open for dinner at 5:45 p.m. Dinner tickets must be purchased in advance. Held at the Kato Ballroom, 200 Chestnut St., Mankato. (507) 625-7553 or www.katoballroom.com.

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**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.
Feb. 8 For the Culture Expo, highlighting pan-African performing arts, food, and businesses, 6-10 p.m. Held at Centennial Student Union Ballroom, MN State University, Mankato. Email the Black Student Union to buy tickets at blackstudentunion@mnsu.edu. Sponsored by African American Affairs (507) 389-5296 or www.mnsu.edu/cultdiv/departments/africanamerican/.

Feb. 9 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. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

Feb. 10-21 Roberta Zamma-Gallarati’s Master of Arts Exhibition. 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/.

*Feb. 10-March 6 Juried Southern Minnesota High School Exhibit in the Great Hall Gallery and the ICAN Exhibit in the Beckmann Gallery. (Reception, Feb. 12, 5-7 p.m.) Held at Wasca 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.

Feb. 11 Bach Society of Minnesota presents Vivaldi’s opera “Motezuma”, 7 p.m. Regular admission $30, seniors $25, students $5. Tickets available online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4289449 or at the door. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. www.blc.edu or (507) 344-7000.

Feb. 11 Film screening and discussion of “The Secret of Nimh”, as part of the Animated Films Series, 6 p.m. Hosted by The New Ulm Film Society. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

Feb. 11 Twin Rivers Affiliate Meeting, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Come learn about Twin Rivers’ vision for a strong creative economy and share your ideas on how they can best serve the creative sector. Current and potential affiliates are invited to attend. Held at the Hubbard Building, 424 N. Riverfront Dr., Mankato. Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, www.twinriversarts.org or (507) 387-1008.

Feb. 11 “The Talk – Race in America” Documentary Film Screening, 6 p.m. About conversations between parents of color and their children about how to behave if they are stopped by the police. After the film Mankato community leaders will share their experiences. Held at the Centennial Student Union Rooms 253, 254 & 255, MN State University, Mankato. Sponsored by African American Affairs (507) 389-5296 or www.mnsu.edu/cultdiv/departments/africanamerican/.

Feb. 11-March 28 Brad and Ann Kronlokken Widness’ Printmaking and Textile Work Exhibit. (Gallery Talk and Reception, Feb. 13, 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. www.blc.edu or (507) 344-7000.

Feb. 13-15 “Tony and Tina’s Wedding”, interactive dinner theater, doors open at 6:30 p.m., wedding at 7 p.m. $33, includes show, Italian buffet dinner, and wedding cake. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Held at the Kato Ballroom, 200 Chestnut St., Mankato. (507) 625-7553 or www.katoballroom.com.

Feb. 14 The Mankato Riverblenders male quartets will deliver a singing valentine, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., in the Mankato and St. Peter area. $50, for two songs, a long-stemmed rose, a card, and a photo. Call to make an appointment: (507) 469-4085 or (507) 382-9384. www.singmankato.com.

Feb. 14 Fairmont Opera House presents “The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System” theater performance by Theatreworks USA, 7:30 p.m. Adults $20; seniors $15; Veterans, active duty, or students $10; under $5; available at 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.

Feb. 14 Valentine’s Day Concert by The Ericksons, 7:30 p.m., $10. Held at Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Avenue. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.


Feb. 14-March 1 “Ada and the Engine” theater performances. Feb. 16, 23 & March 1 at 2 p.m. and Feb. 14-15, 20-22 & 27-29 at 7:30 p.m. General admission tickets $12, $18 or $25. There are a specific number of tickets at each price point; $12 are sold first, then $18, then $25, shop early for best price. Show contains some adult content, recommended for ages 13 and up. Held at DalekoArts, 110 E. Main St., New Prague. (952) 314-9077 or www.dalekoarts.com.

Feb. 14-March 1 The Annual Juried Exhibition. (Reception and Awards, Feb. 14, 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.
Feb. 15 Gustavus Choir Midwest Tour Home Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

Feb. 15 Minnesota Hip Hop Coalition presents a showcase of some of Minnesota’s top hip hop artists, 1-5 p.m. Held at the Centennial Student Union Rooms 253, 254 & 255, MN State University, Mankato. Sponsored by African American Affairs (507) 389-5296 or www.mnsu.edu/cultdiv/departments/africanamerican/.

Feb. 16 Gustavus Symphony Orchestra and Gustavus Jazz Ensemble Singapore and Malaysia Tour Home Concert, 1:30 p.m., held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

Feb. 16 The Mankato Symphony Orchestra’s Music On The Hill, Chamber Music Concert, 2 p.m., featuring works by Mahler, Clarke, and Dvořák. Premium seats $17, general admission $12. Held at Good Counsel Chapel, 170 Good Counsel Dr., Mankato. (507) 625-8880 or www.mankatosymphony.com.

Feb. 16 “Be Still My Soul” Wind Symphony Concert, 3 p.m., held at Chapel of the Christ, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990 or www.mlc-wels.edu.

Feb. 17 Colloquium Concert of Beethoven Cello Sonatas by cellist David Carter & pianist Esther Wang, 7:30 p.m. Held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

Feb. 17-March 6 Printmakers Exhibit, 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. (507) 389-6767 or www.mnsu.edu/artdept/.

Feb. 17-March 13 “The Poetics of Destruction: Jacob Stanley, Groot Artist in Residence” Exhibit. (Reception and Gallery Talk, Feb. 17, 4:30-6:30 p.m.) Held at the Shafer Art Gallery, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Free and open to the public. Gallery hours: 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekends. (507) 933-7200 or www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom.

Feb. 17-April 19 “The Secret World of Art Forger Elmyr de Hory: His Portraiture on Ibiza” Exhibit. (Reception, Feb. 17, 7-9 p.m.) Held at the Hillstrom Museum of Art, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Free and 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.

Feb. 20-23 “You’re Invited” Theater Performances. Feb. 20-22 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 2 p.m. Held at the New Laboratory Theatre, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.


Feb. 21 Performance by Twin Kennedy, performing country, classical, and Celtic music, 7 p.m. Adults $12, children $6, advanced tickets available online at www.redrockcenter.org. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

Feb. 21 “Ville Des Lumiere” an evening at the Moulin Rouge Cabaret, including fine dining with a French twist, entertainment, live music, and dancing. Social hour at 5:30 p.m., dinner and show at 6:30 p.m. In advance tickets $45, available from the New Ulm Chamber of Commerce, New Ulm HyVee, or online at www.statetstreetnewulm.org. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statetstreetnewulm.org.


Feb. 21-23 “The Mouse That Roared” theater performance, Feb. 21-22 at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 23 at 2 p.m. Adults $8, students and seniors $6. Held at Wittenberg Collegiate Center Auditorium, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990.

Feb. 23 Colloquium Concert of Franz Schubert’s Winterreise by baritone Cory J. Renbarger and pianist Stephen Carlson, 5:30 p.m. Held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

Feb. 24 MN State University, Mankato Minnesota Storytellers Series Concert by international touring musician and writer Dessa, 7:30 p.m. $15, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or www.mnsu.edu/music/events.

Feb. 24 Concert by the Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet, 6 p.m. Held at the Community Memorial Building, 313 N. 1st Ave. W., Truman. Sponsored by the Martin County Library. www.martincountylibrary.org or (507) 238-4207.

Prairie Lakes is on Facebook! “LIKE” Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council
Feb. 27 Good Thunder Reading Series featuring poet Bao Phi and fiction writer Liz Lanier. Workshops, 10-11 a.m., at Emy Frenz Arts Guild, 523 S. 5th St., Mankato. Craft talk, 3-4 p.m., at Ostrander Auditorium, MN State University, Mankato. Reading, 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Centennial Student Union Room 245, MN State University, Mankato. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-1354 or http://gt.mnsu.edu/.

Feb. 27 Dick Kimmel and Kelly Coyle perform bluegrass music, 7-9 p.m. Held at Ouren Instrument Shop, in the back room of Y Barbers, 231 Belgrade Ave., North Mankato. (507) 276-1808 or www.dickkimmel.com.

Feb. 28 Concert by Brett Young, performing country music, doors open at 7 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Held at the Mankato Civic Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Mankato. Tickets range from $35-$49.75, available at the Civic Center Box Office, www.ticketmaster.com, or call 1-800-745-3000. www.mankatociviccenter.com or (507) 389-3000.


Feb. 28-March 1 Mankato Playhouse presents theatre performances of “Once on this Island Jr.”. Feb. 28 and 29 at 7 p.m. and March 1 at 2 p.m. Adults $10, students $8, available at www.mankatoplayhouse.com or limited availability at the door. Held at the Mankato Event Center, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1700. (507) 508-6539 or www.mankatoplayhouse.com.

Feb. 28-March 27 Kiddo Art Show, (Reception, Feb. 28, 5-7 p.m.) 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.

Feb. 29 Concert by master trumpet player Allen Vizzutti and the St. Peter High School Concert Band and Jazz Band and the Cleveland High School Jazz Band, 3 p.m. Adults $8 and students $5. Held at the St. Peter High School Auditorium. Sponsored by the St. Peter High School Band. (507) 934-4212 or wwwstpeterschools.org.

Feb. 29 KMSU hosts music by Magnetic Ghost, American Cream, and Final Seed, 8 p.m. Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. www.the410project.com.

Feb. 29 Concert by a cappella group Tonic Sol-fa, doors open at 6:30 p.m., performance at 7 p.m. In Advance $20, at the door $25. VIP Tickets available with front row seating and a meet and greet, $30. Held at the Kato Ballroom, 200 Chestnut St., Mankato. (507) 625-7553 or www.katoballroom.com.

Feb. 29 Fairmont Opera House presents Catapult, a family friendly dance performance about the human body and its ability to transform, 7:30 p.m. Adults $20; seniors $15; Veterans, active duty, or students $10; under 10 $5; available at www.fairmontoperahouse.com or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, www.fairmontoperahouse.com or (507) 238-4900.


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**In FY 2019 Prairie Lakes awarded 219 Grants totaling $453,144**

Here’s a summary of Grants awarded:

- **$44,000** - McKnight Artist Grants (24 grants)
- **$79,918** - State General funds (47 grants)
- **$329,226** - Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) (148 grants); 48 organizational grants & 100 Youth Scholarships.

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

1. **(1) Arts Programming/Arts Access** $262,966, which includes grants to 38 nonprofit arts organizations and community groups, for their arts programs and activities.
2. **(2) Arts Education** $50,685, which includes 6 school grants and 100 Youth Scholarships of $300 or $200 each.
3. **(3) Arts & Cultural Heritage Festivals** $15,575; which was awarded to 4 community festivals.
Youth Arts Opportunities

Youth Classes

*Feb. 1-28  Register for South Central Service Cooperative’s Young Writers & Artists Conference for grades 3-8, held March 10-11 at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, $29. Students attend a keynote and three breakout sessions in various genres of writing and fine arts. Register at http://www.mnsce.org, or contact Mary Hillmann at (952) 715-8745 or mhillmann@mnsce.org.

Feb. 4  Club Picasso, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Ages 10 and up, $7. Students will incorporate design techniques using a variety of media. This month is “One Point Perspective – An Ants View”, monochromatic watercolor drawing or painting with a pop of color. Registration required with Waseca Community Education online at www.waseca.ce.idaho.com. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

Feb. 4  String Art Class, 4:30-5:30 p.m., ages 8-12. An experienced instructor will lead you through a step-by-step string art process, you choose the design. No prior experience required. $20. Register with Mankato Area Community Education. Held at Design & Wine, 300 Belgrade Ave., North Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Area Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

Feb. 6  Make and Take Art Class, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Grades K-3, $7. Students will be introduced to a variety of media while learning new art ideas and techniques to improve current skills. This month is “Winter Snow Owl”, a multimedia project with paint, markers and cut paper. Register with Waseca Community Education, www.waseca.ce.idaho.com. Meets first Thursday of the month.

Feb. 10  Valentine Kids Painting Class led by Rhonda Johnson, ages 5 and up, 6-8 p.m. Learn painting basics in a fun, creative atmosphere, $35. Register with Mankato Area Community Education. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 152, 110 Fulton Street, Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.


Feb. 26  Youth Introduction to Pottery Skills Class led by Katie Dick, 4:30 p.m., grades K-5. Learn beginning skills including slab, pinch pots, coil building, wheel throwing and more. No prior experience is required. $25. Dress in clothes that can get dirty. Register with Mankato Area Community Education. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton Street, Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

Feb. 28  High School Theatre Workshop, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Led by MN State University, Mankato faculty and upper level students. Topics will include acting, improv, dance, scene painting, sound design, and lighting design. $5, register online at https://carts.mnsu.edu/about/events/spring-2020/2-28-highschool-theatre-workshop/. Held at the Earley Center for Performing Arts Lobby, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-6663 or corrie.eggimgann@mnsu.edu.

Feb. 29  Edible Book Festival, 1-3 p.m., ages 10 and under. Pick a book or author and create an edible creation based on the story to bring to the library. Register at the library. Held at the North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. (507) 345-5120 or www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary.

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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. Held at The 410 Project, 523 South Front Street, Mankato. www.410project.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**

**Feb. 1-15** Stained Glass Sun Catcher Class, 6-9 p.m., learn stained glass basics to make a sun catcher you will take home that night. $75. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

**Feb. 1-March 1** Call for artists to participate in the “Farmers and Agriculture” Project. Artists will create work that celebrates agriculture to be displayed in participating Montgomery businesses from May 16-Oct. 13, 2020. Any medium is eligible, 2D or 3D. Prizes of up to $1,000 will be awarded. Contact Maureen Gunderson for more information and a registration form, artsandheritagecenter@gmail.com or (507) 317-1433. Sponsored by Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery. www.artsandheritagecenter.org or (507) 364-8107.

**Feb. 1-June 1** Open Submission of work for a juried exhibition at the Hillstrom Museum of Art
Open submission of art by artists who have been affected by cancer, “Cancer Never Had Me: Views by Artists”. Submit up to 2 pieces of 2D or 3D work, including a high-resolution photo and a one-paragraph general artist statement. Submissions are only accepted online. Exhibit dates are Sept. 14-Nov. 8, 2020. www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom for information, artwork requirements, and online submission form. Held at Hillstrom Museum of Art, at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7200, or www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom.

**Feb. 3** Story Quilts Class, 5:30-7 p.m., with COMPAS Teaching Artist Mica Lee Anders. Inspired by African American quilting traditions and styles, such as scrap quilts and story quilts, students will combine painting, fabric & visual storytelling to create pieces of art that share personal stories and biographies. Free, registration is required and limited to 20 students. Held at Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. (507) 304-4001 or www.bclibrary.org.

**Feb. 3-March 2** Beginning Watercolor Painting Class led by Kevin Kroeber, Mondays, 6-8 p.m. Learn the basic fundamentals and techniques for watercolor painting. No prior experience required. $77. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 152, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Area Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

**Feb. 4, 11, 18 & 25** Jam Sessions, Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

**Feb. 5-6** Entry days for the 410 Project’s Annual Juried Exhibition
2-6 p.m. both days $5 per piece, artists can enter up to 3 pieces. Exhibition Dates: Feb. 14-March 1; Held at The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. www.410project.com.

**Feb. 5 & 19** Art Group, self-directed time for adults 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.

**Feb. 6** Basic Color Glass Torchwork Class, 6-9 p.m. Learn about glass basics, safety, equipment use, and make your own color creation, $80. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Avenue. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

**Feb. 6 & 27** Ceramics: Intro to Slipcasting Class, 7-9 p.m. Learn how to use a plaster mold to create slipcasted wares, $25. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

**Feb. 6, 13, 20 & 27** Wire and Wine Design Class, 6-9 p.m. Learn wire wrapping and create your own jewelry. Members $40, non-members $45 each session. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921, www.mankatomakerspace.org.
Adult Arts Opportunities

Feb. 8 Southern Minnesota Poet’s Society Monthly Meeting, 12:30-3 p.m., come for a potluck lunch and bring 10 copies of a one page poem you want critiqued. SMPS members will work in groups to help you with your poem. Free, visitors welcome. This month there will also be a presentation by poet, Candace Black. Held at the Emy Frentz Arts Guild Gallery, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Sponsored by Southern Minnesota Poets Society. (507) 345-1174 or www.southernminnesota-poets.org.

Feb. 9 Monthly Writers Critique Group, 3-5 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 and Kevin Langdon. All levels welcome, no previous participation or experience necessary. $10, no advanced registration required. Held 2nd Sunday of the month, at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 South Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

*Feb. 11 Painting with Rhonda Classes for teens and adults with disabilities, 6:15-7:30 p.m. These canvas painting classes are open to current Adaptive Recreational Services participants and any new participants that want to join. Classes are free; however registration is needed at least two days before each class. Classes meet the second Tuesday of each month. Held at the New Ulm Community Center, 600 N. German St. For more information contact Adaptive Recreational Services, arsmu@newulmtd.net, (507) 217-0383, or www.nuars.org.

Feb. 12 Metal Sculpture Class, 6-9 p.m. Learn basic welding and shaping to make a sculpture of your choice. Pick one of our pre-cut projects or go free style and make something that is your own. Members $45 and non-members $50. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Feb. 13 Ceramics: Intro into Handbuilding Class, 7-9 p.m. Learn the basics of handbuilding with clay and make your own creation, $35. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.


Feb. 14 The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents Open Mic Night for local musicians, hosted by Dave “Ocho” O’Connell, 7 p.m., held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota Street, New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

Feb. 18 Art Club Meeting, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Are you a hobby artist, or have always wanted to do art? Do you enjoy dabbling or maybe you are a seasoned artist? Regardless where your creativity lies come and explore possibilities for creating a social environment for artists to network, build rapport, share ideas, and explore the world of art in a fun, social environment. Held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Avenue, Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

Feb. 19 Needlework Group, self-directed time to work on projects including quilting, crochet, knitting, embroidery, 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 North Broadway. www.newulmlibrary.org or (507) 359-8334.

Feb. 20-March 26 Writing Like a Reader: A Short Story Course, Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. Explore the craft of the short story through readings, writing exercises, & group critiques of participants’ original stories. $60, registration required. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, second story writing studio, 315 South Minnesota Ave. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.

Feb. 24 Finding Your Voice Session, 6:30 p.m. Vocologist, professional performer, voice coach, and author Nancy Bos will explore the relationship of our emotions and health to our physical voice for speaking and singing. Understanding the connection of the voice to the body and emotions can help deliver a story or message in the best way possible. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 North Broadway. www.newulmlibrary.org or (507) 359-8334.

Feb. 24 Canvas Painting Class, 6-7 p.m. Learn a variety of painting tricks & techniques. Free, registration required. Held at Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. (507) 304-4001, www.bceclibrary.org.

Feb. 24-March 16 Intro to Weaving on a Table Loom Class, Mondays, 4-6 p.m. Learn the meditative art of weaving. Looms will be pre-warped, and instruction will focus on simple techniques to produce small finished products. $55, registration required. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

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Adult Arts Opportunities

Feb. 27 & 29 Two-Session Relief Print and Accordion Book Workshop with instructor John Winkler. Feb. 27 at 6-8 p.m. and Feb. 29 at 1-4 p.m., $35. Learn the relief carving and printing process with traditional techniques. You can bring photos of local landscapes to the first class. No experience needed. Registration is required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Individual or Small Group Art Lessons. Artist, Kevin Kroeber, 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 kkroeber@hickorytech.net or (507) 420-3760 to set up lessons. Held at 723 Warren St., Mankato.

Art and Soul Makers Space offers a collaborative workspace at all skill levels. Hours: 10 a.m.-10 p.m. 7 days a week. $25 per month membership. At 299 Johnson Ave. SW (back side of the building), Waseca. (507) 340-8029, or “Art & Soul Makers Space” on Facebook.

*Feb. 1 PLRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant Deadline. For arts organizations, schools, and festivals. $7,000 available for arts organizations, $4,000 for schools and $5,000 for festivals. Prairie Lakes serves the 9-county region that includes Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Le Sueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan Counties. View guidelines at www.plrac.org, and link to the online grant application. (507) 833-8721, (800) 298-1254, or prlrc@hickorytech.net.

Feb. 7 Minnesota State Arts Board Arts Learning Grant Deadline. To offer funding for projects that help lifelong learners acquire knowledge and skills in the arts. Projects must provide participatory learning and engage learners with skilled teaching artists and high-quality experiences. $5,000-$100,000. Deadline: Feb. 7 at 4:30 p.m. For more information contact (800) 866-2787 or natalie.kennedy@arts.state.mn.us. For a link to the online application go to the MN State Arts Board website: www.arts.state.mn.us.

March 1 McKnight Fellowship in Book Arts Deadline. Two $25,000 Fellowships are administered by the Minnesota Center for Book Arts for the McKnight Foundation to recognize and support mid-career book artists living and working in Minnesota who demonstrate exceptional artistic merit and commitment to the field. For more info: Terin@Mnbookarts.org, (612) 215-2528, https://www.mnbookarts.org/mcknight-fellowships/.

March 9 McKnight Media Artist Fellowship Deadline. FilmNorth administers fellowships for the McKnight Foundation and four $25,000 fellowships are awarded to filmmakers, screenwriters, and other media artists whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, and who are at a career stage beyond emerging. http://myfilmnorth.org/mcknight-fellowships-media-artists/, (651) 644-1912 or emueller@myfilmnorth.org.

March 17 McKnight Composer Fellowship Deadline. American Composers Forum administers four $25,000 fellowships for the McKnight Foundation for a full range of musical styles by artists whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, and who are at a career stage beyond emerging. For more info: willackey@composersforum.org, (651) 251-2833, https://composersforum.org/programs/mcknight-composer-fellowships/.

March 20 McKnight Visual Artist Fellowship Deadline. Minneapolis College of Art and Design administers six $25,000 fellowships for the McKnight Foundation to visual artists whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, who have created a substantial body of work over a period of time, and who are at a career stage beyond emerging. Contact Kerry at gallery@mcad.edu or (612) 874-3667.

March 20 Minnesota State Arts Board Minnesota Festival Support Grant Deadline. To provide meaningful arts experiences to Minnesotans through festivals that celebrate the arts, build community, and expose communities to diverse art forms. $5,000-$50,000. Deadline: March 20 at 4:30 p.m. For more information contact rina.rossi@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.

March 28 Entry day for the Carnegie Art Center’s Juried Exhibition 3-5 p.m. Up to three entries per person, $10 per entry. Exhibit will be on display April 16-May 23. Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad, Mankato. Download an entry form from the website or pick one up at the Carnegie. Wheelchair accessible. (507) 625-2730 or www.thecarnegiemankato.com.

Grant Opportunities
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. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. and 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 artcetr@hickorytech.net.

**Emy Frentz Arts Guild Gallery**, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Artist studios and gallery space. Hours: Wed.-Sat. 1-6 p.m. emyfrentzartsguild@gmail.com, (507) 779-7206.

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

**The 410 Project**, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Monthly exhibits. 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.

**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. Contact: 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.
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

State-Wide Online Resources

**COMPAS**
www.compas.org
A Minnesota resource for artist residencies in the arts.

**Minnesota Citizens for the Arts**
www.artsmn.org
State-wide Arts Advocacy Organization.

**Minnesota Council of Nonprofits**
www.minnesotanonprofits.org
Information and links about board governance, marketing, fundraising, etc.

**Minnesota State Arts Board**
www.arts.state.mn.us
Artist and Organization Grant Information.

**Springboard for the Arts**
www.springboardforthearts.org
Artists & non-profit arts groups workshops.

**Statewide Website for Artists & Organizations**
www.mnartists.org
The website showcases the work of over 4,500 MN Artists in all disciplines.

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