



January 2012 Newsletter



2nd Annual PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grantee Exhibition

Featuring Fellowship Grantees
from 2010
Funded by the
McKnight Foundation



Pamela Bidelman, St. Peter
Cheryl Casteen, Mankato
Denise Friesen, North Mankato
Michael Jorgensen, St. Peter
Mika Laidlaw, Mankato
Lois Peterson, St. Peter
Patti Ruskey, Mankato
Todd Shanfelt, Mankato
Janice Tanner, Janesville
Brad Widness, North Mankato

January 13–February 12
Arts Center of Saint Peter

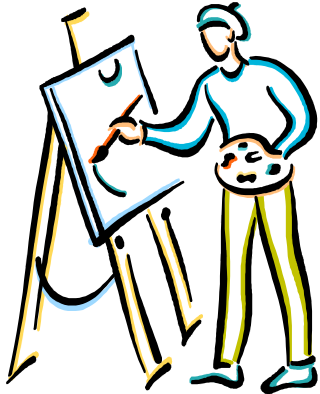
We are pleased to present the second Annual Artist Grantee Exhibition funded by the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council (PLRAC) and the McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis. This group exhibition features the ten artists that received a Fellowship Grant of \$3,000 in 2010. This exhibition at the Arts Center of Saint Peter is from January 13 to February 12, 2012.

The Opening Reception will be Saturday, January 14 from 2-4 p.m., with a 2:30 p.m. program. “We are pleased to use the Arts Center of Saint Peter for the exhibit and the gallery is perfect because it has two levels and can accommodate over 40 pieces of artwork”, noted Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director.

Prairie Lakes has a 20-year history of funding Individual Artists with grants with funding provided by the McKnight Foundation. We began Individual Artist Grants in 1992 and five artists were awarded \$500 project grants. The program has developed over the years and the amount and number of grants has increased based on funding from McKnight. **A total of 201 Artist Grants have been awarded from January 1992 through November 2011.**

20TH ANNUAL PRAIRIE LAKES REGIONAL JURIED ART EXHIBITION

Entry Date:
April 12, 4-8 p.m.



Artists - Bring original work to:

Carnegie Art Center
120 S. Broad,
Mankato

Dates of Show:
April 26 -
June 8, 2012

GALLERY HOURS: THUR. 1-7 P.M.,
FRI. 1-4 P.M. & SAT. 11 A.M.-5 P.M.

Opening Reception:
Sunday, May 20, 1-3 p.m.

School Bus Stipends Available to Schools in the Nine County Area

Teachers, have you ever thought about taking your students on a field trip to see an art exhibit?

Wouldn't it be great if you could expose them to about 100 drawings, paintings, mixed media and sculpture, all in one exhibition?

April 26-June 8, 2012
Carnegie Art Center, Mankato

Schools are invited to bus children, grades 3-12 for a field-trip to see the 20th Annual Prairie Lakes Regional Art Exhibition, Mankato. Prairie Lakes has funds available to provide bus stipends of up to \$125 for schools to visit the exhibition. For information, contact the PLRAC office. Stipends are available on a first come, first served basis.

There are fourteen days available (Wed., Thurs. and Fri.) for schools to tour the exhibition: April 26, 27, May 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, or 25, 2012.

If you are interested in attending, please request an application from the PLRAC office by **February 10, 2012**, to secure your field trip date.

Prairie Lakes Board of Directors and Staff



(L to R) Row 1: Brenda Byron, Exec. Director; Pam Trumbull, Administrative Assistant and Cindy Lewer, Program Manager. Row 2: Bette Traxler, LeSueur County; Lill Robinson, Faribault County; Bonnie Taplin, Martin County; Pat Potzler, City of North Mankato; and Gina Wenger, Blue Earth County. Row 3: Denice Evers, Brown County; Mary Motter, City of Mankato; Greg Wilkins, At-Large; Joe McCabe, Watonwan County; Melanie Schmidt, Nicollet County; Paula Scheffler, Sibley County and Judy Berkeland, City of Fairmont. Not pictured: Sara Krassin and Mary Jane Glawe.



December 2011 Arts Calendar

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



Jan. 1-4 “As It Happens” exhibit by Todd Shanafelt, at Centennial Student Union Gallery, 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. 507-389-6767, <http://csu.mnsu.edu/>, or www.mnsu.edu/artdept/. Todd received a PLRAC/McKnight Fellowship grant in 2010 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

***Jan. 1-8** Rural America Contemporary Artists Group Exhibition in the Moline Gallery; and Senior Preview by Gustavus Adolphus College Senior Art Majors in the Lower Level Gallery, at Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave., St. Peter. Hours: Tues.–Fri.: 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1–5 p.m., (507) 931-3630, info@artscentersp.org, or www.artscentersp.org.

Jan. 1-27 “Our Treasures”, highlights from the Minnesota Museum of American Art; “Familiar Names, Familiar Faces”, portraiture by Paul Granlund; and selected works from the Hillstrom Collection at the Hillstrom Museum of Art, 800 W. College Ave., Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Free & open to the public. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. weekdays, 1-5 p.m. weekends, (507) 933-7200 or www.gustavus.edu/oncampus/finearts/hillstrom.

* **Jan. 2-11** Exhibit by Laura Veenhuis at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri., Noon-4 p.m. and Thurs. 4-8 p.m. (507) 387-1008 or www.twinriversarts.org.

Jan. 3 Fingerprints and Footnotes: Wise Decision: A Frontier Newspaper’s Coverage of the Dakota Conflict by Dr. Charles Lewis, 6 p.m., \$3. Blue Earth County Historical Society Heritage Center, 415 Cherry St., Mankato. (507) 345-5566 or www.bechshistory.com.

***Jan. 3-31** Art exhibit featuring local artists: Greg Abel, photography; Jeff Carter, mixed media; Dagmar Howe, acrylic; Ruth Anderson, watercolor; Cindy Milne, acrylic; Sue Ellen Schissel, acrylic; Susan Duchene, photography; Mary Balcom; Marilyn Hilmer; Jeanne Personius; Bernice Mathwig; and Danielle Moeller, (Artist Reception, Jan. 8, 1:30-3 p.m.) at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; second Sat. of the month 8 a.m.- 3 p.m., (507) 235-9262, redrockcenter@frontiernet.net or www.redrockcenter.org/

Jan. 5 Screening and discussion of the film “Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time”; 7 p.m., at New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org

Jan. 5 Documentary film “Okie Noodling”, with interviews of handfishing veterans and footage of real noodlers in action, 7 p.m., at the Treaty Site History Center, 1851 N. Minnesota Ave., St. Peter. (507) 934-2160 or jessica@nchsmn.org.

***Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26** Stories, songs and movement, 10:15 a.m., at Creative Play Place, St. Peter Community Center Room 127, St. Peter. (507) 351-4284, www.creativeplayplace.wordpress.com/ or creativeplayplace@yahoo.com.

Jan. 5-March 30 “Side by Side – An Exhibit of Plein Air Paintings of Blue Earth County and Beyond” by Margie Larson and Gerry Tostenson. (Opening Reception, Jan. 19, 5-8 p.m.) at Blue Earth County Historical Society Heritage Center, 415 Cherry St., Mankato. (507) 345-5566 or www.bechshistory.com. Margie received a PLRAC/McKnight Emerging Artist grant in 2010 and Gerry received a PLRAC/McKnight Emerging Artist grant in 2011 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.



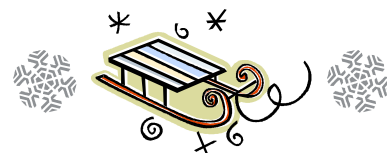
***Jan. 6** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm Arts Entertainment Series presents Betty & Ocho playing folk music, 7:30 p.m., at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm, info@thegrandnewulm.com (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Jan. 6-Feb. 11 “Through the Viewfinder II” exhibit by Ryan Nosbush (Opening Reception, Jan. 6, 5-7 p.m.) at the Kiesling House, 220 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. Gallery hours: Wed.-Fri. 1:30-4:30 p.m.; Sat. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. (507) 359-9222, info@thegrandnewulm.com, or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Jan. 6-Feb. 28 Photography Exhibit by Pat Branstad (Opening Reception, Jan. 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m.) at Stray Cat Coffee House, 600 1st Ave. S., St. James. (507) 375-7530. Pat received a PLRAC/McKnight Emerging Artist grant in 2011 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.



***Jan. 7** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm Arts Entertainment Series presents the Lost Walleye Orchestra playing folk, blues, and rock music, 7:30 p.m., at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm, (507) 359-9222, info@thegrandnewulm.com, or www.thegrandnewulm.com.





Arts Calendar



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

Jan. 7 Discover the Dakota Culture & Heritage: An education series celebrating the Dakota People featuring “The Tradition of Storytelling”, 10 a.m., free admission. Blue Earth County Historical Society Heritage Center, 415 Cherry St., Mankato. (507) 345-5566 or www.bechshistory.com.

***Jan. 8** Minnesota International Center Program at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262, redrockcenter@frontiernet.net or www.redrockcenter.org/

Jan. 9-25 Art Exhibition by Stephanie Gamboni, at Centennial Student Union Gallery, 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. 507-389-6767, www.mnsu.edu/artdept/ or <http://csu.mnsu.edu/>.

Jan. 9-27 “Wait for It” painting and sculpture exhibition by Scott Stulen, (Lecture and Artist Reception, Jan. 23, 7 p.m.) on display 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/

Jan. 9-Feb. 17 Anna Nielsen prints on display donated to Theresa House by Father Harry Behan, (Opening Reception, Jan. 10, 4-6 p.m.) at the Eide Bailly Community Art Gallery, 1911 Excel Drive, Mankato. Open during business hours. (507) 386-6268.

***Jan. 10** “Lunch with the Arts”, musical entertainment, 12 noon, bring a bag lunch, at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. redrockcenter@frontiernet.net, www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.



Jan. 10-Feb. 10 Painting exhibit by Brian McClain, retired professor of art at Gustavus Adolphus College. (Lecture and reception, Jan. 12, 7 p.m.) Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center, 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.

***Jan. 12-Feb. 15** “Image and the Word”, a collaboration of Mankato-area poets and photographers exhibit, at the Emy Frenz Arts Guild, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri., Noon-4 p.m. and Thurs. 4-8 p.m. www.twinriversarts.org or (507) 387-1008.



***Jan. 13** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm Arts Entertainment Series presents the acoustic trio, Third Wheel, 7:30 p.m., at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm, info@thegrandnewulm.com, (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

***Jan. 13** Indigenous in concert playing amazing blues music, 7:30 p.m., 2011/12 subscription series. \$15, reserved seats, available online, at the Opera House or at HyVee in Fairmont; at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, 507-238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.com.

***Jan. 13-Feb. 12** **2nd Annual Prairie Lakes/McKnight Artist Grantee Art Exhibition**, featuring ten Fellowship Grantees funded in 2010, (Opening Reception, Jan. 14, 2-4 p.m.) at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave., St. Peter. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat. & Sun. 1-5 p.m., (507) 931-3630, www.artscentersp.org.

***Jan. 14** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm Arts Entertainment Series presents Fish Frye playing pop, rock, and country music, 7:30 p.m., at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm, (507) 359-9222, info@thegrandnewulm.com, or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Jan. 16 All Bands Concert, 7:30 p.m., Martin County West High School, 16 West 5th St., Sherburn. (507) 764-4661 or www.martin.k12.mn.us

Jan. 19 Third Thursday Gallery Walk in Mankato’s City Center. Local galleries open from 5-7 p.m. Participating galleries: Blue Earth County Historical Society, Fillin’ Station, Carnegie Art Center, The 410 Project, Landkamer Building, Raydiance Salon, The Coffee Hag, and Twin Rivers Council for the Arts. Sponsored by the City Center Partnership, www.citycentermankato.com/partnership.php

Jan. 19 U.S.-Dakota War Series: Historian, John LaBatte, will conduct a multimedia presentation on the causes of the war; sponsored by the Brown County Historical Society. 7 p.m. New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org

***Jan. 19** Clay Center Open Studio (Community Night), 5-9 p.m. All ages, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required/\$5 recommended donation accepted. Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave., St. Peter. (507) 931-3630, info@artscentersp.org or www.artscentersp.org.





Arts Calendar

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



Jan. 19 Poetry reading sponsored by the Southern MN Poets Society, 7-8:30 p.m. Open mic poetry reading with music or other art forms. Come to participate or listen, refreshments provided. At Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. (507) 344-8709 or bajanorthwest@yahoo.com.

Jan. 19 Charlie Parr in concert, 7:30 p.m. \$12/General Admission; \$11/MSU students. Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or www.mnsu.edu/music/events

***Jan. 20** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm Arts Entertainment Series presents Pre-Apocalyptic Junkyard Orchestra playing bluegrass, folk, and gypsy music, 7:30 p.m., at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm, info@thegrandnewulm.com, (507) 359-9222, or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

***Jan. 21** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm Arts Entertainment Series presents The Tinder Box playing bluegrass and new grass music, 7:30 p.m., at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm, (507) 359-9222, info@thegrandnewulm.com, or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

***Jan. 22** The Mankato Symphony Orchestra's Music On The Hill, Chamber Music Series, "The Brahms Concert". An afternoon of intimate music played by a violin, piano, and piano quintet. 2 p.m., Chapel at Good Counsel, 170 Good Counsel Dr., Mankato. Tickets \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, or \$40 season ticket for all 4 concerts. Twin Rivers Box Office, 523 South Second Street, Mankato. (507) 387-1008, www.twinriversarts.org, or www.mankatosymphony.com.

***Jan. 22** Dueling Pianos Vegas Style by Andy Gibson and Ryno, 2 p.m. \$10, available in advance. At Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262, redrockcenter@frontiernet.net or www.martincountypreservation.org/

Jan. 24 Scottie Miller Band in concert, 7:30 p.m. \$12/General Admission; \$11/MSU students. Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or www.mnsu.edu/music/events

***Jan. 26** Good Thunder Reading Series presents Bronson Lemer, creative nonfiction writer; Matt Mauch, poetry; and Christine Stark, fiction writer; at MN State University, Mankato. Talk on craft, 3 p.m. at CSU Ostrander Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Reading in CSU Room 253. (507) 389-1354 or www.english2.mnsu.edu/gt

Jan. 26-29 & Feb. 1-5 "I Hate Hamlet" theater production at Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato, Jan. 26-28 & Feb. 1-4 at 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 29 & Feb. 4-5 at 2 p.m. \$16 adults, \$14 seniors over 65 and youth under 16, \$11 MSU students. (507) 389-6661 or www.mnsu.edu/theatre/

***Jan. 27** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm Arts Entertainment Series presents Robert Burns Night with Charlie Heymann, 7:30 p.m., at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm, (507) 359-9222, info@thegrandnewulm.com, or www.thegrandnewulm.com. Charlie received a PLRAC/McKnight Fellowship grant in 2011 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

***Jan. 28** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm Arts Entertainment Series presents Mankato Mosaic Theatre's MN Brrrr...lesque! A night of skits, spoofs, music, poetry and dance, 8 p.m., tickets available at www.mankatomosaic.com or at the door. At the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm, (507) 359-9222, info@thegrandnewulm.com, or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Jan. 30-Feb. 15 Art History Roundtable Inspiration Show, at Centennial Student Union Gallery, 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. 507-389-6767, <http://csu.mnsu.edu/>, or www.mnsu.edu/artdept/.

Jan. 31 Minnesota Music Hall of Fame inductee, Dick Kimmel, will play music on guitar, banjo and mandolin, 6:30 p.m. New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org

Upcoming Events

Feb. 8-11 62nd Annual Waseca Sleigh and Cutter Festival. Feb. 8 Ice Harvest on Clear Lake, 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m.; Feb. 8-10 Ice Sculpting Contest; Feb. 10 Dinner & Dance at VFW; and Feb. 11 Parade at 1 p.m., featuring the Jesse James Gang, Cannon Old West Society, and 80+ horse units. For information on their other month long activities go to www.sleighandcutter.org

***Feb. 17-18** New Ulm Actors Community Theater presents a Murder Mystery Dinner Theater. \$39, includes 3 course Italian wedding rehearsal dinner. At the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.newulmact.com or 507-233-1303

The Minnesota State Arts Board upcoming grant deadlines

Eligible organizations are encouraged to apply.

Operating Support - general operating support grants to high quality, established arts organizations that produce, present, or exhibit works of art; to nonprofit organizations that provide a broad range of services to artists; and to community arts schools and conservatories that make arts learning available to Minnesotans of all ages and abilities. Application instructions and forms are available on the Arts Board Web site: <http://www.arts.state.mn.us/grants/operating-support.htm>. Application deadline is January 13, 2012.

Partners in Arts Participation (4th round) - a pilot program designed to broaden opportunities for Minnesotans to participate in the arts. Grant funds may be used by organizations serving people of all abilities, economic backgrounds, cultural heritages, and geographic areas be made to feel welcome and participate in the arts. Applicants may design and select high quality arts experiences that meet identified needs. Application instructions and forms are available on the Arts Board Web site: <http://www.arts.state.mn.us/grants/machf-piap.htm>. Application deadline is February 3, 2012.

www.southernmnarts.org

Are you connected to the new and innovative southern Minnesota arts directory?

Visual, written, musical, and performance artists can now be found by the business community and fellow artists at one location.

It is self driven, easy to navigate, and includes upload capacity of you tube links, jpgs, and pdf's. You create and update your text and images at any time - 24/7. Get connected – be found!

The cost to become a TRCA affiliate in the year 2012 has been waived for individual artists and small arts groups due to generous grants from Mankato Area Foundation, and Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. After December 31, 2011, there will be an annual Affiliate fee for individuals and small groups of \$25/year for a Basic listing and \$50/year for a Portfolio listing, which adds a URL link, 5 images, 5 pdfs, and 4 YouTube uploads, updatable along with your profile information. If you are wanting to become an Affiliate organization, with additional benefits, contact TRCA at info@twinrivers.org or call 507-387-1008 for more information.

FY 2012 GRANT DEADLINES

Arts-In-Education & Small Arts Project - \$1,200

The deadlines are Feb. 1, 2012 to May 1, 2012, or until funds are exhausted.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

February 1, 2012 Deadline

March 22, 2012 Review

PLRAC/McKnight Emerging Artist Grant - \$1,000 each

Total \$9,000 available.

Letter of Intent Deadline

January 16, 2012

Application Deadline February 1, 2012

February 23, 2012 Review

All new Grant Applications are available on our website www.plrac.org as both a Word document and a PDF file.

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council serves a nine-county area including Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, and Watonwan Counties.

Prairie Lakes Board of Directors

Blue Earth County	.....Gina Wenger
Brown County	.....Denice Evers
Faribault County	.....Lill Robinson
LeSueur County	.....Bette Traxler
Martin County	.....Bonnie Taplin
Nicollet County	.....Melanie Schmidt
Sibley County	.....Paula Scheffler
Waseca County	.....Sara Krassin
Watonwan County	.....Joe McCabe
City of Fairmont	.....Judy Berkeland
City of Mankato	.....Mary Motter
City of New Ulm	.....Mary Jane Glawe
City of North Mankato	.....Pat Potzler
At-Large	.....Greg Wilkins

Staff

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



Arts Opportunities & Classes

Youth Opportunities

***Dec. 1-Jan. 6** Registration for the Youth in Harmony Festival sponsored by the Minnesota Valley Sweet Adelines. Youth in grades 9-12 will learn new music and work with clinicians. Forms available at www.minnesotavalleychorus.org, return form with \$5 registration fee by Jan. 6. Event is Jan. 21 at Crossview Covenant Church, North Mankato. (507) 388-6148 or www.facebook.com/SweetAdelinesMankato.

Artist Opportunities

***Jan. 1-April 30** Minnesota Shorts Play Festival will be taking submissions for its fourth annual short play festival Sept. 6-7, 2012, at Mankato West High School. Minnesota writers can submit up to two short plays (15 minutes or less) in a pdf or Microsoft Word format. E-mail to: mnshorts@yahoo.com before Noon, Monday, April 30th. The top 16 plays will be performed during the festival. Winners receive \$100 to pay director and cast. For more information, go to www.mnshorts.com.

***Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25** Wednesday morning painting and drawing group, 9 a.m., at Waseca Arts Center, 410 State St. N. (507) 835-1701, patbeckmann@wasecaartscouncil.org or www.wasecaartscouncil.org.

***Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25** Art appreciation group, 10:45 a.m., at Waseca Arts Center, 410 State St. N. (507) 835-1701, www.wasecaartscouncil.org, or patbeckmann@wasecaartscouncil.org.

***Jan. 5** 4Playwrights Project Monthly Meeting. All area playwrights are invited. 7 p.m. at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. (507) 420-1881 or www.4playwrights.com.

Jan. 5-6 Curtain Call Theatre will be holding open auditions for the production of, "Dixie Swim Club" from 6:30-8 p.m. at Hilltop Hall, 206 1st St. N., Montgomery. Will be casting 5 women. The production will be held: Feb. 17-18 and 24-26. wardenfromjordan@prodigy.net, www.curtaincalltheatre.net, or (952) 492-5804.

***Jan. 6, 13, 20, & 27** Friday Muses invite artists to bring in-progress or completed artwork to the table and enjoy conversation with other artists, every Friday, 1-3 p.m. at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. 2nd St., Mankato; (507) 387-1008 or www.twinriversarts.org.

Jan. 19 Open mic poetry reading with music or other art forms sponsored by the Southern MN Poets Society, 7-8 p.m. At Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. (507) 344-8709 or bajanorthwest@yahoo.com.

Jan. 19 The Bridge: for culture and life is seeking artists of all ages to be mentors as part of the new pilot program. St. Peter Meeting Room of the Community Library, 601 S. Washington Ave., St. Peter. thebridgeforcultureandlife@gmail.com.

***Jan.-March** Merely Players Community Theatre has volunteer openings for costumes, set building, props, lighting, or sound. For more information or to sign up player@merelyplayers.com or (507) 388-5483.

Jan. Blue Earth Reader Workshop needs volunteer actors to perform readings for local playwrights. If interested email name and email address to berworkshop@yahoo.com

Jan. Gallery space open to local artists at the Blue Earth County Historical Society. Art must be two-dimensional, ready to hang, and all ages appropriate. Exhibits will change quarterly. 415 E. Cherry St., Mankato, (507) 345-5566 or bechsam@hickorytech.net.

Jan. North Mankato Taylor Library is looking for artists to exhibit their work on library walls. Email rjkober@hickorytech.net for more details.

Arts Opportunities

Jan 6 Deadline for the Merely Players & New Ulm Actors Community Theatre Directing Symposium, a quick study into the art and craft of directing plays and musicals for community theatres. Facilitator, Paul Warshauer, will conduct the symposium. \$50 for 5 sessions; each session will be presented twice: 1) Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm, Jan. 14, Jan. 28, Feb. 11, Feb. 25, and March 10. 2) Lincoln Community Center Auditorium, 110 Fulton St., Mankato, Jan 21, Feb. 4, Feb. 18, March 3, March 17. Registration forms available online at www.merelyplayers.com or at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. 2nd St. Mankato. Fee needs to be paid on or before the first session. player@merelyplayers.com or (507) 388-5483.

Jan. 20 Mankato Area Non-Profit Networking Lunch: free, informal discussion and information-sharing group; noon - 1 p.m. at Blue Earth County Historical Society, 415 E. Cherry St., Mankato. (Held the third Friday of each month.) Participants are encouraged to bring questions, samples, and insights related to the topic of the day. Contact Amy Jo Lennartson at (507) 469-2217 or alennartson@mncn.org.





Arts Centers, Galleries and Classes

Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 B. First St., Montgomery. Various events and monthly exhibits on display. Contact for hours (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. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. Clay Center Open Studio Night (third Thursday of every month 6:30-8:30 p.m.) no registration required/\$5 donation accepted; for all ages. Contact claycenter@artscentersp.org, info@artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630. Registration for all Arts Center and Clay Center classes is through St. Peter Community Education, 500 South Fifth Street, (507) 934-3048 or www.stpetercommunityedonline.com.

Carnegie Arts Center, 120 S. Broad, Mankato. Artist studios, monthly exhibits and a unique Gift Shop featuring original art work by local artists. Gallery hours: Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Fri. 1-4 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (507) 625-2730 or www.thecarnegiemandato.com.

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: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays, 1-5 p.m. weekends. (507) 933-7200 or www.gustavus.edu/oncampus/finearts/hillstrom/.

Lifeworks Visual Arts Studio, 1806 Commerce Drive, North Mankato. Art Opportunities for people with developmental and physical disabilities. Contact Kristi or Carrie at (507) 625-7522.

Mankato Community Education will offer a variety of ARTS Classes in 2011 You can view the Program Guide at www.mankatocer.com and look under "Adult Enrichment", or call (507) 387-5501. Classes are held at Lincoln Community Center, Mankato East H.S., or the Emy Frenz Arts Guild.

Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont; Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; second Sat. of the month 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; evenings and weekends by appointment. Monthly art exhibitions, artist receptions, workshops, various events for all ages and ballroom dances. Tuesday is Lunch with the Arts held monthly: Noon-12:45 p.m. "Come & Go", enjoy various types of artistic performers, bring your lunch and relax in a beautiful setting. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

Stones Throw Gallery, 420 N. Minnesota Ave., St. Peter, (507) 934-5655. Gallery hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and by appointment. Features the work of many local artists. To browse individual artists' work and learn more about the artists and the Gallery, go to www.stonethrowgallery.org/.

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

The 410 Project, 523 S. Front St., Mankato. Monthly exhibits, Gallery hours: Wed., Thur., Fri., Sat. 2-6 p.m., Sun. 1-4 p.m. the410project@yahoo.com.

Twin Rivers Council for the Arts in the Emy Frenz Guild Building, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Artist studios, gallery space, and new Ticket Box Office for arts events in Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., and Fri. 12-4 p.m. and Thur. 4-8 p.m. Contact (507) 387-1008, info@twinriversarts.org, or www.twinriversarts.org, then link to www.greatermankatoevents.com.

Waseca Art Center, 401 N. State St., Waseca. Monthly exhibits, Wednesday Group Meetings: 9:00-10:30 a.m. Drawing & Painting; and 11-11:45 a.m. Art Appreciation Discussion. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. (507) 835-1701, patbeckmann@wasecaartscouncil.org or www.wasecaartscouncil.org.

Chamber of Commerce & City Websites by County

Blue Earth County

Greater Mankato Area: www.greatermankatoevents.com

Lake Crystal Chamber of Commerce:
www.lakecrystalchamber.com

Brown County

New Ulm Chamber of Commerce: www.newulm.com
(click on Chamber of Commerce)

Sleepy Eye Chamber of Commerce:
www.sleepyeyechamber.com

Springfield Chamber of Commerce:
www.springfieldmncchamber.org

Faibault County

Blue Earth Chamber of Commerce:
www.blueearthchamber.com

Wells calendar: www.wells.govoffice.com

Winnebago calendar: www.winnebago.govoffice.com

LeSueur County

Elysian calendar: www.elysianmn.com

LeCenter calendar: www.cityoflecenter.com

LeSueur Chamber of Commerce:
www.lesueurchamber.org

New Prague Chamber of Commerce:
www.newprague.com

Waterville Chamber of Commerce:
www.watervillermn.com

Martin County

Fairmont Chamber of Commerce:
www.fairmontchamber.org

Nicollet County

Nicollet Chamber of Commerce: www.nicollet.org

St. Peter Chamber of Commerce:
www.tourism.st-peter.mn.us

Sibley County

Arlington Community Bulletin Board:
www.arlingtonmn.com

Henderson Chamber of Commerce:
www.hendersonmn.com/chamber/index.php

Waseca County

Janesville calendar: www.janesville.govoffice.com

Waseca Area Tourism & Visitors Bureau:
www.discoverwaseca.com

Waseca Chamber of Commerce:
www.wasecachamber.com

Watonwan County

Madelia calendar: www.madeliamn.com

St. James Chamber of Commerce:
www.stjameschamberofcommerce.com



State-Wide Online Resources

COMPAS

www.compas.org

A Minnesota resource for artist residencies and community-building through the arts.

www.compas.org/arts-education/young-audiences/programs/about

COMPAS and Young Audiences of Minnesota roster of Artists.

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts

www.mncitizensforthearts.org

State-wide Arts Advocacy Organization to Increase funding.

Minnesota State Arts Board

www.arts.state.mn.us

Artist Grant Info. & Publications: Basic Guide to Grants for MN Artists, Performance and Rehearsal Spaces, and Gallery and Exhibition Spaces in Minnesota.

www.arts.state.mn.us/aie/index.htm

Minnesota State Arts Board Roster of qualified Artists to conduct residencies in schools and other educational settings.

Perpich Center for Arts Education

and Minnesota Arts High School, Golden Valley
www.pcae.k12.mn.us

Springboard for the Arts

www.springboardforthearts.org

Workshops for artists & non-profit arts groups.

Statewide Website for Artists

& Organizations

www.mnartists.org

The website showcases the work of over 4,500 Minnesota Artists in all disciplines. Many are from our local region.

Traverse des Sioux Library System

<http://tdslib.org/achf/>

Application and information about Arts & Cultural Heritage Grants through the Library System.

Supporting
The Arts

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council

207 N. State Street, Suite A
Waseca, MN 56093-2930
(507) 833-8721 or (800) 298-1254
plrac@hickorytech.net or www.plrac.org

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**PLEASE SEND US YOUR
EMAIL ADDRESS**

We will primarily be contacting constituents by email, in order to reduce our postage costs. This applies to grant applications, final reports, art exhibition and notifying you when a new newsletter is posted to the website at www.plrac.org

**To be added to our mailing list
call 1-800-298-1254
or email: plrac@hickorytech.net**