Prairie Lakes will feature Twenty-Two McKnight Artist Grantees in an Art Exhibition & Reception

We are pleased to announce the upcoming exhibit of the PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grantees from 2017. We are excited to provide our artist grantees this opportunity to be featured in a group exhibition. This exhibition will highlight grantees that were funded by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. The exhibit will take place at the Waseca Art Center, 200 North State Street, from Jan. 8 to Feb. 7, 2019; and their first floor gallery is handicapped accessible. Funding for our artist grant programs and this exhibit is from the McKnight Foundation in Minneapolis. The Opening Reception will be Sunday, January 13, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 13 visual artists will talk about their work, 4 writers will read or perform their work, and 3 musicians will perform. “We are pleased to collaborate with Rachel James, Executive Director of the Waseca Art Center and have the exhibition held in this location,” noted Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director. A schedule for the Opening Reception is on page 2.

Waseca Art Center, Downtown Waseca
McKnight Artist Grantee Opening Reception
Sunday, January 13, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

1:15 p.m. Program Begins

Introduction by Brenda Byron, Executive Director of Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.
All artists will be introduced and briefly discuss their work or perform.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Artist/Participant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Sheila Becker, LeCenter</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:25 p.m.</td>
<td>Bruce Blaisdell, Mankato</td>
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<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Denise Friesen, North Mankato</td>
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<td>1:35 p.m.</td>
<td>Craig Groe, Mankato</td>
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<td>1:40 p.m.</td>
<td>Kay Herbst Helms, Mankato</td>
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<td>1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Candace Black, Mankato - Writer</td>
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<td>1:55 p.m.</td>
<td>Rebecca Brooks, Mankato - Writer</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:05 p.m.</td>
<td>Dick Kimmel, New Ulm - Musician,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>performing Bluegrass Music</td>
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<td>2:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Michelle Kaisersatt, St. Peter</td>
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<td>2:25 p.m.</td>
<td>Marjie Laizure, Mankato</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Margie Larson, Mankato</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:35 p.m.</td>
<td>April Malphurs, St. Peter</td>
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<td>2:40 p.m.</td>
<td>Stephen Mark, Springfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Tom Barna, Eagle Lake - Excerpt from</td>
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<td>his Play “THE ASSUMPTION OF HOPE”</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Intermission</strong> (15 minutes)</td>
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<td>Sandwiches and beverages provided for guests.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dana Sikkila, North Mankato</td>
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<td>3:35 p.m.</td>
<td>Geraldine Tostenson, Mankato</td>
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<td>3:40 p.m.</td>
<td>Robert Williams, Vernon Center</td>
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<td>3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Teagan Knoblich, Mankato - Writer</td>
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<td>3:55 p.m.</td>
<td>Sara Buechmann, Mankato - Musician</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Joe Tougas, North Mankato - Musician and</td>
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<td>Songwriter, performing recent works.</td>
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<td>4:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Sarah Houle, Mankato - Musician,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>performing with The Mostly Conical Brass Quartet</td>
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The Exhibit of Artwork takes place on first floor, which is handicapped accessible.
The Program will take place in the Schultz Auditorium on the second floor of the Waseca Art Center. Please note that this 2nd floor space is not handicapped accessible. However, we will Live Stream on Facebook the Artists Program to the first floor Lobby, which is handicapped accessible, for those that need it. Please contact the PLRAC office if you need an accommodation.
January 24 at 5:30 p.m. Celebrate 10 Years of Arts Legacy Funding in Southcentral Minnesota

On behalf of the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council you are invited to attend our January 24, 2019 board meeting at 5:30 p.m. to celebrate the 10th year since passing the Legacy Amendment and the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. It will be held at Bethany Lutheran College, Room 215 Honsey Hall. Please email our office at plrac@hickorytech.net to RSVP for the meeting. Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director and Sheila Smith, Executive Director of MN Citizens for the Arts will talk about the impact of the Legacy Amendment in Minnesota and the 9-county region of PLRAC. It will be a celebration of our funding through the Arts and Cultural Heritage fund and the grants awarded in our region, over the past 10 years. We will share impactful stories about Legacy grant funding in our region and hope to gather insight from the public into more ways Prairie Lakes can support our local communities. We hope you can attend!

Sheila Smith, Executive Director, MN Citizens for the Arts (MCA); Dana Sikkila, PLRAC and MCA Board Member and Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director & MCA Board Member.

Arts Meeting With Senator Rosen Dec. 15

Arts Advocates from the region met with Senator Julie Rosen at the Waseca Art Center to discuss the positive impact of State Arts funding in the nine county region. “The Arts Supporters and Grantees shared their successful arts activities with Sen. Rosen, who is the Chair of the Senate Finance Committee” noted Brenda Byron, PLRAC. Arts funding has tripled in the state over the last 10 years due to the Legacy Amendment.

Front Row (L to R): Artists Robyn Block and Arnie Lillo, Good Thunder; Mary Williams, Waseca Marching Classic; Artist Jack Williams, Waseca; Alice De Yonge, Project G.E.M., Pemberton; and Artist Robin Warburton, Janesville. Back Row: Rachel James, Waseca Art Center; Joe McCabe, St. James Chamber of Commerce; Karen Krause, PLRAC Board Member, New Richland; Bruce Boyce, Waseca; Brian Boyce, Cow Tipping Press; Sheila Smith, Minnesota Citizens for the Arts; Senator Julie Rosen; Linda Buller, City of St. James; and Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director.
$14,000 in Artist Grants available for Career Development!

January 15, 2019 - Application Deadline

We encourage artists to apply for the Artist Career Development Grant of $1,000 for activities taking place from March 2019 to March 2020. The purpose of the grant is to provide financial support to developing artists committed to advancing their work and careers. Artists in their formative stages of development are eligible, as well as artists expanding their present work, advancing in skill, technique and/or moving in a new direction. This program provides artists with small but critical grants for specific projects that contribute directly to their growth and development as professionals.

Funds may be used for: art supplies, matting and framing, equipment, literary editor, music recording, studying with a mentor, attending a workshop, etc. In addition to the online application, artists need to submit their resume and work samples. Visual artists (10 images), writers (10 pages), and performers (8 minutes) submitted as a YouTube link or a small uploadable file. Artists should be prepared to explain how the project will advance their career at this time. Please call or email the office if you have project ideas that you want to discuss. This program is made possible by funds provided by the McKnight Foundation in Minneapolis. Grants will be submitted online. Go to our website at www.pirac.org.

FY 2019 SMALL ARTS PROJECT and ARTS-IN-EDUCATION GRANTS

*These grants were awarded July through November, 2018.

The Small Arts Project Grant is available to non-profit arts organizations and community groups sponsoring arts activities for their community. Arts-In-Education Grants are for public or private non-parochial schools K-12 for artist residencies, live art performances and arts related field trips. The deadline is the 1st of each month.

**BLUE EARTH COUNTY**
Artist on Main Street, Mankato, music bench - $1,263
Deep Valley Book Festival, author talks - $875
GSR Fine Art Festival - $2,000
Rosa Parks Elementary School, art show - $1,800

**BROWN COUNTY**
Hermann Monument Society, ethnic music - $2,000
New Ulm Middle School, artist-in-residence - $1,800
Sleepy Eye High School, theater field trip - $1,560

**LE SUEUR COUNTY**
Czech and Slovak Century Celebration, music - $2,000
Waterville Elysian Morristown School, theater - $1,510

**MARTIN COUNTY**
Rural Advantage, music performances - $2,000

**NICOLLET COUNTY**
Minneapolis Shorts Play Festival - $2,000
Play With Your Food Theatre, performances - $1,960
Rural Route Dance Ensemble, performances - $2,000

**SIBLEY COUNTY**
City of Arlington, public art - $1,170
Henderson C.A.N., public art - $2,000
Minnesota New Country School, theater - $2,000
Sibley County Fair, music performances - $2,000
St. Thomas Oratory Jessenland, Irish music - $1,725
Winthrop Chamber of Commerce, music - $1,000

**WASECA COUNTY**
American Indian Service Learning Project - $1,400
Waseca Marching Classic, clinicians - $1,750
$30,000 in Artist Grants Awarded

PLRAC/McKnight Professional Mid-Career Artist Grantees: Front Row (L to R): Robin Warburton, Janesville; Le Ann Gehring-Ryan, North Mankato; Anita Prestidge, New Ulm; and Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director. Back Row: Tom Barna, Eagle Lake; Benji Inniger, North Mankato; David Hyduke, Kasota; Masayoshi Ishikawa, St. Peter; and Charles Putnam, St. Peter.

We are pleased to announce that 10 Professional Mid-Career Artist Grants of $3,000 each were awarded. The PLRAC/McKnight Professional Mid-Career Artist Grant provides professional mid-career artists with financial support that enables them to further their work and their contribution to their communities. These artist grantees have demonstrated professional achievement in their disciplines. The artists are listed in alphabetical order with a brief description of their project on page 6. These artist grants are made possible by funds provided by the McKnight Foundation under a program designed and administered by Prairie Lakes.

The $1,000 Artist Career Development Grant is due Jan. 15, 2019. See article on pg. 4 about Artist grants.

(Artist Grantees continued on page 6)
$30,000 in Professional Mid-Career Grants Awarded

“We are excited that these ten artists will be creating new works in a variety of media” noted Brenda Byron, Executive Director. Below is an alphabetical list of Artists and their projects. Grants were awarded to five visual artists, two musicians, two playwrights, and one theater artist. We hope that other artists will be inspired and plan to apply for a future grant from Prairie Lakes. Artists expanding their present work, advancing in skill, or moving in a new direction are eligible. Applications are accepted from artists in all art disciplines including: dance, literature, music, theater, and visual art. Grant program information and a link to the online applications are available at www.pfrac.org.

Tom Barna, Eagle Lake - $3,000. Tom is a playwright and will use the artist grant to attend the annual international Playwright Conference in Valdez, Alaska in 2019. Grant funds will be used to attend the Playwright Conference and employ local actors and directors to produce a staged reading based on his personal military experience. He plans to produce a staged reading at Twin Rivers Center for the Arts in Mankato utilizing local actors and directors in 2019.

Le Ann Gehring-Ryan, North Mankato - $3,000. Le Ann is a jewelry artist and will use the artist grant to create 25 new pieces of jewelry. She will purchase a Flex-shaft tool, a photo cube, business cards and postcards, and new materials. She plans to have an exhibition at the Arts Center of Saint Peter in April 2020.

David Hyduke, Kasota - $3,000. David is a visual artist and will use the artist grant to create sculptures that use a combination of bronze and steel. Grant funds will be used to purchase an air compressor, materials, and supplies. He plans to have an exhibition at the Carnegie Art Center, Mankato in June 2019.

Benji Inniger, North Mankato - $3,000. Benji is a composer and recording engineer and will use the artist grant to create a professional recording and present a recital. Grant funds will be used to purchase three microphones, equipment, artist fees, printing, and publicity. He plans to present a public recital at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato in winter 2019 or early 2020.

Masayoshi Ishikawa, St. Peter - $3,000. Masayoshi is a composer and musician and will use the artist grant to purchase equipment to mix, edit and master his recorded audios. Grant funds will be used to purchase a MacBook Pro, speaker monitors, digital audio interface, pay for the studio recording at Creation Audio in Minneapolis, and publicity. He plans to present a free public concert at the Grand Kabaret, New Ulm in June 2019.

Anita Prestidge, New Ulm - $3,000. Anita will use the artist grant to develop Sensory Theatre for middle school students and produce a staged reading of “Shimmer” a collection of fairytales for children. She will be mentored by composer and sound researcher Peter Michael von der Nahmer of New York City. Grant funds will be used for the mentoring fee, supplies, stage rental, filming and editing. She plans to present a free staged reading with feedback at the State Street Theater in June 2019 and a final workshop and reading at the State Street Theater in October 2019.

Charles Putnam, St. Peter - $3,000. Charles is a visual artist and will use the grant to create abstract images based on human figures, architecture and landscape. Grant funds will be used to purchase painting supplies, wood panels, canvases, paper and framing materials. He plans to have an exhibition at the Arts Center of Saint Peter in April 2020.

Robin Warburton, Janesville - $3,000. Robin is a woodcarver and will use the artist grant to attend a carving and painting class of a Great Horned Owl with master carver Keith Mueller. Grant funds will pay for the carving and painting class. She plans to display at the Festival of Owls in Houston in March 2019 and have an exhibit at the Waseca Arts Center, September 10-October 11, 2019.

Amanda White, New Prague - $3,000. Amanda is an actor, director, producer and college theatre instructor. She will use the artist grant to write her first full-length play. Grant funds will pay for script production supplies, a cast of actors for a series of developmental readings and publicity. She plans on presenting a public staged reading of the play at DalekoArts, New Prague on September 14, 2019.

Gregory Wilkins, Mankato - $3,000. Gregory is a visual artist and will use the artist grant to create six pieces of mixed media art. Grant funds will be used to purchase art supplies and framing. He plans to have an exhibition at the Carnegie Art Center, Mankato in February 2020.
100 Area Students were Awarded Youth Art Scholarships for a total of $27,000

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council is pleased to announce that scholarships of $27,000 from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, which is funded by the Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment, have been awarded to 70 students in grades 7-12 and 30 students in grades 3-6 throughout the region. Students in grades 7-12 receive $300 and grades 3-6 receive $200. The Youth Scholarships will provide these students the opportunity to study their chosen art with a practicing professional artist by taking lessons over a period of months. A variety of lessons in cello, flute, guitar, piano, string bass, trumpet, viola, violin, voice, and dance will be provided.

Youth Scholarship recipients live in twenty different communities representing eight counties,” noted Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director. “We are excited about the wonderful arts activities these students will be involved in.” They will be taking lessons and participating with many area arts groups including:

- Dance Conservatory of Southern MN in Mankato,
- Mankato Ballet Company, and Riverfront Performing Arts in Mankato;
- music lessons at Mankato Suzuki School of Music and New Ulm Suzuki School of Music;
- participation in Mankato Area 77 Lancers Marching Band, Mankato Children’s Chorus, and Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra. Many independent music instructors throughout the area will also be providing lessons for these students.

The next deadline for Youth Scholarships, grades 7-12, is October 1, 2019.
The next deadline for grades 3-6 is November 1, 2019.

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

The $300 Youth Scholarship Recipients from grades 7-12 live in nineteen different communities representing eight counties. The $200 Youth Scholarship Recipients from grades 3-6 live in twelve different communities representing seven counties. Refer to page 8 for complete lists of students by County.

Thinking about applying? Students should remember to answer their application questions with several sentences in a paragraph answer. In general, students scored higher in the review process if they provided more detailed answers to the questions and had more years of experience in their art form.

The Prairie Lakes Board considers three criteria for grades 7-12. The maximum points for category A. Years of Experience is 4 points, B. Student’s Answers to the Questions is 8 points and C. Instructor Recommendation is 4 points; for total points of 16 maximum for grades 7-12.

The Prairie Lakes Board considers two criteria for grades 3-6. The maximum points for category A. Student’s Answers to the Questions is 8 points & B. Instructor Recommendation is 4 points; for total points of 12 maximum for grades 3-6. The complete list of the criteria for both grade levels is available to view or download at www.plrac.org.
Youth Scholarships, Grades 7-12, listed by County and Community
A total of $21,000 was awarded to 70 students for scholarships of $300 each; and they live in 19 different communities, representing eight counties.

**Blue Earth County - $5,400**
Lake Crystal: Katherine Strum
Garden City: Elizabeth Olson
Mankato: Nikolai Becker, Cullen Bednarchuk, Lucas Besel, Evan Bunde, Ellie Fischenich, Will Fischenich, Madeline Halvorson, Rebekah Hartwig, Maryam Ibrahim, Connor Maday, Caden Oleson, Spencer Quiram, Kiara Riehl, Hans Rupnow, Sabrina Seiwert, Matthew Strom

**Brown County - $3,900**
Comfrey: Grace Goedtke, Joseph Goedtke
New Ulm: Owen Dunkel, Evelyn Friese, Emily Guggisberg, Noah Huseby, Leah Menzel, Lydia Meyer, Jessica Moellenhoff, Sebastian Smith, Bethany Spike, Magdalen Spike
Sleepy Eye: Gunval Coulson

**Faribault County - $300**
Delavan: Anna Remes

**LeSueur County - $2,400**
Kasota: Teresa Weber
LeCenter: Arya Menk
LeSueur: Ella Cranny, Melissa Heim, Sarah Schwartz
Waterville: Megan Schmitz
Rural Henderson: Joseph Fixsen
Rural St. Peter: Heidi Weber

Youth Scholarships, Grades 3-6, listed by County and Community
A total of $6,000 was awarded to 30 students for scholarships of $200 each; and they live in 12 different communities, representing seven counties.

**Blue Earth County - $800**
Mankato: Clara Anderson, Brynn Evans, Caleb Hartwig, Autumn Seiwert

**Brown County - $1,800**
Comfrey: Paul Goedtke
New Ulm: Elizabeth Borgen, Joshua Carlovsky, Nathaniel Carlovsky, Jamis Martens, Ashlyn Rodewald, Norah Rodewald, Ainsley Tess
Sleepy Eye: Anna Mages

**LeSueur County - $400**
Rural St. Peter: Julie Weber, Molli Weber

**Martin County - $200**
Fairmont: Stephanie Olson

**Martins County - $300**
Fairmont: Eric Head

**Nicollet County - $6,000**
Nicollet: Isabella Aase
North Mankato: Morgan Anderson, Ronan Corley, Alyssa Enevold, Lexi Fosburgh, Sasha Jakovich, Sydney Johnson, Elli Kim, Emily Schanbacher, Kira Sims, Matthew Smith
St. Peter: Anja Bunge Dulin, Ian Gerstbauer, Anna Klatt, Erin Olson, Isaac Peterson, Alexa Rassbach, Grace Werner, Tate Winkelmann
Rural New Ulm: Grace Peterson

**Sibley County - $600**
Gaylord: Lydia Kranz
Henderson: Alexander Davig

**Watsonwan County - $2,100**
Madelia: Katharine Davis, Jude Frellich
St. James: Olivia Christensen, Lucia Kulseth, Lydia Rete, Miriam Rete, Diana Sargent

**Nicollet County - $1,400**
Nicollet: Gordon Matzke, Natalie Matzke
North Mankato: Marco Jakovich
St. Peter: Roan Gerstbauer, Adela Madson, Rhian Velasquez, Paige Winkelmann

**Sibley County - $600**
Gibbon: Estella Ortiz
Henderson: Sophia Davig, Gaian Geldner

**Watsonwan County - $800**
Madelia: Karl Davis
St. James: Isaiah Rete, Katelyn Runge, Keeley Runge
Learning about Diversity, Inclusion and Equity in the Arts

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Have you visited www.plrac.org lately?

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

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

FY 2019 PLRAC GRANT DEADLINES

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Organizational Grants - Non-profit arts organizations, community groups, schools, or public organizations producing or sponsoring arts activities for their community are eligible. Fundable projects may include: community choirs & bands, dance activities, literary readings, music presentations, theatre productions, visual arts classes and exhibitions, etc. Maximums for the Arts & Cultural Heritage grants vary as well as matching fund requirements; check guidelines for details. Organizations can only receive one grant per year. Details are on page 11.

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arts-In-Education &amp; Small Arts Project - $2,000</th>
<th>Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant $8,000</th>
<th>Professional Mid-Career Artist Grant - $3,000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st of the Month Deadline July 1, 2018 to May 1, 2019</td>
<td>ACH Education- $4,000 Arts Festivals - $5,000</td>
<td>September 15 Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Scholarship Grades 7-12 - $300</td>
<td>August 1 Deadline &amp; February 1 Deadline</td>
<td>Artist Career Development Grant - $1,000</td>
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<td>October 1 Deadline</td>
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<td>January 15 Deadline</td>
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<td>Youth Scholarship Grades 3-6 - $200</td>
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<td>November 1 Deadline</td>
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All grant applications are online in 2018 and 2019. A tutorial that explains the online process is on our website.
FY 2019 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

Deadlines are: Aug. 1 and Feb. 1

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

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

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

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

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

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

Small Arts Project Grant

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

Arts-In-Education Grant

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

Individual Artist Grant

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

September 15 - Professional Mid-Career Artist Grant, $3,000 each.

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

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

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council has One Board Position Open

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

The deadline for submitting an application is Jan. 31, 2018. 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
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City of North Mankato ... Dana Sikkila
City of St. Peter .......... Lauren Shoemaker

Staff
Executive Director ........ Brenda Byron
Program Manager ........ Cindy Lever
Administrative Assistant .. Pam Trumbull
**Arts Calendar**

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

**Jan. 1-Feb. 1** Charles E. Burchfield’s “Oh My Heavens” Exhibit of paintings, drawings, and prints. **Jan. 20:** Gallery Talk, 3-4 p.m., by Tullis Johnson, Curator and Manager of Exhibitions at the Burchfield Penney Art Center, co-curator of the exhibit, and co-author of the exhibit catalogue. Held at the Hillstrom Museum of Art, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Free & open to the public. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. weekdays and 1-5 p.m. weekends. www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom or (507) 933-7200.

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


*Jan. 2-10* Malia Wiley’s “Crochet in Translation” Painting Exhibit. **Jan. 10:** Artists, scrap bookers, crafters, and arts enthusiasts can come visit and bring a project of their choice to work on while enjoying conservation and light refreshments with Malia and other creative people, 2-6 p.m. Malia will be on site doing painting and crocheting demos as well. Held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. Hours: Tues., Wed. & Fri. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and evenings & weekends by appointment. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.

**Jan. 3-Feb. 9** Sue Altoff’s Painting Exhibit, (Reception, Jan. 12, 9 a.m.-12 Noon) held at the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 B. First St. Hours: Thurs & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

**Jan. 4-25** Liz Stensland and Brittney Wegener’s Installation and Sculpture Exhibit. Held at the Em Fryentz Gallery, Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri., 12 Noon-4 p.m. and Thurs. 4-8 p.m. (507) 387-1008 or www.twinriversarts.org.

*Jan. 5* Singing Hills Chorus presents their Fireside Concert with special guest Crista Bohlmann, 1:30 p.m. with reception to follow. (Postponed from Dec. 1) Tickets $10; children 5 and under are free, however, a ticket is required. Limited tickets are available at Scheitl’s Music and The Music Mart in Mankato. To find out if tickets are available at the door, call (507) 519-0626 or visit the Singing Hills Chorus Facebook page. Held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Chapel, 170 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato. www.singinghillschorus.org.

**Jan. 7-Feb. 9** Wes Taylor’s Photography Exhibit. (Lecture & Reception, Jan. 17, 7 p.m.) Held at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center Gallery, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Gallery hours: Sun.-Thurs. 1-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 1-8 p.m. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

**Jan. 7-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.

**Jan. 8, 15, 22 & 29** Weekly Open Houses sponsored by the Minnesota Makers & Artist Guild, 3-6 p.m., Tuesdays. Tour the shops, try the tools, and purchase memberships. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatamakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

*Jan. 8-Feb. 7* 9th Annual Prairie Lakes/McKnight Artist Grantee Art Exhibition, featuring twenty-two Artist Grantees funded in 2017. (Reception, Jan. 13, 1-5 p.m. Program starts at 1:15 p.m. featuring visual artists discussing their work, literary artists doing readings, and musicians performing.) Visual artists: Sheila Becker, Bruce Blaisdell, Denise Friesen, Craig Groe, Kay Herbst Helms, Michelle Kaisersatt, Marjie Laizure, Margie Larson, April Malphurs, Stephen Mark, Ann Obernolte, Dana Sikkila, Geraldine Tostenson, and Robert Williams. Literary artists: Tom Barna, Candace Black, Rebecca Brooks, and Teagan Knoblich. Musicians: Sara Buechmann, Sarah Houle, Dick Kimmel, and Joe Tougas. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 12 Noon-3 p.m. (507) 833-8721 or www.plrac.org.

**Jan. 11-27** Benjamin Williams’ Hand Built Guitars Exhibition, (Reception, Jan. 11, 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.

**Prairie Lakes is on Facebook!**

“LIKE” Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council’

*Jan. 13 Fairmont Opera House presents Ordinarius, a Brazilian a capella singing group, 3 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, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.com.

Jan. 13 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.artcentersp.org.


Jan. 14-29 Fashion and Commercial Photography Club Exhibit, held at Centennial Student Union Gallery, MN State University, Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 12 Midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to 12 Midnight, and Sun. 10 a.m. to 12 Midnight. www.mnsu.edu/artdept/ or (507) 389-6767.

Jan. 14-Feb. 4 Jim Denomie’s Painting and Multimedia Exhibit, (Lecture and Reception, Jan. 28, 7 p.m.) held at Conkling Gallery, Dept. of Art, MN State University, Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-6412 or www.mnsu.edu/artdept/.

*Jan. 17-Feb. 28 Matthew Petroviak’s Photography and Painting Exhibit. Held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. Hours: Tues., Wed. & Fri. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and evenings & weekends by appointment. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.


Jan. 19 Fairmont Opera House presents Jason Farnham performing contemporary and classic piano music, 7:30 p.m. Adults $20; seniors $15; Veterans, active duty, or students $10; under 10 $5; available online 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.

Jan 20-27 Spotlight on the Arts Annual Showcase of work by students throughout the region. (Presentation, Jan. 27, 3-4 p.m.) Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. Special January gallery hours: Thurs. 1-6 p.m., Fri. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. & Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (507) 931-3630 or www.artcentersp.org.

*Jan. 22 MN State University, Mankato, Performance Series Concert by Stella Roma, performing world music, 7:30 p.m. $12, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

*Jan. 24 MN State University, Mankato, Performance Series Concert by Erik Koskinen and Molly Maher, performing Americana music, 7:30 p.m. $12, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

Jan. 24 “Tell Me a Story”, Storytelling, this month’s theme is animal encounters. Put your name in the hat if you would like to share a story. Refreshments at 7 p.m. and stories at 7:30 p.m., free. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artcentersp.org.

Jan. 25 “A Taste of African Cultures in Performance”, 1-2:30 p.m. Students from the Minnesota State University, Mankato, African Student Association will share songs, dance, poetry and other examples of their various cultures. Non-members $5, members free. Register by Jan. 24. Held at VINE Adult Community Center, 421 E. Hickory St., Mankato. (507) 386-5586 or www.vinevolunteers.com.

*Jan. 25 Prairie Fire Children’s Theatre performances of “Beauty and the Beast” by Minnesota New Country School K-6 students, 1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m., free. Held at Henderson Road Haus Event Center, 514 Main Street, (507) 868-0074 or www.newcountryschool.com.


*Jan. 27* Summit Avenue Music Series: Chamber Music Concert by the Pro Arte Quartet, 3 p.m., with violinists David Perry and Suzanna Beia, cellist Parry Karp, and violaist Sally Chisholm. Adults $13, students and children $5, season pass $35. Held at Chapel of the Christ, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 354-8221 or www.summitavenuemusic.com.

*Jan. 27* Maker Market, sponsored by the Minnesota Makers & Artist Guild, 12 Noon-5 p.m. Shop for truly unique items created by local artists. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Avenue, Mankato. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

*Jan. 29* Omitted Histories: The Role of Music and Theatre to Challenge Biases Discussion, 7 p.m. Lead by Ronnie Malley from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Learn how art can help challenge commonly held notions and rhetoric about cultures other than your own. Free, held at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. www.twiriversarts.org or (507) 387-1008.

*Jan. 31* MN State University, Mankato, Performance Series Concert by Ziryab, performing music from 9th century Islamic Spain to present day America, 7:30 p.m. $12, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

Jan. 31-Feb. 3 & Feb. 6-10 “Peter and the Starcatcher” theater production, Jan. 31-Feb. 2 & Feb. 6-9 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 3, 9 &10 at 2 p.m. Adults $16, seniors over 65 and youth under sixteen $14. Held at the Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-6661 or www.mnsu.edu/theatre/.

**Area Wineries** have musical entertainment on Friday and Saturday evenings. Please visit their websites for times and musicians.

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


### In FY 2018 Prairie Lakes awarded 214 Grants totaling $409,330

Here’s a summary of Grants awarded:

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

**$82,705** - State General funds (48 grants)

Small Arts Project & Arts-In-Education Grant

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

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

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

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

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

**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.
Youth & Adult Opportunities

Youth Classes

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

Jan. 3-27  STEAM in the Loft Projects. Week 1 & 2: Make your own board games and puzzles. Week 3: Explore energy with music and dance. Week 4: Sew and Collage with Felt. Loft Hours: Thurs. 5-7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-12 Noon & 1-3 p.m., Sun. 1-3 p.m. $8 per person 1 year and older. Held at Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota, 224 Lamm St., Mankato. (507) 386-0279 or www.cmsouthernmn.org.

Jan. 8  Club Picasso, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Grades 4 and up, $10. With a focus on skill building, our students will incorporate design elements using a variety of media. Classes reinforce skills and learning new techniques. This month is “Bicycle Study”. Registration required with Waseca Community Education online at https://isd829.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/ or (507) 835-5626. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State Street North. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Jan. 12 & 26  Kids Art Club, Every other Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-12 Noon, ages 8-14. Explore different art mediums. Projects will vary and will include ceramics, painting, drawing, sculptures, and more. Members $10, non-members $15. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Jan. 15  Parent/Child Date Night Pottery Class, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Learn the basics to wheel-thrown pottery and make a project together. No prior clay wheel experience required. $45. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Area Community Education, (507) 387-5501 or www.mankatoccer.com.


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

Private Art Instruction, is available at $20 per hour for children or adults, up to 5 participants. Contact the Waseca Art Center for more information. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701, info@wasecaartscouncil.org or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Adult Artists

Jan. 1-March 1  Minnesota Shorts Play Festival is accepting Short Play Scripts to be included in the fall festival. Seven plays from Minnesota writers will be chosen. Plays must be 10 pages or less, each writer can submit up to 2 plays to be judged. For more information call (507) 420-1881 go to www.mnshorts.com.

Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30  Wednesday Morning Drawing and Study Group, 9:30 a.m.-12 Noon, free and open to the public. 9:30-10:45 a.m. studio time to work on your own art. 11 a.m.-12 Noon, art appreciation discussion. Contact Rachel James at racheljames@wasecaartscouncil.org for a schedule of topics. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

Jan. 2 & 16  Needlework Group, self-directed time to work on projects including quilting, crochet, knitting, embroidery, and more. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Bring your own supplies. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

Jan. 2 & 26  Papier-Mache Sculpture Group, 5-8 p.m. Group meets every first and third Wednesdays to work on papier-mache sculptures projects. $10, materials included. Register with Waseca Community Education (507) 835-5626 or online at https://isd829.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Jan. 3 & 17  Glass Torchwork 101 – Clear Creation Class, 6-9 p.m. Hands-on experience to learn how glass working feels and how the glass can be manipulated. Members $50, non-members $60. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 Third Avenue. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

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Adult Arts Opportunities

Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 Wire and Wine Design Classes, 6-9 p.m., Learn wire wrapping and create your own jewelry. Different project each session. Members $40, non-members $45, each session. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Jan. 5, 12, 26 & Feb. 2 Ballroom Dance Class for Beginners, 1-5 p.m. Classes will include introductions to the Foxtrot, English Waltz, and Waltz. $75 per couple or $40 per person, http://newulm.cc.eleyo.com to register. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. www.statetreetnewulm.org or (507) 359-9990.


Jan. 8, 15, 22 & 29 Jam Sessions, Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Jan. 8, 15, 22 & 29 Intro to the Wheel Ceramics Classes, Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. $35, members receive a 25 lb. bag of clay for free. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Jan. 8 Intro to Lathe Class, 7-9 p.m. Hands on experience learning about the wood lathe, sharpening, sanding, finishing, and create your own project. Members $10, non-members $15. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Avenue. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

Jan. 11 Pottery Date Night Class led by Felicia DeWald, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Bring your significant other, learn to make basic forms on the potter’s wheel, choose 1-2 pieces to be glazed and fired. No prior clay wheel experience required. $45. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Area Community Education, (507) 387-5501 or www.mankatocer.com.

Jan. 13 Writers’ Critique Group, 3-4:30 p.m. Bring work in progress and a question or two for the group. Read for five minutes, get critiqued for ten. Leave with good vibes and new ideas for moving forward. Hosted by Ronda Redmond. All levels welcome, there is no previous participation or experience necessary. $5, no advanced registration required. Held 2nd Sunday of the month, at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

*Jan. 13-14 Merely Players Community Theatre will have Open Auditions for “My Fair Lady”, 6-8 p.m. each day. Performances will be March 14-16 & 21-23 at the Kato Ballroom. Auditions will be held at the Lincoln Community Center, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. (507) 388-5483 or www.merelyplayers.com.

Jan. 14-Feb. 11 Beginning Watercolor Painting Class led by Kevin Kroeber, Mondays, 6-8 p.m. Learn the basic fundamentals and techniques for watercolor painting. No experience required. $65. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton Street, Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

Jan. 15 Beginner Acrylic Pouring Class led by Jessica Schwantes, 6:30-8 p.m. Choose to paint on an 8”x10” canvas, a record, or a set of four 4”x4” ceramic tiles. No experience required. $30, includes materials. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Area Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

Jan. 16-Feb. 13 Making Watercolor Greeting and Gift Cards Class led by Kevin Kroeber, Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. Learn how to paint over drawn images, free painting using line and painting techniques & more. No prior experience required. $65. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.


Jan. 19 Floral Painting Techniques Class, 6-8 p.m. Learn color and balance in a free form painting style. Members $20, non-members $25. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

Jan. 19 Saint Peter Music Lovers Monthly Meeting, 2-4 p.m. Create memories around your passion for music, anyone interested can join. Contact Jill Niebuhr for more info., warriorjammin@gmail.com. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

(continued on page 18)
Adult Arts Opportunities


Jan. 22 Non-Profit Directors’ Lunch, 12 Noon-1 p.m. Nonprofit leaders can network while sharing resources, challenges, and successes; free. You are responsible for your own lunch. Held at Vero’s Tacos, 1754 Commerce Drive, North Mankato. Sponsored by Minnesota Council of Nonprofits. (507) 469-2217 or www.minnesotanonprofits.org.

Jan. 26 Learn to Tech Workshop, 1-5 p.m. Learn how to work behind the scenes and run the technological aspects to present a play or music concert. $20, registration is online at http://newulm.cc.eleyo.com. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State Street, New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statetreenewulm.org.

Jan. 27 Maker Market, 12 Noon-5 p.m. Members can exhibit for free, non-members pay $30 fee. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Jan. 31 - May 9 Singing Hills Chorus Spring Session Rehearsals, Thursdays, 10-11:30 a.m. Social times 9:30-10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-12 Noon. The chorus includes members with dementia or Alzheimer’s and their care partners. $25 per person, the person with dementia must register with a care partner. Held at School Sisters of Notre Dame, 170 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato. www.singinghillschorus.org.

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

Private Art Instruction, is available at $20 per hour for children or adults, up to 5 participants. Contact the Waseca Art Center for more information. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. (507) 835-1701, info@wasecaartscouncil.org or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Grant Opportunities

*Jan. 15 PLRAC Artist Career Development Grant Deadline. The purpose of the $1,000 grant is to provide financial support to developing artists committed to advancing their work and careers. Artists in their formative stages of development are eligible, as well as artists expanding their present work, advancing in skill, technique and/or moving in a new direction. Guidelines can be downloaded from our website: www.plrac.org, along with a link to the online grant application. plrac@hickorytech.net, (507) 833-8721, or (800) 298-1254.

Jan. 18 Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support Deadline. Operating Support Funds provide general operating support to high quality, established arts organizations that produce, present, or exhibit works of art; to organizations that provide a broad range of services to artists; and to community arts schools and conservatories. Amounts can vary. Application deadline: Jan. 18 at 4:30 p.m. For more information contact richard.hitchler@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.

*Feb. 1 PLRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant Deadline. For arts organizations, schools, and festivals. $8,000 available for arts organizations, $4,000 for schools and $5,000 for festivals. Guidelines can be downloaded from our website: www.plrac.org, along with a link to the online grant application. (507) 833-8721, (800) 298-1254, or plrac@hickorytech.net.

Feb. 8 Minnesota State Arts Board Arts Learning Grant Deadline. This program offers funding for projects that help lifelong learners acquire knowledge and understanding of and skills in the arts. Projects must provide participatory learning and engage learners with skilled teaching artists and high quality artistic experiences. $5,000-$150,000. Application deadline: Feb. 8 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 www.arts.state.mn.us, the Minnesota State Arts Board website.
Non-profit Art Centers

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

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

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

**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.

**Twin Rivers Council for the Arts and the Emyp Frentz Arts Guild Gallery**, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Artist studios, gallery space, and Ticket Box Office for arts events in Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., and Fri. 12 Noon-4 p.m. and Thur. 4-8 p.m. (507) 387-1008, info@twinriversarts.org, or www.twinriversarts.org. Also find other arts events at: www.greatemankatoevents.com. Gallery Application link: www.twinriversarts.org/exhibition-schedule

**Waseca Art Center**, 200 N. State Street. Monthly exhibits, educational programs, weekly art appreciation discussions, and spring concert series. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 12 Noon-3 p.m. info@wasecaartcenter.org, www.wasecaartcenter.org, or (507) 835-1701.

College Galleries

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

**Conkling Art Gallery**, 139 Nelson Hall, MN State University, Mankato. Monthly exhibits are on display. Gallery hours: Mon. through Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-6412 or www.mnmsu.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/finart/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

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

Studio Space Available for visual artists and musicians located at 28½ North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. (507) 327-2130 or dreamingelkstudio@gmail.com.

New Artist Studios at the Plaza. Functional space for artists and art organizations to rent. At 108 South Minnesota Ave., St. Peter. Contact them through Facebook “Studios at the Plaza”, (507) 243-4284, stpeterstudios@gmail.com.

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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