Arts Advocacy Day will be March 12, 2019

Sign up now at WWW.ARTSMN.ORG

Arts Advocacy Day is important to show the strength of MN’s statewide arts community; especially when legislators discuss the state budget and Legacy funding, known as “Arts and Cultural Heritage” funding that provides money to the MN State Arts Board and eleven Regional Arts Councils, including Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

Brenda Byron, PLRAC, will lead a team of Arts Advocates at the capital to meet with legislators from our region. We encourage you to register with Minnesota Citizens for the Arts for Arts Advocacy Day on March 12, 2019. We start with a rally and then split into teams to talk to legislators about why they should support the arts. Arts people from every corner of the state come together in St. Paul.

On March 12, 2019 Minnesota Citizens for the Arts will bring hundreds of arts advocates from around the state to the State Capitol for “Arts Advocacy Day”. They will educate legislators about the arts in their communities and ask them to support the arts funding promised through the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment that dedicated funds to conservation and the arts. In 2017 1,000 arts advocates filled the capitol! MCA hopes to have a similar amount in 2019.

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

Register Now and Find out More at:
http://artsmn.org/act/events/arts-advocacy-day/
Registration Deadline is March 8, 2019

At the Capitol are: Brenda Byron, Ann Rosenquist Fee, Sara Buechmann, Diane Harms, Lill Robinson, Dana Sikkila, and other Arts Advocates from the Northfield area.
On January 24th We Celebrated 10 Years of Arts Legacy Funding in Region 9

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

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>State Funding</th>
<th>McKnight Funding</th>
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<td>State $803,658</td>
<td>McKnight $379,500</td>
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Pam Trumbull, PLRAC Administrative Assistant; Lauren Shoemaker, PLRAC Board President; Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director; and Cindy Lewer, PLRAC Program Manager.
ARTS NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY
will be conducted in February-March 2019
by the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council

A constituent survey was conducted in the 9-county area served by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council; through February 28th and will be extended until March 8th. Three electronic Survey Forms were created for: Artists, Arts Organizations/Community Groups and Schools; and a new one for Cities and Chambers of Commerce using Survey Monkey. The surveys were sent to over 1,500 individuals on the PLRAC mailing list in the 9-county area. A new mailing list for cities and chambers was created with 114 contacts. We hope you participated!

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

*These grants were awarded July 2018 through January 2019.

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 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
- Bethany College, Speechless Film Festival - $2,000
- Deep Valley Book Festival, author talks - $875
- GSR Fine Art Festival - $2,000
- Maple River High School Band, field trip - $1,820
- 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

**FARIBAULT COUNTY**
- Blue Earth Area Orchestra, field trip - $1,720

**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**
- Minnesota 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
- City of Winthrop, summer concert series - $1,580
- Henderson C.A.N., public art - $2,000
- Henderson Sauerkraut Days, music - $1,500
- Minnesota New Country School, theater - $2,000
- MN Valley Music Teachers Assoc., piano festival - $1,800
- Sibley County Fair, music performances - $2,000
- St. Thomas Oratory Jessenland, Irish music - $1,725
- Winthrop Chamber of Commerce, music - $1,000

**WASECA COUNTY**
- Project G.E.M., American Indian Artist Residency - $2,000
- American Indian Service Learning Project - $1,400
- St. Olaf Lake Association, music performance - $600
- Waseca Marching Classic, clinicians - $1,750
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.

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 6.

Artist Grants - Are for specific projects that will enhance your arts career. Applications are online at [www.plrac.org](http://www.plrac.org).

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

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

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**Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council has One Board Position Open**

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

The deadline for submitting an application is May 15, 2019. Interested persons residing in Fairmont or Nicollet County 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.**

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**Prairie Lakes Board of Directors**

Blue Earth County .......... Liz Miller
Brown County ............. Denice Evers
Faribault County .......... Carol Soma
Le Sueur County ............ Randy Mediger
Martin County .......... Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerene
Nicollet County ............ Diane Harms
Sibley County .......... Dennis Van Moorlehem
Waseca County .......... Karen Krause
Watonwan County .......... Steve Davis
City of Fairmont.......... Open
City of Mankato .......... Margie Larson
City of New Ulm .......... Charles Luedtke
City of North Mankato .... Dana Sikkila
City of St. Peter .......... Lauren Shoemaker

**Staff**

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

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

**March 1**  Gustavus Jazz Jamboree Evening Concert, 7 p.m., featuring the Gustavus Jazz Ensemble, and Grammy nominated jazz violinist Sara Caswell. Held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

March 1  Screening of the documentary film “(Mid)West of Somalia” about Somali-American men and women seeking a meaningful connection to rural southern Minnesota communities; and a panel discussion with Gustavus Adolphus Communications Studies Professor Martin Lang, co-producer Noah O’Ryan, and three Somali-Americans, 1:30 p.m. Held at New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway St. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

**March 1-2**  The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7:30 p.m. each night. **March 1:** Hootenanny Annies performing country, rock, bluegrass, and folk music, free. **March 2:** The Everett Smithson Band performing zydeco, blues, tex mex, rockabilly and roots music, $5 admission. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

**March 1 & 8-10**  Curtain Call Theatre will present their dinner theatre, “The Odd Couple, Female Version” by Neil Simon, March 1-2 & 8-9; dinner 6:15 p.m., show 7:30 p.m. March 10: dinner 12:15 p.m., show 1:30 p.m. Show only $10; dinner and show $30. Dinner tickets must be reserved 24 hours in advance. Held at Next Chapter Winery, 16945 320th St., New Prague. (507) 744-8947 or www.curtaincalltheatre.net.

**March 1-3 & March 7-10**  “Constellations” theater performances. March 1-2, & March 7-9 at 7:30 p.m. and March 3 & 10 at 2 p.m. Post-show discussions held after the March 3 & 10 shows. General admission tickets $12, $18 or $25. There are a specific number of tickets at each price point; $12 are sold first, then $18, then $25, shop early for best price. At DalekoArts, 110 East Main St., New Prague. (952) 314-9077 or www.dalekoarts.com.

**March 1-10**  Lisa Bierer’s “Painting is the Immediate Somewhat Between a Thought and a Thing” Painting Exhibit, held at The 410 Project, 523 South Front Street, Mankato. Gallery hours: Wed., Fri., Sat. 2-6 p.m. and Sun. 1-4 p.m. www.the410project.com.

*March 1-15*  38th Annual Regional High School Art Exhibit. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sat. 12 Noon-3 p.m. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

**March 1-16**  Tri-City United High School Art Exhibit, held at the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 B. First St. Hours: Thurs & Fri. 2-5 p.m. & Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. www.artsandheritagecenter.org or (507) 364-8107.

**March 1-19**  Art League 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. (507) 389-6767 or www.mnsu.edu/artdept/.

**March 1-22**  Mary Walchuk’s “Land and Sky” Mixed Media Exhibit, 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/.

**March 1-22**  Mary Walchuk’s Photography and Drawing Exhibit. (Reception, March 1, 5-7 p.m.) Held at the Emy Frenz Gallery, Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (507) 387-1008 or www.twinrivsarts.org. Mary received a PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grant in 2018 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

**March 1-24**  Jason Jaspersen’s Ceramic Sculpture Exhibit. Held at the Ylisaker Fine Arts Center Gallery, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Gallery hours: Sun.-Thurs. 1-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 1-8 p.m. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

**March 1-30**  Kathy Black’s “Upcycled Treasures” Exhibit. Held at Blue Earth County Historical Society Art Gallery, 415 E. Cherry St., Mankato. Hours: Tues.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 345-5566 or www.blueearthcountyhistory.com.

**March 1-30**  “Ann Judkins: 3.14 Exhibitions” Painting Exhibit. (Reception, March 2, 3-5 p.m.) Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. Gallery hours: Tues. & Wed. 1-6 p.m., Thurs. 1-8 p.m., Fri. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. & Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

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

**March 1-April 18**  “For the Gods: Photographs of India” Exhibit by Pricilla Briggs. Held at the Hillstrom Museum of Art, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. weekdays and 1-5 p.m. weekends. www.gustave.edu/finearts/hillstrom or (507) 933-7200.
March 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.


March 2 Fasching Festival, a German Mardi Gras with musical performances including Adam & The Jolly Jammers performing 2-4 p.m. & 5-7 p.m.; and Concord Singers performing 4-6 p.m. & 7-8 p.m. Parade of Costumes at 7 p.m. with prizes awarded. In advance $8 at the New Ulm Chamber of Commerce, at the door $10. At the Best Western Plus, 2101 S. Broadway, New Ulm. (507) 354-7112.

March 2 Gustavus Wind Orchestra and Minnesota Junior Winds Concert, 6 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

March 2-3 Mankato Ballet Performing Company presents their “A Midsummer’s Eve” performance, professional level productions. March 2: 1 & 5 p.m., held at Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. March 3: 2 p.m., held at State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. In advance: adults $12 and children under 12 $9; at the door: adults $15, children under 12 $10; age 2 and under free. Mankato Ballet Company, (507) 625-7716 or www.mankataballet.org.


March 4-April 29 Open Pottery Lab, Mondays and Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m. Purchase a punch card and 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.mankatoccer.com.

March 5, 12, 19 & 26 Weekly Open Houses sponsored by the Minnesota Makers & Artist Guild, 3-6 p.m., Tuesdays. Tour the shops, check out the tools, and purchase memberships. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

March 5-April 10 Vicki Swanson and her father-in-law Don Swanson’s Wood Works Exhibit, held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 East Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. Hours: Tues., Wed. & Fri. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and evenings & weekends by appointment. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

March 7 Dick Kimmel’s Songwriters’ Showcase, music at 7 p.m., $5 suggested donation to attend. Held at The 410 Project, 523 South Front Street, Mankato. www.the410project.com.

March 7-23 Bradley Coulter’s “Origin of the Species: An Exhibition of Prints” Exhibit in the Cook Gallery; Charlie Putnam’s “Visual Fragments” Mixed Media Painting Exhibit in the Rotunda Gallery; and LeAnn Gehring-Ryan’s “95...All Roads Lead Home” Metal Works and Photography Exhibit in the Fireplace Gallery. (Reception, March 9, 7-9 p.m.) Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Fri. 1-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (507) 625-2730 or www.thecarnegiecenter.com.


March 8 Jim McGuire Jazz Trio Concert, 7 p.m. Single concert ticket: members $10, non-members $12. 3-concert series ticket: members $25, non-members $30. Other concerts are March 29 and April 6. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.
**March 8-9** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7:30 p.m. each night. **March 8:** Minnesota Barking Ducks performing swing blues music, free. **March 9:** Lynn Langham and Doug Gill from the Nashville Songwriting community performs, members $8, non-members $12. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

**March 9** Fairmont Opera House presents We Banjo 3 performing Celtic bluegrass music, 7:30 p.m. Adults $20; seniors $15; Veterans, active duty, or students $10; under 10 $5; available at www.fairmontoperahouse.com or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, (507) 238-4900 or www.fairmontoperahouse.com.

**March 10** 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.

**March 10** Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra’s Wind Ensemble Concert, 3 p.m. Held at Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (612) 251-8492 or www.mayso.net.

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

**March 12** Film screening and discussion of “Rebel Without a Cause”, as part of the Coming of Age Films Series. Hosted by The New Ulm Film Society, 6 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 North Broadway. www.newulmlibrary.org or (507) 359-8334.

**March 12-15** Good Thunder Reading Series featuring poet Layli Long Soldier. **March 12-15**, writing workshops each day, 10-11 a.m., at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, Emy Frenz Gallery, 523 S. 2nd St., Mankato. **March 12**, “Writing 38: Craft Intention and Considerations” talk, 7:30 p.m., held at Centennial Student Union’s Ostrander Auditorium, MN State University, Mankato. **March 14**, craft talk, 3-4 p.m., at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 150 Stadium Ct., Mankato and poetry reading, 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Centennial Student Union Room 245, MN State University, Mankato. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato. http://gt.mnsu.edu/ or (507) 389-1354.

**March 14** Concert by pianist Charlie Albright, sponsored by the Fairmont Concert Association. Held at the Fairmont High School Auditorium, 900 Johnson St. Tickets by series membership only, $50. (507) 893-4554 or mdmiller2@bevcomm.net.

**March 14-16** “Paddy’s Wake” Irish music, dance and comedy at 7:30 p.m. Written by Patrick Ryan and inspired by “Finnegans Wake.” Audience members are attending a traditional Irish Wake. Featuring guest performers Ken Longquist and the Irish pub band “O’Darby” and Jack McGowan. Tickets purchased before March 8 $40, after March 8 $45; includes dinner of Irish stew and corned beef and cabbage. Cash bar available. Call (507) 345-1446 to purchase tickets. Held at Loose Moose Saloon, 119 S. Front St., Mankato. (507) 345-1446.

**March 14-16 & 21-23** Merely Players Community Theatre presents the musical “My Fair Lady”, dinner at 6 p.m., show at 7:30 p.m. All tickets include dinner and the show, purchased before March 9 $40, after March 9 $45. Tickets reserve a space at a table, seats are not numbered, seating at the table is first come first served. Held at the Kato Ballroom, 200 Chestnut Street, Mankato. www.merelyplayers.com or (507) 388-5483.

**March 15** A Night of Ballroom Dancing featuring The Echos Big Band, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Dance floor seating that includes appetizers $25, theater seating $10. Advance tickets available at the New Ulm Chamber of Commerce, New Ulm HyVee or at www.statestreetnewulm.org. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statestreetnewulm.org.

**March 15-16** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7:30 p.m. each night, free. **March 15:** Open Mic Night with local artists performing, hosted by Dave “Ocho” O’Connell. **March 16:** Tristan Blue performing Celtic and Irish folk music. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

**March 15-31** Minnesota State University, Mankato Installation Course Exhibit, (Reception, March 15, 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.

**March 15-April 12** Minnesota State University, Mankato Graduate Student Exhibit, including ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, installation, and drawing. Held at 4 Pillars Gallery, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota Street, New Ulm. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

**March 16** Performance by A Cappella Ensemble, Due North, 7 p.m. Tickets at the door $12. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 or www.redrockcenter.org.

**March 16** Gustavus Wind Symphony and Chamber Winds Winter Concert, 1:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.
March 16 Concert by vocal quartet, 7th Avenue Band, 7:30 p.m. Tickets in advance $12, at the door $15. Held at Springfield Public School, 12 S. Burns Ave. Sponsored by Springfield Community Theatre. (507) 723-6315 or “Springfield Community Theatre (SCT)” on Facebook.

*March 16 MN State University, Mankato Performance Series Concert by The Reminders with Amira Sackett, performing Muslim hip-hop 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.

*March 16-17 Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra’s Winter Music Concert, 3 p.m. both days. March 16 held at Lake Crystal Rec Center, 621 W. Nathan St. March 17 held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. Tickets $10. (612) 251-8492 or www.mayso.net.

*March 17 “Paddy’s Wake” Irish music, dance and comedy at 1 p.m. Written by Patrick Ryan and inspired by “Finnegan’s Wake.” Audience members are attending a traditional Irish Wake. This is a smaller version of the performance with no food served. Free event. Held at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. www.twinriversarts.org or (507) 387-1008. Patrick received a PLRA/McKnight Artist Grant in 2019 from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

*March 17 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. (Rescheduled from Jan. 27) Held at Chapel of the Christ, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 354-8221 or www.summitavenuemusic.com.

March 17 Souper Bowl on St. Patrick’s Day benefit for the Arts Center of Saint Peter. Choose a hand-thrown artisan bowl and fill it with soup, 3-7 p.m., $10, $12 or $15. Other specialty bowls will be for sale in limited quantities. Held at Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.

March 17 Flutist Barbara Leibundguth in Concert, 3:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

March 19 University Community Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m. General admission $9, K-12 students and children $7. Held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.

*March 19-April 19 Stitchers in Time Quilt Guild Exhibit in the Beckmann Gallery and Joellen Preston’s Mixed Media Exhibit in the Lobby Gallery. (Reception, March 22, 5-7 p.m.) 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. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

March 20 Maverick Poetry Out Loud, 7 p.m. Featuring local, regional and national cultural poets including Rodney Montroy Dixon Jr., Traiveon Dunlap, Su Hwang, Tou Sai Ko Lee, Sun Yung Shin, Dominic Tunnel (DNIC), Michael Torres, and John Xat. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato’s Asian American Affairs, African American Affairs, and the Student Events Team. Held at Centennial Student Union’s Ostrander Auditorium, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-6076.

March 21 Poetry Reading with Su Hwang and Michael Torres, 7 p.m., held at Melva Lind Interpretive Center, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

March 21-April 13 Elementary Art Exhibit by students from Montgomery, Lonsdale, and LeCenter. (Reception, March 21, 5-7 p.m.) Held at the Arts & Heritage Center of Montgomery, 206 B. First St. Hours: Thurs & Fri. 2-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. (507) 364-8107 or www.artsandheritagecenter.org.

March 22 Dick Kimmel’s Songwriters’ Showcase, music at 7:30 p.m., $10. Held at Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.


March 23 “Civil War Transportation & Communication” Civil War Symposium, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Presentations, costumed interpreters, artifacts, exhibits, Civil War era music, panel discussion, lunch, and more. Special guest speaker Stephen E. Osman will present “Fort Snelling in the Civil War”. Advance registration by March 18 includes lunch: adults $25, students 17 and under $15. At the door (does not include lunch): adults $30, students 17 and under $15. Held indoors at the Sibley Park Pavilion, 900 Park Lane, Mankato. Sponsored by The Boy in Blue Civil War Memorial Committee. (507) 491-4171 or www.boyinblue.org.

March 23 MN State University, Mankato Performance Series Concert by the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet with the University Concert Choir, 7:30 p.m. $15, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/music/events or (507) 389-5549.
March 23  Concert by soprano Maria Jette and pianist/accordionist Dan Chouinard, 7:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.


March 23  Waseca Jazz Festival, an educational non-competitive festival for high school, junior high, and middle school jazz ensembles. Evening Showcase Concert featuring The Real Big Band and Nachito Herera, 7 p.m., at the Waseca High School Performing Arts Center, 1717 2nd St. NW. (507) 835-5470.

March 24  College Choir Homecoming Concert, 3 p.m., held at Chapel of the Christ, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. www.mlc-wels.edu or (507) 766-1990.

*March 25  Blue Earth Valley Concert Association sponsors Holy Rocka Rollaz, performing hits from the 1950s, 7 p.m. Series tickets will be sold at the door, adults $50, students $10, or family $100. Held at Blue Earth Area High School Performing Arts Center, 1125 N. Grove Street. www.blueearthvalleyconcerts.com or (507) 866-4668.

March 25-27  Brian Frink’s Douglas R. Moore Faculty Research Lecture Exhibition, held at Centennial Student Union Gallery, MN State University, Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 12 Midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to 12 Midnight, and Sun. 10 a.m. to 12 Midnight. (507) 389-6767 or www.mnsu.edu/artdept/exhibitions.html.

March 26  MN State University, Mankato Minnesota Storytellers Series Concert by Martin Zeller and The Hardways, performing alternative country and rock music, 7:30 p.m. $12, held at Elias J. Halling Recital Hall, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or www.mnsu.edu/music/events.

March 27-30  “Mothers and Sons” theater production, 7:30 p.m. each day. Adults $10, seniors over 65 and youth under 16 $9. Held at Andreas Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. www.mnsu.edu/theatre/ or (507) 389-6661.

March 28-April 6  Senior Art Majors Exhibit #1. (Reception, April 4, 7 p.m.) Held at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center Gallery, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Hours: Sun.-Thurs. 1-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 1-8 p.m. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

March 29  Lost Walleye Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m. Members $10, non-members $12. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. North. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.


*March 29-30  Bethany Lutheran College presents the Speechless Film Festival, an international festival that celebrates the universal art of visual storytelling. The festival showcases shorts and feature films in every genre including animation, documentary, music & movement, thrills, and more. Screenings will be held at the Verizon Wireless Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Mankato. Filmmaker talks will be held at Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Contact www.speechlessfilmfestival.com or (507) 344-7000 for tickets and schedule details.

March 30  Fairmont Opera House presents “One Night in Memphis” a tribute to legendary Sun Records recording artists Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Elvis Presley, 7:30 p.m. Adults $20; seniors $15; Veterans, active duty, or students $10; under 10 $5; available at www.fairmontoperahouse.com or 1 hour prior to the show. Held at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza, www.fairmontoperahouse.com or (507) 238-4900.

March 31  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 Ave., Mankato. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.


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.


**Youth Classes**

*March 1* Deadline to register for South Central Service Cooperative’s Young Writers & Artists Conference for grades 3-8, held March 12-13 at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, $27. Students attend a keynote and three breakout sessions in various genres of writing and fine arts. Register at [http://www.mnsesc.org](http://www.mnsesc.org) or contact Mary Hillmann at (952) 715-8745 or mhillmann@mnsesc.org.

*March 2* Edible Book Festival, 1-3 p.m., for ages 10 and under. Pick a book or author and create an edible creation based on the story to bring to the library. Held at North Mankato Taylor Library, 1001 Belgrade Ave. [www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary](http://www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary) or (507) 345-5120.

*March 2-17* STEAM in the Loft Projects. Work with clay and/or paper to design and create a brain, and making your own brain teasers. 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. [www.cmsouthernmn.org](http://www.cmsouthernmn.org) or (507) 386-0279.

*March 1-25* South Central Service Cooperative’s Writing Contest Submission Deadline for grades K-12. Students should express themselves by writing fiction, non-fiction, or poetry; with the theme of “Bravery”. Submit up to three entries per category; $3 per entry. For more information visit [www.mnsesc.org/writing-contest](http://www.mnsesc.org/writing-contest) or contact Mary Hillmann at (952) 715-8745 or mhillmann@mnsesc.org.

*March 5* 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 months theme is “Proud Peacock” with emphasis on proportion and the rule of thirds. Registration required with Wasco Community Education at [https://isd829.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/](https://isd829.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/) or (952) 715-8745. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

*March 7* 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 months theme is “Leo the Lion”, cardboard relief art. Registration is required with Waseca Community Education (507) 835-5626 or [https://isd829.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/](https://isd829.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/). Meets first Thursday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State Street N. (507) 835-1701 or [www.wasecaartcenter.org](http://www.wasecaartcenter.org).


*March 22* Parent/Child Date Night Pottery Class led by Felicia DeWald, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Learn the basics to wheel-thrown pottery and make a project together. No prior clay wheel experience is required. $45. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, [www.mankatocer.com](http://www.mankatocer.com) or (507) 387-5501.

**March 25-31** Amazing Creations. Build and solve marble mazes, then create Rube Goldberg machines by using found materials. Hours: Mon.-Sun. 10 a.m.-12 Noon and 1-3 p.m. $8 per person 1 year and older. Held at Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota, 224 Lamm St., Mankato. [www.cmsouthernmn.org](http://www.cmsouthernmn.org) or (507) 386-0279.

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](mailto:410project@hotmail.com). At The 410 Project, 523 South Front Street, Mankato. [www.the410project.com](http://www.the410project.com).

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

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**Adult Artists**

**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 go to [www.mns shorts.com](http://www.mnshorts.com) or (507) 420-1881.

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Adult Arts Opportunities

**March 1** Intro into Aerosol Class, 7-9 p.m. Learn the basics of aerosol spray paint. Talk about products, valves, nozzles, safety, and style, $35. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

**March 1-5** Attention rural artists, art and culture nonprofits and changemakers! Do you have a great story, topic to discuss, or skills that you want to share with other rural arts and culture colleagues from around the country? Springboard for the Arts is now seeking session ideas for the 2019 Rural Arts & Culture Summit, which will take place Oct. 3-5, 2019 at The Reif Center in Grand Rapids. The deadline for submitting your proposal is Tuesday, March 5. Go online to http://ruralartsandculture summit.com/call-for-session-ideas to learn more and submit your proposal. (218) 531-1594.

**March 2** Improv Workshop, 1-4 p.m. Learn improv concepts, vocabulary, and new skills through games and exercises that can help you in day to day living. This class will help you get those creative juices flowing and lead you down the path of spontaneous creation. The workshop is led by Paul Warshauer. Pre-registration required by emailing info@redrockcenter.org or call (507) 235-9262. Held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.

**March 3, 10, 17 & 24** Beginning Woodworking Classes, Sundays, 2-3 p.m. Members $10, non-members $15. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Avenue. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

**March 4-April 1** Moving Beyond the Basics – Watercolor Painting Class with Kevin Kroeber, Mondays, 6-8 p.m. Explore more challenging subject matter and start to develop your own individual style of painting. $65, additional supply list will be given. Register with Mankato Area Community Education. Held at the Lincoln Community Center, Room 152, 110 Fulton Street, Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

**March 5, 12, 19 & 26** Jam Sessions, Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

**March 5, 12, 19 & 26** Intro to the Wheel Ceramics Classes, Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. $35, members receive a 25 pound bag of clay for free. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

**March 6, 13, 20 & 27** Art Group, self-directed time to work on projects including visual art, literary art, etc. 2-5:30 p.m., meets on Wednesdays. Bring your own supplies. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

**March 6 & 20** 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.

**March 6 & 20** Papier-Mache Sculpture Group, 5-8 p.m. Group meets first and third Wednesdays of each month to work on papier-mache sculptures projects. $10, materials are included. Registration required with Waseca Community Education at https://isd829.cr3.schoolltoday.com/public/home/ or (507) 835-5626. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State Street North. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

**March 7** Glass Torchwork Class, 6-9 p.m. Learn to make geometrical sun-catchers from borosilicate glass, $60. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Avenue. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

**March 7, 14, 21 & 28** Swords and Silks Dance Choreography Workshop, at 7:45-8:30 p.m. Learn a dance choreography piece and perform with Wöhpe Fire Bellydance at any of their 2019 performances. No dance experience is necessary. Dance props provided. $25 each session. Held at South Central College Dance Studio, Room C-151, 1920 Lee Boulevard, North Mankato. http://dragonwingdance.com/sherazade.html.

**March 7-April 4** Beginner Drawing Class by Kevin Kroeber, Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. Learn drawing basics, for students who have a desire to draw but have had little or no prior drawing instruction, $65. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 154, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

**March 8** Attention Music Teachers: Minnesota Valley Music Teachers Association business meeting with refreshments at 9 a.m. Program 9:30-11 a.m., an open forum focusing on business practices in piano studios. Annual membership $30, guests can attend a meeting free of charge. Held at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 S. 2nd St., Mankato. (507) 514-3970 or www.mvmta.com.

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**Adult Arts Opportunities**

**March 8**  Pottery Date Night Class with Felicia DeWald, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Bring your significant other, learn to make basic forms on the potter’s wheel, choose 1-2 pieces to be glazed and fired. No prior clay wheel experience required. $45. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, [www.mankatocer.com](http://www.mankatocer.com) or (507) 387-5501.

**March 9**  Southern Minnesota Poet’s Society Monthly Meeting, 12:30-3 p.m., come have soup and bring 10 copies of a one page poem you want critiqued. SMPS members will work in groups to help you improve your poem. Free, visitors welcome. Held at Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, 523 South Second Street, Mankato. Sponsored by Southern Minnesota Poets Society. (507) 345-1174 or [www.southernminnesota_poets.org](http://www.southernminnesota_poets.org).

**March 10**  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](http://www.artscentersp.org).

**March 11**  Poetry Reading Group, each participant will read aloud at least two poems, of their own or by others, and discuss them. 6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. [www.newulmlibrary.org](http://www.newulmlibrary.org) or (507) 359-8334.

**March 14**  Bookmaking Class, 5-7 p.m. Learn some basic bookbinding techniques using a variety of papers, textiles, and natural elements. $8, register with Waseca Community Education (507) 835-5626 or [https://isd829.cr3.rrschooltoday.com/public/home/](https://isd829.cr3.rrschooltoday.com/public/home/). Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. North. (507) 835-1701 or [www.wasecaartcenter.org](http://www.wasecaartcenter.org).

**March 14**  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 prior paint experience required. $30, includes materials. Register with Mankato Area Community Education. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 153, 110 Fulton Street, Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, [www.mankatocer.com](http://www.mankatocer.com) or (507) 387-5501.

**March 15**  The Grand Center for Arts & Culture of New Ulm presents Open Mic Night for local musicians, hosted by Dave “Ocho” O’Connell, 7:30 p.m., held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 North Minnesota St., New Ulm. [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com) or (507) 359-9222.

**March 16**  Saint Peter Music Lovers Monthly Meeting, 2-4 p.m. Create memories around your passion for music, anyone interested can join. Contact Jill Niebuhr by emailing warriorjammin@gmail.com for more information. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. [www.artscentersp.org](http://www.artscentersp.org) or (507) 931-3630.

**March 19**  Dot Art Class, learn a simple, but breathtaking art technique, 12 Noon or 7 p.m. For all skill levels. Held at the Waseca Public Library, 408 N. State St. (507) 835-2910 or [www.wasecalesuwurlibraries.com](http://www.wasecalesuwurlibraries.com).

**March 21**  Glass Torchwork with Basic Color Class, 6-9 p.m. Learn to make your own colored necklace pendants, $80. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 Third Avenue. [www.mankatomakerspace.org](http://www.mankatomakerspace.org) or (507) 514-2921.

**March 24**  Entry day for the Carnegie Art Center’s Juried Exhibition 3-5 p.m. Up to three entries per person, $10 per entry. Exhibit will be on display April 18-May 25. Held at the Carnegie Art Center, 120 S. Broad, Mankato. Download an entry form from the website or pick one up at the Carnegie. Wheelchair accessible. (507) 625-2730 or [www.thecarnegiemankato.com](http://www.thecarnegiemankato.com).


**March 26**  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 Dr., North Mankato. Sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits. (507) 469-2217 or [www.minnesotanonprofits.org](http://www.minnesotanonprofits.org).

(continued on page 16)
Adult Arts Opportunities

March 29  Canvas Capers Class, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Paint a beautiful still life in colors that work for your setting. $25, materials are included. Register with Waseca Community Education (507) 835-5626 or https://isd829.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. North. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

March 30  Southern Minnesota Movie Musicals Club, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. View “My Fair Lady”, free. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 East Main St., Mankato. (507) 304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

*March 30 & April 6  2-Session Relief Printmaking Course with instructor Rachel James. 1-3 p.m. both days, $45. Learn to carve easy-cut blocks and print original designs on paper. Images will be 4”x6.” The first class will focus on carving the design on the linoleum block and the second class will focus on printing. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

March 31  Maker Market, 12 Noon-5 p.m. Members can exhibit for free, non-members pay $30 fee. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 Third Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

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

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

Here’s a summary of Grants awarded:

$44,000  - McKnight Artist Grants (24 grants)
$82,705  - State General funds (48 grants)
Small Arts Project & Arts-In-Education Grant
$282,625  - Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH)
(142 grants); 40 organizational grants and 102 Youth Scholarships.

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

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

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

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

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Arts Event Happening in Your Area?

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

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

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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.
March 12 **Media Artist Grant Deadline.** FilmNorth administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and four $25,000 fellowships are awarded to filmmakers, screenwriters, and other media artists. The goal is to find artists whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, and who are at a career stage beyond emerging. Go to [http://myfilmnorth.org/mcknight-fellowships-media-artists/](http://myfilmnorth.org/mcknight-fellowships-media-artists/) or (651) 644-1912. All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at [https://www.mcknight.org/grant-programs/arts/artist-fellowships](https://www.mcknight.org/grant-programs/arts/artist-fellowships).

March 22 **Minnesota State Arts Board Minnesota Festival Support Grant Deadline.** This grant program provides meaningful arts experiences to Minnesotans through festivals that celebrate the arts, build community, and expose communities to diverse art forms including folk and traditional arts. $5,000-$75,000. Application deadline: March 22 at 4:30 p.m. For more information contact (800) 866-2787 or [rina.rossi@arts.state.mn.us](mailto:rina.rossi@arts.state.mn.us). For a link to the online application go to the MN State Arts Board website: [www.arts.state.mn.us](http://www.arts.state.mn.us).

March 22 **Composer Fellowship Deadline.** American Composers Forum administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and four $25,000 fellowships are awarded for a full range of musical styles. The goal is to find artists whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, and who are at a career stage beyond emerging. Go to [https://composersforum.org/programs/mcknight-composer-fellowships/](https://composersforum.org/programs/mcknight-composer-fellowships/) or (651) 251-2833. All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at [https://www.mcknight.org/grant-programs/arts/artist-fellowships](https://www.mcknight.org/grant-programs/arts/artist-fellowships).

March 29 **Visual Artist Grant Deadline.** Minneapolis College of Art and Design administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and six $25,000 fellowships are awarded to visual artists whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, who have created a substantial body of work over a period of time, and who are at a career stage beyond emerging. The focus of the fellowship is to connect fellows to six visiting critics, participating in a McKnight Discussion Series that features fellows and invited critics, and working with each fellow to pursue additional professional development opportunities. Contact Kerry Morgan, program director, at [gallery@mcad.edu](mailto:gallery@mcad.edu) or (612) 874-3667 for more information. All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at [https://www.mcknight.org/grant-programs/arts/artist-fellowships](https://www.mcknight.org/grant-programs/arts/artist-fellowships).

March 31 **20/20 Fellowship with Springboard for the Arts Deadline.** Springboard for the Arts is now offering a new fellowship for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and Native artists who are working to build tools and pathways of support for other artists. The fellowship provides an unrestricted $15,000 award, plus a $5,000 professional development stipend. If you are, or know an artist who fits this criteria, learn more at [https://springboardforthearts.org/jobs-opportunities/20-20-fellowship/](https://springboardforthearts.org/jobs-opportunities/20-20-fellowship/). Contact Michele Anderson at (218) 531-1594 or [michele@springboardforthearts.org](mailto:michele@springboardforthearts.org).

April 11 **Theater Artist Grant Deadline.** The Playwrights’ Center administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and three $25,000 fellowships are awarded to actors, directors, theatrical designers, and others whose main body of work is primarily an element of theater production. The goal is to find artists whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, and who are at a career stage beyond emerging. Go to [https://pwcenter.org/programs/mcknight-theater-artist-fellowships](https://pwcenter.org/programs/mcknight-theater-artist-fellowships). All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at [https://www.mcknight.org/grant-programs/arts/artist-fellowships](https://www.mcknight.org/grant-programs/arts/artist-fellowships).

April 26 **Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative: Literary & Performing Arts Deadline.** This program is designed to support and assist professional Minnesota artists at various stages in their careers by encouraging artistic development, nurturing artistic creativity, and recognizing the contributions of individual artists to the creative environment of the state of Minnesota. Grants will be awarded for career building and for the creative development of artists. $2,000-$10,000. Application deadline: April 26 at 4:30 p.m. For more information contact [sherrie.fernandez-williams@arts.state.mn.us](mailto:sherrie.fernandez-williams@arts.state.mn.us) or (800) 866-2787. For a link to the online application go to the MN State Arts Board website: [www.arts.state.mn.us](http://www.arts.state.mn.us).

**May 15 Deadline**

**Paint the Town Grant**

Free paint and coating products for a community mural, community welcome sign, or historic structure projects. Up to 10 projects will be awarded to small communities with a population under 10,000. Grant applications and guidelines are available online at [www.smifoundation.org](http://www.smifoundation.org). Contact Jennifer at Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation for more information, [jenniferh@smifoundation.org](mailto:jenniferh@smifoundation.org) or (507) 214-7040.
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.artcentersp.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@artcentersp.org or www.artcentersp.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 adults 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 Emry Frenz Arts Guild Gallery, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Artist studios, gallery space, and Ticket Box Office for arts events in Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. info@twinriversarts.org, (507) 387-1008, or www.twinriversarts.org. Also find other arts events at: www.greatermankatoevents.com. Gallery Application link: www.twinriversarts.org/exhibition-schedule

Waseca Art Center, 200 N. State Street. Monthly exhibits, educational programs, weekly art appreciation discussions, and spring concert series. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 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 Ylisaker Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours: Sun.-Thurs. 1-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 1-8 p.m. www.blc.edu/art-exhibits.

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

Hillstrom Museum of Art, 800 W. College Ave., Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Events are free and open to the public. Hours: weekdays 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and weekends 1-5 p.m. (507) 933-7200 or www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom/.

South Central College Lookout Gallery, Room C167, 1920 Lee Blvd., North Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. To inquire about displaying artwork, email: michelle.johnson@southcentral.edu.

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

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