Free Artist Workshop in November

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council is offering a **FREE workshop for Artists!** Please register for the **workshop by November 12th** by emailing the Prairie Lakes office at plrac@hickorytech.net or calling Brenda Byron at 1-800-298-1254 or 507-833-8721.

### November 13, 6-8 p.m. – Social Media for Artists and Grant Funding

**Develop your Social Media Strategy by using Facebook, Twitter and others.** The presenter is Dana Sikkila. In addition, Brenda Byron will present information about the Prairie Lakes’ Artist Career Development Grant of $1,000 due January 15, 2020. **$13,000 is Available!** Topics include: Eligibility Requirements, What Activities can be Funded, How to Complete the Online Application, etc.

Dana Sikkila, received her MA in Printmaking as well as her Non Profit Leadership Certificate from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Based in Mankato, she concentrates on making her art work as well as being Executive Director of the 410 Project, Community Art Space, along with holding an arts adjunct professor position at MNSU, Mankato. Sikkila serves as a board member for the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, Minnesota Citizen's for the Arts, as well as a Grant Review Panelist, and Artistic Evaluator for the Minnesota State Arts Board.

We will use the **WORK OF ART, Artist Workbook**, which is FREE to participants online: https://springboardforthearts.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/WoA-Toolkit-Workbook-2015.pdf

This Artist Workshop & PLRAC Artist Grants are funded by the McKnight Foundation.

### $13,000 in Artist Career Development Grants Available!

**January 15, 2020 - Application Deadline**

We encourage artists to apply for the Artist Career Development Grant of $1,000 for activities taking place from March 2020 to March 2021. **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.plrac.org](http://www.plrac.org).

**Arts and Cultural Heritage Grantees Listed on Pages 2-6**
Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded

A total of $163,500 was awarded to 25 Area Organizations

Arts and Cultural Heritage Grantees

Row 1 (L to R): Susan Hayes, Montgomery Area Community Club; Stacy Lienemann, Waseca-LeSueur Regional Library; Madeline Cacciatore, La Grande Bande, Gaylord; Leah Ries, Mankato Children’s Chorus; Alice De Yonge, Project G.E.M.; Mary Hillmann, South Central Service Cooperative; Susan Olson, Merely Players Community Theatre; Mark Wamma, Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra; and Leah Prahl, Arlington Chamber of Commerce. Row 2: Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director; Richard Tostensen, State Street Theater Company; Annette Meeks, Saint Peter Choral Society; Bethel Balge, Summit Avenue Music Series; Jake Zeiher, Minnesota New Country School; Fred Slocum, Musicorum; Sara Traylor, Minnesota Valley Chorale; Lori Deihl, DalekoArts, New Prague; Gail Ottesen, Blue Earth Valley Concert Association; and Teresa Saum, Arts Center of Saint Peter.

(Article continued on page 3)

The next ACH Grant deadline is February 1, 2020.

These activities 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.
Arts & Cultural Heritage Grants

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council is pleased to announce that Arts and Cultural Heritage grants of $163,500 were awarded to twenty-five arts organizations, community groups, and schools in the region. This fund was created by the people of Minnesota to support the arts and preserve our heritage. The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, passed by the voters in Nov. 2008, created new resources for land conservation, water conservation, parks and the Arts.

Grants were awarded for arts activities in all artistic disciplines. A variety of activities including arts & music festivals, instrumental and vocal music concerts, public art, theater performances, art classes and exhibitions, and school projects were funded. The next Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant deadline is February 1, 2020. Organizations can apply once per year for this grant.

Blue Earth County - $49,500
Kearney International Center, MN State University, Mankato-$4,500. They will sponsor the Mankato Area International Festival, April 19, 2020. They will have several Minnesota based ethnic groups perform and have an educational space with high quality craft projects and performances specific for children. Funds will be used for artist fees and art supplies. Mankato/North Mankato ACT on Alzheimer’s-$7,000. They will sponsor the Singing Hills Chorus, a chorus designed for people with Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias and their care partners. Funds will be used to facilitate the two chorus sessions and concerts. Fall rehearsals are September 12-December 12, 2019 with a December 14 concert. Spring rehearsals are January 30-May 7, 2020, with a May 9 concert. Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra-$7,000. They will present multiple concerts in fall 2019 and spring and summer 2020. Funds will be used for clinician sectionals for the orchestras, membership scholarships, mileage scholarships to students, director salaries, and venue rentals. Mankato Children’s Chorus-$7,000. The five choirs will present two concerts in the fall and spring of 2019-20 and perform at other special events. Funds will be used for directors’ salaries and student scholarships. Maple River Schools Instrumental Music-$4,000. They will host Dr. Quincy Hilliard for their Guest Composer/Conductor Project. On March 17-19, 2020, Dr. Hilliard will work with students in grades 5-12 and perform at the Music in our Schools Concert March 19. Funds will be used for artist fees, ethnic percussion instruments, in-state mileage and lodging. Merely Players Community Theatre-$7,000. They will present their 2019-2020 season of plays, including: “Annie”, November 8-10 and 15-17, 2019; and “Rex’s Exs”, May 8-10 and 15-17, 2020; held at the Lincoln Community Center, Mankato. “Jesus Christ Super Star”, March 12-14 and 19-21, 2020 will be held at the Kato Ballroom, Mankato. Funds will be used for artist fees, publicity, and production expenses. Minnesota Valley Chorale-$7,000. They will perform four concerts in Mankato for the 2019-2020 season; two winter concerts, November 23-24, including Mass in D Major by Antonin Dvorak and two spring concerts, April 18-19. Funds will be used for artist fees, membership scholarships, salaries, and concert venue costs. Musicorum-6,000. They will present their season with two holiday concerts and one spring concert. Their first holiday concert will be on

(continued on page 4)

Blue Earth County
Row 1: (L to R): Mark Wamma, Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra; Leah Ries, Mankato Children’s Chorus; Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director; and Susan Olson, Merely Players Community Theatre. Row 2: Dave Stordalen and Will Frame, Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra; Fred Slocum, Musicorum; Andy Reeves, Mankato Children’s Chorus; and Sara Traylor, Minnesota Valley Chorale.
Arts and Cultural Heritage Grantees

December 14, 2019 at Good Counsel Chapel, Mankato and the second concert will be on December 15 at First Lutheran Church, St. Peter. The spring concert will be on April 25, 2020 at Good Counsel Chapel in Mankato and will feature music and poetry of Charlie Leftridge, one of their singers. Funds will be used for the director’s salary, pay instrumentalists, publicity, venue rental, and to purchase music scores.

**Brown County - $14,000**

**State Street Theater Company-$7,000.** They will sponsor a series of theater performances including “Deer Camp,” “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” and “Over the River and through the Woods”; and continue their cable access show entitled “Something Artsy” during their 2019-20 season. Funds will be used for royalties, artist fees, set construction, costume rental, and staff salary.

**Summit Avenue Music Series-$7,000.** Martin Luther College will host the Summit Avenue Music Series, consisting of three high quality chamber music concerts. Tangos Et Cetera on September 15, 2019; The French Connection on January 19, 2020; and Cello Treasures on April 5, 2020. Funds will be used for concert fees.

**Faribault County - $7,000**

**Blue Earth Valley Concert Association-$7,000.** They will sponsor their 2019-20 subscription series of music concerts including The Everly Set on October 6, 2019; Violinist Timothy Chooi on November 3; Harps n’ Chords on February 3, 2020; Double Double Duo on March 14; and a cappella quintet Ball in the House on May 10. Funds will be used for artist fees.

**Le Sueur County - $14,000**

**DalekoArts, New Prague-$7,000.** They will present their 2019-20 main stage season of four theater productions. Funds will be used for artist fees and set construction for two specific shows: Ghost Tour in September 1-October 12, 2019 and The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, April 17-May 10, 2020. **Montgomery Area Community Club-$7,000.** They will sponsor phase #2 of a historically themed mural to be painted on a building in downtown Montgomery, by artist Victor Garcia. Funds will be used for the artist’s stipend.

(continued on page 5)

**Brown County**

(L to R): Richard Tostensen, State Street Theater Company; Bethel Balge, Summit Avenue Music Series; and Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director.

**Faribault County**

(L to R): Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director and Gail Ottesen, Blue Earth Valley Concert Association.

**Le Sueur County**

(L to R): Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director; Lori Deihl, DalekoArts, New Prague; Maureen Gunderson and Susan Hayes, Montgomery Area Community Club.
Arts and Cultural Heritage Grantees

**Martin County - $14,000**
Fairmont Opera House-$7,000. They will purchase and install a Compliance Hearing Assistance System (to maintain ADA compliance), two stage foggers, cabling, and a haze machine to enhance the patron experience at the Opera House. **Martin Co. Preservation, Assoc., Red Rock Center for the Arts-$7,000.** They will sponsor their 2019-20 season of arts programming; including the “Lunch with the Arts” series; art education classes for children and adults; and musical performances by banjo players The Lowest Pair, opera singers Paul and Kristen Johnson, and pianist Glenn Henriksen. Funds will be used for artist fees, salaries, and publicity.

**Nicollet County - $28,000**
Arts Center of Saint Peter-$7,000. They will provide monthly gallery exhibitions, music performances, workshops and classes at the Arts Center, and early release classes for youth at the St. Peter Community Center; September 2019 through May 2020. Funds will be used for artist fees, publicity, salaries, and supplies. **Minnesota Valley Sweet Adelines-$7,000.** They will present their annual Barbershop show November 2, 2019, “Dis-Chord Under the Bigtop”, featuring the local Adeline Idol Competition and special guests from Dance Express in Mankato. Funds will be used for coaches to improve their chorus and directors, publicity, salaries, production supplies, and rental fees. **Saint Peter Choral Society-$7,000.** They will present two performances of choral music including the John Rutter Requiem and Bach Easter Cantata with organ and orchestra accompaniment. The March 8, 2020 concert will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Peter. The concert will be repeated March 15 at First Lutheran Church in LeSueur. Funds will be used for artist fees and publicity. **South Central Service Cooperative-$7,000.** They will host the Young Writers and Artists Conference March 10-11, 2020 for students in grades 3-8, at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato. Students can participate in a variety of subjects related to writing and creative arts. Funds are used for artist stipends and scholarships.

**Sibley County - $16,000**
Arlington Chamber of Commerce, ArliDazzle-$5,000. They will sponsor the annual ArliDazzle celebration, including music and entertainment from the Sakatah Carvers, Insphyre Performance, and the Shell’s Hobo Band Quartet on December 7, 2019. Funds will be used (continued on page 6)

![Image of Arts and Cultural Heritage Grantees]

**Sibley County**
(L to R): Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director; Leah Prahl, Arlington Chamber of Commerce; Jake Zeiher, Minnesota New Country School; and Madeline Cacciatora, La Grande Bande, Gaylord.

![Image of Arts and Cultural Heritage Grantees]

**Nicollet County**
(L to R): Mary Hillmann, South Central Service Cooperative; Annette Meeks and John Holte, Saint Peter Choral Society; and Teresa Saum, Arts Center of Saint Peter; Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director.
Arts and Cultural Heritage Grantees

for artists fees, publicity, and rental fees. La Grande Bande, Gaylord-$7,000. They will present their first full concert season of Baroque music with five concerts between September 20, 2019-June 12, 2020. They will also conduct multiple masterclass sessions with students at Sibley East High School and Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop High School and an outreach concert at Oak Terrace Assisted Living in Gaylord. Funds will be used for artist fees, publicity, and rental fees. Minnesota New Country School-$4,000. They will provide arts and cultural field trips for students during the 2019-20 school year. Activities are divided amongst several grade levels and include: Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minnesota Orchestra, Children's Theater, Park Square Theater, Guthrie Theater, Stages Theater, Walker Art Center, and the Southern Minnesota Art Galleries. Funds will be used for ticket costs and bus expense.

Waseca County - $21,000
Project GEM-$7,000. The Growth, Experience and Motivation Project will provide arts education program activities to at risk youth and young adults, ages 7-24, in Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties in 2019-20. This includes instruction in art, music and creative writing for these students in a variety of locations, taught by college students going in the education field. Funds will be used for artist fees, travel expenses, salaries, and supplies. Waseca Arts Council-$7,000. They will sponsor exhibitions January-June 2020 that include the 10th Annual Prairie Lakes Artist Grantee Exhibit, 39th Annual Regional High School Art Exhibit and Workshop, ICAN exhibit by people with disabilities, and individual artist exhibits. Funds will be used for artist fees, salaries, and publicity. Waseca-LeSueur Regional Library-$7,000. They will collaborate with Cow Tipping Press, a Minneapolis-based organization run by Waseca native Bryan Boyce. The library will host three semesters of literary classes for thirty adults with developmental disabilities in the Waseca area. Classes culminate in book publication and in-person community reading events. Funds will be used for artist fees and travel.

Waseca County

(L to R): Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director; Stacy Lienemann, Waseca-LeSueur Regional Library and Alice De Yonge, Project GEM.

23 MILLION PEOPLE ATTEND THE ARTS IN MINNESOTA

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts has worked in collaboration with Twin Cities Public Television's Minnesota Original show, to create several Arts Advocacy Videos; showing the Ways the Arts Give Back to Minnesota.

MINNESOTANS LOVE THE ARTS:
82% Believe Creative Expression is Important
https://player.pbs.org/partnerplayer/FpoGZARcX2qsAiYlk6yBOA===/
THE ARTS ARE IMPORTANT TO MINNESOTA'S ECONOMY:
https://player.pbs.org/partnerplayer/-A15byIPwxgej9dJ9uoRCA===/
ARTISTS ARE IMPORTANT TO MINNESOTA:
https://player.pbs.org/partnerplayer/zKQrtDH50mlIPrlGc7S9FQ===/
THE ARTS CONTRIBUTE TO MINNESOTA'S QUALITY OF LIFE:
90% Believe the Arts Make Minnesota Desirable
https://player.pbs.org/partnerplayer/yR7xM1tSlbPqQd9MO2hYQ===/

Poetry Out Loud 2020
High School Registration
Deadline is December 1st
Poetry Out Loud is a national arts education program that encourages the study of great poetry by offering free educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition to high schools across the country. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life. High schools must register their participation. South Central Service Cooperative is proud to partner with the National Endowment for the Arts, Poetry Foundation and the Minnesota State Arts Board to host Poetry Out Loud. Go to www.mnscsc.org/poetry-out-loud for more information. (952) 715-8745.
In FY 2020 All PLRAC Grant Applications are Online.

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

The “Applicant Login” button can be seen on the Home page and the Grant Programs page of the Prairie Lakes Website.
http://www.plrac.org/grants.html

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

- Arts and Cultural Heritage
- Youth Scholarship, grades 7-12 and 3-6
- Small Arts Project Community or School Arts Project
- Artist Grant

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

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

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

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

Have you visited www.plrac.org lately?

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

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

FY 2020 PLRAC GRANT DEADLINES
July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

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

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

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<tr>
<th>Small Arts Project Community &amp; School Arts Project - $2,000</th>
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<td>1st of the Month Deadline</td>
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<td>July 1, 2019 to May 1, 2020</td>
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**Youth Scholarship**
Grades 7-12 - $300
October 1 Deadline

**Youth Scholarship**
Grades 3-6 - $200
November 1 Deadline

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<thead>
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<th>Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant</th>
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<td><strong>$7,000</strong></td>
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**ACH Education** - $4,000
Arts Festivals - $5,000
August 1 Deadline & February 1 Deadline

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<th>Professional Mid-Career Artist Grant - $3,000</th>
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<td>September 15 Deadline</td>
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<th>Artist Career Development Grant - $1,000</th>
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<td>January 15 Deadline</td>
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All grant applications are online.
A tutorial that explains the online process is on our website.
FY 2020 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

**Deadlines are: Aug. 1 and Feb. 1**

1. **Arts and Arts Access – Maximum $7,000.**
   Projects that focus on **arts programming** by an organization, maintaining on-going arts programs and services, and offering new and different activities. A variety of activities including community bands and choirs, dance performances, literary readings, instrumental and vocal music concerts, theater productions, visual art classes and exhibitions are eligible.

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

2. **ACH Arts Education:**

   **There are three categories of support.**

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

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

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

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

**Small Arts Project Community Grant**

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

**School Arts Project Grant**

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

**Individual Artist Grant**

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

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

**January 15** - Artist Career Development Grant, $1,000 each.
In FY 2019 Prairie Lakes awarded 219 Grants totaling $453,144

Here’s a summary of Grants awarded:

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

$79,918 - State General funds (47 grants)
Small Arts Project & School Grants

$329,226 - Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) (148 grants); 48 organizational grants & 100 Youth Scholarships.

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

(1) Arts Programming/Arts Access $262,966, which includes grants to 38 nonprofit arts organizations and community groups, for their arts programs and activities.

(2) Arts Education $50,685, which includes 6 school grants and 100 Youth Scholarships of $300 or $200 each.

(3) Arts & Cultural Heritage Festivals $15,575; which was awarded to 4 community festivals.

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

Jan. 7-Feb. 6, 2020

at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State Street North

We are pleased to announce the upcoming exhibit of PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grantees from 2018. We are excited to provide our artist grantees this opportunity to be featured in a group exhibition. This exhibition will highlight grantees funded by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. Funding for our artist grant programs and this exhibit is from the McKnight Foundation in Minneapolis.

The Opening Reception will be Sunday, January 12, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and visual artists will talk about their work, writers will read their work, and musicians will perform. “We are pleased to collaborate with Andrew Breck, Executive Director of the Waseca Art Center and have the exhibition held in this location,” noted Brenda Byron, PLRAC Executive Director.

Brenda Byron, Executive Director

FY 2020 SMALL ARTS PROJECT COMMUNITY and SCHOOL GRANTS

*These grants were awarded July-October 2019.

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

BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Deep Valley Book Festival, author talks - $2,000
GSR Fine Art Festival, musicians - $2,000
South Central Minnesota Pride, mural - $2,000

BROWN COUNTY
Adaptive Recreational Services, art classes - $2,000
Hermann Monument Society, festival musicians - $2,000
Musical Tales Concerto, New Ulm, festival - $2,000
Sleepy Eye High School, field trip - $1,820

LE SUEUR COUNTY
Tri-City United Community Education, dance - $2,000

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

NICOLLET COUNTY
St. Peter High School Band, guest artist - $2,000

SIBLEY COUNTY
Sibley County, Arlington Book Project Festival - $2,000
Winthrop Chamber of Commerce, festival - $1,400

WASECA COUNTY
American Indian Service Learning Project - $1,500
Project GEM/African American Artist Workshop - $2,000
Sacred Heart Church, Mexican Mariachi Band - $2,000
TEAM Academy, Waseca, author visit - $1,316
Waseca Marching Classic, clinicians - $1,975
Prairie Lakes Needs Assessment Survey Results Spring 2019

Prairie Lakes continuously assesses and responds to the needs of the region through a variety of channels including day-to-day contact with constituents, feedback from applicants and grantees on their Final Reports, public workshops, and by conducting a formal Needs Assessment Survey every four years. This provides an accurate and comprehensive understanding of the characteristics of the nine county region, as they relate to the arts, and to identify needs and problems that may be addressed by our regional arts council. This survey was conducted online through Survey Monkey in February 2019 and three different surveys were created. We disseminated the surveys using our internal email database of constituents and through our Facebook page, Newsletter, and News Releases.

* We received 84 Organizational surveys in 2019 and 69 in 2016; which is a 22% increase.

* We received 111 Artist surveys in 2019 and 105 in 2016; which is a 5% increase, so overall we are pleased with the increase.

**Organization Survey:**
Identifying features of respondents:
46% Identified themselves as a Non-Profit Arts Organization
28% Non-profit Community Group (Chamber, Historical Society, Library, etc.)
23% School/Community Education/College
3% Unit of Government

How many years the organization has been in existence?
76% Have been in existence for over 20 years
11% Have been in existence for 11-20 years
13% Are under 10 years old

What activities is the organization involved in?
39% Do both Producing and Sponsoring
39% Produce their own events
17% Sponsor other artists and groups to perform
5% Not applicable

What is the Primary Discipline you serve?
37% Music
36% Multi-Discipline (2 or more art forms)
13% Theater 4% Literature
8% Visual Art 2% Dance

1. Priority of Current Grant Programs

Organization respondents were asked to prioritize the Councils current grant programs, rating them 1-6. The highest priority was the Arts and Cultural Heritage grant program at 52%, followed by Small Arts Project at 35%, Arts-In-Education Grants to Schools at 18%, Youth Scholarships at 13%, Artist Grants at 10%.

Interpretation: The Council is currently on track with their allocation of resources for State Art and Cultural Heritage, Small Arts, Arts-In-Education, and McKnight funds for Artist Grants.

2. Respondents were asked about their Satisfaction with the following Application Process Components. This is the first time we’ve asked specifically about the online application form, contract and final report. The satisfaction for the online processes was positive. Respondents answered Very Satisfied and Somewhat Satisfied to these questions and percentages are listed.

1. Ease of Online Application Form:
52% very satisfied and 35% somewhat satisfied.

2. Staff Assistance Before Applying:
82% very satisfied and 14% somewhat satisfied.

3. Communication About Grants Awarded:
78% very satisfied and 20% somewhat satisfied.

4. Transparency of Application Process:
70% very satisfied and 25% somewhat satisfied.


6. Ease of Filling Out Online Grant Contract:
53% very satisfied and 38% somewhat satisfied.

7. Ease of Filling Out Online Final Report:
49% very satisfied and 35% somewhat satisfied.

**Artist Survey:**
Identifying Features of Artists:
35% Identified themselves as an Emerging Artist
34% Established Professional Artist
19% Arts Educator
11% Hobbyist
1% Crafts person

How many years have you been an artist?
67% Have been an Artist for over 20 years
29% Have been an Artist for 6-19 years
4% Have been an Artist Under 5 years

What arts discipline do you primarily work in?
48% Visual Art 6% Theater
19% Instrumental Music 4% Dance
14% Literature 2% Media Arts
7% Vocal Music

New Broader questions were included like do you agree or disagree with the following questions: “I can trust PLRAC’s stewardship of public arts funding; PLRAC Programs and services and resources ensure that the arts are interwoven into every facet of community life; ensure that people of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities participate in the arts; PLRAC programs, services and resources play a significant role in the arts thriving in Minnesota.”

The survey respondents were asked about PLRAC’s Public Stewardship of funding. All respondents overwhelmingly said they could trust PLRAC’s stewardship of public arts funding.

We appreciate everyone who participated!
Prairie Lakes Board of Directors and Staff

Front Row (L to R): Cindy Lewer, Program Manager; Denice Evers; April Malphurs, Dana Sikkila; Carol Soma; Rita Rassbach, and Brenda Byron, Executive Director. Back Row: Charles Luedtke; Karen Krause; Liz Miller; Pam Trumbull, Administrative Assistant; Randy Mediger; Steve Davis; and Teresa Konechne. Not pictured: Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerenke and Margie Larson.

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council has One Board Position Open

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

The deadline for submitting an application is Nov. 30, 2019. Interested persons residing in Fairmont should contact Brenda Byron, Executive Director of PLRAC at (800) 298-1254 or plrac@hickorytech.net to find out more about our board. We will email you a Board Application and a list of responsibilities.

This is a great opportunity to understand the workings of the granting process, to be more involved with the arts and artists of our region, and to enjoy camaraderie with others who appreciate the arts. The Council seeks to appoint people who represent a cross-section of art forms as well as various arts perspectives: Artists, teachers, and representatives of arts organizations.

Board members serve a three year term. Monthly evening meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month in Mankato, at Bethany Lutheran College; no meetings in June or December. Attendance at several PLRAC funded arts events per year is required and board members are reimbursed for their mileage to meetings and arts events.

Prairie Lakes Board of Directors

Blue Earth County .......... Liz Miller
Brown County ............. Denice Evers
Faribault County ......... Carol Soma
LeSueur County .......... Randy Mediger
Martin County .......... Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerenke
Nicollet County .......... Rita Rassbach
Sibley County .......... Teresa Konechne
Waseca County .......... Karen Krause
Watonwan County ........ Steve Davis
City of Fairmont .......... Open
City of Mankato .......... Margie Larson
City of New Ulm .......... Charles Luedtke
City of North Mankato ... Dana Sikkila
City of St. Peter .......... April Malphurs

Staff
Executive Director .......... Brenda Byron
Program Manager .......... Cindy Lewer
Administrative Assistant .. Pam Trumbull
Learning about Diversity, Inclusion and Equity in the Arts

For the past year Brenda Byron, the Prairie Lakes Executive Director has been attending meetings and workshops on the topic of diversity, inclusion, and equity in the Arts. This effort is also in collaboration with the eleven Regional Arts Councils in Minnesota that will focus on Intercultural Competence in FY 2020. Six meetings of the Regional Arts Council (RAC) Director’s were held in 2018-2019 with a consultant that led the RAC’s through this discussion. It included an individual assessment survey completed by all Directors focusing on their “intercultural competence” through survey questions and several learning sessions.

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

“Although we may have a small percentage of racial diversity in our region, it still important to be aware of including all people in the Arts, noted Byron. In our nine county region the White population is about 90% or higher in 8 counties and our 9th county Watonwan has 77% White, 20% Hispanic, and 3% other. “The goal of PLRAC as an organization in FY 2020 is to strive for Equity and Inclusion in our policies, programs and the communities we serve.”

Therefore, a few new questions are being asked about Equity and Inclusion in our grant applications if an organization’s project is to provide Access to the event. These questions encourage applicants to think broadly and plan intentionally to reach more people through their arts programming and activities. Arts Access activities that plan to reach new audiences and engage the public in new ways, should also think about Equity and Inclusion. Within the context of your community, describe how your project identifies and proactively addresses barriers to engaging historically marginalized, targeted, and underserved people and identities that may otherwise have limited access to your proposed activity.

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

The RAC Staff and Board Members from around the state met together in 2018-2019 to continue the discussion on this topic. Here are a few definitions we’d like to share to inform you about this topic.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Nov. 1** A Casual Concert by the La Grande Bande performing Baroque music with period instruments, 7 p.m. $5, available at [www.lagrandebande.org/tickets](http://www.lagrandebande.org/tickets). Watch the La Grande Bande prepare for the concert at a free open rehearsal at 3 p.m. Held at Arlington Haus, 147 W. Main St., Arlington. [www.lagrandebande.org](http://www.lagrandebande.org) or (507) 995-7086.

**Nov. 1** MN State University Performance Series Events by Caravan du Nord, a traveling showcase of Minnesota music, bringing top regional acts, emerging bands and music industry professionals to towns across Greater Minnesota for a day of workshops, networking and performances. 3 p.m., Reina del Cid Songwriting Workshop in PA 102. 4 p.m., Katy Vernon Mental Health for Musicians Workshop in PA 102. 5:30 p.m., music industry social hour at Weggy’s on Campus. 7 p.m., Katy Vernon Concert at Halling Recital Hall. 7:45 p.m. Maria and The Coins Concert at Halling Recital Hall. 8:45 p.m., Reina del Cid Concert at Halling Recital Hall. All events are free. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or [www.mnsu.edu/music/events](http://www.mnsu.edu/music/events).

**Nov. 1** “Divas on Broadway” featuring songs from “Annie Get Your Gun,” “Cabaret,” “Hairspray,” and more, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: In advance $15 from the New Ulm Chamber of Commerce, New Ulm HyVee, or online at [www.statestreetnewulm.org](http://www.statestreetnewulm.org), at the door $20. Ticket includes social hour with desserts and refreshments at 6 p.m. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 North State Street, New Ulm. [www.statestreetnewulm.org](http://www.statestreetnewulm.org) or (507) 359-9990.

**Nov. 1** Dobson Organ 40th Anniversary Recital by Christopher Young, former BLC chapel organist and instructor, 7 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or [www.blc.edu](http://www.blc.edu).

**Nov. 1** Gustavus Symphony Orchestra Fall Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at the Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. [www.gac.edu](http://www.gac.edu) or (507) 933-7013.

**Nov. 1-2** Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Artesanias (Handicrafts) Exhibit of typical Mexican costumes, handicrafts and altars of the dead, to learn about the Day of the Dead Celebration. 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](http://www.artsandheritagecenter.org).

**Nov. 1-2** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7:30 p.m. each night, free. Nov. 1: Everett Smithson Band performing zydeco, blues, tex mex, rockabilly, and funky roots music. Nov. 2: Ace in the Whole performing bluegrass, blues, jazz, folk, and western music. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 North Minnesota St., New Ulm. [www.thegrandnewulm.com](http://www.thegrandnewulm.com) or (507) 359-9222.

**Nov. 1-2 & Nov. 7-10** “Shakespeare in Love” theater production, Nov. 1-2 & Nov. 7-9 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 9-10 at 2 p.m. Adults $22, seniors over 65 and youth under sixteen $19. Held at the Ted Paul Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. [www.mnsu.edu/theatre](http://www.mnsu.edu/theatre) or (507) 389-6661.

**Nov. 1-3** Annual Halloween Exhibition (Reception, Nov. 1, 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](http://www.the410project.com).

**Nov. 1-3** “Into the Woods” musical theater performance, Nov. 1-2 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 3 at 2 p.m. Held at Anderson Theatre, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7353 or [www.gac.edu](http://www.gac.edu).

**Nov. 1-3** “Big Fish” musical theater performances. Nov. 1-2 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 3 at 2 p.m. Held at Wittenberg Collegiate Center Auditorium, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990.

**Nov. 1-4** Student Sculpture Exhibition, held at Conkling Gallery, Dept. of Art, MN State University, Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (507) 389-6412 or [www.mnsu.edu/artdept](http://www.mnsu.edu/artdept).

**Nov. 1-10** Exhibit of Industry, Work, Society, and Travails in the Depression Era: American Paintings and Photographs from the Shogren-Meyer Collection. 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. (507) 933-7200 or [www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom](http://www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom).

**Nov. 1-15** Amy Toscani, Chel Mattson, and Rev. Jack Dahl’s Exhibit. Held at Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. Hours: Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. [www.wasecaartcenter.org](http://www.wasecaartcenter.org) or (507) 835-1701.

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Prairie Lakes is on Facebook!

“LIKE” Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council’

Look for upcoming events, grant deadlines, photos and other important information to be posted!
Nov. 1-15 Installation Students’ Exhibit, held at the Centennial Student Union Gallery, MN State University, Mankato. Hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 12 Midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to 12 Midnight, and Sun. 10 a.m. to 12 Midnight. www.mnsu.edu/artdept/ or (507) 389-6767.

Nov. 1-22 “Autumn Visions” Exhibit by local and regional artists. Held at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 150 Stadium Road, Mankato. Hours: Tues.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. (507) 387-6592.

*Nov. 1-22 “Photographs: Reimagined Landscapes” Exhibit by the Minnesota State University, Mankato Photography students, held at 4 Pillars Gallery, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sat. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

*Nov. 1-22 Kyle Fokken’s Mixed Media Exhibit (Reception, Nov. 1, 5-7 p.m.) Held at the Emy Frenz Arts Guild Gallery, 523 S. Second St., Mankato. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (507) 387-1008 or www.twinniversarts.org.

Nov. 1-Dec. 31 Community Based Holiday Art Exhibit and Sale, 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.

*Nov. 1-Dec. 31 The 2019/20 CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour artwork is installed in the city centers of Mankato and North Mankato. www.cityartmankato.com or (507) 388-1062.

Nov. 2 Holiday Fare 2019: artisan sale, bake sale, and entertainment, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; held at the Treaty Site History Center, 1851 N. Minnesota Ave., St. Peter. Sponsored by Arts Center of Saint Peter, (507) 931-3630 or www.artscentersp.org.

Nov. 2 Concert by pianist Jason Farnham, performing a variety of music including bossa nova, blues, stride piano, jazz standards, originals and classical, 7 p.m. Tickets by series membership only, adults $50, students $10, or family $100. Sponsored by the Fairmont Concert Association. Held at the Fairmont High School Auditorium, 900 Johnson St. (507) 893-4554 or mdmiller2@bevcomm.net.

*Nov. 2 Minnesota Valley Sweet Adelines presents their fall concert “Dis-“chord Under the Big Top” with special guest quartets Just Kidding and Fly Right; performance by Dance Express; and the 2019 Adeline Idol Contest; 3 p.m. Held at Crossview Covenant Church, 2000 Howard Dr., North Mankato. Tickets in advance: adults $12, seniors $10, and students $5; at the door: adults $15, seniors $12, and students $5; under 5 free. Tickets are on sale in Mankato at both HyVee and Cub Foods locations, HyVee in New Ulm, and Nutter Clothing Co. in St. Peter. www.minnesotavalleychorus.org or (507) 340-6092.

*Nov. 3 Musical Tales Concerto Festival Concert, 3 p.m. Several teams will collaborate to create stories, rehearse with a director, and present and perform their stories specifically created for the festival with the “Dare to Scare” theme. Free admission. Held at the Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.musicaltalesconcerto.org or (507) 774-0525.

*Nov. 3 Blue Earth Valley Concert Assoc. sponsors Timothy Chooi, a young, award-winning violinist, 2 p.m. Series tickets will be sold at the door, adults $50, students $10, or family $100. Held at Blue Earth Area High School Performing Arts Center, 1125 N. Grove St. (507) 866-4668 or www.blueearthvalleyconcerts.com.

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

Nov. 4 Bethany Jazz Band Concert with guest soloist Bill Bukowski on guitar, 7 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

Nov. 4 Bjørling Music Festival Finale Concert, 7 p.m., including two honor bands and an honor orchestra comprised of high school students from 6 states. Held at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

Nov. 4 Moving Words: Writer’s Across Minnesota Tour, authors Cary Griffith, Geoff Herbach, Wendy Webb, and Gwen Westerman will conduct readings and discussions, 4-6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 North Broadway. www.newulmlibrary.org or (507) 359-8334.

*Nov. 4-Dec. 18 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.

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**Arts Event Happening in Your Area?**

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

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

Nov. 6-Dec. 11  Mara Duvra’s “On Morning Softness and Calm” Exhibit. (Reception, Nov. 6, 4:30-6:30 p.m.) Held at Schaefer Art Gallery, in the Fine Arts Building, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Gallery hours: Mon.-Sun. 8 a.m.-10 p.m. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

Nov. 7 University Choral Invitational Concert, 7:30 p.m. Including the Concert Choir, Chamber Singers and Invited High School Choirs. General admission $9, K-12 students and children $7. Held at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 105 N. 5th St., Mankato. Sponsored by Minnesota State University, Mankato. (507) 389-5549 or www.mnsu.edu/music/events

Nov. 7 Ellen Radel will give a presentation about the history of Little Golden Books and discuss the continued importance of reading with children, 6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 North Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

Nov. 7-10  GnomeMade Market in New Ulm, an annual art and folk art market exhibited in private homes and in historic New Ulm locations. Go to www.gnomemademarket.com for a list of participating vendors and their hours.

Nov. 7-29  Derek Wehrwein’s Illustrations Exhibit. (Lecture & Reception, Nov. 7, 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.

Nov. 7-Dec. 21  Holiday Boutique, unique handmade gifts created by local artists, 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.

Nov. 8-9  Forge Handmade Market, vendor fair of local and regional makers. Nov. 8 from 3-8 p.m. and Nov. 9 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Held at The Mill, 310 2nd Ave SW, Waseca. Contact Kelly and Tara through “FORGE Handmade Market” on Facebook.

*Nov. 8-9  The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7:30 p.m. each night, free. Nov. 8: Joyann Parker Blues Trio performing blues music. Nov. 9: EZ Jazz Trio performing jazz music. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Nov. 8-10 & 15-16  “Dr. Faustus” theater performance, Nov. 8, 9, 15 & 16 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 10 at 2 p.m. Held at Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. www.blc.edu or (507) 344-7000.

*Nov. 8-10 & 15-17  Merely Players Community Theatre presents “Annie”, Nov. 8, 9, 15 & 16 & 17 at 7:30 p.m., and Nov. 10 & 17, at 2 p.m. Adults $16, seniors $14, youth 12 and under $11. At the Lincoln Community Center, 110 Fulton Street, Mankato. www.merelyplayers.com or (507) 388-5483.

Nov. 8-24  Robert Dickinson’s Painting Exhibit (Reception, Nov. 8, 7-9 p.m.) 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.

Nov. 9  “Muder on Prom Night” A Totally 80’s Murder Mystery Dinner Theater by Paul Warshauer. Tickets are $49 per person and include a 3-course dinner. Doors open at 5 pm, show at 6 pm. Prize for the best 80's costume. DJ and dancing will follow the show. Held at Country Inn and Suites, 1900 Premier Dr., Mankato. (507) 388-8555 or “Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Mankato Hotel and Conference Center, MN” on Facebook.

Nov. 9  “Haydn Go Seek” Family Concert Series, 3 p.m., created for children and their caregivers, all ages welcome. Features musicians, actors, storytelling, and musical activities. Free admission one hour prior to the show. Held at the Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota, 224 Lamm St., Mankato. Sponsored by the Mankato Symphony Orchestra. (507) 625-8880 or www.mankatosymphony.com.

Nov. 9  Gustavus Chamber Winds, Wind Symphony, and Wind Orchestra Fall Concert, 1:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

*Nov. 9-10  Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra’s Fall Music Concert, “Back to the 60’s”, 3 p.m. both days. Nov. 9 held at St. Mary’s High School, 104 St. Mary’s St. Sleepy Eye. Nov. 10 held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. Tickets $10. (612) 251-8492 or www.mayso.net.

Nov. 9 & 23  Watch the Metropolitan Opera’s live performances of “Madama Butterfly”, Nov. 9, at 11:55 a.m. and “Akhnaten”, Nov. 23, at 11:55 a.m. Adults $27.09, seniors $24.93. Held at Cinemark Movies 8 in the River Hills Mall, Mankato. (507) 625-1929 or www.metopera.org/metopera/liveinhd/unitedstates.aspx

Nov. 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.
Nov. 10 Fairmont Opera House presents Che Apalache, performing bluegrass music with Latin American styles, 2 p.m. Adults $20; seniors $15; Veterans, active duty, or students $10; under 10 $5; tickets 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.

Nov. 10 The Mankato Symphony Orchestra’s Music On The Hill, Chamber Music Concert, 2 p.m., featuring works by Mozart, Higdon, and Brahms. Premium seats $17, general admission $12. Held at Good Counsel Chapel, 170 Good Counsel Dr., Mankato. (507) 625-8880 or www.mankatosymphony.com.

Nov. 10 Maker Market, sponsored by the Minnesota Makers & Artist Guild, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Shop for truly unique items created by local artists. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Nov. 11 Me La Amargates Tú Concert, “Echoes from Sefarad- a combination of Ladino romances with Spanish romances”, 7 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

Nov. 11-19 Senior Show 1, 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/.

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

Nov. 12 Film screening and discussion of “Blade Runner”, as part of the Film Noir Series, 6 p.m. Hosted by The New Ulm Film Society. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

Nov. 13 United States Air Force Band of Mid-America’s Midwest Winds Quintet Concert, 7 p.m. Held at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato. (507) 344-7000 or www.blc.edu.

Nov. 13-16 “Nocturn” theater production, 7:30 p.m. each day. Adults $10, seniors over 65 and youth under 16 $9. Held at Andreas Theatre, MN State University, Mankato. (507) 389-6661 or www.mnsu.edu/theatre/.

Nov. 14 Good Thunder Reading Series featuring poet and nonfiction writer Paisley Rekdal, Workshop, 10-11 a.m., at Emy Frentz Arts Guild, 523 S. 2nd St., Mankato. Craft talk, 3-4 p.m., at Ostrander Auditorium, MN State University, Mankato. Reading, 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Centennial Student Union Room 245, MN State University, Mankato. Sponsored by MN State University, Mankato. http://gt.mnsu.edu/ or (507) 389-1354.

Nov. 14 Author Mindy Mejia will discuss her latest mystery novel “Leave No Trace”, 6-7:30 p.m. Held at the North Mankato Police Annex Meeting Room, 1001 Belgrade Ave. Sponsored by North Mankato Taylor Library. www.northmankato.com/taylorlibrary or (507) 345-5120.

Nov. 14-Dec. 21 Carnegie Members’ Exhibition. (Reception, Nov. 16, 3-5 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.thecarnegiemankato.com.

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

*Nov. 16 Concert by Wild Ponies, performing folk, rock, and country music with an old-style feel, 7 p.m. Adults $12, children $6; available at www.redrockcenter.org or at the door. Held at the Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.

Nov. 16 Gustavus Big Band and Jazz Combos Concert, 4:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

Nov. 16 Vocal Jazz and Gustavus Jazztet Concert, 7:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

Nov. 17 University Percussion Ensembles Concert, 3 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.

Nov. 17 Gustavus Chamber Ensembles Fall Concert, 1 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

Nov. 17 Gustavus Percussion Ensemble Fall Concert, 4:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7013.

Nov. 17 Minnesota River Valley Wind Ensemble Concert, 3 p.m. Held at Wittenberg Collegiate Center Auditorium, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990.

*Nov. 19-Dec. 20 All School Show. (Reception, Nov. 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. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.
Nov. 21 University Jazz Bands 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.

Nov. 21 Original Music concert by local songwriters Colin Scharf and Laura Schultz. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and music at 7 p.m., $10. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. www.artcenterssp.org or (507) 931-3630.

*Nov. 22-23 The Grand Center for Arts & Culture presents weekend music, 7:30 p.m. each night. Nov. 22: Generation Gap Band performing music from the 60’s to the 90’s, free. Nov. 23: The Divers performing eclectic folk music, tickets $5. Held at the Grand Kabaret, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

*Nov. 22-24 “The Little Mermaid” theater performances by Springfield Community Theater and Springfield Community Education. Nov. 22 & 23 at 7 p.m. and Nov. 23 & 24 at 2 p.m. Advance tickets available at Springfield Advance-Press, adults $12, children and K-12 students $8; at the door adults $15, children and K-12 students $8. Held at the Springfield Public School Performing Arts Theatre, 12 Burns Ave. (507) 723-6315 or “Springfield Community Theatre (SCT)” on Facebook.

Nov. 22-24 “Time to Get Real: Selections from the Classics of Modern Drama” theater performance, Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. & 11 p.m., Nov. 23 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 24 at 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. Held at Black Box Theatre, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. www.gac.edu or (507) 933-7353.

Nov. 22-24 “Lyric Confluence: The Choreographers’ Gallery” dance concert performance, Nov. 22 at 8:30 p.m., Nov. 23 at 5:30 p.m., and Nov. 24 at 4 p.m. Held at Kresge Dance Studio, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7353 or www.gac.edu.

Nov. 23 Fairmont Opera House presents Hornucopia, performing tributes to Blood, Sweat & Tears and Chicago, 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.

*Nov. 23-24 Minnesota Valley Chorale will present their Fall Concert featuring Dvorák’s Mass in D major and other works. Nov. 23, 7 p.m. at Trinity Chapel, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Dr., Mankato. Nov. 24, 3 p.m. at Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, 605 N. State St., New Ulm. In advance $10 from choir members or at the door $12. (651) 246-1511 or www.minnesotavalleychorale.org.

Nov. 24 University Concert Wind Ensemble Concert, 3 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.

Nov. 24 Gustavus Philharmonic Orchestra and Campus Band Fall Concert, 1:30 p.m., held at Björling Recital Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. (507) 933-7013 or www.gac.edu.

Nov. 24 “The British Invasion” Wind Symphony Concert, 3 p.m. Held at Wittenberg Collegiate Center Auditorium, Martin Luther College, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm. (507) 766-1990.

Nov. 25-Dec. 3 Senior Show 2, 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/.

Nov. 25-Dec. 13 Inspiration 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/.

Nov. 25-Jan. 31 Exhibits of African Works from the Collection of Ruth and Raymond Reister and Watercolor Works. (Reception and Gallery Talk by African Art Specialist, Martha G. Anderson, Nov. 25, 7-9 p.m.) 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. (507) 933-7200 or www.gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom.

*Nov. 29-30 “A Charlie Brown Christmas” theater performance by State Street Theater Company. Nov. 29 at 2 p.m. and Nov. 30 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets: In advance $12.50 from the New Ulm Chamber of Commerce, New Ulm HyVee, or online at www.statenewulm.org, at the door $15. Held at the State Street Theater, 1 N. State St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9990 or www.statenewulm.org.

Nov. 29-Dec. 1 Mankato Opry Jamboree, an oyster style country music Christmas Show featuring the Mankato Opry All Star Band and guest singers. Nov. 29 & 30 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 1 at 2 p.m. Show only $22. Country buffet additional $15. Buffet starts at 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 29-30 and at 12:30 p.m. on Dec. 1. Held at the Kato Ballroom, 200 Chestnut St., Mankato. (507) 625-7553 or www.katoballroom.com.

The PLRAC Office will be closed Thurs. & Fri., November 28-29 in honor of Thanksgiving.
Nov. 29-Dec. 22 “Adventures in Mating: Holiday Edition” theater performances. Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 & 22 at 2 p.m.; Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21 at 5:30 p.m. and Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13 & 20 at 7:30 p.m. General admission tickets $12, $18 or $25. There are a specific number of tickets at each price point; $12 are sold first, then $18, then $25, shop early for best price. Held at DalekoArts, 110 E. Main St., New Prague. (502) 314-9077 or www.dalekoarts.com.

Nov. 30 Fiber Studio Open House and Art Swap, 1-4 p.m. Come see the new Fiber Studio and if you choose, bring one or more quality pieces of art, your own work, or something you've acquired that you're ready to re-home. A $10 donation to the Arts Center will be collected for each piece you take. Held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. www.artscentersp.org or (507) 931-3630.

Youth Arts Opportunities

Youth Classes

*Nov. 1 Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, Grades 3-6, Youth Scholarship Grant Deadline. Scholarships of $200 provide select students in grades 3-6, the opportunity to study their chosen art with a practicing professional artist by taking lessons over a period of months. The scholarship can also be used to take lessons or pay fees to a non-profit arts organization serving youth. Artistic areas include: dance, literature, media arts, music, theater and visual arts. Students must live in the 9-county region that Prairie Lakes serves including: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan Counties. Go to www.plrac.org for a link to the online application. (507) 833-8721 or plrac@hickorytech.net.

Nov. 5 Club Picasso, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Ages 9-12, $7. With a focus on skill building, students will incorporate design elements using a variety of media. Classes reinforce skills and learning new techniques. This month is “Painting Painted Ladies” with a rock as the base, students will use acrylics in rendering a beautiful butterfly. Registration required with Waseca Community Education at www.waseca.ce.eleyo.com. Meets first Tuesday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

Nov. 7 Make and Take Art Class, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Grades K-3, $7. 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 “Mystery Drawing”, using a variety of skills and materials. Registration required with Waseca Community Education at www.waseca.ce.eleyo.com. Meets first Thursday of the month. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.


Nov. 12 Give Thanks Kids Painting Class led by Rhonda Johnson, ages 5 and up, 6-8 p.m. Learn painting basics in a fun, creative atmosphere, $35. Held at Lincoln Community Center, Room 152, 110 Fulton St., Mankato. Register with Mankato Community Education, (507) 387-5501 or www.mankatoecer.com.

Nov. 12 Teen Dot Art Workshop, 6 p.m. Explore this art technique. Held at the Waseca Public Library, 408 N. State St. (507) 835-2910 or www.wasecalesuurlibraries.com.

Nov. 15 The Writers Studio offers students in grades 9–12 the opportunity to work directly with professional authors, provide and receive feedback from other participants, and showcase their work. Students will meet for a day-long writing workshop and interact electronically throughout the year. Space is limited, register today. Held at South Central Service Cooperative Conference Center, 2075 Lookout Drive, North Mankato. Go to www.mnscsc.org/writers-studio for more information. (952) 715-8745.

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Nov. 20  Collaborative Mobile Project Class, 2-4 p.m., grades K-12, free. Create a piece of art together that will hang at the art center. Register with Waseca Community Education: www.waseca.ce.eleyo.com. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State Street North. (507) 835-1701 or www.wasecaartcenter.org.

Nov. 20  Clay Holiday Ornaments Class led by Katie Dick, 4:30-6 p.m. Work with textures to make beautiful ornaments. $25, includes materials. No prior experience required. 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.

*Nov. 23  Children's Gift Making Camp with instructor Rhonda Johnson. 1-4 p.m., $50. Includes a variety of crafts, each student will create 4 wrapped gifts. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulum.com.

Nov. 23  Elf Shoes Canvas Painting Class led by Laura Doyen, ages 8-12, 10-11:30 a.m. Learn to create a fun Elf themed painting, $25. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at Design & Wine, 300 Belgrade Avenue, North Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

Dec. 1  Poetry Out Loud 2020 Competition deadline for high school registration. Poetry Out Loud is a national arts education program that encourages the study of great poetry by offering free educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition to high schools across the country. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life. High schools must register to participate. South Central Service Cooperative is proud to partner with National Endowment for the Arts, Poetry Foundation and the Minnesota State Arts Board to host Poetry Out Loud. Visit www.mnscsc.org/poetry-out-loud for more information, or call (952) 715-8745.

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

**Adult Artists**

*Nov. 1  Call for Artists: Deadline to submit an online application for your sculpture to be included in the 2020 CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour in Mankato and North Mankato. This exhibit of 25-30 outdoor sculptures will be displayed for one year. Go to www.cityartmankato.com/on-the-go-call-to-artists-3/ to learn more. Chosen artists will receive a $1,000 stipend. cityart@twiuniversarts.org or (507) 514-2921.*

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

Nov. 2  Intro to Jewelry Metal Smithing Class, 10 a.m.-12 Noon. Learn basic skills of sawing, filing, texturing and finishing to create a pendant. Member $35, non-member $40. Held at Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

Nov. 2, 9 & 16  Stained Glass Candle Holder Class, 3-6 p.m. each day. In this 3-class workshop, learn stained glass basics, foil and soldering techniques. $250. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Nov. 2, 9 or 16  Stained Glass Sun Catcher Class, 6-9 p.m., learn stained glass basics to make a sun catcher you will take home that night. $75. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

Nov. 3  Card Making Class, 6-7 p.m. Learn tips and tricks for beautiful card making. Supplies are provided. No registration required. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. (507) 304-4001 or www.beclibrary.org.

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Nov. 3 Exploring Encaustic Painting Class, 1-5 p.m. Paint with molten wax on a warm wood panel, fusing each layer with a heat gun. $65. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Nov. 5-19 Beginning Crochet Class, Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m. Learn basic crochet skills. No prior experience required. $45, hook and yarn for practice is included. Register with Mankato Area Community Education. Held at Mary Lue’s Yarn & Ewe, 605 North Riverfront Drive, Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

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

Nov. 5-26 Introduction to Hand Building Class led by CaitlinHeyer, Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m. Learn the history of ceramics and gain skills while creating your own pieces. No prior experience required. $69. 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.

Nov. 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.

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

Nov. 8 Attention Music Teachers: The Minnesota Valley Music Teachers Association business meeting and refreshments at 9 a.m. Program 9:30-11 a.m., “Recitals, Parties, and Music for the Holiday Season”, see and hear the newest sacred and secular music for Christmas and share ideas for parties, recitals, and group lessons. Annual membership $30, guests can attend a meeting free of charge. Held at the Emy Frenzt Arts Guild Gallery, 523 S. 2nd St., Mankato. (507) 514-3970 or www.mvmta.com.

Nov. 9 Southern Minnesota Poet’s Society Monthly Meeting, 12:30-3 p.m., come have lunch and bring 10 copies of a one page poem you want critiqued. SMPS members will work in groups to help you with your poem. Free, visitors welcome. Held at the Emy Frenzt Arts Guild Gallery, 523 South Second Street, Mankato. Sponsored by Southern Minnesota Poets Society. (507) 345-1174 or www.southernminnesota.com.

Nov. 9 Dip Art Class, 10 a.m.-12 Noon, $35. Learn how to create beautiful fluid art, using the dip technique with acrylic paints on a 12"x12" canvas. Register with Fairmont Community Education, (507) 235-3141. Held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Avenue, Fairmont. (507) 235-9262 www.redrockcenter.org. *Nov. 9 Make Your Own Reversible Apron Class with instructor Val Bessen. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., $55, includes fabrics you can choose from. Bring your own sewing machine or several machines will be available at the class. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 N. Minnesota St., New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

Nov. 10 Drop-In Writers Critique Group, 3-5 p.m. Bring work in progress and a question or two for the group. Read for five minutes, get critiqued for ten. Leave with good vibes and new ideas for moving forward. Hosted by Ronda Redmond. All levels welcome, there is no previous participation or experience necessary. $5, advanced registration is not required. Held 2nd Sunday of the month, at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, 315 S. Minnesota Ave. (507) 931-3630 or www.artcentersstp.org.

Nov. 8-9 Forge Handmade Market, contact Kelly and Tara through “FORGE Handmade Market” on Facebook for exhibiting information. The Market will be held Nov. 8 from 3-8 p.m. and Nov. 9 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Held at The Mill, 310 2nd Ave SW, Waseca. (507) 461-1434.

Nov. 10 Maker Market, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Members can exhibit for free, non-members pay $20 fee. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. www.mankatomakerspace.org or (507) 514-2921.

Nov. 12 Nervous Chicken Class, 6-8 p.m. $10. Create a handmade sock chicken. Hand sewing skills are helpful, but not necessary. Registration required with Waseca Community Education at www.waseca.ce.eleyo.com. Held at the Waseca Art Center, 200 State St. N. www.wasecaartcenter.org or (507) 835-1701.

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Adult Arts Opportunities

Nov. 14 Minnesota Home Pallet Sign Class led by Laura Doyen, 5:30-8 p.m. Create your own 4’x2’ “Home” sign with a corrugated metal Minnesota cutout. Stain and paint colors will be chosen during the workshop. $85, includes materials. No prior experience required. Register with Mankato Community Education. Held at Design & Wine, 300 Belgrade Ave., North Mankato. Sponsored by Mankato Community Education, www.mankatocer.com or (507) 387-5501.

*Nov. 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 or (507) 359-8222.

Nov. 18 Poetry Reading Group, each participant will read aloud at least two poems, of their own or by others, and discuss them. 6:30 p.m. Held at the New Ulm Public Library Meeting Room, 17 N. Broadway. (507) 359-8334 or www.newulmlibrary.org.

Nov. 18 Candle Stamping Class, 6-7 p.m. Learn the basics of embossing and make a beautifully stamped candle. Supplies are provided. No registration required. Held at the Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato. www.beclibrary.org or (507) 304-4001.

Nov. 23 Holiday Sign Painting Class, 10 a.m.-12 Noon, $35. Choose the sign you want to make and have fun adding your own colors to make it your own. No experience needed. 8”x8” sign $12, 12”x12”sign $30. Go to “Red Rock Center” on Facebook to view available designs and register with your design choice by Nov. 15. Held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.

*Nov. 23-24 Holiday Watercolor Block Prints Class with instructors Brad Hall and Andy Kahmann. Nov. 23, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., learn to carve a 5”x7” design to make a card. Nov. 24, 12 Noon-4 p.m., print your designs and hand-watercolor your card. $75, includes all supplies. Registration required. Held at the Grand Center for Arts & Culture, 210 North Minnesota Street, New Ulm. www.thegrandnewulm.com or (507) 359-9222.

Nov. 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 the Wooden Spoon (Formerly Friesen’s Bakery), 515 N. Riverfront Drive, Mankato. Sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits. www.minnesotanonprofits.org or (507) 469-2217.

Nov. 26 Ceramics: Intro to the Wheel Class, 7-9 p.m. Learn the basics of throwing on a ceramics wheel, $35. Held at the Mankato Makerspace, 1700 3rd Ave. (507) 514-2921 or www.mankatomakerspace.org.

Nov. Accepting Exhibit Applications. Red Rock Center for the Arts in Fairmont is taking artist applications for 2020 gallery exhibitions. Solo and group shows welcome. Contact director@redrockcenter.org for an application. Held at Red Rock Center for the Arts, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont. www.redrockcenter.org or (507) 235-9262.

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

Nov. 30 & Dec. 2-3 Entry Days for the ArtScape Juried Art Show Nov. 30 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Dec. 2 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m., and Dec. 3 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Up to 3 submissions per artist. The fee is $5 per submission for the student category grades 7-12 and $10 per submission for the adult category/ $5 per submission rate for adult members. Exhibit dates: Dec. 6-Jan. 3. Held at 4 Pillars Gallery, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, 210 North Minnesota St., New Ulm. (507) 359-9222 or www.thegrandnewulm.com.

Dec. 1 Artist Proposal Deadline, Fairytale and Folklore Festival Waseca-LeSueur Regional Library System is currently seeking artists and creatives including media artists, installation artists, craftspeople, makers, storytellers, interested in interpreting a fairytale or folklore by designing and creating a themed tent for the festival on June 20, 2020, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Five tents will be installed in Trowbridge Park behind the Waseca Public Library with these themes: Cinderella, Hihankara, Rumpelstiltskin, Beauty and the Beast, and Aladdin. Artists or creative teams will receive a stipend of $3,000 per tent. The tent will be provided, but will remain the property of Waseca-LeSueur Regional Library System after the event. Selected proposals will be notified by Dec. 15. For more info. and a timeline go to: http://wasecalesueurlibraries.com/fairytale-and-folklore-tents-2020-call-for-tent-artists or contact Stacy at (507) 835-2910 or lienemann@tds.lib.mn.us.
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. Summer gallery hours: Wed.-Fri. 1-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. Contact info@artscentersp.org, (507) 931-3630, 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.thecarnegieemankato.com, (507) 625-2730, or artectr@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., Thur., 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 Eny 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.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. info@twinriversarts.org, (507) 387-1008, or www.twinriversarts.org. Also find other arts events at: www.greatermankatoevents.com. Gallery Application link: www.twinriversarts.org/exhibition-schedule

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

College Galleries

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

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

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

Nov. 22  **Fellowship Grant Deadline for Writers.** The Loft administers fellowships on behalf of the McKnight Foundation and five $25,000 fellowships are awarded to accomplished Minnesota writers and spoken word artists. Awards this year are in poetry, spoken word, and writing for children younger than eight. Go to [https://loft.org/awards/mcknight](https://loft.org/awards/mcknight). All McKnight Fellowship Programs can be found at: [https://www.mcknight.org/programs/arts/the-mcknight-artist-fellowships/](https://www.mcknight.org/programs/arts/the-mcknight-artist-fellowships/).

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**State-Wide Online Resources**

**COMPAS**
[www.compas.org](http://www.compas.org)
A Minnesota resource for artist residencies in the arts.

**Minnesota Citizens for the Arts**
[www.artsmn.org](http://www.artsmn.org)
State-wide Arts Advocacy Organization.

**Minnesota Council of Nonprofits**
[www.minnesotanonprofits.org](http://www.minnesotanonprofits.org)
Information and links about board governance, marketing, fundraising, etc.

**Minnesota State Arts Board**
[www.arts.state.mn.us](http://www.arts.state.mn.us)
Artist and Organization Grant Information.

**Springboard for the Arts**
[www.springboardforthearts.org](http://www.springboardforthearts.org)
Artists & non-profit arts groups workshops.

**Statewide Website for Artists & Organizations**
[www.mnartists.org](http://www.mnartists.org)
The website showcases the work of over 4,500 MN Artists in all disciplines.

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