

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council

207 N. State Street, Suite A
Waseca, MN 56093-2905
(507) 833-8721 or (800) 298-1254
plrac@hickorytech.net * www.plrac.org

Youth Scholarship / Mentorship Grant

Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund
Fiscal Year 2011 Application Form
Application Deadline: October 1, 2010

Youth Scholarships and Mentorships of \$300 provide select students in grades 7-12, the opportunity to study their chosen art with a practicing professional artist, attend an arts workshop, series of classes or special training opportunity. The applicant must have participated with an instructor, an organization or arts discipline for at least 2 years. Students may not use this scholarship to participate in a school or organization band or choir trip, or other arts trips. Artistic areas include: dance, literature, media arts, music, theater and visual arts. The scholarship can also be used to take lessons or pay fees to a non-profit arts organization serving youth (i.e. Area Art Centers, Dance Conservatory of Southern MN, Figure Skating Clubs, Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra, Mankato Ballet Company, Mankato Children’s Chorus, Mankato or New Ulm Suzuki School of Music, other groups which offer art classes to youth, etc.).

1. Student's Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-mail Address _____ Home Phone _____
School _____ Current Grade _____
Name of Parent or Guardian _____

2. Is there an artist with whom you would like to study, a training you would like to attend, or lessons that you would like to take? Students who take the time to research an artist or training that fits their level of development and future goals will be given some priority during the review process. Remember this is a grant for up to \$300 so additional costs related to an expensive training will need to be covered by you or your family.

Instructor, Artist or Training Name: _____ Phone _____
Address or Training Location _____

If you have studied with this instructor, artist or attended this training before please state the month/years of study. Example: Violin lessons 6/08-5/10, Dance classes 1/07-9/09, Art classes 8/09-5/10, etc. Preference will be given to students who have some experience in this art form.

3. The success of your son’s or daughter’s training depends, in part, on your support. The total value of each grant is \$300. Parents will be expected to help provide transportation to and from where lessons or the training will take place. Past experience has shown that the students who make the most progress receive support and encouragement to practice at least three hours per week at home.

As a parent or guardian for _____ (Student’s Name), I certify that I have read the information in this application and that I agree to provide the support and encouragement needed for my student to succeed. I also understand that my student has to complete a Final Report for this grant.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

FY 2011 Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund

Youth Scholarship/Mentorship Grant Questions

Please answer the following questions on no more than two typed or computer-generated pages, using 12-point font. This application is also available as a Word document that we can email you; just call the office to request one. It is okay if your answers to these questions refer to one type of art work, but you want to study another type. For example, you may want to take pottery classes, but you have only worked in watercolor painting. Or, perhaps you want to take ballet lessons, but you've only taken tap dance.

1. Describe what art form you want to study and what specific aspect of this art form you want to focus on with a mentor, instructor, classes, or at a training workshop.
2. Why are you interested in this art form and if this is something new for you, what precipitated this recent interest? What efforts have you made on your own to study in this art form? Describe your past activities which show your interest in this art form, and indicate months or years of participation.

_____ years involved _____ months involved

Preference will be given to students who have some experience in this art form.

For example, a student who is interested in creative writing should already be writing poems, short stories, keeping a journal, etc. A student interested in being in a regional youth choir or orchestra should be participating in band or choir at their school, or taking private lessons.

3. How much time do you now spend on this art form? _____ Hours per week
4. A mentorship, training workshop or weekly lessons are an intensive learning experience. You may be spending 2-3 hours per week in classes and practice time at home if you are awarded this grant. Why are you willing to commit this amount of time to this experience?
5. Artistic Questions for the Student
 - a. What do you expect to learn from a mentor, or instructor that you are not learning now?
 - b. List some of the most challenging things you have done with your art and describe why they were challenging to you.
 - c. As an artist, what are your strongest and weakest areas?
 - d. Is there a professional artist (past or present) whose work you especially admire? Why?

6. Student Recommendation Letter (Example form provided)

Please submit a recommendation letter from your adult mentor, current instructor, teacher, etc. This should be someone who knows you well. They should explain how they know you, for how long, and if you have taken classes or lessons from them previously. They should comment on your skills, ambition, and dedication to this art form.

7. Be sure you and your parent or guardian have signed and dated this form. Mail the application and Letter of Recommendation to Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, 207 N. State Street, #A., Waseca, MN 56093 by October 1, 2010.

This application will be reviewed 10/28/10 and you will be notified by 11/8/10 if you are awarded this grant. Grants will be paid directly to the non-profit arts group, if a student is taking lessons or paying fees to that organization. Grants can be paid directly to the teacher/instructor if there are receipts to show expenses were incurred for the art classes, lessons, training opportunities, etc.

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Student Recommendation Form

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Instructors can write their own Recommendation Letter or submit this form on behalf of the student.

1. Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____ Home Phone _____

Teachers: School name and address _____

OR -Instructor at Non-profit arts organization, job title _____

Organization Name and address _____

2. How long have you known student _____ years _____ months

3. How long have they been involved in formalized instruction? _____ years _____ months

4. Have they taken lessons or been in classes with you previously? Explain.

5. What are your short and long term goals for this particular student? Explain.

6. Please comment on this student’s skills, ambition and dedication to this art form.

7. In your opinion, will this mentorship, training opportunity or weekly lessons assist in the artistic development of the student? Explain.

Teacher or Instructor Signature

Date