

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](http://www.plrac.org)

**Youth Scholarship / Mentorship Grant**

Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant  
Fiscal Year 2012 Application Form  
**Application Deadline: October 3, 2011**  
Review date: October 27, 2011

**No handwritten applications will be accepted.**  
**Set margins to .5 inch on all sides for form to print out correctly.**

For Office Use Only

Application # \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Received \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
Date of Award \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
Amount of Grant \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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 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.

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. The scholarship can be used to take lessons or pay fees to a non-profit arts organization serving youth. Examples include: 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 youth dance or music organizations, or art centers and groups which offer art classes to youth, etc.).

1. Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Please note that a majority of our contact with students regarding this scholarship will be through email.*

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. The scholarship will only be paid to the instructor or organization named on this application.

Instructor's name, Arts Group or training: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address or Training Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

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.*

**\*Note: Preference will be given to students who have 2 or more years of experience in this art form.**

State the # of years or months of study. \_\_\_\_\_

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.

- a. I as the student/parent understand this Application for a Youth Scholarship requires three separate documents that are two pages each and combined are pages 1-6 of this application: (1) Application cover page with my name, instructors name/or organization and both my parent's and my signature; (2) Application questions #1-#5. Answered on a separate piece of paper; and (3) Student Recommendation Form completed and signed by my Instructor.
- b. I understand that my student has to complete a Final Report Form and send Thank you letters to our two legislators for this grant.
- c. I also understand that my student will not be eligible for any future scholarships if a Final Report is not submitted.
- d. I also understand that my student will not be eligible for a scholarship if they are not currently in 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade in school, and we don't live in the 9-county area Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council serves.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Email or mail the application and Letter of Recommendation (pages 1-6) to  
Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, 207 N. State Street, Suite #A., Waseca, MN 56093  
by October 3, 2011.**

FY 2012 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

**Youth Scholarship/Mentorship Application Questions**

**Note: No Handwritten Application Questions will be accepted.**

**Please answer the following questions on no more than two typed or computer-generated pages, using 12-point font. No Handwritten applications will be accepted.** This application is also available on our website as a Word document [www.plrac.org](http://www.plrac.org). *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 an instructor, classes, or at a training workshop. List the name of the instructor or arts organization you will use this scholarship to pay for.

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?

a. Describe your past activities which show your interest in this art form. (i.e. school, with youth organization, private lessons, etc.)

b. List your years of participation in this art form. (i.e. school, with youth organization, private lessons, etc.)

\_\_\_\_ years involved    \_\_\_\_ months involved

Preference will be given to students who have 2 or more years of 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, instructor, or participating in this activity in the next year 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 Required (Example form provided)

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

**If a Letter of Recommendation is not received with the application it will be considered ineligible.**

7. Be sure you and your parent or guardian have signed and dated this form.

**Email or mail the application and Letter of Recommendation to Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, 207 N. State Street, Suite #A., Waseca, MN 56093 by October 3, 2011.**

*This application will be reviewed 10/27/11 and you will be notified by 11/7/11 if you are awarded this grant. Grants will be paid directly to the instructor or non-profit arts organization, if a student is taking lessons or paying fees to that organization. Grants can be paid directly to the teacher/instructor only if there are receipts to show expenses were incurred for the art classes, lessons, training opportunities, etc.*

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**Youth Scholarship / Mentorship Grant**  
Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund

**Student Recommendation Form**  
Application Deadline: October 3, 2011

**Note: No Handwritten Student Recommendation Forms will be accepted.**

**Youth Scholarships and Mentorships of \$300 require that a student provide a Recommendation Letter from their adult mentor, current instructor, teacher, organization, etc.; or they will not be eligible.**

This scholarship provides 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 must live in the 9-county region that Prairie Lakes serves including: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan Counties. **The scholarship will only be paid to the instructor or organization named on the student's application**

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 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.).

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

1. Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Teacher/Instructors name** providing the recommendation \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Teachers: School name and address \_\_\_\_\_  
OR -Instructor at Non-profit arts organization, job title \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization Name and address \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_
3. How long have you known student \_\_\_\_\_ years \_\_\_\_\_ months
4. How long have they been involved in formalized instruction? \_\_\_\_\_ years \_\_\_\_\_ months
5. Have they taken lessons or been in classes with you previously? Explain.



**FY 2012 YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP RUBRIC/ REVIEW CRITERIA**

here are three criteria to consider and the maximum points per category are 4 points. Therefore, the maximum total points are 12.

<b>Points</b>	<b>4 - Exceptional</b>	<b>3 - Above Average</b>	<b>2 - Average</b>	<b>1 - Minimum Requirement</b>
<b>Lessons</b>	8 or more years of lessons	6 -7 years of lessons	4 – 5 years of lessons	3 or less lessons
<b>Answer to Questions (5. a-d.)</b>	Statements submitted with reference to how the art form has benefited /challenged them; and a growth statement about what they plan to learn from an instructor.  *Includes a statement about art in their future.	Statements submitted with reference to how the art form has benefited /challenged them; and a growth statement about what they plan to learn from an instructor.	Statements submitted with reference to how the art form has benefited/challenged them.	Statements submitted
<b>Recommendation</b>	Recommendation submitted with at least <u>four specific references to student's ability</u> or may have referenced student's leadership in chosen art field.  ie: soloist in music program, lead in dance production, etc.	Recommendation submitted with at least <u>three</u> specific references to student's ability  ie: dedicated, hard working, self-motivated, etc.	Recommendation submitted with at least <u>two</u> specific reference to student's ability  ie: ambitious, enthusiastic, etc.	Recommendation submitted