

## GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2020

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2020 (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020)



### ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Organization Grant Program

\$5,000 to \$15,000 grants are available to organizations (501c3 nonprofits, units of government, schools, or groups that use a fiscal agent). Proceeds from the fund may be spent on arts and arts access, arts education, and arts and cultural heritage, and may be used in creating, producing, or presenting high quality arts projects.

**Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and April 1.**

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of \$6,030 for their project, Making Music. During this project the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host musician Katy Vernon and her band at the Hallberg Center for the Arts. The show will feature original music and will be free to all. Included with the project is the purchase of stage sound and lighting equipment, along with seating for the audience.  
<https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/> 651-272-5122

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for their project Art with a Patriotic Twist. During this project the Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society will host another year of arts at the Mille Lacs County Fair. They will bring back the Artist Joe Semler to demonstrate the art of chainsaw carving, Artists Jill Whitney-Birk and her assistant Nina Martine Robinson with the Arts Garden, as well as the Oz Brothers, Jeff Kortmand and Tom Hendricks, and their Lion and the Scarecrow performance taken from the Wizard of Oz. Also included will be musical guest Sailor Jerri, a United States Navy Veteran and Country Music Artist from Milaca, MN, they will perform original music with a patriotic theme.  
<http://www.millelacscountyfair.com/> 612-991-4484

East Central MN Pride received a grant in the amount of \$7,280 for their project, Music for Pride in the Park. During this project the East Central MN Pride will host the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Pride in the Park featuring musical guests Mark Joseph and the American Soul as headliners, with both the Rebel Queens and Jacob Mohon and the Salty Dogs as opening acts. This year's event will take place on Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> from noon to five pm.  
<https://eastcentralminnesotapride.org/> 320-272-0069

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of \$9,000 for their project, Art Residency Introduction. During this project the Walker Methodist Levande will work with COMPAS Artful Aging program to host two artists residencies at their Cambridge facility. Artist Anne McFaul Reid will lead Landscape Watercolor as an eight-week residency. Artist Glenda Reed will lead a Flash Memoir writing residency.  
<http://walkermethodist.org> 612-827-8541

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City of North Branch received a grant in the amount of \$7,512 for their project, Concerts in the Park. During this project the City of North Branch will host a free concert in the park series. The series will include three concerts beginning on June 30, 2020 with The Rockin Hollywoods, July 7<sup>th</sup> The Dweeb's, and ending with Monroe Crossing on July 28<sup>th</sup>. All concerts will take place in Central Park, downtown North Branch. <http://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/> 651-277-5226

City of Mora received a grant in the amount of \$8,251 for their project, Mora's Music in the Park. During this project the City of Mora will host a summer concert series in Mora's downtown Library Park on Thursday evenings during the months of June, July and August and one final performance during Fall Fest in September. Music will include a variety of music genres to include rock and roll, polka, country, pop, children's music, folk, Americana, and jazz. All performances will be free and open to the public. <http://www.ci.mora.mn.us> 320-225-4827

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for their project, 2020 Music @ Franconia Series. During this project the Franconia Sculpture Park will host a summer musical concert series highlighting local music at the park. Concerts will take place in the park at the amphitheater and will include five concerts, one Saturday a month to begin in June and end in October. Music will include punk, Americana, bluegrass, blues, swing, country, pop, surfpunk, Italo-disco, and house, and minimal industrial music. Each event is free and open to the public, with a \$5 parking fee. <http://www.franconia.org/> 651-257-6668

Gateway to the Arts received a grant in the amount of \$9,380 for their project, Simply Arts 2020. During this project Gateway to the Arts will integrate the arts into two of their annual summer events. The first will be music by Drop Tailgate on June 12<sup>th</sup> and Them Pesky Kids on June 13<sup>th</sup> during the Onamia Days Festival. The second event will celebrate the fourth of July on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and will include puppetry and music with Tricia and the Toonies for children and families during the day, and a repeat performance by Them Pesky Kids for a street dance that evening. All events will be free to the public. 320-532-4449

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Comm. Received a grant in the amount of \$6,275 for their project, In. Art Show 2020. During this project the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host the 5<sup>th</sup> annual juried "In. Art Show" at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN. The show will be held August 20<sup>th</sup> to September 19<sup>th</sup> with an opening reception and awards ceremony on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The show is open to local and non-local artist to enter and will include a variety of visual art for audiences to include large sculpture works to be displayed outside. <https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/> 651-272-5122

City of Hinckley received a grant in the amount of \$10,115 for their project, Sweet Summer Sounds 2020. During this project the City of Hinckley will host the Sweet Summers Sounds musical concert series in West Side Park. The concert series will include music from regional and national artists in a variety of musical genres such as country, bluegrass, polka, rock n roll, and Irish folk music. All concerts will be held on Thursday evenings beginning June 4<sup>th</sup> with an additional performance hosted on National Night out, Tuesday August 4<sup>th</sup>. <http://www.hinckley.govoffice2.com/> 320-630-3514

Vasaloppet, Inc. received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for their project, Phase IV – Voices of Vasaloppet. During this project the Vasaloppet, Inc. will commemorate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a cross country ski race by honoring their volunteers through art in a five-phase process. This phase IV will include the creation of mini documentaries. Local artists Keith Raivo, Roger Nieboer, and Matt Utecht will work together to develop, edit,

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and complete 12-20 "Voices of Vasaloppet" mini-docs that will showcase the Vasaloppet volunteer community. On May 8, 2021 the Voices of Vasaloppet will be shown at the Paradise Theater and will be a free event, open to the public. <http://www.vasaloppet.us> 320-260-9408

City of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of \$14,000 for their project, Library Sculpture. During this project, the City of Cambridge will commission local artist Ian J. Dudley to create an outdoor sculpture to be placed at the Cambridge Public Library. This public art piece will include a tree of knowledge theme to encourage exploration of the mind. The tree will feature leaves of different colors to represent the seasons of change. The project will include a ribbon cutting on October 16, 2020. <http://www.ci.cambridge.mn.us/> 763-689-3211

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for their project, Art @ Franconia Commons. During this project Franconia Sculpture Park will host a new monthly series of multi-generational hands-on artmaking classes that expand sculpture as a medium. These educational classes will be taught by local artist and are designed for families to take together. Classes will include kinetic sculpture, mixed-media collage, abstract clay sculpture, birdhouses and bee boxes, soft sculpture, and sound sculpture. Classes will take place one Saturday a month in the multipurpose space at Franconia Commons. <http://www.franconia.org/> 651-257-6668

Lakes and Pines Community Action Council received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for their project, Head Start & Respite Arts Yr 2. During this project, the Lakes and Pine Community Action Council will host a second year of their Head Start & Respite Arts Classes for youth ages 3-5 and older adults who need constant care. Classes will include felting, card making, jewelry making, pen & ink drawing, mixed media collage, tie-dye and painting; taught by local artists. The art will be displayed, and a video of art sessions will be available, at the free community event on May 4, 2021 celebrating Community Action month. <http://www.lakesandpines.org> 320-679-1800 x115

Unexpected Company Chorale received a grant in the amount of \$14,489 for their project, Minnesota Sings. During this project, the Unexpected Company Chorale will host a one-day festival of community choirs from four Minnesota communities on March 6, 2021. This festival will culminate in a free public performance featuring music by Unexpected Company Chorale, East Central Minnesota Chorale, Range of Voices Chorale and Legacy Chorale. <http://www.ucchorale.org> 612-251-8150

Milaca Elim Care and Rehab Center received a grant in the amount of \$13,150 for their project, Art4Life Build Relationships. During this project, the applicant will host an arts residency at three of their facilities with artist Suzy Volden focused on adapting artistic practices to the needs of older adults, most of whom live with some form of disability. This residency will include one on one work with the resident and a member of their family. This residency will take place at three locations: Country Meadows of Milaca, Elim Care and Rehab Center in Milaca and Elim Care and Rehab Center in Princeton. Ms. Volden will work with resident/caregiver pairs, which will help the facilities to emphasize the cultivation of resident memories and capturing those memories in a painting they create. <http://milacaelimcare.org> 320-982-9246

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for their project, Art Residency Intro Part 2. During this project the Walker Methodist Levande will host part two of an artist residency program utilizing COMPAS Artful Aging program artists. This residency will include songwriting with artist Charlie Maguire,

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puppet making with Beverly Cottman, storytelling with Christopher Lutter Gardella and drumming with Mike Arturi. Members of the public will be invited to each residency program.

<http://walkermethodist.org> 612-827-8541

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe received a grant in the amount of \$10,981 for their project, Photography and Foraging. During this project the MLBO will bring 12 members together for a photographic art experience at the Rice Lake Federal Wildlife Refuge, using culturally important wild plants as the central subjects. Part one will include a plant walk with Ethnobotanist Linda Black Elk, identifying wild plants traditionally used for food and medicine while guest artist Della Nohl will work with students to photograph these wild plants. After all the photos have been taken, in the second phase, Ms. Nohl will teach the participants photo-editing. The third and final step will be an art show, showcasing the participants' photos for the regional community. Ms. Nohl will also exhibit a photo collage of the plant walk experience and speak on how her Native American heritage influences her art. <https://millelacsband.com/> 320-362-4705

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of \$12,535 for their project, Americana at the Grounds. During this project the Mille Lacs County Ag Society will host artists Drew Peterson and Luke Leblanc during a free public performance at the fair grounds on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> from 6 – 9pm. This event will be free and open to the public. The Mille Lacs County Ag Society will work with local radio station KBEK to broadcast the performance to radios in the parking lot for those who may feel uncomfortable attending in person. The project also includes the purchase of new sound equipment to assist in providing music for this event. <http://www.millelacscountyfair.com/> 612-991-4484

### ECRAC Essentials Support Grant Program

\$3,000 to \$5,000 grants are available to arts organizations. This grant program is not intended to fund any specific arts projects and/or events. Its purpose is to provide funding for organizations' existing ongoing arts expenses such as facility expenses, utilities, office or art supplies, equipment, organizational insurance, memberships, etc.

There is no match required for this program.

**Annual deadline is March 1.**

Paradise Community Theatre Association Inc. received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for their project, Paradise Community Theatre Association, Inc., Essentials Support Grant. Motivated by their love of the arts, the Paradise Community Theatre Association, Inc. provides low-cost cinematic and performing arts entertainment to East Central Minnesota residents. The Paradise Community Theatre is seeking operating support to cover the monthly fees of their Quick Books Accounting Program, Point-of-Sale monthly fees and their Wilson Theatre Services fees. <http://www.moratheater.com> 320-679-3964

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for their project, Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community Essentials Support Grant. The Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community (WACAC) brings arts to the community through monthly art shows and other events at the Hallberg Center for The Arts in Wyoming, MN. With the operating grant WACAC would pay the gas, electric, and insurance for 10 months of the grant period. This would free up other funding to invest in more arts related activities and improvement goals at the gallery. Some goals for 2020/2021 are to see an increase in attendance, continue to

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increase awareness of the Art Center through advertising and community outreach, and continue updates and maintenance of The Hallberg Center for the Arts. <https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/> 651-272-5122

In His Steps Ballet & Performing Arts received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for their project, In His Steps Ballet & Performing Arts Essentials Support Grant. In His Steps Ballet & performing arts company's ("In His Steps") mission is to "engage, explore, and encourage the arts, with an emphasis on performing arts." Centrally located in Cambridge, Minnesota, In His Steps serves individuals throughout Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Mille Lacs Counties but always welcomes anyone with an interest in the arts. It has focused most primarily on instructing and educating youths interested in broadening their creativity through ballet, dance, and other performing arts. In His Steps Ballet & Performing Arts Company seeks operating support grant funding to use towards the facility rental expenses for studio space. <http://www.inhisstepsballet.com> 612-991-9556

Pine Center for the Arts received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for their project, Pine Center for the Arts Essentials Support Grant. The mission of the Pine Center for the Arts is to be a resource for artists, students and the community and available for everyone. They provide opportunities for all to create, learn and enjoy the visual, performing and literary arts. Working as a team, the PcftA has attempted to continuously improve the life and artistic opportunities for citizens in the region. The Essentials Support Grant will assist in paying the operating expenses to include general insurance, accountant fees, publicity and marketing, utilities and art instruction materials. By funding some of these expenses, they will be better able to increase and enhance the art opportunities they are providing to the community. <http://www.pinecenter.org> 320-629-4924

### ECRAC Small Art Project Grant Program

Grants from \$500 to \$5,000 will be made to organizations (501(c)3 nonprofits, units of government, schools, or groups that use a fiscal agent). A 1:1 match is required. 10% must be an assured cash match.

**Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and April 1**

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for their project, Film @ Franconia. During this project, the Franconia Sculpture Park will launch a summer film series featuring free, outdoor films on Saturday evenings highlighting the best in art cinema. This series will provide an opportunity for audiences to expand their knowledge and understanding of diverse global perspectives and new ideas that visitors might not otherwise have access to in a rural setting. Films will begin at 9pm at the Franconia Amphitheatre located within the park and will include a June 6 showing of The Holy Mountain; July 18 will feature Kusama, Infinity and Post-Infinity by Emotional.Store; August 1 featuring Fantastic Fungi and Fly Amanita by David Fenster; and finally, September 5 featuring Liquid Sky. <http://www.franconia.org/> 651-257-6668

Braham Area High School received a grant in the amount of \$3,259 for their project, A World of Music. During this project, the Braham Area High School will host a residency with Instrumentalist Todd Green from October 6<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>. During this residency Todd Green will provide two 50-minute lecture demonstrations to Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades as well as the clients of the Elmhurst Commons assisted living facility who have also been invited to attend these lectures. He will then provide a more advanced lecture demonstration to

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the Jr. and Sr. High students. This residency will also include time for the artist to work with Sr. High band students providing them with a masterclass of hands-on demonstrations, as well as the opportunity to perform short improvisations together. This residency will conclude with a public concert featuring original music for an admission fee of \$5 for adults and \$3 for seniors, aimed at making attendance to the concert affordable for all community members. <http://www.braham.k12.mn.us> 218-371-1224

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for their project, Visiting Artist Ashley Blalock. During this project Franconia Sculpture Park will host artist Ashley Blalock, a San Diego-based artist, to develop new, site-specific work that will be on display for two years. The work will include large scale crocheted sculptures out of plastic integrating art and ecology while educating audiences about consumer waste. The artist will also lead a public dinner and discussion lecture, tickets will be \$10 per person, and a free hands-on workshop open to the community. All events will take place in September, 2020 with a final show of her work on September 26<sup>th</sup>. <http://www.franconia.org/> 651-257-6668

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of \$4,500 for their project, Kids Can Be Artists Too! 2020. During this project the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Kid's Can Be Artists Too event during the 87<sup>th</sup> annual Stagecoach Days Festival on September 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This is a free event to give youth the opportunity to experience visual art. Each participant can paint using their imagination, or if they'd like there will be example paintings and simple charts on color mixing. The examples will include step by step instructions that will help the young artist create their masterpiece. <https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/> 651-272-5122

### ECRAC Art in Our Schools Grant Program

Grants up to \$3,000 are available to schools. This program supplements the existing school arts curriculum with such projects as artistic residencies, arts related field trips, and special arts events or projects. Grants may be used to support all students and/or student groups such as drama club, art classes, entire grades, or gifted and talented students.

**Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and April 1.**

Milaca Alternative learning Center received a grant in the amount of \$2,860 for their project, Art Exploration Mini Session. During this project, the Milaca Alternative Learning Center (ALC) will offer art exploration mini sessions to at risk, low income students. Included will be a series of art classes and field trips starting on March 10<sup>th</sup> with a pottery class at Abby Lingle Pottery Studio and a painting session with Karen Knudsen at the Milaca Area Learning Center. On March 12<sup>th</sup> students will have a guided tour of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. March 17<sup>th</sup> will include a guided tour of the Franconia Sculpture Park. On March 18<sup>th</sup> the students will attend Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Knight* at the Guthrie Theater, followed by a self-tour the Minneapolis Sculpture Gardens. During student conferences on March 17<sup>th</sup>, the students will display their art and share their reflections of the art mini sessions. <http://milaca.k12.mn.us> 320-982-7249

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Onamia Public Schools/Community Education received a grant in the amount of \$2,740 for their project, Creating PowWow Regalia. During this project, the Onamia Public Schools will host a residency with native artist Charmaine Xianna Shivers. Students grade 4-12 will be invited to participate in two 3-day workshops to learn how to make simple Ojibwe and other Native powwow regalia. These core groups of students will create 10 Jingle Dresses, 10 Fancy Shawls, and 15 Grass Dance Regalia that will be on display, at the "Kids Create Regalia" booth during the Mille Lac's Band Annual Pow Wow on August 22, 2020. The regalia will be available to families attending the Powwow to borrow for their young children who do not have their own regalia. <http://www.onamia.k12.mn.us/> 320-532-6829

Mora Public Schools ISD 332 received a grant in the amount of \$3,000 for their project, COMPAS Artists – Mike Arturi. During this project, the Mora School will invite artist Mike Arturi of COMPAS Arts to participate in a residency with the elementary school and some high school students from Nov 2-6, 2020. The artist will use drum circles to work directly with the students using music, empathy, self-control, teamwork, and other valuable skills. The residency will end with a performance open to the public. <http://www.moraschools.org> 320-679-6200

### ECRAC COVID-19 Emergency Response Grant Program

\$600 grants are available to art organizations and individual artists. Proceeds from the fund may be spent on arts and arts access, arts education, and arts and cultural heritage, and may be used in creating, producing, or presenting high quality arts projects related to COVID-19.

**Deadlines are Closed.**

Terri Sanford received a grant in the amount of \$600 for her project, Online Art Show and Demos. <http://www.terrihuroart.com/>

Kelli Maag received a grant in the amount of \$600 for her project, At Home with Nature.

Perry Carlson received a grant in the amount of \$600 for his project, Breathe.

Sarah Beahan received a grant in the amount of \$600 for her project, COVID-19 Chronicles. <http://www.sarahratermannbeahan.com/>

Marie Brown received a grant in the amount of \$600 for her project, Pottery Technique Videos. <http://chatnoirpottery.com/>

Chad Filley received a grant in the amount of \$600 for his project, COVID-19 Essay Collection. <http://www.chadfilley.com/>

Linda Christianson received a grant in the amount of \$600 for her project, Christianson Virtual Tour Project. <http://christiansonpottery.com/>

Guillermo Cuellar received a grant in the amount of \$600 for his project, Cuellar Virtual Tour Project. <http://www.guillermopottery.com/>

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Janel Jacobson received a grant in the amount of \$600 for her project, Jacobson Pottery Web-Shop. <http://sunrisemnpottery.com/>

Dale (Will) Swanson received a grant in the amount of \$600 for his project, Adapting to COVID-19.

Richard Vincent received a grant in the amount of \$600 for his project, Virtual Pottery Show Support. <http://richardvincentpottery.com/>

Sasha Wiczorek received a grant in the amount of \$600 for her project, Adventurer's Backpack line. <http://www.facebook.com/wildridersleather>

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of \$600 for their project, Virtual Gallery Show Support. <http://wyomingcreativearts.org/>

## Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund for Individual Artist Grant Program

This program provides grants up to \$1,000 to individual artists. Funds may be spent on arts and arts access, arts education and arts and cultural heritage, and may be used in creating, producing, or presenting high quality arts projects. All projects are required to have a community component as part of their project proposal.

**Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and April 1.**

Tom Willett received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for their project, Improved Storytelling. During this project the artist will work with his mentor Doug Ohmann to learn how to become a better storyteller and connect with an audience. Using his Wildflowers & Weeds – Discovering Nature Itself presentation, he will present to two audiences and work with Mr. Ohmann to improve on this story. After feedback and improvements, the artist will have a final presentation, open to the public, on October 8<sup>th</sup> at the new Cambridge Public Library.

Terri Sanford (Huro) received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for their project, Diving into Watercolor. During this project, the artist will attend three intensive online classes instructed by artist Nick Runge. The classes will allow the artist to learn new techniques and dive deeper into her watercolor skills to become more comfortable and knowledgeable as a watercolor artist. The artist will document and post photos of her project online and work with ECRAC for her open to the public event. <http://terrihuroart.com/>

Kelli Rae Tubbs received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for their project, Unchecked – New Music Works. During this project the artist will work with her mentors Peter O’Gorman and Jeffrey Vigness to expand on her skills as a musician by composing new music for drummers. The work will include a piece titled “Unchecked” (a pseudonym for the word pandemic) and will have its rhythmic motif based on the Morse Code translation of the phrase “COVID-19”. The artist will complete the composed work to a point of being ready to share with a publisher, this includes engraving and development of a folio cover for the music to match the artists branding. Her event will include a facebook watch party on May 22, 2021 as an interactive event available to the public. <https://www.kelliraetubbs.com/>

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## ECRAC Mid-Career Artist Grant Program

Grants up to \$2,500 are available to individual artists. This program provides financial support to artists committed to personal artistic growth. Applications are encouraged from artists in all disciplines. The program funds specific art projects designed to enhance the artistic skills, artwork and/or the artistic career of the individual artist.

This grant program is funded by The McKnight Foundation.

**Deadlines are February 1, and April 1.**

Cindy Fuerstenberg received a grant in the amount of \$2,500 for their project, Mixed Media Fiber Mentorship. During this project, the artist will work with her mentor Deborah Foutch, a Minneapolis based fiber artists, to continue her study of mixed media and fiber arts. The mentorship will allow the artist to develop a body of work integrating weaving and fiber techniques with those of mixed media onto canvas using natural materials and processes focusing on fiber to create texture. She will share her work with her mentor during their sessions culminating in the creation of three to four larger art pieces during the project period.

<http://larkingaboutinart.com>

Robert DesJarlait received a grant in the amount of \$1,254 for their project, Framing Culture. During this project, the artist will focus on the creation of new work as well as the matting and framing of his art to complete a series of work that will be on exhibition at the American Indian Community Housing Organizations Galleries in Duluth, MN from June 1 to August 28, 2020. The artist proposes to complete eight additional paintings for this exhibition as well as mat and frame the completed series of art depicting scenes that provide a glimpse into the life of the Ojibwe people. This exhibition will inform and educate observers about an indigenous population that lives among them.

Marie Brown received a grant in the amount of \$2,500 for their project, Small Wood Kiln. During this project, the artist will build a kiln with the assistance of a mentor, Sid Frantz, who has built a similar kiln in the past, and her husband who has some construction experience. This kiln will allow the artist to continue to make new work without as much risk she currently has when she travels with her unfired work to use a wood kiln located 8 miles away. <https://www.chatnoirpottery.com/>

Carole Bersin received a grant in the amount of \$1,660 for their project, Multi-Figure Mixed Media Paintings. During this project, the artist will create and frame two large multiple figured mixed media paintings to be included in her Memoir series. The focus of the paintings will be inspired by activities from the artists childhood; one will depict summer days spent in the backyard pool and the other portraying long afternoons playing board games with her siblings. <http://www.carolebersin.com/>

Peter Jadoonath received a grant in the amount of \$2,086 for their project, Peter Jadoonath Pottery Ceramics and Art. During this project, the artist will experiment with new clay bodies and explore a theme referred to as "3-D Comic Pots". The clay body will produce a white, rugged clay surface that excels in construction of large and small sculptural pottery. Experimenting with this clay will allow the artist to explore this new concept of 3-D Comic Pots. Also included with this project will be the repair of the artists clay mixer by a professional

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electrician. The repaired clay mixer will allow the artist to mix clay within two hours, which currently takes the artist two weeks to do by hand. <http://www.peterjadoonathpottery.com/>

Samuel Hines received a grant in the amount of \$2,500 for their project, Classical Guitar Video Production. During this project, the artist will travel to Toronto, Canada, in October 2020, to book video recording sessions with Drew Henderson, a classical guitar recording artists. The artist will record and produce high-quality classical guitar content, including pieces written expressly for him by composers from Canada and Venezuela. The professional recordings will allow the artist to gain attention, grow a larger audience and create future engagement for concerts. The new recordings will be uploaded to his YouTube channel and shared on social media. <http://www.samhinesguitar.com>

## ECRAC Essential Artist Award Grant Program

The Essential Artist Award program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists. These Awards will allow artists to set aside time to work, purchase supplies and materials, undertake advanced study (not related to a degree) or to pursue other career goals. Two \$8,000 Awards are available annually.

**This program has a March 1 annual deadline.**

David Spohn received an Award in the amount of \$8,000 for their project, Our Vanishing Birds. During this project, the artist will expand on his life's work by creating a new series of art. The project will include the purchase supplies to begin the creation of a study of birds in the St. Croix River watershed, using sketches and the artist own photography to create solar plate etchings. The series will consist of 4-6 images to exhibit in the fall at the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community. <http://quarryroadpress.com/>

Keith Raivo received an Award in the amount of \$8,000 for their project, Trash to Art with the Three Little Pigs. During this project, the artist will create an interactive, sculptural installation, mainly using trash as the medium for his work. The theme of the sculpture is the three little pigs and will include three houses and on wolf figure to be displayed outdoors. The project will include materials primarily made and/or created from used items the artist will make or already has on hand. <http://www.raivoart.com/>

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## ECRAC K-12 Scholarship Program

Scholarship funding is available for specific art learning projects or programs for students currently in Grades K-12. Scholarships up to \$500 are available.

**This program has a March 1 annual deadline.**

F.N. received a Scholarship in the amount of \$500 for their project, Funding for pottery equipment and accessories. During this project, the artist will purchase tools and supplies to advance her skills as a potter, including stilts for her kiln, glazes, underglazes, clay, a splash pan, ribs/tools, mixer to recycle clay, and a giffin grip. She will work with her mentor and teacher Ms. Miller to learn these skills as well as use her home studio to continue to create new work.

C. A. received a Scholarship in the amount of \$475 for their project, Music Summer Camp. During this project, the artist will attend a weeklong summer camp at MacPhail Center for Music in Minneapolis, MN in July. This artist has been practicing piano for two years and is looking forward to continuing his lessons.

A. M. received a Scholarship in the amount of \$500 for their project, Photography During this project, the artist will purchase a digital camera to take and print out her favorite images on canvas. She plans to use the camera often so she may expand her knowledge of photography by practicing with lighting, background, and focus to make images clearer and improve their quality.

B. T. received a Scholarship in the amount of \$500 for their project, Dance Tech Summer Competition Dance & Boot Camp. During this project, the artist will attend a Dance Tech Summer Competition classes and boot camp at the Dance Tech Studios located in Forest Lake, MN from July 7<sup>th</sup> – August 20. The dance classes will be a continuation of the classes she is already attending, and the boot camp will include instruction from guest instructors experienced in ballet, contemporary, tap, hip hop, and many other dance techniques.

K. V. received a Scholarship in the amount of \$500 for their project, Branches on a Cherry Tree and Art Camp. During this project, the artist will attend a five-day summer art camp at Franconia Sculpture Park. The youth installation summer camps are offered during the month of July, providing a safe, fun, and inspiring space for youth to create, engage, and explore art.

**Please note that some grant activities were, or will need to be, rescheduled, or updated due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is best to contact the grantee for information on their project details if you are interested in participation.**