GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2026
Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2026 (July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026)

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Organization Grant Program

$5,000 to $20,000 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 and February 1.

Rush City Area Chamber of Commerce (with fiscal sponsor City of Rush City) received a grant in the amount of $9,325 for their annual music events at the local bandshell in the city park. The first is a summer kickoff event on May 28, 2026, featuring the music of Just Rite Country. The second is the Rockin' Rush City event on Saturday, August 15, 2026. A full day of music by the Restoration Praise Band, Holy Rocka Rollaz, Relax with Max, 34th Infantry Red Devils, and Mason Dixon Line. The Rockin' Rush City event will include the Rockin' Rush City Car Show and encourages other local organizations to participate such as the Boy Scouts, Rush City Women's Club and the Rush City Fire Department who will have other activities available for the community attending the event that is open and free to the public. https://www.rushcitychamber.com/ 612-695-6495

Pine City Arts Council received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, Art in the Park 2026. During this project, the Pine City Arts Council will host the 49th annual Art in the Park event featuring free music performances on Friday evenings in Robinson Park, downtown Pine City. Artists include the Pine City Jazz Band, Holy RockARollaz, Roxxy Hall, The Eclectic Barn Boys, Whitesidewalls, Monroe Crossing, Tucker Baker, Neighborz, Farmer's Daughters, FABBAulous, and The Dweebs. There is transportation available via Arrowhead transit for those who need it, free of charge. https://www.facebook.com/PineCityArtsCouncil/

Pine County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their Pine County Fair performances. During this project, the Pine County Agricultural Society will host the Pine County Fair in Pince City from July 29 to August 2, 2026. This project will bring in local and regional musicians to perform during the 5 days of the fair on multiple stages featuring artists: Mason Dixon Line, Two Steps from Country, Sisters Twisted, REV Richmynd, Poppa Bear Norton, Duluth Transit Authority, Inside Strait, Harlow Pennies, Bad Jack, Snake River Trio, Willy Frietag, Bill Campbell, Relax with Max, Buffalo Head, Jug Sluggers, Phonics, Kenny Krona & Rick Steiner, Sugar Buzz, Pine City Bluegrass, Neighberz, Smokin' Guns, Jenni Thyng, and the Jolly Zuks. All fair events are free and open to the public. https://www.pinecountyfair.com/ 612-685-6572

East Central MN Pride received a grant in the amount of $17,050 for the 21st annual Pride in the Park event. This project will include music performances on June 6, 2026, in Pine City's Robinson Park to include the return of MC and performer Martina Marraccino, music by local group Harlowe Pennies, The Rebel Queens and headlining the event will be the People Brothers Band. Opening the event will be the Native, all-women drum group, the Oshkii Giizhik Singers. The event is free and open to all. https://eastcentralminnesotapride.org/

City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $13,825 for their project, Mora's Music in the Park. During this project, the City of Mora will host the summer Music in the Park series in June, July and August, on Thursday evenings in Mora's downtown Library Park. Additionally, they will include one Saturday event during Fall Fest in September. Musical artists participating include the Whitesidewalls Rock n Roll Review, Neighberz, Gentleman Dreadnought, Tyler Herwig, Nathan Frazer, Elsa Lee, Joyann Parker Band, Wendy Wiggle Jiggle Jam, Preston Gunderson, Mitch Gordon Band, The Holy Rocka Rollaz, and Small Town Famous. These twelve performances represent a variety of genres for all ages and are free for all to attend. http://www.ci.mora.mn.us 320-679-1511

Hinckley Fire Museum received a grant in the amount of $19,990 for two original theatre performances written by artist Jeremiah Gamble and produced by Bucket Brigade Theater group. Performances include Shanty Boys of Pine County: Stories, Songs and Legends of Northwoods Lumbermen, and Survivors of the Fire: Stories and Songs Remembering the Great Hinckley Fire of 1894. This grant expands on the previous success of hosting professional theater performances by bringing these artists back for another year and adding new performances. All events are free and open to the public during the Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends. https://hinckleyfiremuseum.com/ 320-384-7338

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $7,766 for a new program titled "Art Across the Ages" to expand on both the "Kids Are Artist, Too!" and the "Senior Artistic Outreach" programs. This new program will provide free arts access through local events, classes, and workshops including the East Central Pride Festival, monthly workshops at the Hallberg Center for the Arts, and art classes hosted at a variety of senior living facilities within the region. Through this variation of offerings, they are able to remove financial barriers by offering all programs for free and transportation barriers through their offsite gatherings. Additionally, a wide variety of mediums, such as watercolor, acrylic painting, and chalk pastels will allow for a broad experience and exposure to artforms that attendees may not have access to. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

City of Onamia received a grant in the amount of $9,810 for their project, Onamia Celebrates 2026. During this project, the City of Onamia will host two annual events, the "Onamia Days" on June 12, 13, 14th and their "July 3rd Celebration" at Herington Park on Main Street in Onamia. These events will include the musical performances on June 12 with The Maddy Braun Band, June 13 with Audio Circus, June 14th with Bill Campbell and the July 3rd performance by the Chad Edwards Band. All performances are free and open to the public. https://onamiamn.com/ 320-532-3202

Chisago County HRA-EDA received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for mural artist Taylor Aaron Shaw to design and install a mural at 6434 Main Street in North Branch, the historic movie theater building now owned by the MN Home Guys. The mural will feature an "up north" theme that the artist will design with participation from local students and residents' input and assistance through community engagement and hands-on opportunities to contribute to this public art project. A public unveiling event is planned for the Summer of 2026. https://www.chisagocountymn.gov/1488/HRA-EDA 651-674-5664

Unexpected Company Chorale received a grant in the amount of $18,891 for their project, SING3!. During this project, Unexpected Company Chorale will host visiting artist Shari Speer for their Sing3! Program to include workshops and trainings to Unexpected Company Choral members during the weeks of February 9th and 16th alongside the Chisago Lakes, Rush City and Forst Lake High School youth choir groups. Shari will work with the students and adults to improve their musical talents through breathing techniques, posture, and vocal exercises. Additionally, the youth choirs and Unexpected Company Chorale members will gather on February 28th for a full day of singing, culminating in a free performance open to the public.
https://www.ucchorale.org/

City of North Branch received a grant in the amount of $20,000 to host their music in the park series on Tuesday evenings starting on June 23rd and continuing through August 18th in Central Park, and/or at the North Branch Area High School Viking Plaza. Additionally, this year they have included two unique cultural experiences to the lineup. Artists include The Dweebs, Hailey Dance Studio, Transit Authority, The Whitesidewalls, Hard Days Night, Cindy Jo, AJ Spoff, and Mixed Precipitation. These events are free and open to the public. https://www.northbranchmn.gov/ 651-674-8113

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $19,800 for their project, Art Through the Decades. During this project, the Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society will host the 135th year of the fair from August 6th to the 10th by showcasing the past with local photographer Jay Grammond who will share presentations of his work, fiber artist Yvonne Cory who will present a discussion of aprons and their influence on American culture, and the return of the Arts Garden focusing on interactive art projects for all ages. Additionally, the project will include musical performances by Sawyer's Dream, STIFLE: Band of Brothers, 32 Below, and the Abiders. Events are free to attend with paid entry to the fairgrounds.
http://www.millelacscountyfair.com/ 763-389-3138

City of Hinckley received a grant in the amount of $15,450 to host the Sweet Summer Sounds music event at the West Side Park in Hinckley during the months of June, July and August. The schedule of music includes Monroe Crossing, Top Flight, the White Sidewalls, Shirts and Skins, Steve Howard & Blue Drifters, and the Luck Band. All performances are free and open to the public. https://hinckleymn.gov/ 320-384-7491

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $19,989 to continue the 'Art Across the Ages' programming, combining their Senior Artistic Outreach and the Kids Are Artists, Too programs, offering free art classes to children, seniors, and new this year, people with disabilities. Classes are taught by local artists Surelle Strike and Ashley Gilbert and held at Halberg Center for the Arts as well as local assisted living facilities in the region. All sessions and classes are free to attend. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

ECRAC Essentials Support Grant Program

$3,000 to $10,000 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.

210 Gallery and Art Center received an Essentials Support Grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, 210 Gallery and Art Center, Sandstone. 210 Gallery and Art Center's mission is to build and enrich their community through arts education, exhibition, and performance. 210 Gallery supports the efforts of local and regional artists and provides a venue for public events. With the Essentials Support funds 210 Gallery will pay for electricity, gas, city sewer/water, Broadband, and insurance expenses. With these expenses taken care of it will free up other funding for 210 Gallery to better focus on their arts programs. www.210gallery.org 320-216-7635

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Wyoming Area Creative Arts , Wyoming. Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community's mission is to encourage creative expression, promote community for local artists of all ages, and champion a learning environment in the arts. With the support of this grant Wyoming Creative Arts Community will pay for their insurance and utility expenses. With Essentials Support funds paying these expenses they will be able to dedicate other funding to art-related events, activities and improvement goals at the gallery. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Unexpected Company Chorale received a grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Unexpected Company Chorale Essentials Support Grant, Lindstrom. Unexpected Company Chorale's mission is to provide educational music experiences for singers and audiences in the Chisago Lakes Area by enhancing each member's musical talents, sharing the joy of singing, and providing audiences with enjoyable and quality performances. With the support of this grant, they will pay for music director's salary, insurance, and rent expenses. With the Essentials Support funding these needs Unexpected Company Chorale will continue expanding its artistic reach, fostering engagement, and delivering meaningful musical experiences to the community. www.ucchorale.org

ECRAC Small Art Project Grant Program

Grants from $600 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

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $1,675 for their Songwriters in the Round series for the months of January to June of 2026. The series includes performances of original music composed by local artists Dave Dvorak, Ryan Zwangziger, Roger Lee, Kate Albright, Christopher M. Davies, Jasper Lepak, Rudy Bachelor, Zariah Rippel, Roy Holdren, Lily Alter, Mary Cutrufello, Mike Lichey, Turn,Turn,Turn Band and the Abiders. Additionally, they will include open mic nights within the series. The free concerts are the last Thursday of the month at the Hallberg Center for the Arts from 7 – 8:30 PM. All are welcome. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Dala Heritage Society received a grant in the amount of $2,830 for their project, 2026 DHS Cultural Event's. During this project, Dala Heritage Society will host two programs based in Swedish culture, heritage and folklore. The Midsummer Day celebration and the St. Lucia (Lucy ah) Queen of Lights program. The Midsummer day will begin the morning in June 25th and will include the decoration of the Majstang (Mahi Stungg) pole, and will continue with a community picnic, and music performed by the Swedish folk artist Ross Sutter. The St. Lucia program in December includes the crowning of the new St. Lucia along with stories told of St. Lucia. Music will include traditional Swedish Folk music performed by Renee Vaughan. Both events will be open to the public and are free to attend. https://www.facebook.com/people/Dala-Heritage-Society/100064636034235/

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for the 11th annual juried and judged In. Art Show at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming. The show will open on July 16th and end with a closing award ceremony on August 13th, officially closing the 15th with an artist's round table. New this year will be the In. Art & Music Fest on the 8th of August and will include an open mic live music session and hands-on art activities. The show is open to all visual artists in region 7E and surrounding areas. Three non-affiliated judges: Russ White, Genie Castro and Russel Hamilton, will jury and judge the show. Cash prizes will include 13 awards totaling $4,500. The events are open to the public and free to attend the art show events. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Pine City Heritage Players received a grant in the amount of $1,750 to host Pine Theater Camp to local youth in grades 5th – 8th at the Pine City High School auditorium the weeks of June 15-18 and 22-25. This theater day camp experience will include 8 half-day sessions that will include auditions, rehearsals, hands-on technical theater preparations, theater seminars, and engaging social-emotional learning activities. The Pine Theater Camp will end in a public performance open to the community to experience a one-act play performed by the youth participants on June 24, 2026, at the Pine City High School auditorium, free to attend. https://pinecityheritageplayers.com/

Pine Center for the Arts received a grant in the amount of $1,726 to host 5 Fiber art classes at their gallery located in Pine City. These sessions will focus on fiber art techniques centered on wool, embroidery, applique, and needle felting and have been developed for the local Senior population as an accessible opportunity to art making with beginner friendly instruction to build confidence and community connection through art. Each class will have 12 spaces available, and the cost will be $10 with each class offering one free scholarship opportunity per session to ensure access. https://www.pinecenter.org/

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $4,970 to host their annual Pride event on Saturday, June 20th, from 4 – 8 pm. Activities will include Cuban American artist Sebastian Duncan-Portuondo leading the creation of a disco-mosaic monument and dance, a Drag Show, a soft sculpture workshop with Mexican-American artist Edson Rosas, and Franconia artists in residence Sydney Ockenga and Giiwedin Indzhinikaaz, both Native 2-spirit cultural leaders, working with Alex Legeros, Franconia's Executive Director, will have opening exhibitions at the indoor gallery featuring body art, with artist Ella Bjork Bubzin leading a temporary tattoo and face & body paint celebrating the exhibition. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

ECRAC Art in Our Schools Grant Program

Grants up to $5,000 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

Rush City School District ISD #139 received a grant in the amount of $1,548 for the 4th grade students at the C.E. Jacobson Elementary to go on a field trip to the Minneapolis Institute of Art. The students will experience a guided tour of the museum and directed to pay close attention to the examples of Chinese enamel painting on ceramic and Japanese ink on rice paper sumi-e artwork. Their art teacher, Holly Johnson, will lead students through the MIA's "Arts of Asia" lesson plan, giving them the opportunity to create their own ceramic plates and/or rice paper sumi-e artwork. The items will then be on display at the Rush City Library for public view during the month of March along with a video of the public event shown online.
https://www.rushcity.k12.mn.us/ 320-358-4724

Mora Public Schools ISD #322 received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for the Mora High School Art Department to bring in artist Caleb Gregg for a videography residency, teaching students' filmmaking, storytelling, and editing skills. The residency will include a series of sessions where Caleb will guide students through hands-on experience in video creation and camera operation that will align with existing photography, graphic design and media arts lessons. The project will include a student videography project to be showcased at school events and uploaded to the school's YouTube page to highlight the art program's impact.
https://www.moraschools.org/ (320) 679-6200

ECRAC Resiliency 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.

Deadlines are ongoing.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project,

Robert DesJarlait received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project,

Stacey Foster received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project,

Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund for Individual Artist Grant Program

This program provides grants up to $2,000 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.

Don Farrell received a grant in the amount of $2,000 to work with his mentor Gretchen Marquette of Red Clew Poetry Studio to finalize manuscripts and select poems to submit for publication in national and regional poetry contests and journals. The project will include working on revisions of poems weekly as well as selecting and organizing poem manuscripts. The artist will also share his poems with his poetry group via zoom every other Monday and during Open Mic at the ARC Retreat Center in Stanchfield on the 1st Tuesday of each month. Both the poetry group and the open mic are open to the public.

ECRAC Mid-Career Artist Grant Program

Grants up to $3,600 are available to individual artists. This program provides financial support to artists and culture bearers committed to personal artistic growth. Applications must fund specific art projects designed to enhance artistic skills, artwork, experimentation, collaboration, or art business career. Projects may be in any art from or discipline. This grant program is funded by The McKnight Foundation.

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

Erik Belgum received a grant in the amount of $3,600 to dedicate time towards writing his next book of fiction, a follow up to receiving the national award for their book "Ether Sunday". The focus of the novel will be on "how" the story builds and develops as much as what happens. The artist will explore the dual themes of 'art in science' and 'science in art', tentatively calling it Evidence-Based Fiction.

Shawnda Schelinder received a grant in the amount of $3,600 to build on her previous collaborative work with photographer Brooke Zank through a new project titled Further Reflections: Photography and fused glass art that takes a closer look at the beauty of nature. The artist will reinterpret Brook's photographs selecting work that will inspire her to capture detail, colors and textures to deepen the dialogue between the two art forms while pushing the artists skills as a fused glass artist to a higher level. The purpose is to both create a new body of work and to continue developing advanced techniques in fused glass art. The project will include the purchase of supplies and book tutorials.

Jennifer Zortman received a grant in the amount of $3,600 to focus on advancing her jewelry making skills as a resin artist by combining 3D printing and resin casting. She will purchase equipment and set aside time for experimentation and training to create unique 3D printed molds that she can use in her resin casting work to create a final collection of botanical fusion jewelry pieces using the new techniques she has developed during the experimentation phase of the project. The artist plans to document the process through photos, time-lapse footage, and videos and share the creative process on her social media to engage with her community.

Gregory Just received a grant in the amount of $3,600 to attend the Marc Adams School of Woodworking in Franklin, Indiana to attend two workshops taught by instructor Simon Begg. The first is a two-day workshop that includes an old German ring turning process focusing on tool control, accurate turning and executing design. The second five-day class includes advance bowl turning techniques.

Stacey Foster received a grant in the amount of $3,600 to dedicate time towards developing an outline and proposal for a companion to her book, The Girl in the Mirror: A Memoir of Healing from Hidden Trauma. This companion will include an introduction, components that align with chapters of her memoir with excerpts, research-based evidence, meditations/mindfulness practices, and writing as healing interactive exercise prompts. This companion will further the artists' writing skills, prepare her for public speaking engagements, align with her personal healing journey, and provide additional opportunities to connect with her audience, expanding her art business.

Jessica Miller received a grant in the amount of $3,600 to focus on advancing her ceramic practice in four phases. The first will include the purchase of a kiln vent and advancer kiln shelves to improve studio safety, airflow and temperature consistency during firings for sustainable glaze results. The second will include research, testing and expanding her skills related to large scale throwing techniques and surface development. Phase 3 will focus on refinement of these skills to create exhibition ready work, and the final phase will be to complete the work and will include photographing, documenting and preparing her pottery for art festivals and events. The project will support the artist with future exhibition opportunities, commissions, and continued professional development.

Stephanie Henry received a grant in the amount of $3,000 to expand performance based artistic practice by purchasing a lightweight, professional stage piano including the keyboard, sustain pedal, stand and protective case. This purchase will allow the artist access to rehearsals, performances, and public presentations that have become increasingly inaccessible due to her current equipment. Additionally, the project will include performances of the artist's piano and storytelling project 'The Girl Who Followed Fireflies', featuring her solo piano piece Starlight, and music from her original musical theater works. The new piano will allow the artist to perform with greater ease, consistency, and confidence, enabling her to accept opportunities that have been inaccessible due to equipment limitations.

Nathan Frazer received a grant in the amount of $3,600 to expand his skills as both a musician and videographer through Songs & Stories from the Pines, a YouTube interview series where the artist will work with five musicians to document their knowledge, stories, and experiences to preserve their voices for years to come. He will purchase equipment to ensure quality audio and video is captured as well as a training program for the software to expand his editing skills. The video interviews will be uploaded to the artists YouTube channel and shared at an event held at the 210 Gallery and Art Center that will be open to the public to view and listen to the interviews.

ECRAC Essential Artist Award Grant Program

The Essential Artist Award program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists and culture bearers. These Awards will allow artists and culture bearers 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 $9,000 Awards are available annually. This grant program is funded by The McKnight Foundation.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

Nathan Hager received an Award in the amount of $9,000 to expand his skills as a painter by studying how light interacts with the landscape after the sun sets. This study will include natural light sources such as the moon and stars as well as artificial light including streetlights, signs, and window lighting in cityscapes. The artist anticipates the project will challenge his perception of accuracy of his subject matter in the reduced light settings. The grant will allow the artist to purchase supplies and allow time to focus on completing 20 plein air studies and a minimum of 15 studio pieces that will be featured at the Gladje Gallery in Lindstrom. https://www.hagerstudios.com/

Ani Kasten received an Award in the amount of $9,000 to develop a new body of sculptural work using clay dug in Franconia where she lives and works. The new ceramic sculptures will incorporate local driftwood, from the St. Croix River, Lakes Superior and other Minnesota waters. The clay and wood found locally are an inspiration to the artist and this grant will allow the artist to grow her artistic practice by focusing on these experimental sculptural works outside of her regular studio work, improving her artistic endeavors through the creation of these sculptures. https://www.anikasten.com/

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 $599 are available.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

A.E. received a scholarship in the amount of $275 for their project, Musical Theater Camp.

S.E. received a scholarship in the amount of $275 for their project, Play Inc. Arts Yeabo Players Summer Theater Camp.

A.S. received a scholarship in the amount of $275 for their project, Oil Paint.

C.B. received a scholarship in the amount of $599 for their project, Photography.

G.F. received a scholarship in the amount of $599 for their project, Expanding Dance Skills.

M.G. received a scholarship in the amount of $599 for their project, Art Camp, classes and music lessons.

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

Kanabec County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for a variety of art at the Kanabec County Fair. Artists include Norsk Storyteller Chad Filly; acoustic musician Mike Miller playing old time rock and roll; acoustic duo Machinehead featuring classic rock; The Everstroms, a gospel/Bluegrass band based locally in Mora; country band Maiden Dixie; Pete Larson, a local schoolteacher and musician; Shirts & Skins, a high energy band with a variety of musicians. Throughout the duration of the fair, they will also host local chainsaw artist Bronson Fischer demonstrating chainsaw carving. The fair will commission local artist Terri Huro to build three public interactive art pieces with face cut outs for photo opportunities providing family fun. Emotion in Motion will also be at the fair; this is an interactive art activity where participants create their own splatter art canvas to take home. All events are free and open to the public. https://kanabecfair.com/ag-society/ 763-238-9011

Pine City Arts Council received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, Art in the Park 2025. During this project, the Pine City Arts Council will host their Art in the Park concert series to include 12 Friday night concerts taking place in downtown Pine City at Robinson Park Gazebo. Beginning on May 30, 2025, with the Pine City Jazz Band and continuing on Friday evenings with Phonics, Reverend Rychmynd, Freeway Jam, Tim Hadler, Whitesidewalls, Transit Authority, Famer's Daughters, Neighborz, Holy Rocka Rollaz, Chris Kroeze, and ending with Disco Kingz on August 30, 2025. Musical genres include country, jazz, disco, and rock and roll to appeal to everyone. Events are free to all. https://www.facebook.com/PineCityArtsCouncil/

City of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, Lindstrom Community Mural. During this project, the City of Lindstrom will work with artist Taylor Shaw to paint a mural in the city's downtown micropark, near the City of Lindstrom's iconic Coffee Pot Water Tower Park. The mural will create a space to represent a more community centered event location representing values important to the town, such as community connectedness, inclusion, community strength and community engagement. The city will host an artist's talk to promote arts education and connect with the community. The Chisago Lakes Cabel TV will document the project. There will be a ceremony to promote the mural during the Midsomer Celebration on June 24, 2025, and during the Karl Oskar Days in July of 2025. https://www.cityoflindstrom.us/

East Central MN Pride received a grant in the amount of $17,200 for their project, Pride 20th Anniversary Music. During this project, the East Central Minnesota Pride will host its 20th anniversary Pride in the Park event as the first rural Pride in the US. This project will include music performances on June 7, 2025, in Pine City's Robinson Park to include the return of MC and performer Martina Marraccino, music by Salty Dog, Barb Ryman, Harlowe Pennies and headlining the event will be the Big Wu. Opening the event will be a native all women drum group, the Oshkii Giizhik Singers. The event is free and open to all. https://eastcentralminnesotapride.org/

City of Isanti received a grant in the amount of $9,600 for their project, Art Opportunities for Isanti. During this project, the City of Isanti will host their Family Summer Entertainment Series in Bluebird Park Amphitheater on Wednesday evenings. This series will host performances to engage the local children and youth and other members of the community attending the free and open to the public events through music, dance and theater. Starting on May 28 with Wendy's Wiggle, Jiggle, and Jam; June 11th with The Teddy Bear Band; June 25th with Will Hale & the Tadpole Parade; August 6th with Climb Theater and finishing the series on August 20th with The Jolly Pops. https://www.cityofisanti.us/ 763-444-5512

Rush City Area Chamber of Commerce received a grant in the amount of $9,600 for their project, Summer 'Shell Series. During this project, the Rush City Area Chamber of Commerce will host the annual Summer 'Shell Series on the 3rd Thursday of the month starting in May with the White Side Walls, June will host Shovel Shot, July with Pretty Twisted and in continuing the series will include the Rockin' Rush City Festival on the 3rd Saturday of August. This is an all-day community event that will include music by the Restoration Praise Band, John deCausmeaker, Holy Rocka Rollaz, Relax with Max, the 34th Infantry Red Devils, and Church of Cash. These free music events are open to everyone. https://www.rushcitychamber.com/ 612-395-6495

Vivie Foundation received a grant in the amount of $7,766 for their project, Spring 2025 Residencies. During this project, Vivie Foundation will host two artist residencies led by teaching artists Mike Arturi and Marie Olofsdotter. Each residency will be 90 minutes and is offered twice daily, lasting for one week with a total of 10 sessions at each location. Artist Mike Arturi will lead his "Spark to Learning" Drum Circle program at the Rushseba location in Rush City, focusing on rhythm and music as a therapeutic tool for older adults with dementia and other cognitive impairments. Artist Marie Olofsdotter's residency will focus on book arts and poetry encouraging self-expression, memory sharing and creative exploration. Each residency will end with a performance or gallery event that is open to the public and family members of participating artists. https://vivie.org/foundation

City of Onamia received a grant in the amount of $9,540 for their project, Onamia Celebrates 2025. During this project, the City of Onamia will host two annual events, the "Onamia Days" on June 13, 14, and 15th and their "July 3rd Celebration" at Herington Park on Main Street in Onamia. These events will include the musical performances on June 13 with Stone Daisy, June 14 with Dram Shop Country, June 16 with Bill Campbell and the July 3rd performance by Shirts & Skins. All performances are free and open to the public. https://onamiamn.com/ 320-532-3202

City of North Branch received a grant in the amount of $16,310 for their project, North Branch Summer Music 2025. During this project, The City of North Branch will continue to host their music in the park series on Tuesday evenings starting on June 17th in Central Park, and/or at the North Branch Area High School Auditorium, with the Minnesota State Band, June 24 with the Native American Drum and Dance Exhibit, July 8th with Monroe Crossing, July 15th with The Whitesidewalls, July 22nd with Hard Days Night and ending on July 29th with Church of Cash. These music events are free and open to the public. http://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/ 651-674-8113

Unexpected Company Chorale received a grant in the amount of $11,150 for their project, From Minnesota, With Love. During this project, Unexpected Company Chorale will host their 40th Anniversary program year titled "From Minnesota, With Love". Unexpected Company Chorale will begin rehearsals in February to include an array of music and displays featuring the cultural connections the region has to Sweden. This program year will conclude with final concerts performed on May 2nd at the Chisago Lake Lutheran in Chisago City, and on May 4th at Faith Lutheran in Forest Lake. Concerts are open to the public through tickets sales at $15 a ticket. https://www.ucchorale.org/

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $19,760 for their project, Exploring Art Mediums. During this project, the Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society will once again host the Mille Lacs County Fair featuring a variety of hands-on and interactive arts activities for fair attendees. The Mille Lacs County Fair is held in Princeton from August 6 through the 10 and will feature the Arts Garden's mixed media arts activities, photographer R.J. Kerns 30-minute presentation focused on photography, and Hot Glass Academy's mobile glassblowing studio will provide glassblowing demonstrations throughout the fair. These activities are free to the public with paid admission to the Fair. http://www.millelacscountyfair.com/ 763-389-3138

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project Kids Are Artists, Too! 2025. During this project, the Wyoming Creative Arts Community will host their annual "Kids Are Artists, Too!" events. This project will include giving youth artistic experience and opportunities to learn more about painting and other arts mediums. Events will take place at Pride in the Park on June 7, 2025, Wyoming MN's Night to Unite on August 8, 2025, and Stagecoach Days on September 13, 2025. Artist volunteers mentor the youth at these events and guide them in their artistic journey. Also, part of this project Wyoming Creative Arts Community will extend free art classes at the Hallberg Center for the Arts on the 4th Saturday of most months, starting in February, so kids can participate in art activities all year round. Events are free and offer art to kids of all ages. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, All Ages Workshops 2025. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host a series of multi-generational workshops at Driscoll Education Center at Franconia Commons on alternating Saturdays from 1-4pm and select Thursdays from 6-9pm. The series will include stained glass pet portraits with Abby Kosberg, wood carving with Jess Hirsch, papermaking with Alexis Schramel, soft sculpture and quilting with Sophia Munic, tree ring printing with Torey Erin, storytelling and embroidery with Tshab Her, zines and handmade publications with Kerri Sandve, natural dyeing with Maddy Bartsch, soft sculpture and embroidery with Ivonne Yanez, ceramics with Beth West, and poetry exploration with Rosie Peters. These workshops are offered on a sliding "pay what you can" scale. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $13,659 for their project, Mora's Music in the Park. During this project, the City of Mora will host the summer Music in the Park series in June, July and August, on Thursday evenings in Mora's downtown Library Park. Additionally, they will include one Saturday event during Fall Fest in September. Musical artists participating will be The Whitesidewalls, Rock n Roll group; Tim Hadler w/Larry Rose Family Band, Country artists; The Everstroms, Gospel/Bluegrass artists; Nicole Anderson, a Folk/Pop artist; Tyler Herwig, Solo Acoustic performer; The Creeksiders Band, Rock & Country musicians; Juliet and the Montagues, Jazz music; Vinnie Rose, Solo Acoustic Guitar artist; Jolly Pops, a Children's Band; Bob & The Beachcombers, a 50s/6Os Summer Rock group; The Phonics, Classic Rock group; and lastly, Small Town Famous, a Pop/Rock artist group. These twelve performances represent a variety of genres for all ages and are free for all to attend. http://www.ci.mora.mn.us 320-679-1511

Milaca Recfest & Activities received a grant in the amount of $8,100 for their project, Milaca Country Fest & Jam. During this project, the Milaca Recfest and Activities will host their annual Country Fest and Jam Weekend from September 4th to the 7th in Milaca's Recreation Park along the Rum River. This weekend of events includes performances by regional bands, line and folk-dance lessons as well as open jam sessions for musicians of all skill levels. Musicians include Al Godage & Sundown, Old Tyme Country Boys, Vern Bishop and the Moose River Band, This Side of Heaven and Schjei (Shy) Country. The event highlights country music: however, attendees will also enjoy a diverse range of related music genres, from old-time classics, bluegrass, gospel, southern rock, and blues-inspired tunes. In addition to the music and jam session events dance instructor Tara Weldon will lead line and folk-dance sessions suitable for all skill levels. All are welcome to attend this free event. https://milacarecfest.com/ 320-237-2657

City of Hinckley received a grant in the amount of $16,500 for their project, Sweet Summer Sounds 2025. During this project, the City of Hinckley will host the Sweet Summer Sounds music event at the West Side Park in Hinckley during the months of June, July and August. The schedule of music includes Kat Perkins, solo acoustic pop artist; The Phonics, a 50s/60s rock and roll group; Duelly Noted, is a dueling pianos performance; Chris Kroeze, is a solo country artist; Southside Aces, performs jazz, bluegrass and Cajun; High 48's are a bluegrass and old time group; and The Riverside Hitmen performs popular music of the 70s to 2000s. All performances are free and open to the public. https://hinckley.govoffice2.com/ 320-384-7491

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $19,660 for their project In. Art Show, 2025. During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host their 10th annual "In. Art Show" at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming. The show will open on July 17, 2025, with an award ceremony on August 14th, and the show ending on August 16th with an artist's round-table discussion with the artist who received an award. The show is open to all visual artists in region 7E and the surrounding area. Three judges: Gary Carlson, Alison Price and Russ White, will select artists from the online submissions to be displayed during the show as well as award prizes to final participants at the Award Ceremony. Musicians Tim Lackas & Steve Pikal and Ava Lambert & Natasha Montzka will perform during the opening and award ceremony. Also included will be photographer Dell Gross who will document events. The In. Art Show will be open to the public free of charge. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Bear Paws Cultural Art received a grant in the amount of $10,740 for their project, Bandolier Bag. During this project, Bear Paws Cultural Art will host three classes focused on teaching the creative art of contemporary Ojibwe applique bandolier bag making. Classes will be taught by local Mille Lacs Band Member Rebacca Churchill and will include meals prepared by Chef Kyrah Thomspon. Additionally, Coordinator Laikora Thompson will ensure all classes run smoothly. The bandolier bag classes will be held on June 11, 18, and 25, 2025 from 9am to 5pm at the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe tribal community centers in Isle, Mille Lacs, and Hinckley. Classes will be free to attend and open to 10 students at each class location. All materials and equipment needed for the class will be supplied.

North Branch Area Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, Cultural Heritage Banners. During this project, the North Branch Area Public Schools All Culture Club will lead an initiative to enhance cultural arts education and community engagement for K-12 students by engaging four artists representing Hmong, American Indian, Hispanic/Latino and Scandinavian traditions. The project will include workshops to provide experience with traditional and contemporary art techniques culminating in student designed banners to be displayed along Grand Avenue in North Branch for all to see. These banners will celebrate diversity, school pride, and hometown charm. A videographer will document the process to ensure lasting impact to be shared via social media, school platforms and public screenings. https://www.isd138.org/ 651-674-1000

Kanabec County Extension Services Master Gardeners received a grant in the amount of $11,341 for their project, Kanabec County Extension Services Master Gardener Public Art Project. During this project, the Kanabec County Extension Services Master Gardener's will engage local artists Keith Raivo and Teri Huro to enhance the local community garden with public art. The community garden is in need of an update and has created the opportunity for the Kanabec Co Master Gardeners to integrate art into this public area. They will replace the two current gates with artistic, sculptural works of art. They will also update and redesign the Mora Community Garden sign with an artistic design to match the new artistic gates. The project will be installed in the fall with a community open house event to unveil the new public art project on May 16, 2026, and will be open to all. Facebook 320-260-6165

ECRAC Essentials Support Grant Program

$3,000 to $10,000 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.

210 Gallery and Art Center received an Essentials Support Grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, 210 Gallery and Art Center, Sandstone. 210 Gallery and Art Center's mission is to build and enrich their community through arts education, exhibition, and performance. 210 Gallery supports the efforts of local and regional artists and provides a venue for public events. With the Essentials Support funds 210 Gallery will pay for the electric utility, property insurance and Directors and Officers insurance, water, sewer, and gas utilities and broadband. With these expenses taken care of it will free up other funding for 210 Gallery to better focus on their arts programs. www.210gallery.org 320-216-7635

Pine Center for the Arts received an Essentials Support Grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Pine Center for the Arts, Pine City. Pine Center for the Arts is committed to providing opportunities for all to create, learn and enjoy the visual, performing, and literary arts. Their mission is "Arts for Everyone". Since 2008, Pine Center for the Arts (PCftA) has been an organization that has provided a partnership between the arts and the surrounding area. With the support of this grant the Pine Center for the arts will pay their general insurance, accountant fees, general publicity and marketing, telephone/internet expenses and utilities. With Essentials Support grant funding covering many of these expenses they will be better able to increase and enhance the art opportunities they provide to the community. http://www.pinecenter.org 320-629-4924

Milaca Recfest & Activities received an Essentials Support Grant in the amount of $7,634 for their organization, Milaca Recfest and Activities, Milaca. The Milaca Recfest and Activities is dedicated to celebrating the rich heritage of country and bluegrass music while fostering artistic expression and community connections. Since 2010, they have provided high-quality music programming that brings people together and supports regional artists. Over the years, they have expanded their range of offerings to include dance classes, workshops, and interactive experiences. With the support of this grant the Milaca Recfest and Activities will pay staff wages, accounting service fees, website expenses, postal services, bookkeeping software, a variety of membership fees, and board training opportunities. With these expenses paid for they will continue to provide meaningful arts experiences for the community. https://milacarecfest.com/ 320-237-2657

Play Inc. Arts received an Essentials Support Grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Play Inc. Arts, Cambridge. Play Inc. Arts will encourage personal growth of both visual and performing artists by offering them the opportunity to challenge their abilities and their mind. Play Inc. Arts provides the audience a chance to expand their arts awareness through exceptional programs and provides opportunities for students interested in developing further and adults interested in becoming students once again. With the support of this grant Play Inc Arts will pay their rent. With Essentials Support grant funding covering these expenses they will be able to resolve maintenance issues, reinstate regular visual arts programming, as well as focus on new programs to reach a broader audience. Play Inc Arts – Community Musical Theatre and Arts 763-607-5620

Milaca Fine Arts Council received an Essentials Support Grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Milaca Fine Arts Council, Milaca. Milaca Fine Arts Council's (MFAC) mission is to bring art and community together through quality arts programming. MFAC has been serving their rural community for 20 years and in that time has seen the positive results of providing arts education and support to their community. With the support of this grant they will pay Executive Director wages, internet, cleaning and painting expenses, advertising and promotion, insurance, membership fees, and art facility supplies. With Essentials Support grant funding covering these expenses it will provide an opportunity to update their facility and advertise to the community that they are still operational, increase the amount of time they can put toward their mission, plan new programming, expand community outreach, and help restore membership. Home | Milaca Fine Arts Council Inc

Pine City Heritage Players received an Essentials Support Grant in the amount of $5,428 for their organization, Pine City Heritage Players, Pine City. The Pine City Heritage Players is a community theatre located in Pine City, Minnesota. Their mission is to enrich, educate, and entertain the community by providing a superior theater experience. They do this through quality theatrical performances for a community who otherwise may not have the means to attend such experiences. Additionally, they provide a creative outlet for talented artists both on and off the stage. With the support of this grant, they will pay the operational insurance, director and officer insurance, local chamber of commerce memberships, general advertising, perusal scripts, domain registration, web hosting services and general supplies and software to support the organization throughout the grant period. With Essentials Support grant funding covering these expenses they will be able to focus on event promotion and engaging new participants and volunteers to increase capacity for new endeavors. Heritage Players Community Theatre

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Wyoming Area Creative Arts , Wyoming. Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community's mission is to encourage creative expression, promote community for local artists of all ages, and champion a learning environment in the arts. With the support of this grant Wyoming Creative Arts Community will pay their gas, electric, internet, security and insurance, as well as general advertising and membership to the North American Reciprocal Museum Association. With Essentials Support grant funding paying these expenses they will be able to dedicate other funding to art related events, activities and improvement goals at the gallery. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Unexpected Company Chorale received a grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Unexpected Company Chorale Essentials Support Grant, Lindstrom. Unexpected Company Chorale's mission is to provide educational music experiences for singers and audiences in the Chisago Lakes Area by enhancing each member's musical talents, sharing the joy of singing, and providing audiences with enjoyable and quality performances. With the support of this grant, they will pay for staff salaries, general liability and directors' and officers' insurance, rent, and chamber membership fees. With the Essentials Support funding these needs Unexpected Company Chorale will continue expanding its artistic reach, fostering engagement, and delivering meaningful musical experiences to the community. www.ucchorale.org

ECRAC Small Art Project Grant Program

Grants from $600 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

Pine City Arts Council received a grant in the amount of $1,675 for their project, Art on the Road 2025. During this project the Pine City Arts Council will offer an opportunity to attend the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre on May 10, 2025, to see a performance of the musical Grease. Tickets will be available for purchase to the local community. The grant will provide funds for free transportation to the event.
https://www.facebook.com/PineCityArtsCouncil/

Dala Heritage Society received a grant in the amount of $2,645 for their project, 2025 DHS Cultural Event's. During this project, Dala Heritage Society will host two programs based in Swedish culture, heritage and folklore. The Midsummer Day celebration and the St. Lucia (Lucy ah) Queen of Lights program. The Midsummer day will begin the morning in June 19th and will include the decoration of the Majstang (Mahi Stungg) pole with a community picnic, and music performed by the Swedish American Children's Choir. The St. Lucia program will be December 14th and includes the crowning for the new St. Lucia along with stories told of St. Lucia and music provided by the Swedish folk group Spelmanslag. Both events will be open to the public and free to attend.
https://www.facebook.com/people/Dala-Heritage-Society/100064636034235/

A Place for You Inc. received a grant in the amount of $950 for their project, Art at a Place for You. During this project A Place for You will offer painting and writing classes to the residents of A Place for You who are in transition between housing. Classes will include acrylic painting with local artist Peg Skalicky and Writing as Healing workshops with local artist Stacey Foster during the months of Jan, Feb, March, April, May and June. An open to the public event will include the display of resident's paintings and writings throughout the month of July, 2025 at Pine Center for the Arts in Pine City and will be free to attend. A Place For You 320-438-7070

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $2,800 for their project, First on the Wall 2025. During this project Franconia Sculpture Park will host the second First on the Wall exhibition from June 1, 2025, through July 6, 2025, in the Mardag Gallery located within the visitor center at Franconia. Emerging artists from the local region may submit up to three works of art for consideration by a professional jury who will select 72 artists to participate in the exhibition. It will be free to apply, and the artist's chosen will receive a $25 award. The exhibition will be free and open to the public. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Songwriters in the Round 2025 Winter Spring. During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host a free music concert at the Hallberg Center for the Arts on the last Thursday of each month, open to the public. For each concert, singer/songwriters perform original music. For improved sound, a professional soundboard operator is included in the project for each event. The concert will also be live streamed with Lakes Area TV of Chisago on YouTube. During this grant period 6 performances beginning January 30 will include artist Mary Cutrafello, Sarah Morris and Katy Vernon; February 27, The Twins of Franklin (Laura DuSchane) and Cole Allen and Sena Ehrhardt; March 27, Matt Hannah, Bob Knight and Cathie English; April 24 featuring Aleah Treiterer, Dan Israel and Tim Fast; May 29 with The Luke LeBlanc Trio and June 26 hosting The Dire Wolf Guitar Trio. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Songwriters 2025 Summer Fall. During this project the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host the Songwriters in the Round series at the Hallberg Center for the Arts. This series includes performances on the last Thursday of the month starting on July 26 hosting artists Elizabeth Ghandour, Tony Baker, and Bob Frey. The series will continue August 28th with Molly Brandt, Chris Koza and Becky Kapell; September 25th with The Dire Wolf Guitar Trio; October 30th with Tom Mobry, Clayton Ryan and Skarlett Woods and ending on December 4th with The Roe Family Singers and Curtis & Loretta. In addition, these events are live streamed by Lakes Area TV of Chisago on YouTube for free and are supported by videographer Paul Peterson and sound tech Caleb Anderson. The Songwriters in the Round series is free to attend.
https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Franconia Billboard Project. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will revive their Billboard Project, including updates to expand the project. Events will begin with a residency call for a BIPOC artist to develop a new billboard design and installation. This will include mentorship and curatorial assistance from a previous Franconia billboard artist Thomasina Topbear. This artist in residence will be selected by Franconia's Artistic Council who will invite the artist to stay at Franconia during the project. The finalist will be announced during Franconia's Pride & Juneteenth community event. Additionally, Thomasina Topbear, along with the Few and Far billboard collective, will host an all-ages billboard digital design workshop at Franconia's Education Center. To connect with the community the Few and Far members will also host an event at a local skate park to publicize and bond with locals. The billboard will be featured at Franconia's 29th Annual Art and Artist Celebration on September 20th as well as an additional billboard along Interstate Hwy 35 corridor. All events are open to the public.
http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

City of Quamba received a grant in the amount of $1,810 for their project, Building a community quilt. The City of Quamba will host a community art project creating barn quilts for locals to display on their homes, businesses, and other community locations around the city. Artist Teri Huro will create a handout for participants with a history of barn quilts along with design ideas and techniques to inspire the barn quilt creations. Events will take place at the Quamba city hall and include painting parties guided by Teri on July 13th, 27th, and during the Quamba night out on Aug 9th. On September 21st a public tour of the newly created barn quilts will be available via a walking map of the area. This project is an effort to create community and public art and will be documented by City council and staff through photos available at the city hall. City of Quamba 320-679-2717

Pine Center for the Arts received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Youth Arts Programming. During this project the Pine Center for the Arts will offer three art focused workshops for middle-school students. The first session, the Sketch It, Paint It, Show It Arts Workshop will begin in August. The Nature & Narrative: MN Art for Kids Workshop will be in October. The third Stars & Stripes workshop will be held in April, May and June of 2026. The workshops will be led by local artists Julie Anderson and Lisa Olson and will feature artists Jennifer Peters-Swanson, Jack Frachette and Stacy Foster. Workshops will include sketching, painting, wood carving, journaling, multi-media arts and more. Each workshop will have its own open to the public event during the last session of each workshop for community and family members.
http://www.pinecenter.org 320-629-4924

Friends of Wild River State Park received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Arts in Nature at Wild River. During this project, the Friends of Wild River State Park will present a collection of new work by Composer/Director JG Everest and his ensemble of performers at Wild River State Park. This interactive outdoor event will feature site-specific dance, storytelling, music, nature walks, poetry, and visual art as well as free family friendly Art and Nature workshops created specifically for various areas of the park. JG Everest's work includes outdoor, immersive music described as sound gardens, a concert you can move through. The sound gardens include a collaboration with Wavelets Creative, a metro-based community arts organization consisting of performance artists and tech crew who participate in the sound garden performances. Events will take place September 12 – 16 and September 19 – 21, 2025 and are open to the public. Friends of Wild River State Park 651-583-2125

Play Inc. Arts received a grant in the amount of $800 for their project, Native American Craft Series. During this project Play Inc. Arts will offer a series of Native American Beading and Craft Classes, taught by artist Wren Rivers, a descendant of the Eastern Cherokee Tribe. Classes will take place in November and December and include Beaded Earrings, Beaded Ornaments, Beaded Snowflakes and a Dreamcatcher class. Participants ages 12 and up of all skill levels are welcome. Each class is $15 per student with scholarship options available for those unable to afford the registration fee. Play Inc Arts – Community Musical Theatre and Arts 763-607-5620

Hinckley Fire Museum received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Survivors of the Fire Play. During this project the Hinckley Fire Museum will host performances of Survivors of the Fire: stories and songs remembering the Great Hinckley Fire of 1894, an original play with music by Bucket Brigade Theater Company. The schedule includes multiple performances on August 30th and 31st and will include a reception for folks who are related to those who survived or perished in the fire. These events will be free and open to the public at the Fire Museum in Hinckley. Hinckley Fire Museum – Extraordinary Heroes 320-384-7338

ECRAC Art in Our Schools Grant Program

Grants up to $5,000 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

East Central School District #2580 Community Education received a grant in the amount of $3,964 for their project, Chanhassen Theatre Field Trip. During this project East Central Community Education will offer a field trip to the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre on March 12, 2025. This field trip will include a dinner performance of the musical Grease. Tickets will be available to the community with 10 tickets reserved for students from East Central High School. The grant will provide a reduced ticket price from $74 to $30, and free transportation for the event. Community Education - East Central Schools 320-245-2289

Hinckley-Finlayson Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $3,998 for their project, HF Chanhassen Dinner Theatre. During this project the Hinckley-Finlayson Public Schools Community Education department will provide a field trip to the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre on March 11, 2026. The field trip will be open to 34 adults and 10 secondary students in the community, providing a cross-generational experience. This grant will allow for a reduced ticket price for adults from $74 to $30 and the student tickets will be free. Travel to the cities is a barrier for community members and this field trip will provide transportation so that community members will not need to navigate travel to the cities. The performance calendar for the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre will be released in April or early May. Hinckley-Finlayson Schools (MN) 320-384-6277

Pine City School District #578 received a grant in the amount of $3,966 for their project, Professional Production Trip. During this project the Pine City School District will provide the students of the fall musical production of Grease the opportunity to attend the professional production of Grease at the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre. Many students have never attended a professional production, and this field trip will allow students to witness the transition from high school performances to professional-level productions and will create an understanding of stagecraft and acting techniques, making this a cultural and educational experience. Following the field trip students will share their experience by writing an article for the local newspaper and the schools Dragon Media, highlighting the impact of attending a professional production of Grease and sharing their insights with the community. Home | Pine City Public Schools (isd578.org) 320-629-4000

ECRAC Resiliency 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.

Deadlines are ongoing.

Pine Center for the Arts received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Fall 2024/Winter 2025 Writing as Healing Workshops.

Eva Skanse received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, A Platform for a Voice.

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, GeoVanna Sculpture Repair.

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Olujimi Sculpture Repair.

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Kenseth Sculpture Repair.

Sue Foss received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, The Three Sisters.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Musicians for Art Show Openings 2025.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund for Individual Artist Grant Program

This program provides grants up to $2,000 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.

Jake Callahan received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Expanding into During this project, the artist would like to purchase a new DJI Air3S drone. The new drone will have additional battery life, allowing the artist to capture changing light conditions when taking photographs. It will also qualify for replacement support that his outdated drone no longer supports. With the new drone the artist will focus on the second part of this project to create a new body of work. The new work will be premiered on his social media platform on November 22, 2025, as an online event. The online event will include an opportunity for the artist to interact with his audience during the video premiere of his new photographs.

Ashley Bozman received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Lake Pigment Exploration. During this project, the artist will work to increase her knowledge of creating pigments and watercolors from natural materials with a goal to better understand the laking process and be consistent with extracting color from a dye bath. She will attend a series of online workshop lead by Jyotsna B. Pippal titled Pigments and Painting. She will forage materials using minimum impact practices, processing materials in her home studio. The final goal of the project will be to produce a demonstration to be exhibited on June 6, 2026, at the 201 Gallery and Art Center in Sandstone that will introduce the artists' audience to the process of creating pigments and watercolors learned during the grant period. The demonstration will show the audience the natural resources available in the Pine County area and their uses.

ECRAC Mid-Career Artist Grant Program

Grants up to $3,600 are available to individual artists. This program provides financial support to artists and culture bearers committed to personal artistic growth. Applications must fund specific art projects designed to enhance artistic skills, artwork, experimentation, collaboration, or art business career. Projects may be in any art from or discipline. This grant program is funded by The McKnight Foundation.

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

Don Farrell received a grant in the amount of $3,600 for their project, Poetry Projects. During this project, the artist will work with his mentor Gretchen Marquette of Red Clew Poetry Studio to finalize manuscripts and selected poems to submit for publication in national and regional poetry contests and journals. The project will include working on revisions of poems weekly as well as selecting and organization poem manuscripts. The artist will also share his poems with his poetry group via zoom and during Open Mic events at the ARC Retreat Center in Stanchfield.

Natalie Patera received a grant in the amount of $3,600 for their project, Magnified Inspiration. During this project, the artist will commit time to the study and creation of a ceramic body of work inspired by the detail of moth eggs, which are only visible to the human eye under significant magnification. Her goal is to create 3 large vessels and 10 small to medium sized vessels based on her inspiration she will create vessels with the texture of nature in the form of moth eggs. During the project she will experiment with slips, glazes, and other clay bodies to add texture and detail in a style that she has not had time to focus on and will advance her skills as a potter.

Marie Brown received a grant in the amount of $3,600 for their project, Working with the Kiln. During this project, the artist plans to focus her time towards exploring a new technique for decorating her wood fired pottery. This shift in her decorating style will harmonize with the wood firing process and its attributes rather than take away the style, as it currently does with the artists previous fine stitching design she is known for. This new design technique for creating texture with the use of slips is enhanced by the wood ash and wood firing process. The artist will purchase clay to produce test tiles so she may test the slips and colors to decorate and experiment with during this project.

ECRAC Essential Artist Award Grant Program

The Essential Artist Award program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists and culture bearers. These Awards will allow artists and culture bearers 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 $9,000 Awards are available annually. This grant program is funded by The McKnight Foundation.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

Dee Ann Sibley received an Award in the amount of $9,000 for their project, Equipment Update and Education. During this project, the artist plans to update her outdated photography equipment with a mirrorless camera, the Nikon Z9 along with supporting equipment including batteries, battery charger, SD cards, and card reader. Additionally, the artist will enroll in “From Photo to Frame: Introduction to Digital Printmaking for Exhibition.” This class, scheduled from Oct 13-17, 2025, is designed to enhance the skills of photographer. Expanding their expertise in printmaking technology and elevating the artists’ photography to new heights. The artist will travel to the class location in Santa Fe, NM allowing for her to capture images along her journey and create new work during this project. D. Sibley Studios

Dell Gross received an Award in the amount of $9,000 for their project, Photography Reimagined. During this project, the artist will explore his new way of imagining his photographic images as he transitions from the commercial world of photography and film. This new exploration will include the purchase of a new color monitor with color calibration technology that is consistent with the artist’s vision. He will also purchase a new back up drive that will be capable of the file sizes that are needed with the new direction of photography. The artist will take some original photos and produce new abstract images, creating a new body of work to be displayed at ECRAC. The new body of work will be printed by the artist and framed by a local frame vendor. Dell G

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 $599 are available.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

A.E. received a scholarship in the amount of $275 for their project, Musical Theater Camp.

S.E. received a scholarship in the amount of $275 for their project, Play Inc. Arts Yeabo Players Summer Theater Camp.

P.E. received a scholarship in the amount of $275 for their project, Play Inc Arts Summer Theater Camp.

GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2024
Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2024 (July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024)

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Organization Grant Program

$5,000 to $20,000 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.

Pine City Arts Council received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, Art in the Park 2024. During this project, the Pine City Arts Council will host the 47th annual Art in the Park music events at Robinson Park in Pine City on Friday nights beginning on May 24th through August 26th. These twelve music performances will include the Pine City Jazz Band, Phonics, Rubber Soul, Lisa Wengers Blues, Dough Allen Nash, Chris Kroeze, Transit Authority, Free Fallin Tom Petty tribute band, Neighborz, St. Peters Street Stompers, Disco Kingz, and Farmers Daughters. Events are free to attend. https://www.facebook.com/PineCityArtsCouncil/

East Central MN Pride received a grant in the amount of $11,825 for their project, 2024 Pride Entertainment. During this project, the East Central MN Pride Pride-in-the-Park 2024 event will provide live music performances at their annual one-day summer festival on June 1, 2024, in Pine City's Robinson Park. This free public event providing LGBTQ+ persons, other diverse audiences, their friends and allies an opportunity to create community and engage the broader community within a cultural context. The performing artists will be New Salty Dog, the Rebel Queens and Wild Horses. Martino Mayotte, performing as Martina Marraccino, will perform as both MC and host short performances as opener, closer, and during band turnover periods throughout this free event. https://eastcentralminnesotapride.org/

City of North Branch received a grant in the amount of $11,810 for their project, North Branch Summer Music 2024. During this project, the City of North Branch will host their summer music series, the 2024 concerts in the park. These concerts are free to attend and will include performances by the Minnesota State Band on June 18th, 3rd Elephant on June 25th, Emerson Avenue Band on July 9th, the Whitesidewalls on July 16th, and the Dweebs on July 23rd. http://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/ 651-674-8113

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $14,050 for their project, All Ages Workshops Spring 2024. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host six multi-generational workshops that engage students of all ages and abilities in learning new skills and connecting with their community. This series of workshops will build upon the Multigenerational Workshops hosted in 2021 and 2023, with expanded subject matter, new classes & teachers, and an adapted pricing model to better fit the needs of each individual workshop. Classes will include Metal Casting with Sara Hanson, Natural Dyeing Maddy Bartsch, Ecological Sculpture with Alexis Schramel, Paper Pulp Sculpture Allison Baker, and a two-day Printmaking workshop with Max Hautala. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Unexpected Company Chorale received a grant in the amount of $19,466 for their project, Sing 2!. During this project, Unexpected Company Chorale will host a choral festival comprised of one adult choir and four high school choirs from the surrounding communities. The concept of the festival is to provide local high school choral students with an opportunity to perform for local cohorts, to sing together and to create a performance for the surrounding communities. The addition of Unexpected Company Chorale, an adult community choir, will also give students the opportunity to hear and sing with adults. The goal is to help students understand that singing is a lifelong activity, not simply relegated to high school or college. In addition, choral clinician, Dr. David Mennicke, will work with all the choirs to help develop their sound prior to and during the festival. https://www.ucchorale.org/

City of Onamia received a grant in the amount of $8,395 for their project, Onamia Celebrates 2024. During this project, the City of Onamia will host two summer musical performance events during Onamia Days in June and their July 3rd Celebration in July. Onamia days is a three day event beginning June 14th and will include music by Ragtown, June 15th by SainTrio and June 16th is music by Bill Cambell. The July 3rd event will host the Stone Daisy band. All performances are free to attend and will be held in Herington Park, downtown Onamia. https://onamiamn.com/ 320-532-3202

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $17,883 for their project Kids Can Be Artists, Too – PLUS! During this project, Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host their "Kids Can Be Artists, Too!" event at Pride in the Park in Pine City, MN on July 1, 2024; and, during Wyoming, MN's Night to Unite on August 6, 2024 and at the Wyoming Stagecoach Days on September 21, 2024. This event gives kids an artistic experience to paint with brushes & a canvas to create however they imagine. The youth benefit from experienced artist volunteers who are available to mentor them at the event. The event is free & offers creative fun for kids of all ages in easy access outdoor locations. In addition, WACAC will extend their outreach to encompass a Saturday story and art event at the Hallberg Center for Arts, held the last Saturday of every month (except December), so kids can participate in art activities for free all year round! https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $12,656 for their project, Mora's Music in the Park. During this project, the City of Mora will host twelve summer concerts at Mora's downtown Library Park on Thursday evenings in the months of June, July and August. In addition, they will include a September event during Fall Fest. The artists participating include performances on June 6 - Whitesidewalls, Rock n Roll; June 13 - Nathan Frazer, Folk; June 20 - Luke Vizenor, solo guitarist; June 27 - Michael Shynes with David Gerald Sutton, Blues/Pop; July 11 - Hard Day's Night, Beatles impersonators; July 18 - The Groove, Garage Rock; August 1- Todd Anderson Elvis, Elvis impersonator; August 8 - The Bazillions, Kids Songs; August 15 - THYME & Carnations, Country; August 22 - Small Town Famous, Rock/Pop; August 29 - Trent Bergeron, various music; and September 14 Fall Fest - Poppa Bear Norton, Classic Country. Events are free and open to all. http://www.ci.mora.mn.us 320-679-1511

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of $15,181 for their project, Older Adult Art Residency '24. During this project, the Walker Methodist Levande will host four art residencies at Walker Methodist Levande, located in Cambridge, to their older adult community. Residencies will include two visual arts series with artists Teresa Cox and Anne McFaul Reid of mixed media drawing and collage with a focus on learning basic painting techniques; a songwriting series with musician Charlie Maguire where participants create an original song; the fourth series will be a fiber art series with artist Chiaki O'Brien where participants will learn weaving on SAORI looms. Each residency will conclude with an open to the broader community public art showcase that will be open to the public. http://walkermethodist.org 763-691-1922

City of Isanti received a grant in the amount of $10,686 for their project, Art Opportunities for Isanti. During this project, the City of Isanti will host a family summer event series in the months of June, July and August in the Bluebird Park Amphitheater in Isanti as well as a Splish Splash Summer bash during the city's annual Jubilee Days celebration. These series of events will include performances by the Teddy Bear Band, Tricia and the Toonies, and Climb Theater's Will Hale and the Tadpole Parade. In addition to these performances the city will also work with artist Ashley Messer's Creative Studio 23 to provide art classes during these events. All events will be free and open to the public. https://www.cityofisanti.us/ 763-444-5512

North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, NWW Artist in Residence Pilot. During this project, the North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area (NWW) will launch a new Artist in Residence pilot project from June 2024 to June 2025 with artist Laurie Allmann, a poet and nonfiction writer. This residency will include story gathering interviews with local residents to create new stories as podcasts for online interactions, youth writing mentorships, poetry readings, and the creation of new work inspired by the St. Croix Heritage Area within region 7E. In addition to this work, the artist will also draft a template for future Artist in Residency programs. All events are free to the public. Home | North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area 651-383-1023

Pine County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Pine County Fair Performances. During this project, the Pine County Agricultural Society will host a series of musical performances at the Pine County Fair from Wednesday, July 31, 2024, to Sunday, August 4, 2024. The fairgrounds offer three separate stages for local and regional performances will include artists: Maddy Braun, East Central Outlaws, Catrina Campbell with Myron Dargus and Larry Rose, Kevin Ludtke Elvis Tribute, Duluth Transit Authority, Inside Strait Blues Band, Poppa Bear Norton, Freeway Jam, Froggy's Jam Band, Nathan Frazer, Willy Freitag, Relax with Max, REV Rychmynd, Jug Sluggers, Phonics, Kenny Krona and Rick Steiner, Dram Shop Country, Bluegrass Jam, On Tap, Smokin Guns, Jenni Thyng, and Jolly Zuks. All events are free to attend. https://www.pinecountyfair.com/

Old School Arts Center dba 210 Gallery and Art Center received a grant in the amount of $16,907 for their project Music at the Center. During this project, the 210 Gallery and Art Center will host a musical series in their Gallery/Listening Room. Artists performing include Gates, Carter, Hirsh Trio on June 30th, Dean Mcgraw on July 28th, Darin Bergven August 25th, Rachel Kilgore on September 29th, Rich Mattson on October 27th, David Huckfelt on November 24th, Andrea Stern on December 21st, Skarlett Wood on January 26th, with the series ending on February 23rd with Skally Line. Included with this project is the purchase of recording equipment so that performances may be broadcast on the 210 Gallery and Art Center's YouTube channel. All performances are free to attend. Home | Mysite (210gallery.org) 320-216-7635

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $19,875 for their project In. Art Show, 2024. During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host the 9th annual juried "In. Art show" at the Hallberg Center for the Arts from July 18, 2024, through September 7, 2024. An opening event will be held on July 18th with an award ceremony on August 22nd. The show will also include an artist talk on September 5th by artists who have received an award during the show. Judges for the show are Suyao Tian, Rita Dungey and Gary Carlson. During the show, at the award ceremony, a live jazz duo will perform, with artists Tim Lackas and Steve Pikal. All events are free and open to the public.
https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

City of Hinckley received a grant in the amount of $14,650 for their project, Sweet Summer Sounds 2024. During this project, the City of Hinckley will host their summer musical concert series "Sweet Summer Sounds". Concerts are held at the West Side Park, or at the Community Center in inclement weather. Performances include Whiskey River on June 6th, Strolling Clones on June 13th, 2nd Time Around on June 20th, New Riverside Ramblers on June 27th, Tim Hadler & Rose Family on July 4th, Jolly Huntsmen on July 18th, Debbie O'Keefe with Hot Toddies on July 25th, and White Sidewalls on August 6th. All performances are free and open to the public.
https://hinckley.govoffice2.com/ 320-384-7491

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, 2024 Music @ Franconia. During this project, the Franconia Sculpture Park will host their 2024 Music @ Franconia summer concert series. This series will include four events beginning on June 22nd with a Midsummer Dance and Drag Party including DJ Die/ASPORA and Midsummer themed drag show hosted by Quinn Tessential. July 27th will feature folk performances by artists Charlie Parr and Corey Medina & Brothers. On August 10th Franconia will feature music by She's Green and Daphne Jane will host a tapestry workshop in the Driscoll Education Center. The final event of this series will be on September 21, 2024 and includes a performance by the Oshkik Giizkik Singers of the Fond du Lac area along with new work by Native artist Marlena Myles of her augmented reality project showing Dakota Spirits throughout the sculpture park that can be seen through phone cameras. The project will also include supplies to fix the performance stage for the safety of the artists. Events are free with an event parking fee. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $15,830 for their project Arts, Nature and History. During this project, the Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society will host a variety of arts events during the Mille Lacs County Fair from August 7th to August 11th. Events include the Arts Garden focusing on a mixed media art creation, Emotion in Motion offering an interactive arts experience influenced by music, movement and art. Photographer Doug Ohman will present three programs throughout the weekend event featuring his photos and stories of subjects he has studied. This project will also include a performance by the High 48's, a MN local bluegrass band, as well as a performance by Shawn Sullivan and Sam Weyandt presenting music of the 60's and Americana influences throughout their performance. All events are free and open to the public. http://www.millelacscountyfair.com/ 763-389-3138

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of $8,500 for their project, Concert Series at WM Levande. During this project, Walker Methodist Levande will host a concert series to include performances on July 30, 2024, of A Hard Day's Night, September 18th, 2024 performance by The Just Rite Country Band during the WML annual Harvest Festival, December 20, 2024 will host the Holy Rocka Rollaz for a Christmas concert, and the final performance on June 18th, 2025 of Troy Castellano during the annual Berry Festival. http://walkermethodist.org 763-691-1922

One Heartland Inc. received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, Somewhere Beyond the Rainbow. During this project, One Heartland will host a one-week camp experience of Somewhere Beyond The Rainbow, a camp tailored to LGBTQIA+ theater youth ages 12-17. This experience will be in partnership with the Graceful Monsters Educational Theater Collective culminating in a community accessible theater production. The camp will take place during August 12 – 17th in Willow River and will include daily workshops in acting, scriptwriting, stage design, and production. Visual art sessions will include painting, costume design and set construction. The week will conclude with a theater production on August 17th, that is open to the public. Camps for Youth Facing Challenges | One Heartland : One Heartland 888-216-2028

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $18,650 for their project Senior Artistic Outreach. During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will offer free art programming to seniors in the community, held at the Hallberg Art Center's ADA compliant upstairs gallery & senior living facilities in Chisago County including the Parmly on the Lake in Chisago City, Meadows on Fairview in Wyoming and Encore Assisted Living in North Branch. Classes will include watercolor, sun printing/cyanotype, acrylic painting, and block printing. Classes will be taught by artist Surelle Schewe-Strike and assisted by WACAC gallery directors Jess Eischens and Kirk Larson. Classes held at the Hallberg Center for the arts will be open to the public. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $20,000 for their project, Puppets in the Park 2024. During this project, the Franconia Sculpture Park will host the second annual Puppets in the Park Halloween hayride. To accomplish this event Franconia Sculpture Park will work with the In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater group and the Flying Foot Forum Theater Company. In addition, there will also be a mask-making workshop two week prior to the event on Oct 6th within the heart of the beast puppetry instructors teaching participants of all ages about the process of making masks and visitors can create and wear their masks at the Puppets in the Park Halloween Hayride event on Oct 19th. Also, during the event, the Flying Foot Theater group, with various dancers and musicians wandering throughout Franconia Sculpture Park, will create an immersive park experience. There will also be additional family-friendly activities such as pumpkin-carving, face-painting, and a Halloween candy scavenger hunt. The event is free to the public with a suggested $10 donation per vehicle. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

ECRAC Essentials Support Grant Program

$3,000 to $10,000 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.

Old School Arts Center dba 210 Gallery and Art Center received a grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, 210 Gallery and Art Center Essentials Support Grant, Sandstone. 210 Gallery and Art Center's mission is to build and enrich their community through arts education, exhibition, and performance. 210 Gallery supports the efforts of local and regional artists and provides a venue for public events. With the Essentials Support funds 210 Gallery will pay for the electric utility, property insurance and Directors and Officers insurance, water, sewer, and gas utilities and broadband. With these expenses taken care of it will free up other funding for 210 Gallery to better focus on their arts programs. www.210gallery.org 320-216-7635

Minnesota Goose Garden received a grant in the amount of $3,912 for their organization, The Goose Garden Corporation Essentials Support Grant, Sandstone. MN Goose Garden's mission is to offer educational purposes to educate the public on aboriginal uses of flora, using art forms in conjunction with floral observations to further public understanding. The garden strives to preserve such flora and art for future generations. With the essential support funds the MN Goose Garden will be used to pay for office supplies, property insurance, internet, advertising, phone, site maintenance, local chamber membership dues, outcome evaluation expenses and a portable facility. With these essentials taken care of it will free up other funding for the MN Goose Garden to focus on ongoing sculpture installations. Minnesota Goose Garden

Pine Center for the Arts received a grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Pine Center for the Arts Essentials Support Grant, Pine City. Pine Center for the Arts is committed to providing opportunities for all to create, learn and enjoy the visual, performing, and literary arts. Their mission is "Arts for Everyone". Since 2008, Pine Center for the Arts (PCftA) has been an organization that has provided a partnership between the arts and the surrounding area. With the support of this grant the Pine Center for the arts will pay their general insurance, accountant fees, general publicity and marketing, telephone/internet expenses and utilities. With Essentials Support grant funding covering many of these expenses they will be better able to increase and enhance the art opportunities they provide to the community. http://www.pinecenter.org 320-629-4924

Play Inc. Arts received a grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Play Inc. Arts Essentials Support Grant, Cambridge. Play Inc. Arts will encourage personal growth of both visual and performing artists by offering them the opportunity to challenge their abilities and their mind. Play Inc. Arts provides the audience a chance to expand their arts awareness through exceptional programs and provides opportunities for students interested in developing further and adults interested in becoming students once again. With the support of this grant Play Inc Arts will pay their rent. With Essentials Support grant funding covering these expenses they will be able to resolve maintenance issues, reinstate regular visual arts programming, as well as focus on new programs and reaching a broader audience. Play Inc Arts – Community Musical Theatre and Arts 763-607-5620

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $10,000 for their organization, Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community's mission is to encourage creative expression, promote community for local artists of all ages, and champion a learning environment in the arts. With the support of this grant Wyoming Creative Arts Community will pay their gas, electric, internet, security and insurance, as well as general advertising and membership to the North American Reciprocal Museum Association. With Essentials Support grant funding paying these expenses they will be able to dedicate other funding to art related events, activities and improvement goals at the gallery. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

ECRAC Small Art Project Grant Program

Grants from $600 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

Pine City Arts Council received a grant in the amount of $1,123 for their project, Art on the Road 2024. During this project, the Pine City Arts Council will hire Coaches to provide transportation to the Lyric Arts in Anoka MN for a theater performance of 9 to 5. This theater performance will be May 5th 2023 at 2:00 PM and 45 tickets will be available to the public to access this transportation and performance. https://www.facebook.com/PineCityArtsCouncil/

Dala Heritage Society received a grant in the amount of $1,910 for their project, 2024 DHS Cultural Event's. During this project, Dala Heritage Society will host two programs based in Swedish culture, heritage and folklore. The Midsummer Day celebration and the St. Lucia Queen of Lights program. The Midsummer day will begin the morning of June 14th and will include the decoration of the Majstang pole, and will continue with a community picnic, and music performed by the Swedish folk group Spelmanslag. The St. Lucia program will be December 15th and includes the crowning for the new St. Lucia along with stories told of St. Lucia and music again provided by the Swedish folk group Spelmanslag. Both events will be open to the public and free to attend. https://www.facebook.com/people/Dala-Heritage-Society/100064636034235/

City of Center City received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Huldufolk House. During this project, the City of Center City will work with artist Gerald Carlson to install a Huldufolk house at the Watertower Park to celebrate the Scandinavian heritage of the area. Huldufolk houses are elf-size houses from Scandinavian mythology where people can speak to the elves and make wishes. Installation of the Huldufolk House will be at Watertower Park in Center City from May 15, 2024 - November 30, 2024 by artist Gerald Carlson, constructed onsite. The park is open to the public dawn until dusk year long. The project will include a ribbon cutting on Nov 20, 2024 and will be open to the public. Center City Minnesota - City of Center City (centercitymn.us) 651-257-5284

Old School Arts Center dba 210 Gallery and Art Center received a grant in the amount of $2,093 for their project, Writer's Series at the Gallery. During this project, the 210 Gallery and Art Center will host two Minnesota authors, Dean Hovey and Kent Nerburn to present at the gallery. On June 16th, Dean Hovey will host a writer's workshop prior to his presentation. Kent Nerburn will present on November 17, 2024. These presentations will be recorded and made available on the 210 Gallery and Art Center's YouTube channel for anyone who is unable to attend in person. Events are free and open to the public. Home | Mysite (210gallery.org) 320-216-7635

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $1,478 for their project, Shakespeare in the Park 2024. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host the Classical Actors Ensemble (CAE) on Thursday, June 27th, 2024, for an evening performance of a Shakespearean play. This free performance will take place outdoors, in Franconia's 50 acres of restored native prairie. In the case of inclement weather, the performance will take place inside Franconia's Driscoll Education Center. Classical Actors Ensemble is a professional classical theater company that "performs the plays of the English Renaissance as they were originally intended: as popular entertainment for everyone." CAE decides which play to perform based on the actors that audition each year, so the 2024 play will be announced in mid-Spring. Performances are free and open to the public. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $4,900 for their project, Songwriters in the Round 2024. During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host a free music concert at the Hallberg Center for the Arts on the last Thursday of each month, free to the public. For each concert, three individual singer/songwriters (and sometimes two duos) perform original music. For improved sound, a professional soundboard operator is included in the project for each event. The concert will also be live streamed with Lakes Area TV of Chisago on YouTube. During this grant period 7 performances will include artists Chris Koza, Marissa Dodge, Shane Nelson performing May 30. Haley E Rydell, Tom Pescheges, and Doyle Turner on June 27. Katy Tessman, McKain Lakey, and Nathan Frazer on July 25. PK Mayo, Cathie English, and Erik Brandt performing August 29. Grim & Cruz, and Curtis & Loretta performing on September 26. Clark Machtemes, Cole Allen, and Bob Frey performing on October 31. And Barbara McAfee, Bob Niemiec, and Matt Hannah will perform on December 5.https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Five Minute Film Festival 2024. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host the 5 Minute Film Festival. Filmmakers will be invited to submit their short films via an open call and a panel of three professional artists; Sequoia Hauck, Ryan Stopera, and Merit Thursday will select the top fifteen films to be screened at the Franconia Film Festival on October 5th from 8-10pm. Cash prizes will be awarded during the screening. Events are free and open to the public. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

ECRAC Art in Our Schools Grant Program

Grants up to $5,000 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

Pine City School District #578 received a grant in the amount of $3,442 for their project, Bridging Creativity & Culture. During this project, the Pine City Schools will bring the Art Club and Independent Study Art Program students on a field trip to the Minneapolis Institute of Art as a way of enhancing the students' artistic horizons. After the field trip students will create art by channeling their inspiration from the trip. The project will include the purchase of art supplies for the students to create artwork inspired by their trip and the artwork will be on display at the school during the high school spring musical concerts, transforming the auditorium lobby into an inclusive art gallery displaying the students' creations while the students guide visitors through the space sharing insights into their work. Home | Pine City Public Schools (isd578.org) 320-629-4000

ECRAC Resiliency 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.

Deadlines are ongoing.

Samuel Hines received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Miniatures for Guitar: Minnesota Fall.

Pine Center for the Arts received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Writing as healing Workshops.

Robert DesJarlait received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Art Video.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Member Class & Virtual Art Exhibits.

Amy Harrison received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Farmer's Market Art.

Stacy Foster received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Author Website.

Stacy Foster received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Author Website Phase II.

Pine Center for the Arts received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Summer 2024 Writing as healing Workshops.

Shannon Wood received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Drumming Trainning.

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Jess Hirsch Sculpture.

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Erin Paradis Sculpture.

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Alison Baker Sculpture.

Hinckley Fire Museum received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Survivors of the Fire play.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund for Individual Artist Grant Program

This program provides grants up to $2,000 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.

Jerry Carlson received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Huldufolk (Elf) House. During this project, the artist will build a Huldufolk house inspired by the heritage apple orchard at the Women's Environmental Institute in North Branch, MN. The Huldufolk house will be constructed in the artist workshop and permanently installed at the Women's Environmental Institute in April/March of 2024. Huldufolk houses are elf-sized houses from Scandinavian mythology where people can speak to the elves and make wishes.

Desmond Merkwan received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Foray Into Photography. During this project, the artist will expand on his photography exploration with the purchase of a Pinsta Pinhole camera and supplies to create a series of 12 photographs. This is a historical method of photography that the artist will explore to gain knowledge about photography.

Samuel Hines received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Romantic Era Guitar. During this project, the artist will have two components of focus. One includes developing technical skills related to the Romantic Era music requiring focus, dexterity and coordination. The second includes a study of experts in Romantic Era music interpretation that will feature several displays of progress leading up to a final display of a video performance on the artist social media pages. The feature videos will be one to three minutes long and will include a brief written description, education, and funding credit to ECRAC.

Jerusha Steinert received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Artistic Energy & Horses. During this project, the artist will purchase supplies and three large easels to create a space to experiment with new media as she paints using her horses as inspiration. The project will result in 10 large mixed media pieces on canvas that will be on display at a yet to be determined location for the artist art show. A video of the creative process and artwork will be included with the project as a way to share the artist's work with her audience.

Don Farrell received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Poetry Project. During this project, the artist will work with mentor Gretchen Marquette of Red Clew Poetry Studio, to finalize manuscripts and select poems that may be submitted for publication in a variety of contests and journals. This mentorship will focus on revisions of current work as well as organizing poetry manuscripts. Additionally, this project will include public readings of the artist poems on Monday evenings via a Zoom Poetry Group that is open to the public.

Linda Schaumburg received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Tree of Life Yggdrasil. During this project, the artist will take time to draw the Viking tree of life, Yggdrasil, representing the nine worlds in Viking mythology. The project will include time for the artist to research the subject, using various references, so that the tree will correctly reflect Nordic history as well as time for the artist to create the final work. This artwork will be to focus of this project and will end with the artwork on display on December 7th at the Pine County History Museum in Askov.

Robert Carman received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Bullet Project. During this project, the artist will spend time working on his skills and abilities as a drummer. This will include practice in the artist's studio to recover strength and muscle so that he can perform for a full four hour set performance. The artist will also spend time practicing new work to stay current. Additionally, the artist will purchase some equipment including a quick release cymbal attachment, new mallets, drumsticks, and an 8-channel drum mixer. The project will end with an open studio event that will be in person as well as shared online, hosted in the artist's studio space IMAGINE A Music Studio in Askov on Sunday, September 15 from 1-4, open to the public.

Thomas Putzier received a grant in the amount of $2,000 for their project, Open Studio Night. During this project, the artist will create a new large-scale painting that will expand and advance the artist's practice, allowing them to evolve their artistic language and skillset. This work will allow the artist to experiment with new geometric ideas and present them as the highest quality work produced thus far. The work will be followed by two open studio public events at the artist studio space in Taylors Falls to share their new space with the public and build connections within the artist's new community. Events will take place on November 9, 2024, and January 11, 2025.

ECRAC Mid-Career Artist Grant Program

Grants up to $3,600 are available to individual artists. This program provides financial support to artists and culture bearers committed to personal artistic growth. Applications must fund specific art projects designed to enhance artistic skills, artwork, experimentation, collaboration, or art business career. Projects may be in any art from or discipline. This grant program is funded by The McKnight Foundation.

Deadlines are February 1, and April 1.

Rachel Carlson (Coyne) received a grant in the amount of $2,908 for their project, Missing Women. During this project, the artist plans create a new body of work centered around the crisis of missing and disappeared women in the United States. The body of work will be composed of twelve panels of resin the artist will create by suspending a collage of paper materials. The artist plans to share the work as an exhibit at ECRAC if possible, and/or an alternative venue between April 1 and May 1 of 2025. During the project the exhibit will also encourage viewers to participate in GEDmatch program, which can assist law enforcement in identifying unknown decedents of the missing women - some of whom have been searched for by their loved ones for decades.

Peter Genheimer received a grant in the amount of $3,600 for their project, "In the Image" Solo Show. During this project, the artist plans to print and present between 40 and 60 of his photographs at his solo show at Hallberg Center for the Arts from April 18, 2024 to May 18, 2024. This is the artist's first solo show and will allow the artist to present his work to a broader audience and advance his artist career. The grant will allow him to professionally print and frame his photos for this event.

Donna Budzynski received a grant in the amount of $3,393 for their project, Professional Upgrade. During this project, the artist will create 25 new works of art using professional grad canvas, cradle wood boards, paint, brushes, and mediums. These higher quality supplies and materials will allow the artist to improve and enhance her artwork as well as provide consistency by using the same name brand products. She will also purchase a projector so she can transfer her drawings to larger canvas, saving her time in creating the larger works of art. The artists will attend a painting workshop at White Bear Center for the Arts with artist Elizabeth St. Hilaire that will allow the artist to advance her skills and learn new techniques to incorporate into her art practice.

Sharma Luedke received a grant in the amount of $3,600 for their project, Exploring Oil Portraiture. During this project, the artist will advance her career as an artist by dedicating time to improve her skills in oil portraiture and create a body of work that she may present to galleries. The project will stretch the artists skills by creating portraits with the same theme that will relate to each other by selecting people from her local community as subjects for the portraits, working towards selections of a diverse and authentic body of work. The artist will purchase a camera to photograph her subjects as well as the completed works of art. She will purchase supplies and materials to complete a new body of work, and she will research and continue self-study to grow as a portrait artist.

Jake Callahan received a grant in the amount of $3,600 for their project, Next Level Images. During this project, the artist will advance his skills as a photographer by purchasing a Canon R6 Mark II camera, with two additional batteries, and an adapter ring for his old lenses. This camera will allow the artist to challenge his creativity and push his photo skills to the next level and offer a better image quality to print photos at a professional level. The artist plans to experiment with landscape and night photos of his favorite local spots to produce new works of art during the project period.

James Larson received a grant in the amount of $3,358 for their project, Jim Larson Art Supplies. During this project, the artist will dedicate time to focus on his art career, specifically his creative process of working on multiple pieces of art in multiple mediums at the same time in a way that strengthens the cohesiveness of his body of work during the project. The artist will purchase supplies such as canvases, paint, drawing materials, printing inks, blocks and paper that will supply his studio during the duration of the grant project period as he creates new works of art.

Stacey Foster received a grant in the amount of $3,600 for their project, The Girl in the Mirror. During this project, the artist will work with freelance editor Elizabeth Copps who specializes in manuscript development. Ms. Foster has completed a draft of her 100,000-word memoir titled “The Girl in the Mirror: A Memoir of Healing from Hidden Trauma”. With the editor’s review and feedback the artist will edit and revise her memoir.

Trisha Moose received a grant in the amount of $3,600 for their project, Funding for New Work. During this project, the artist will purchase supplies to make five jingle dresses. Supplies will include fabric, ribbons, leather, threads, needles, pliers, beads, zippers, and jingles. These jingle dresses will be part of both ceremonial and contemporary regalia for the artist’s native people as she is the one called upon for ceremonial purposes.

Eva Skanse received a grant in the amount of $3,600 for their project, Into the Aurora. During this project, the artist will take time to research, create and transcribe historic Scandinavian Baroque manuscripts into modern notation so that they may be shared with performers and the public, the artist will also produce a high-quality recording of the transcribed works so that they may be accessible to the public, and the project will also include a performance of the completed works. The recording and the performance will take place at “The Baroque Room” in St. Paul and shared on the artist YouTube channel.

ECRAC Essential Artist Award Grant Program

The Essential Artist Award program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists and culture bearers. These Awards will allow artists and culture bearers 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 $9,000 Awards are available annually. This grant program is funded by The McKnight Foundation.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

Gary Carlson received an Award in the amount of $9,000 for their project, Outdoor Welded Sculpture. During this project, the artist will expand his skills and practice as a sculpture artist by purchasing a plasma cutter and welder to create an outdoor sculpture. The artist will use the grant period to experiment and perfect his skills with the new welding equipment by practicing and creating a new work of art to be displayed outdoors for public viewing at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN. The artist's long-term impact goal of this project is to create sculpture that can endure the outdoor elements. www.garyandmaryanncarlson.weebly.com

Terri Huro received an Award in the amount of $9,000 for their project, Study and new work creation. During this project, the artist will the artist will explore Minnesota locations to document wildlife and native plants as photo references to create new works of art. Locations she will explore include the Sherburne Wildlife Refuge, Sax-zim Bog, Minnesota Zoo, Bell Museum, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, and the international Wolf Center. The project will also include supplies and equipment such as paints, brushes, sketchbooks, wood panels, and easel, colored pencils, and more. In addition, the project will include the purchase of a Go Pro 12 Creator that will allow the artist to document her subject matter and her progress and process as she creates new work. The artist would like the new work to be displayed during an in-person art show at ECRAC. Facebook

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 $599 are available.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

A.S. received a scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Oil Painting.

H.T. received a scholarship in the amount of $599 for their project, New Lenses for my DSLR.

R.T. received a scholarship in the amount of $599 for their project, Digital Art.

A.N. received a scholarship in the amount of $588 for their project, Music Equipment.

P.E. received a scholarship in the amount of $275 for their project, Play Inc. Arts Summer Theater Camp.

S.E. received a scholarship in the amount of $275 for their project, Play Inc. Arts Yeabo Players Summer Theater Camp.

A.E. received a scholarship in the amount of $275 for their project, Musical Theater Camp.

T.A. received a scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Music Lessons.

N.A. received a scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Piano Lessons.

S.A. received a scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Piano Lessons.

C.C. received a scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Look & Find.

GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2023

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2023 (July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023)

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.

East Central MN Pride received a grant in the amount of $11,750 for their project, 2023 Pride Performers. During this project, the East Central Minnesota Pride will host the 18th annual Pride in the Park event in Pine City's Robinson Park on June 3, 2023. This free public event providing LGBTQ+ persons, other diverse audiences, their friends and allies an opportunity to create community and engage the broader community within a cultural context. The performing artists will be Mark Joseph and the American Soul as headliners, Jacob Mahon and the New Salty Dog and the Roxxy Hall band. Martino Mayotte, performing as Martina Marraccino, will perform as both MC and host short performances as opener, closer, and during band turnover periods throughout this free event. https://eastcentralminnesotapride.org/

Pine City Arts Council received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Art in the Park 2023. During this project, the Pine City Arts Council will host the 46th annual Art in the Park music events at Robinson Park in Pine City on Friday nights beginning on May 26th through August 18th. These twelve music performances will include the Pine City Jazz Band, Tim Hadler Band, Rubber Soul, Roxxy Hall Band, Whitesidewalls, Transit Authority, Monroe Crossing, Neighborz, White Bear Big Band, Phonics, Chris Kroeze, and Freeway Jam. Events are free to attend. https://www.facebook.com/PineCityArtsCouncil/

City of North Branch received a grant in the amount of $10,505 for their project, North Branch Summer Music 2023. During this project, the City of North Branch will host their summer concerts in the park series in Central Park, 38780 8th Ave, starting on Tuesday June 13, 2023 and continuing on Tuesday evening's through July 25, 2023. The music performances will include the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra with Music Director and Conductor Manny Laureano, Emerson Avenue Band, 3rd Elephant, The Whitesidewalls, and Cindy Jo. These events are free and open to all. http://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/ 651-674-8113

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Art Residencies & Older Adults. During this project, the Walker Methodist Levande will host four artist residencies to engage the assisted living and memory care residence. Artist Teresa Cox will teach artful memory stories during a weeklong intensive where participants will create mixed media drawing/collage story based artwork. Artist Anne McFaul Reid will teach watercolor painting. Shakun Mehashwari will teach Impermanent Art, including Rangoli, Mandalas, and Henna. Artist Lucy Rose will teach paper collage. These residencies are open to the public. http://walkermethodist.org 612-827-8541

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Family Art Classes @ Franconia. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host six artmaking classes at the Driscoll Education Center located at Franconia Sculpture Park. These classes will be taught by local artists and include windchimes with Anna Lucia, Macrame Plant Holders with Samantha-Jean Wilson, woodblock printmaking with Max Hautala, inflatable sculpture with Don Porcella, curio domes with Emma Wood, and natural ink watercolors with Kim Boustead. Classes are open to the public and will be held on Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm beginning in February and ending in June, 2023. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

City of Onamia received a grant in the amount of $8,064 for their project, Onamia Celebrates 2023. During this project, the City of Onamia will host two summer events, "Onamia Days" in June and the "July 3rd Celebration" in July. Both events will include musical performances beginning with the Onamia Days celebration on June 9th with Stone Daisy, June 10th with Maddy Braun Band and the July 3rd celebration includes a performance by the Chad Edwards Band. All events are free and open to the public at Herington Park in Onamia. https://onamiamn.com/ 320-532-3311

Unexpected Company Chorale received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Tuning Up! Vocal Workshops. During this project, Unexpected Company Chorale will host "Tuning Up! Vocal Workshops", a series of vocal performance clinics to Unexpected Company Chorale members and will be open to the public. Participants will work with artists Dr. Don Krubsack, Barbara McAfee, Teri Larson and Jane Anderson who will teach vocal techniques. The project will also include two Spring concerts and participants from the public who participated in the workshops will be invited to join Unexpected Company Chorale on stage for one of the songs from the workshop. https://www.ucchorale.org/

City of Pine City received a grant in the amount of $14,500 for their project, Composing Music in the Park. During this project, the City of Pine City will install large scale musical instruments in Robinson Park, located in Pine City. The large-scale instruments will include both Jazz Combo chimes and Harmonic Chimes that will be permanently installed in the park and available for anyone to play. The City of Pine City will host a performance lead by local musician Adrienne Roubinek who will demonstrate the use of the instruments during the performance on June 22, 2023. https://pinecity.govoffice.com/ 320-315-4885

City of Isanti received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Bluebird Amphitheater. During this project, the City of Isanti will host two theater events with the Prairie Fire Children's Theater at the Bluebird Amphitheater in Bluebird Park in Isanti. Local youth can sign up to participate in the production with a week of rehearsals culminating in two performances for Tom Sawyer, from June 18th – 24th, and Alice and Wonderland, from August 20th – 27th. The project will also include the purchase of a portable stage for the amphitheater to enhance the view of the performance for the audience. The performances will be open to the public and free to attend. https://www.cityofisanti.us/ 763-444-5512

City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $10,868 for their project, Mora's Music in the Park. During this project, the City of Mora will host twelve summer concerts to be held in Mora's Downtown Library Park on Thursday evenings during June, July, and August as well as a performance during September's Fall Fest on Saturday the 23rd. The performances include: the Whitesidewalls, Rock 'n' Roll; Skippin Stones - Folk, Acoustic Rock, Jazz, Mainstream Pop; Farmers Daughters, Country; The Everstrom's, Bluegrass; Samantha Grimes, American/Rock; Small Town Famous Rock/Pop; The Groove, Garage Rock/Rock & Roll; Chmielewski Fun Time Band, Polka; Tricia & the Tonnies, Children's Music; Harper's Chord, Americana; Matt Hannah, Folk, Americana; and Poppa Bear Norton, Country. These events are free and open to all. http://www.ci.mora.mn.us 320-679-1511

Play Inc. Arts received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Something Rotten Projector. During this project, Play Inc. Arts will purchase a professional theatre projector for their 2024 Spring Musical Production of "Something Rotten". This Renaissance time period show entails detailed and complicated sets that are not easily built and are large and difficult to manufacture and maneuver. The projector allows the production cast and crew the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and understanding of the arts technology along with providing the audience and enhanced theater experience. "Something Rotten" will open on February 9, 2024 with performances ending February 18th. https://playincarts.org/

Friends of the Karl Oskar House received a grant in the amount of $10,704 for their project, Sharing the Karl Oskar Story. During this project, the Chisago County Historical Society will be the fiscal agent for this project with the Friends of the Karl Oskar House. The project includes three artistic elements. The first are ten Nordic folk musical events throughout the summer including a Nordic Folk Music Jam by local musicians, and other performance featuring Scandinavian themed artists and performances. The second element will be the creation of an interpretive panel created by local design artist Alyssa Auten to share the emigrant story of Karl and Kristina Oskar. And the third element, a mural by MN mural artist Lilli Lennox, depicting the fictional characters of Karl Oskar and Kristina to be placed on the exterior of the workshop located on the grounds of the Karl Oskar House site in Lindstrom, MN. https://friendsofthekarloskarhouse.org/

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $10,780 for their project, In. Art Show 2023. During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host the 8th annual "In. Art show" at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN. The show will be open from July 11th to August 19th, 2023 with an awards ceremony on August 17th with judges Rurik Hover, DeeAnn Sibley and Christopher Harrison. Artists from Region 7E and surrounding areas are welcome to enter this show that will be open to the public free of charge. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, 2023 Music @ Franconia Series. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park with host their Music @ Franconia series highlighting musicians from MN and WI in the genres of indie, rock, americana, country, hip hop and salsa. The 2023 series will include four performances beginning June 4th with Salsa del Soul, July 1st with Pit Stop, Sawyer's Dream, and Dead Horses, August 12th includes Papa Mbye, Mike Kota, and Early Eyes and a final performance date of September 23rd featuring Dua Saleh. All musical performances are free and open to the public at Franconia's Amphitheater. In addition to the music, visitors to the park may also participate in free artmaking and sculpture park tours during these music events. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

City of Hinckley received a grant in the amount of $12,800 for their project, Sweet Summer Sounds 2023. During this project, the City of Hinckley will host their summer music series Sweet Summer Sounds. This series includes eight outdoor concerts held at West Side Park in Hinckley. The 2023 performances include the Hinckley-Finlayson high School Choir and Band, Monroe Crossing, Dale Dahmen and the Polka Beats, Duluth Transit Authority, No Limits B-Sides, Pale Ales Bluegrass, The Arcades and Robby Vee Music Caravan. All performances are free and open to all. https://hinckley.govoffice2.com/ 320-384-7491

Pine County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Pine County Fair Performances. During this project, the Pine County Agricultural Society will provide music events during the Pine County Fair from August 3 through August 7, 2023. Events will take place at the Pine County Fairgrounds in Pine City at the Bandshell and the Event Center. Music includes the Jugsluggers, Becky Schlegel and the High 48s, Millionaires, Elvis Tribute band, The Rose Family band, Duluth Transit Authority, Inside Strait, Freeway Jam, Neighberz band, Buffalo Head, Tim Hadler, Kenny Krona, Maddy Braun Band, Bluegrass Jam, On Tap, Willy Frietag, Five Minute Major, Nathan Fazer and Jolly Zuks. All events are free and open to all. https://www.pinecountyfair.com/

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of $9,500 for their project, Outdoor Concerts at WM Levande, Cambridge. During this project, Walker Methodist Levande, will host outdoor music events. Events will begin on July 31, 2023, with the Whitesidewalls performing for the National Night Out celebration. September 20, 2023, the Just Rite Country Band will perform for Harvest Festival, June 5th, 2024 will include a performance by the Emerson Ave Band and events will end on June 19th with 3rd Elephant during the Berry Festival. Concerts will take place outside in the Walker Methodist Levande parking lot and are open and free to the public. http://walkermethodist.org 612-827-8541

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project A Hands-On Approach. During this project, The Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society will host the Arts Garden with Jill Whitney-Birk and Erika Lynn Sawyer, providing hands on lessons in art making; Emotion in Motion with artist Leah Beack, an art experience involving splatter paint on canvas to the rhythm of music and movement; and the Blue Horse Theatre with Kelly Williams, Alyssa Adair, Dara Grimmer, and Jerusha Steirnert, a performance group involving the audience with art and horses to create artwork in front of a live audience. Each of these groups involve the audience in the creation of art, which is the theme of these arts activities at this year's Fair. The Mille Lacs County Fair will feature these events from August 9th through the 13th. All activities are free and open to all. http://www.millelacscountyfair.com/ 320-420-1798

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Puppets in the Park Hayride. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host Puppets in the Park Halloween Hayride, a one-day autumnal celebration event on October 14, 2023. This event will feature masked giant puppeteer performers and theatrical musicians and dancers from "In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater" group wandering throughout the park and interacting with sculptures while park visitors walk or take a hayride through the park. In addition, visitors can look forward to a make-and-take mask workshop, a puppet selfie station, a candy scavenger hunt, face painting, pumpkin carving, a stilts lesson from an experienced instructor, and a Swedish heritage-inspired performance from the Flying Foot Forum Theater Company. This project will also include the purchase of a new camera to document the event, a Canon 6D Mark ii from Canon. They no longer have access to the camera they had been using. The event is free to the public with a $5 parking fee per vehicle. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

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.

Old School Arts Center dba 210 Gallery and Art Center received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their organization, 210 Gallery and Art Center Essentials Support Grant, Sandstone. 210 Gallery and Art Center's mission is to build and enrich their community through arts education, exhibition and performance. 210 Gallery supports the efforts of local and regional artists and provides a venue for public events. With the Essentials Support funds 210 Gallery will pay for the electric utility, property insurance and Directors and Officers insurance. With these funds taken care of it will free up other funding for 210 Gallery to better focus on their arts programs. https://osacmn.org/ 320-216-7635

Pine Center for the Arts received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their organization, Pine Center for the Arts Essentials Support Grant, Pine City. Pine Center for the Arts is committed to providing opportunities for all to create, learn and enjoy the visual, performing, and literary arts. Since 2008, Pine Center for the Arts (PCftA) has been an organization that has provided a partnership between the arts and the surrounding area. With the support of this grant the Pine Center for the arts will pay their general insurance, accountant fees, general publicity and marketing, telephone/internet expenses and utilities. With Essentials Support grant funding covering many of these expenses they will be better able to increase and enhance the art opportunities they provide to the community. http://www.pinecenter.org 320-629-4924

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their organization, Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community Essentials Support Grant, Wyoming. The Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will bring art to the community through monthly art shows and other events at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN. With the operating grant they will paying the gas, electric, insurance and advertising in two yearly community guides. This will free up other funds to invest in more arts related activities and improvement goals at the gallery such as working to increase attendance, increase awareness of the Art Center through advertising, and community outreach and improve the space for better display of artwork. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Unexpected Company Chorale received a grant in the amount of $4,038 for their organization, Unexpected Company Chorale Essentials Support Grant. Unexpected Company Chorale will provide educational music experiences for adult singers and audiences in the Chisago Lakes area and surrounding communities by enhancing member's musical talents and providing audiences with enjoyable and quality performances. Unexpected Company Chorale will use the Essentials Support Grant towards their Board and Officers and organizational insurance and the purchase of a director's portable podium. https://www.ucchorale.org/

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

Hinckley-Finlayson Public Schools IDS #2165 received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Monroe Crossing Concert. During this project the Hinckley-Finlayson Public Schools will host musical performance group Monroe Crossing on February 26, 2023 at the Hinckley Fine Arts Center at the Hinckley Finlayson High School. This event will be open to the public and tickets to attend will be $5 for youth and $10 per adult. https://www.hf.k12.mn.us/ 320-384-6277

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Midsummer @ Franconia. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host a Midsummer Festival on June 17, 2023. This one-day art event will feature performances by both Minnesota-based and nationally-recognized artists Kristin Bauer, Natalie Brewster-Nguyen, Gabrielle Civil, Candice Davis, Quinn Dukes, Sean Noyce, Wang Ping, Lacey Prpic-Hedtke, and Suzanne Lindgren whom are tied to the land and the Swedish history of the region, as well as free hands-on artmaking linked to art and nature. The event will conclude with a participatory sunset observation and late-night sky viewing on the new moon in collaboration with Belwin Conservancy and the Minnesota Astronomical Society. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $4,978 for their project, Kids Can Be Artists, Too!. During this project the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host three community outreach events titled "Kid's Can Be Artists, Too!". This event invites youth to create their own paintings with paint, brushes and canvas provided by WACAC. Volunteer artists will be on hand to mentor youth if they like and or they are welcome to create on their own. The "Kid's Can Be Artist's, Too" events will take place during the Pride in the Park in Pine City on June 3rd, Wyoming, MN's Night to Unite on August 1st, and during the Stagecoach Days on September 16th in Wyoming. These events are free and offer creative fun for kids of all ages in public outdoor locations. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $3,400 for their project, 2023 Film @ Franconia. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host the Film @ Franconia series, a program the is focused on bringing people together to view artistic films at Franconia Sculpture Park. The film screenings are free and open to the public. The 2023 film series will highlight cult classic art films including Dark Crystal on June 3rd, The Shining on July 8th, and the 4th annual Franconia Film Festival on September 2nd, short films by Midwest artists. The film festival will be judged by Ginger Porcella, Peng Wu, and Hallie Bahn and the top three films will be awarded a cash prize. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Kanabec County Historical Society received a grant in the amount of $3,380 for their project Paul Kilgore Series. During this project the Kanabec History Center will host MN Author Paul Kilgore on September 21, October 12, and November 9th to present his stories detailing life in Kanabec County. The stories will include the Depression and Logging era, and the story of Mora's founder Myron Kent detailing his life and the mysterious murder of his wives. The events will be held at the Kanabec County History Center in Mora and will be free of charge to attend. http://www.kanabechistory.org/ (320) 679-1665

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $2,167 for their project, Regional Juried Exhibition. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host a juried exhibition in their Mardag Gallery highlighting artist working in the St. Croix River Valley and East Central MN. Artists from this area may submit up to three works for consideration, at no fee, and selected artists will be invited to show their work at Franconia. Jurors and curators for the art show include Jessica Turtle and Esther Callahan. The opening reception will be Saturday, January 27, 2024, and will be free to attend. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

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

Hinckley-Finlayson Public Schools ISD #2165 received a grant in the amount of $3,000 for their project, Trisha and the Toonies. During this project Hinckley Finlayson Community Education will provide a performance of Trisha and the Toonies for all to enjoy. This event will be October 28, 2023 and is free to attend. https://www.hf.k12.mn.us/ 320-384-6277

Onamia Public Schools/Community Education received a grant in the amount of $2,733 for their project, Summer Beadwork: Regalia Sets. During this project Onamia youth will learn how to make beaded sets such as chokers, hair ties, barrettes, earrings, rings, medallions, and headbands to accompany and embellish PowWow regalia. Working with the students will be resident artist Charmaine Xianna Shivers. Students in fourth through twelfth grades will learn the fundamentals of creating beadwork/beaded objects, including designing, repairing, color coordinating, and beading techniques. The completed beadwork will be displayed at the Mille Lacs Band's annual PowWow in August of 2023, Onamia. https://www.onamia.k12.mn.us/ 320-532-4174

ECRAC Resiliency 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.

Deadlines are ongoing.

Shurika Kikuchi received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Obachan's Hands.

Catherine Colsrud received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Heterogeneous Disharmony.

Jordan Ottoson received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Art of 3Ation.

Old School Arts dba 210 Gallery and Art Center received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, New Location Grand Opening.

Sasha Wieczorek received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Exploring Practical Art.

Old School Arts dba 210 Gallery and Art Center received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Presidents Stew 2023.

Amanda Brewer received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Art Gallery Exhibition.

Fred Keller received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, The Skally Line in Sandstone.

Stacey Foster received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Writing in the Dark Workshop.

Stacey Foster received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Writing as Healing Wrokshop.

Susan Foss received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, The importance of native Flora.

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.

Fred Keller received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for their project, New Songs by Fred Keller. During this project, the artist will create a collection of stories from his personal perspective, to create a new body of songs to perform in his local area of Pine County. The focus of these stories will be on Ojibwe women and People of color. The project will include a performance at the Pine County Museum in Askov on May 6, 2024 to showcase the new works of art through music.

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.

Shawnda Schelinder received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Through the Looking Glass. During this project, the artist will create new glass works for an exhibition of “Through the Looking Glass – Reinterpreting Photography and Glass Art” at the Pine Center for the Arts in August 2023. These new works of glass art will be inspired by photos of photographer Brooke Zank. The project will include the purchase of supplies to create up to 8 new works of art to display as well as a kiln for the artist home studio that the artist can program to advance her techniques with firing her glass works of art. In addition to purchasing supplies and a kiln, the artist will also purchase books and an online workshop to learn new skills in fusing glass to assist her with this project.

Samuel Hines received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Classical Guitar Video Recording. During this project, the artist will work with recording studio Tanner Monagle Studios in Milwaukee, WI to create a video performance of Johann Sebastian Bach's Violin Sonata #1 in G minor on classical guitar in the Fall of 2023. This 4-movement (Adagio, Fugue, Siciliana and Preseto) by Bach has been transcribed and adapted to guitar. This video performance will then be posted on the artist YouTube channel and shared on social media.

Dustin Wayne Lindell received a grant in the amount of $2,492 for their project, RSM (Repetitive Subject Matter). During this project, the artist plans to complete six new works of art creating the same subject matter over and over again. The artists purpose of the project is to personally grow mindfulness relating to how careful project planning may be critical especially when a piece is professionally commissioned by a client. The project will include an event to display the new work at the Balance in Body Massage and Pain Therapy LLC, in Princeton MN on June 3, 2023.

Natalie Patera received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Experimentation and Creation of Glazes. During this project, the artist will experiment with her Brookefield down draft kiln to fire new work at higher temperatures of cone 10/11. This experimentation will include the purchase of clay and glaze materials that will allow for this higher temperature firing and for her work to reach full vitrification, a fully mature, dense and strong clay pot. The artist will also include a goal of creating an ancient pottery look to her current style and experiment with larger pieces of pottery creation.

Marie Brown received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Refining My Process for Wood Firing. During this project, the artist plans to make a body of functional pottery exploring different ways wood firing can further influence her work through surface color and texture. The artist will use the time to modify her current decorating style which is tailored for soda firing and find ways to let the wood firing process play a larger part in her new work.

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.

Mary Ann Cleary received an Award in the amount of $8,000 for their project, To Create Artwork in a Tonalism Style. During this project, the artist will create ten new artworks in pastel and/or oil influenced by tonalism. The artwork will be completed from studies or drawings done from life. The project will include research and study of tonalism so the artist can learn more about using oils in a tonalist method. She will attend a workshop by artist Deborah Paris titled "Painting the Tonalist Landscape" that will include the purchase of art supplies, books and framing for the new works of art. https://www.maryanncleary.com/

Ani Kasten received an Award in the amount of $8,000 for their project, A New Body of Sculpture with Local Clay and Wood. During this project, the artist will develop a new body of sculptural work using clay dug in Franconia township, where she lives and works. The new ceramic sculptures will incorporate local driftwood, from the St. Croix River, Lakes Superior and other Minnesota waters. The clay and wood found locally are an inspiration to the artist and this award will allow her time to grow her artistic practice and focus on these experimental sculptural works outside of her regular studio work that will improve her vessel and object practice for future phases of making art. https://www.anikasten.com/

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.

B. P. received a scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Metal Garden Art. During this scholarship, the artist wishes to purchase supplies he needs to build and weld garden art, specifically flowers and butterflies. The supplies include a welding helmet, gloves, rods, horse shoes, paint, rebar and panels. The artist will share his creations with the public during the local county fair as a 4-H student in July.

A. E. received a scholarship in the amount of $200 for their project, Musical Theater Camp. During this scholarship, the artist wishes to attend the Play Inc. Arts Summer Youth Theater Camp. The artist will participate in the Junior Theater Troupe for grades 5-8 and will have exposure to musical theater, developing performing skills, and cultivating a foundation for the stage. Junior Theater Troupe goals include exposing students to theatre and the various aspects that go into creating a full scale musical production. Students will learn the basics of singing, acting, and dancing as well as other skills that can be applied off the stage. The student will have the opportunity to participate in three performances.

P. E. received a scholarship in the amount of $250 for their project, Play Inc. Arts Summer Theater Camp. During this scholarship, the artist wishes to attend the Play Inc. Arts Summer Youth Theater Camp. The artist will participate in the Yeabo Players theater camp for grades 9-12. Students will work on refining their performance skills and grow as individual performers by developing their understanding of ensemble work, set construction, and technical work. Per will also learn about hair and makeup and costuming for the stage. The student will have the opportunity to participate in three performances.

S. E. received a scholarship in the amount of $250 for their project, Play Inc. Arts Yeabo Players Summer Theater Camp. During this scholarship, the artist wishes to attend the Play Inc. Arts Summer Youth Theater Camp. The artist will participate in the Yeabo Players theater camp for grades 9-12. Students will work on refining their performance skills and grow as individual performers by developing their understanding of ensemble work, set construction, and technical work. Svea will also learn about hair and makeup and costuming for the stage. The student will have the opportunity to participate in three performances.

K. I. received a scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Photography. During this scholarship, the artist wishes to continue with her interest in photography by purchasing a Canon EOS rebel T7. The new camera will allow the student to continue learning through the photography lens and capture memorable moments that the artist would cherish and share with others.

E. K. received a scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Painting Supplies. During this scholarship, the artist wishes to purchase supplies and resources for painting outside of the classroom. The scholarship funds will help the artist purchase paint, hardboards, gesso, oil painting paper pads, paint brushes, a glass pallet, frames and other miscellaneous materials for oil painting.

A. M. received a scholarship in the amount of $499 for their project, Cute Fur Face Animal Art Dolls. During this scholarship, the artist wishes to purchase art supplies to create animal art dolls. The art supplies include fabric, faux fur, sewing supplies, paint, paint brushes, and tools to create the dolls and storage supplies for everything. The student will work with her artistic mentor, artist Terri Huro, to learn about the use of these supplies and materials to create her art dolls and video of how to make the dolls for her 4-H presentation at the local county fair.

R. M. received a scholarship in the amount of $425 for their project, Photography. During this scholarship, the artist wishes to pursue his interest in photography by purchasing a Fujifilm instax mini evo hybrid camera bundle that includes a camera, memory card and case along with 5 twin packs of film that will allow the student to take up to 100 photos. The camera allows for taking photos and editing them right on the camera before printing the photos. The student will work with his artistic mentor Terri Huro to learn photography techniques and help with questions about the camera and photography. The student will also enter his photography into the local county fair as a 4-H student in July.

GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2022

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2022 (July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022)

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.

City of North Branch received a grant in the amount of $12,800 for their project, North Branch Summer Music 2022. During this project, the City of North Branch will offer a summer music series in Central Park on Tuesday evenings beginning June 21st with The Dweebs and continuing June 28th with the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra along with local performances Jenni Thyng and Blair Bartells Sperry. July 19th will include a performance by The Whitesidewalls, July 26th with Cindy Jo, and the final concert on August 9th with Simple Gifts and Billy McLaughlin. All concerts are free to attend. http://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/ 651-277-5226

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Art Residencies & Older Adults. During this project, Walker Methodist Levande will host four Art Residencies to Older Adults living at Walker Methodist Levande in Cambridge. Residencies will include Watercolor from January 20th to March 10th with artist Anne McFaul Reed, Storytelling from June 22nd to August 10th with Beverly Cottman, Creative Movement with artist Karla Nweje from September 14th to November 2nd, and Songwriting with artist Charlie Maguire form December 5th to December 9th. All residencies are open to the public. http://walkermethodist.org 612-827-8541

Pine City Arts Council received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Art in the Park 2022. During this project, the Pine City Arts Council will host Art in the Park showcasing 10 performances in Robinson Park on Friday nights beginning May 27th with Pine City Jazz Band and continuing with Rex Cactus on June 3rd, Freeway Jam on June 10th, Highway 36 on June 17th, Whitesidewalls on June 24th, Transit Authority on July 1st, Life of a String on July 8th, Neighborz on July 16th, World According to Garth on July 22nd, and Chris Kroeze on July 29th. All performances are free and open to all. https://www.facebook.com/PineCityArtsCouncil/ 320-629-2227

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.

East Central MN Pride received a grant in the amount of $8,300 for their project, 2022 Pride Performers. During this project, the East Central Minnesota Pride will host the 17th annual Pride in the Park event in Pine City's Robinson Park on June 4th, 2022. This year's event will include two musical performances by artists *Mark Joseph and the American Soul* as headliners to *Jacob Mahone and the New Salty Dog*. In addition to the music, performer Martino Mayotte will provide theatrical entertainment as an opening act as well as between band transition periods. Everything will be tied together with the help of sound engineer Jonathan Arends. This event is free and open to all. https://eastcentralminnesotapride.org/ 320-296-3726

Chisago County HRA-EDA received a grant in the amount of $13,132 for their project, Office Building Mural. During this project, the Chisago County HRA – EDA will work with mural artist Alison Price to paint a mural on the Chisago County HRA – EDA office building located at 38871 7th Ave in North Branch. This mural will depict the story of the HRA – EDA and what they do for the local community, including elements of downtown, industrial and housing depictions. This will be the second mural in North Branch and will be visible to all. The project will include an unveiling of the mural on August 30, 2022.
https://www.chisagocountymn.gov/455/HRA-EDA 651-674-5664

City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $10,575 for their project, Mora's Music in the Park.
During this project, the City of Mora will host their summer concert series to include 12 concerts on Thursday evenings during the months of June, July and August with one Fall Fest concert on September 24th. The bands and artists include: the Whitesidewalls Rock n Roll Revue, Anthony Miltich, Nicole Anderson, Michael Shynes, Rich and the Resistors Echo's of Elvis, Vinnie Rose, Slim Pickin's, Small Town Famous, the Teddy Bear Band, Dram Shop Country, Jolly Zuks and Kenny Krona & Rick Stener. All concerts will take place at the Mora Library Park and are free to attend. http://www.ci.mora.mn.us 320-225-4827

City of Onamia received a grant in the amount of $9,700 for their project, Onamia Celebrates 2022. During this project, the City of Onamia will provide music and entertainment during the Onamia Days and July 3rd Celebrations in the City of Onamia. The Onamia Days will include a performance by Shirts & Skins on June 10th, and June 11th will include performances by Tricia and the Toonies and music by Street Talk. The July 3rd Celebration will include a performance by Bourbon Creek. These events will take place at the Herington Park on Main Street in Onamia and are free and open to all. https://onamiamn.com/ 320-532-3311

City of Milaca received a grant in the amount of $7,133 for their project, Mural Celebrating 125 Years. During this project, the City of Milaca will celebrate 125 years with a mural in downtown Milaca. This mural will represent the history of the City of Milaca by incorporating elements of it's past with a tree of life image. The project will include working with Minnesota artists Lili Lennox. The mural will be placed on the Milaca Jewelry building in downtown Milaca with a ribbon cutting during the 125th Anniversary celebrations.
https://www.cityofmilaca.org/ 320-983-3141

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.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $8,450 for their project, 2022 In. Art Show. During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host their 7th annual juried In. Art Show at the Hallberg Center for the Arts on August 18th thru September 17th. An open reception and awards ceremony will be held on the opening day and will include music by harpist Sophia Nienaber. This art show is open to visual artist in Region 7E and beyond to enter their work for jury selection. The open reception and following art show will be open to the public and free to all. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Pine County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Pine County Fair Performances. During this project, the Pine County Agricultural Society will host the music during the Pine County Fair from Tuesday, August 2nd through Sunday August 7th. Music will take place at two locations within the fairgrounds including the Bandshell and the Event Center. Both locations will host artist to include Maddy Braun, Neighberz Band, Catrina Campbell, the Millionaires, an Elvis Tribute band of artist Kevin Ludtke, Larry Rose and Darren Hendershot, Duluth Transit Authority, Nathan Frazer, Monroe Crossing, Tim Hadler, Buffalo head, Rose Family with Dennis Stroughmatt, Kenny Korona with Rick Steiner, Maddy Braun band, Doctor Kielbasa, Wily Frietag, Five Minute Major and Jolly Zuks. All music is free to the public. https://www.pinecountyfair.com/ 320-282-2188

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, 2022 Music @ Franconia Series. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host their 2022 Music @ Franconia Series to include five monthly concerts featuring Americana, Indie, Bluegrass, Hip Hop, Polka, and R&B by artists Sawyer's Dream, Mary Bue, Turn Turn Turn, Colin Clark-Bracewell, The Wailing Loons, Superior Siren, Maurice Mayfield, Tuvok the Word, and Dyversaco. This year Franconia will also include two international performances at the park: Electronic group Mexican Institute of Sound, and Canada's Hip Hop group The Halluci (ha lucy) Nation. Additionally, Franconia is offering expanded programming in 2022 during each of our concert series, including free guided tours as well as free Open Studios for families to create art together. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

City of Hinckley received a grant in the amount of $10,100 for their project, Sweet Summer Sounds 2022. During this project, the City of Hinckley will host it's summer concert series Sweet Summer Sounds in the downtown West Side Park. Performances will begin on June 30th with artists Bill & Kate Isles and continue through the summer on Thursday evening's with Becky & the High 48s, Mystery Mountain Boys, Jolly Zuks, White Sidewalls and Rich & Resistors + the Teddy Bear Band. These music events are free and open to all. https://hinckley.govoffice2.com/ 320-384-7491

Lakes and Pines Community Action Council received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Art for the Ages. During this project, Lakes and Pines will work with local artists to provide arts access to elders at four of their respite locations and three senior dining sites. This arts education will include felting with Becky Utecht, pencil cartooning with Kathy Hovland, acrylic painting with Peg Skalicky, sculpting clay with Judy Broekemeier, and song writing with Charlie Maguire. On May 10, 2023 as part of the community Action month during the Volunteer Appreciation event open to the public artist Charlie Maguire will perform, a video loop with pictures of the art sessions and completed art work will be on display and artists and participants will be invited to display their art at the event. https://www.lakesandpines.org/ 320-679-1800

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.

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project Throughout the Stories. During this project, the Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society will provide a variety of artist experiences at the Mille Lacs County Fair beginning August 11, 2022 thru August 14, 2022 including Country Music artist Ashley Barron, MN based Bluegrass group The High 48's, Paul Bunyan Storyteller David Ward, MN photographer Dough Ohman, Blue Horse Theater with artist Jerusha Steirnert, and performance with storyteller and balloon artist Mandana Moshrefzadeh. All performances will take place at the Mille Lacs County Fair grounds in Princeton, MN and are free and open to the public. http://www.millelacscountyfair.com/ 612-991-4484

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of $6,300 for their project, Concerts to bring joy at WML. During this project, the Walker Methodist Levande (Ley-ah-von-dah) will host four festivals to include the Whitesidewalls Rock 'n' Roll review on August 4, 2022 during their 5 year anniversary, the Just Rite Country Band on September 22, 2022 at the Harvest Festival, CODA Duo on December 20, 2022 at the Holiday Celebration, and on June 21, 2023 for the Berry Festival will include The Holy Rocka Rollaz. Three of the events will take place in the parking lot of the Walker Methodist Levande and the Holiday event will take place indoors. Each event is open to residents as well as the public, free of charge. http://walkermethodist.org 612-827-8541

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, "Why We Remember". During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will invite the "Why We Remember: Memorializing the Ones we Lost" exhibition to be on view at the park from October 29, 2022 thru November 13, 2022. This exhibition is a cultural experience exploring the collective and historic significance of memorialization for Black and Mexican communities. The exhibition will include an interactive exhibition in the Driscoll Education Center at the park observing Dia de los Muertos with murals created during the social justice uprising of 2020 and an outdoor altar where visitors can create and leave offerings for their lost loved ones along with a series of lectures, performances and live art. Artists Sean Garrison, Jose Dominguez, Peyton Scott Russell, Aaron Johnson-Ortiz, and Marlena Miles will be present to create art as well as interact with the community as they create their own mural in partnership with these artists. On November 13th an online discussion with curator Leesa Kelly of Memorialize the Movement, Jeanelle Austin of the George Floyd Global memorial, artist Sean Garrison, and Acoma Gaither of the Hennepin History Museum will explore questions related to this project centering on memorializing the ones we lost. All events are open to the public. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

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.

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.

Old School Arts Center received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their organization, Old School Arts Center Essentials Support Grant. Old School Arts Center's (OSAC) mission is to build and enrich their community through arts education, exhibition and performance. OSAC supports the efforts of local and regional artists and provides a venue for public events. With the Essentials Support funds OSAC will pay for the rental space in the Old School Arts Building, access to a cloud service to store their business materials, Insurance, office supplies, printing and postage. With these funds taken care of it will free up other funding for OSAC to offer prizes for their art exhibitions, support artists from around Minnesota, build new art programs for their local community and bolster their presence in the area. https://osacmn.org/ 320-216-7635

Pine Center for the Arts received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their organization, Pine Center for the Arts Essentials Support Grant. Pine Center for the Arts is committed to providing opportunities for all to create, learn and enjoy the visual, performing, and literary arts. Since 2008, Pine Center for the Arts (PCftA) has been an organization that has provided a partnership between the arts and the surrounding area. With the support of this grant the Pine Center for the arts will pay their general insurance, accountant fees, general publicity and marketing, mortgage payments, utilities, and art instruction materials. With Essentials Support grant funding covering many of these expenses they will be better able to increase and enhance the art opportunities they provide to the community. http://www.pinecenter.org 320-629-4924

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their organization, Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community Essentials Support Grant. The Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will bring art to the community through monthly art shows and other events at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN. With the operating grant they will paying the gas, electric, and insurance for 10 months of the grant period. This will free up other funds to invest in more arts related activities and improvement goals at the gallery such as working to increase attendance, increase awareness of the Art Center through advertising, and community outreach and continue with updates and maintenance to The Hallberg Center for the Arts. https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

Play Inc. Arts received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Play Inc. Arts Essentials Support Grant. Play Inc. Arts is receiving support to pay rent for Play Inc. Art's space located at the Cambridge Public Library where they host a wide variety of classes, camps, and other educational opportunities for not just theatrical artists, but for visual artists as well through shows, workshops and studio time. With Essentials Support grant funding covering the rent payments, Play Inc. Arts can reallocate funding to focus on increasing capacity, and new technology in providing art experiences to even more community members through additional instructors, directors, and materials. https://playincarts.org/ 763-607-5620

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.

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, 2022 Film @ Franconia. During this project Franconia Sculpture Park will host their Film @ Franconia series at Franconia's outdoor amphitheater. The series will start on June 25th with an evening of 15 short environmental films that will include "Landspun: Ice" by Ben Lundquist (Monticello), "Behold the Tilapia" by Kristine Diekman (Ephraim, WI), "Turkeys in the Cemetery" by Alex Cheng (Rochester), and "Salix" by Torey Erin (Minneapolis) plus jury selected films from an open call for environmental film submissions. July 16th the film series will show "Through the Repellent Fence" followed by a Q&A with Postcommodity, the creators of the film. August 13th showing will be "First & Last Men" directed by Johann Johannsson. And on September 3 Franconia will host their 5 Minute Film Festival showcasing short films selected by a jury panel. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Visiting Artist Sook Jin Jo. During this project Franconia Sculpture Park will host visiting artist Sook Jin Jo who will develop new, site-specific work at Franconia Sculpture Park that will be a large-scale interactive installation made of repurposed metal barrels. The artist will collaborate with the community during free drop-in workshops as well as participate in an online "Dinner & Discussion" series on April 25, 2023. On International Sculpture Day, April 29, 2023, the new sculpture will be celebrated in an event open to the public. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

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.

ECRAC Resiliency 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.

Deadlines are ongoing.

Dustin Lindell received a grant in the amount of $600 for his project, The Emotional Contrast Paradigm. http://www.dustinwayne101.com/

Kelli Maag received a grant in the amount of $600 for her project, Fortune Art.

Chad Filley received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Storytelling Showcase. http://www.chadfilley.com/

Old School Arts Center received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Presidents Stew 2022. https://osacmn.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.

Robert DesJarlait received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for their project, Woodland Visions. During this project, the artist will conduct a solo exhibition at the ECRAC Gallery in November 2022. The exhibit will depict the life of the Ojibwe people in Minnesota focusing on the clan system of the Ojibwe people. The exhibit will feature 10-12 new and 25-30 previously completed works of art totaling 35-42 watercolor paintings. He will both create and frame the new works of art during this project period.

Jerry Carlson received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for their project, Huldufolk House. During this project, the artist will build a Huldufolk house. In Scandinavian mythology a Huldufolk house is an elf sized house where people can speak to the elves and make wishes. The artist will build the house from natural materials and place it along a trail of the Ojiketa Regional Park in Chisago City, MN.

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.

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.

Sarah Beahan received a grant in the amount of $2,491 for their project, Sate of Bewonderment. During this project, the artist will explore the "State of Bewonderment" through a series of mini-essays and photos that will be shared in a blog and vlog format. She will develop twelve blogs over the grant period and share them with her audience through her blog along with an online reading of each shared on her social media platforms.

Jake Callahan received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Tools for the Future of my Photography. During this project, the artist will advance his photography career with the purchase of a new computer so that he can work with updated editing tools that his current computer is not compatible with. The project will include the artist creating a portfolio of new work using his camera, drone and new video editing tools on his new computer.

Jessica Miller received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Slab forms. During this project, the artist will explore pottery techniques of functional slab forms including large trays and plates. She will purchase a slab roller, a ware cart for drying flat clay sabs, pottery drape forms and clay. The project will include the creation of 8 trays/platters and 8 plates using the drape forms. During the project the artist will share the project on her social media accounts.

Cyrus Raivo received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Developing My art Business. During this project, the artist plans to complete four new works of art for his portfolio, two sculptures and two wall hanging pieces. The project will include the purchase of a camera and equipment to document his artwork and process through video as well as photograph his completed artwork to advance his artistic career by utilizing this new equipment and social media.

Stephanie Henry received a grant in the amount of $1,001 for their project, Solo Piano EP. During this project, the artist will record her first solo EP album consisting of six tracks featuring original compositions. During the project period she will finish editing her compositions, practice each piece, update her home studio, and begin recording the album in her home studio. On May 14, 2023, the album will be released to the artists streaming platforms and on May 24th she will livestream a performance and discus each song. To update her home studio for the project the artist will purchase an audio mixer, soundproofing supplies, a webcam and microphone for livestreaming.

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.

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, St. Croix Valley Flora. During this project, the artist will continue his work of documenting the woodland plant life of the St. Croix River Valley through etchings. The project will include 6 to 12 new etchings of woodland subjects from around the artists home and river valley. http://quarryroadpress.com/

Tom Jaszczak received an Award in the amount of $8,000 for their project, An exploration in Still Life. During this project, the artist will focus on a new body of work that will incorporate still life on the surfaces of his pots using paint, slips and engobes, creating a layered surface that will react with a soda firing process developed by the artist. The project will also include sculptural still life using a range of firing techniques and an exploration of scale. https://tomjaszczak.com/

Maggie Jaszczak received an Award in the amount of $8,000 for their project, Focus on Form. During this project, the artist will explore new forms and influences in her ceramic work. She will take time to experiment with her work, pushing boundaries in her artforms. The project will also include time to research her understanding of her art medium by visiting the Minneapolis Institute of Art (MIA) and the Weismann, as well as libraires and online research. http://www.maggiejaszczak.com/

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.

M.B. received a Scholarship in the amount of $377 for their project, Leaving My Mark. During this scholarship, the artist wishes to continue to learn and expand on her creative skills with her Cricut machine designs by purchasing a heat press and taking an online class to learn about Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) files that will allow her to make her own designs with her Cricut machine. She will create designs for sweatshirts and t-shirts that will help her feel creative and expressive along with becoming more comfortable with her 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.

GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2021

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2021 (July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021)

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.

Vasaloppet, Inc. received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Phase V –Vasaloppet Labyrinth. During this project the Vasaloppet, Inc. will commemorate their 50th Anniversary as a cross country ski race by honoring their volunteers through art in a five-phase process. This final phase V will bring all the elements of the previous four phases together in one final art installation, a labyrinth. This art installation will cover a 4,000 sq ft area and will include phase one's bell tower sculpture, phase two and three's life castings and engravings, and phase four's mini documentaries. On Saturday November 6, 2021 at the Vasaloppet Nordic Center Complex, a dedication program will be held before the unveiling of the labyrinth. http://www.vasaloppet.us 320-260-9408

City of North Branch received a grant in the amount of $7,800 for their project, Summer Concerts in the Park. During this project, the City of North Branch will continue its summer concerts in the park series by hosting three music events in Central Park. The Summer Concerts in the Park will include a performance by The Dweebs on June 22, 2021, Transit Authority on June 29th, and The Whitesidewalls on July 20th. These music events will be free and open to the public. http://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/ 651-277-5226

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Franconia Summer Solstice. During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host a Summer Solstice Performance Art Festival on June 19, 2021. This festival will highlight the work of diverse LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC artists working within the themes of ritual performance and is designed to activate the sculptures throughout the park through intimate, site-specific performances tied to the four elements. Franconia's Summer Solstice Festival will challenge visitors to travel throughout the park to engage with durational, multimedia performances by both Minnesota-based artists as well as artists from across the United States and South America. This transnational festival features both emerging and world-renowned artists, allowing Franconia to bring global artists and ideas to rural Minnesotans. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

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.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $7,300 for their project, 2021 In. Art Show. During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host the sixth annual In. Art Show. Art will be judged by artists Allison Baker, Steve Forseth and Rita Dungey with a performance by harpist Sophia Nienaber. This show will be held August 19th through September 18th, with an opening reception and awards ceremony on August 19th. The event is open and free to the public.
https://www.wyomingcreativearts.org/ 651-272-5122

City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $8,677 for their project, Mora's Music in the Park.
During this project, the City of Mora will host their annual Music in the Park. This twelve-concert series will take place in Mora's downtown Library Park on Thursday evenings during June, July and August with an additional event in September for Fall Fest. All concerts are free and open to the public. Music will include: Whitesidewalls Rock 'n' Roll Revue; Tawni VanVleet & Barb Seaton Country Folk; Drivin Wheels Honky Tonk / Rockability ; Skally Line Tin Pan Alley and Bluegrass ; Bazzillions Children's Music; Jolly Zuks Polka ; Deb Barrett Country Pop/Rock; Harpers Chord Americana; Jenni Thyng Interactive music w/humor ; Children Left Behind Rock/Pop1980s to 2020 ; Poppa Bear Norton Country; and, Kenny Krona & Rick Stener 70's Rock.
http://www.ci.mora.mn.us 320-225-4827

Franconia Sculpture received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, 2021 Music @ Franconia Series. During this project, the Franconia Sculpture Park will host their Music @ Franconia concert series that highlights local, national, and international music for a growing and diverse audience. The 2021 program includes a July 10th performance featuring Salsa del Soul, Dred I Dread and Tufawon. August 14th performances include Sawyer's Dream, Monica LaPlante and The Stress of Her Regard. September 26th will host the Mexican Institute of Sound. Audiences will experience a diversity of carefully curated music in the safe, outdoor, masked, and socially-distanced setting of Franconia's 50-acre outdoor museum and open air Amphitheatre free to the public. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project A Patriotic Stampede. During this project, the Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society will host a 4th of July theatre and music event to include the Blue Horse Theatre, a performance that includes audience participation while they learn to draw a horse as part of this theatrical performance. Following this will be music by Rockabilly musicians Josh Sorheim and The Star Chiefs. This event is free and open to the public. The Mille Lacs Co Fair will partner with Shawn Sullivan to assist with lighting and tech support as well as Emcee the music performance. Shawn will provide a FM transmitter to broadcast the event over the radio. Additionally, the Pine County Agricultural Society has been working on updating their stage equipment and recently received lighting equipment for their Bandshell. In order for them to use this new equipment they will hire an electrician to update their circuit power for the lights to work safely for the show. http://www.millelacscountyfair.com/ 612-991-4484

Pine County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $9,650 for their project Pine County Fair Performances 2021. During this project, the Pine County Agricultural Society will host musical performances during the Pine County Fair from July 28th to August 1st. These music events will be free and open to the public and include music by Neighberz Band, Sonny Winberg, Kenny Krona, Ed Pangerl, Willy Frietag, Darren Hendershot, Skally Line, Fish Tone Rockers, Rose Family, Dirt Road Dixie, and the Jolly Zuks. In addition to musical performances the Fair will also host local Chainsaw Carvers Joe and Ben Semler.
https://www.pinecountyfair.com/ 320.282.2188

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.

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Art Residencies & Older Adults. During this project, the Walker Methodist Levande will host four COMPASS Artful Aging artist residencies to teach art for older adults. The residencies will include Creative Movement, the art of dance with Karla Nweje; Watercolor with Anne McFaul Reid; Poetry Practice with Morgan Grayce Willow; and, Mosaic arts with Anne Krocak. Residencies will begin in July of 2021 and go through June of 2022. Each residency will end with a performance or gallery event on the last day, these events will be open to the public and family members of participants, free of charge. http://walkermethodist.org 612-827-8541

East Central Minnesota Chorale received a grant in the amount of $14,400 for their project, 40th Anniversary of ECMC. During this project, the East Central MN Chorale will celebrate their 40th anniversary with a performance featuring both East Central MN Chorale and the Unum Vox chorale members. This performance will include a collaboration with composer James Deignan who will compose a new piece for the event on March 5, 2022. The performance will be open to the public at the Performing Arts Center in Cambridge, MN. http://www.eastcentralmnchorale.org/ 763-689-4296

Everyone's Table received a grant in the amount of $5,119 for their project Building Community. During this project, Everyone's Table will work with local photographer Eric Sturtz to photograph scenes in the community of Sandstone to be featured in their new location as public art. Community members will have the opportunity to share their input on the places that they feel should be highlighted in the photos. When the project is complete there will be a total of eight large photos to be hung in the community space and an open house will be held on October 19, 2021 with the artist in attendance. https://www.facebook.com/every1s.table/ 320-384-7284

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for their project, Franconia Creature Camp. During this project, the Franconia Sculpture Park will host a new monthly series of multi-generational, hands-on artmaking classes that expand sculpture as a medium. These free and educational drop-in classes are based on the work of artist Brett Douglas Hunter, a 2022 Visiting Artist at Franconia. Classes are designed for families to learn more about various sculptural techniques and connect with each other in a safe and supportive setting. Each Saturday from mid-April to mid-June in the Driscoll Education Center in Franconia Commons these "open studios" from 2pm-4pm will provide limited guided instruction, step-by-step worksheets, and access to a wide variety of materials so participants of all ages can create their very own "creature". http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

City of North Branch received a grant in the amount of $7,800 for their project, North Branch Mural Project. During this project, the City of North Branch is planning for a mural along County Road 30, formerly known as Hwy 61. The mural will be visible to anyone traveling north on County Road 30, via vehicle, bike or foot (this is along the Sunrise Trail) once it's complete. The mural is unique as it will be painted by both the artist Alison Price and community members. The artist uses a "coloring book" concept, by preparing the mural in way so that community members can color in a block of the mural. The community, with the artist's assistance, direction and creation, are a part of creating the artwork. http://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/ 651-277-5226

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.

Walker Methodist Levande received a grant in the amount of $5,915 for their project, Outdoor concerts and WM Levande. During this project, the Walker Methodist Levande will host three outdoor concerts during their annual outdoor festivals. These events will be open to the public and will include performances by PolkaSol! on June 22, during the Berry Festival and Classic Car Show; Minnesota Percussion Trio on July 23 during the Around the World Festival; and Copper Street Brass on National Night Out, August 3, 2021. http://walkermethodist.org 612-827-8541

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant in the amount of $5,540 for their project A Western Showdown. During this project, the Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society will host an artistic experience for community by having A Western Showdown. They will showcase a live theatrical performance by the Wild Creek Entertainers who will reenact a wild west scene, have famous characters from that time period, and also provide musical performances by some of their actors. Afterwards the audience will be able to enjoy a performance by Sherwin and Pam Linton, who are known for their Johnny Cash style performances that they have performed nationally over the past 50 years. This event will be open to the public at the Fair Grounds on September 18, 2021 from 1 – 8 pm. 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.

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 will free up other funds to invest in more arts related activities and improvement goals at the gallery. Some goals for 2021/2022 are to see an increase in attendance, continue to 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

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. Pine Center for the Arts is committed to providing opportunities for all to create, learn and enjoy the visual, performing, and literary arts. Since 2008, Pine Center for the Arts (PCftA) has been an organization that has provided a partnership between the arts and the surrounding area. With the support of this grant the Pine Center for the arts will pay their general insurance, accountant fees, general publicity and marketing, mortgage payments, utilities, and art instruction materials. With Essentials Support grant funding, covering many of these expenses, they will be better able to increase and enhance the art opportunities they provide to the community. http://www.pinecenter.org 320-629-4924

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.

Play Inc. Arts received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, Play Inc. Arts Essentials Support Grant. Play Inc. Art's new home is located at the Cambridge Public Library where they host a wide variety of classes, camps, and other educational opportunities for not just theatrical artists, but for visual artists as well through exhibits, juried shows, workshops and studio time. With Essentials Support grant funding covering the rent payments, Play Inc. Arts can reallocate funding to focus on increasing capacity and providing meaningful art experiences to even more community members through additional instructors, directors, and materials. https://playincarts.org/ 763-607-5620

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, Super Futures Haunt Qollective. During this project Franconia Sculpture Park will host the three members of Super Futures Haunt Qollective (SFHQ) to complete a two-month on-site residency culminating in a multimedia exhibition and performance within Franconia Commons and the Mardag Gallery on April 24, 2021. This queer indigenous collective's research and work will center on the importance of the beaver in native cultures, particularly in Minnesota, Canada, and the Pacific Northwest. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, 2021 Film @ Franconia. During this project Franconia Sculpture Park will host the second Film @ Franconia series featuring the best in art cinema, past and present. This series will focus on Franconia's curatorial theme of "Access & Authority in Public Space" and will feature significant contributions of BIPOC artists in film. Films will include: The Holy Mountain, Black is the Color, The Last Angel of History, Warrior Women, Nosferatu, and a five-minute film fest. Films will be shown on Saturday's beginning at 9pm on June 5th, July 17th, August 7th, September 11th, and October 23rd. These film nights will be free to the public. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Franconia Sculpture Park received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for their project, FSP Artist Billboard Project. During this project Franconia Sculpture Park will commission three young, MN based artists of color for their FSP Artist Billboard Project, a rotating public art installation on a billboard located at the intersection on the corners of Highways 8 and 95 in Shafer, Minnesota. The billboards will highlight the work of emerging artists N. Musinguzi, Inkpa Mani, and Jose Dominguez – and will be seen by more than 7,500 cars each day and Franconia's 180,000 annual visitors. http://www.franconia.org/ 651-257-6668

Play Inc. Arts received a grant in the amount of $1,950 for their project, North Pole Workshop and During this project Play Inc. Arts will host the North Pole Workshop and Show. The workshop will consist of nine creative

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visual arts classes to be held for community members from age 6 to adult on November 5 and 6th, 12th and 13th, and 19th and 20th. Local artists Shawnda Schelinder will teach Stained Glass; Sherry Banwart will teach Crochet; Jodie Briggs will teach Clay, Sculpture and Collage; and artist Mackenzie Reed will teach sculpture, assemblage, and clay classes. The pieces made in the North Pole workshop classes will then be professionally displayed in a holiday themed creative art show gallery that will be free and open to the public from December 3rd through December 11th. Both the classes and the show will be held at Play Inc. Arts space within the Cambridge Public Library. https://playincarts.org/ 763-607-5620

ECRAC Resiliency 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.

Deadlines are ongoing.

Sarah Beahan received a grant in the amount of $600 for her project, Reckoning & Delight. http://www.sarahratermannbeahan.com/

Kanabec County Art Association received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Showcase of KCAA Artists & their work.

Jessica Miller received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Camera phone for photos and videos. https://sites.google.com/a/isd911.org/playing-with-clay/home

East Central Minnesota Chorale received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Virtual Christmas Concert. http://www.eastcentralmnchorale.org/

Yvonne Hermann received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Facebook Professional Account.

Mike Gainor received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Winter Into Spring.

Samuel Hines received a grant in the amount of $600 for their project, Virtual Performance Presentation. http://www.samhinesguitar.com/

City of Princeton received a grant in the amount of %600 for their project, Rockin' on the Rum River. http://www.princetonmn.org/

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.

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.

Catherine Colsrud received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for their project, Traditional Applique Blanket. During this project, the artist will work with her mentor Renee Colsrud, Nee Ellis. The mentorship will include three sessions via Zoom and the focus will be learning the traditional art of applique blanket making, using Native American design influences. Each session will be approximately two hours and will be one on one instruction of the basics of the techniques in cutting the fabric, methods for applique, design planning and making the blankets; each session will progress in complexity. The artist will use the time between sessions for prep and practice. This project will also include the purchase of a Ready, Set, Go! Ultimate fabric cutter as well as two Die sets. In addition, the artists mentor will be gifting a Janome sewing machine to the artist for this project. Photos of the completed blankets will be displayed on the artists Facebook page and open to the public to view and comment between April 1, 2021, to June 1, 2021.

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.

Julie Domogalla received a grant in the amount of $2,499 for their project, Greif Is. During this project, the artist will mentor with professional nature photographer Craig Blacklock. This mentorship will allow the artist to learn more about image creation, depth of field, perspective, resolution, editing, and equipment needs. This advancement in photography will inspire and accompany the artists writing.

Yvonne Herrmann received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Photograph and Post Art Online. During this project, the artist will update her photography studio so she can professionally photograph her artwork and create an online portfolio. This will include the purchase of updated photography equipment to include a camera kit and equipment necessary to set up a home photo studio and the artists time to set up and photograph her art. She will then have high quality photos of her work to post online and connect with her community.

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Barbara Orstad received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for their project, Design Explorations. During this project, the artist will work on clarifying her design voice. She proposes to work on a collection of her designs to include 3 rings, 1 bracelet, 2 pendants, 3 pair of earrings, and a broach or scarf ring. This project will also include the purchase of equipment for her home studio to include a guillotine shear, ring bender, oval disc cutter, drill press, hammers, haymaker saw frame and nano blades, rivet kit and silver smithing materials. With these supplies the artist will practice at her home studio to further develop her design style in her silversmith work.

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.

Nathan Hager received an Award in the amount of $8,000 for their project, Plein Air 100. During this project, the artist will complete an Plein Air project to include the completion of 100 oil field studies from life. He will explore local landscapes at all times of the day, weather conditions, and seasons, to exercise his visual perception of natural outdoor light. This project will assist the artists in understanding light at a deeper level. He will explore areas of East-Central Minnesota concentrating on rural and small-town life. The artist will purchase the necessary materials to complete the project and pay for his time in the field. http://www.hagerstudios.com/

Matthew Krousey received an Award in the amount of $8,000 for their project, Researching and Creating New Work with Molds. During this project, the artist will research and develop various techniques of mold making including bisque, plaster, and slump varieties. This will be done through reading various books on mold making and hiring local ceramic artist and professional mold maker David Swenson. The artist will meet with his mentor twice over the grant period for one-on-one mold making instruction and then move on to create a new body of work. He will display this work and the various molds created at two events held annually at his studio so the public can gain an understanding of the process. http://mkrouseyceramics.com/

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.

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.

E.K. received a Scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Buying a pottery wheel for home. During this project, the artist will purchase a Shimpo aspire pottery wheel. This will allow the artists to continue working on her pottery in her home including the creation of mugs, bowls, and teapots.

B. T. received a Scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, Dance Tech Summer Competition Dance Classes & Boot Camp. During this project, the artist will attend Competition Dance Classes and Dance Tech Boot Camp at the Dace Tech Studios in Forest Lake, MN. Classes will take place Tuesday and Thursday evenings and the boot camp will be a four-day workshop Monday thru Thursday this summer. This project will be a continuation of the artists dance training.

K. V. received a Scholarship in the amount of $500 for their project, I Stepped In Paint. During this project, the artist will attend Franconia sculpture parks five-day summer camp for kids, as well as purchase supplies to create art at home. Supplies include paint, paint palette, brushes, finisher, and shoes. The artist will use the shoes as her canvas.

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.

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 16th 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 6th 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

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.

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 Brach 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 7th The Dweeb's, and ending with Monroe Crossing on July 28th. 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 12th and Them Pesky Kids on June 13th during the Onamia Days Festival. The second event will celebrate the fourth of July on July 3rd 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 5th annual juried "In. Art Show" at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN. The show will be held August 20th to September 19th with an opening reception and awards ceremony on August 20th. 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 4th with an additional performance hosted on National Night out, Tuesday August 4th. 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 50th 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 1st 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 6th through the 10th. During this residency Todd Green will provide two 50-minute lecture demonstrations to Kindergarten-2nd and 3rd-5th 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 26th. 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 8th annual Kid's Can Be Artists Too event during the 87th annual Stagecoach Days Festival on September 18th and 19th, 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 10th with a pottery class at Abby Lingle Pottery Studio and a painting session with Karen Knudsen at the Milaca Area Learning Center. On March 12th students will have a guided tour of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. March 17th will include a guided tour of the Franconia Sculpture Park. On March 18th 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 17th, the students will display their art and share their reflections of the art mini sessions. http://milaca.k12.mn.us 320-982-7249

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.

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 Wieczorek 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 8th 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/

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.

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

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.

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/

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.

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 7th – 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.

GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2019

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019)

Region 7E – the east central Minnesota counties of Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine.

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 were November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Unexpected Company Chorale of Lindstrom, MN received a grant in the amount of $12,556 for a project entitled *Made in Minnesota*. This project celebrates music composed, arranged, or made popular by Minnesota artists. The music will highlight different ethnic and cultural communities represented within the state. This concert series will begin with twelve weeks of rehearsals and instruction, culminating in two performances within Region 7E. This project included the purchase of portable risers and a trailer to transport them to performances. For more information visit: www.uchorale.org

Cambridge Medical Center Foundation of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of $13,600 for a project entitled *Art and Healing*. This project will expand access to quality art in a non-traditional space by working with local artist Bethanne Palmer who will create three original pieces of art, one oil painting and two sculptures, to be displayed in public spaces at the medical center. The planned artwork will reflect local images and elements of nature. An open reception will be hosted on April 9, 2020, for the public to view the new commissioned artwork. For more information visit: www.allinahealth.org/cambridge-medical-center/foundation

Chisago Lakes Community Education, Lindstrom, MN received a grant in the amount of $8,600 for a project entitled *Young Artists in Training*. This project offers after school and evening art classes to youth, grades K-8, starting the end of January and ending in May with a public art show on May 16, 2019, at the School. Classes will include pottery, dance, music, woodworking and theatre. Class instructors will include local professional artists who have experience teaching youth and are interested in passing on their artistic experience. For more information visit: www.isd2144.org/communityed

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *2019 Music at Franconia Concert Series and Guided Tours.* Franconia will be hosting a concert series to include three performance dates with opening and headlining musical guests. These free and open to the public performances will take place on June 22, 2019 featuring opening act *Encore!* with headliner *Prairie Fire Lady Choir*; July 27, 2019 featuring opening act *Barbaro* with headliner *Scottie Miller Band*; and on August 31, 2019 featuring opening act *School of Rock* with headliner *Ipso Facto*. In addition to the music concerts Franconia will also provide guided tours during these concerts to members of the community. For more information visit: www.franconia.org

In His Step Ballet & Performing Arts, Inc of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of $12,710 for a project entitled *Luminous Splendor: The Inner Beauty*. During this project In His Steps Director and students will create, produce, and perform an original ballet, dance, and musical production. The performance will be open to

the public on June 21 and 22, 2019. This performance will feature local ballet and dance students performing alongside live musicians from MN. These students will play a part in creating the story behind the production and choreographing the dances. For more information visit: www.inhistepsballet.com

The City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $7,421 for *Mora's Music in the Park*. Marking the seventh consecutive year, this concert series will be held in Mora's downtown Library Park on Thursday evenings during the months of June, July, and August with one additional event to be held on Saturday, September 28 in conjunction with a new community event coordinated by the City Park Board. These twelve musical performances will represent a variety of musical genres, and are open to the public free of charge. For more information visit: www.ci.mora.mn.us

The Paradise Community Theatre of Mora, MN received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *Life in Paradise – a Paradise/Mora Community Inspired Mural*. In this project, Minnesota artist Adam Swanson will complete a mural project on the north exterior wall of the Paradise Theatre in Mora, MN. to be completed by the end of June 2020. For more information visit: www.moratheater.com

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community of Wyoming, MN received a grant in the amount of $7,950 for a project entitled *In. Art Show 2019*. During this project WACAC will host the fourth annual juried and judged In. Art Show at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN. The show will be held August 22nd through September 14, 2019 with an opening reception and awards ceremony on August 22, 2019, from 4:00 – 8:00 pm. Promotion and call for entry will begin June 1st with an August 6th deadline for submissions. Included with this project is construction of a movable gallery wall system, allowing for an updated gallery space and use of the Walker Display System to showcase the artwork better throughout the gallery. For more information visit: www.wyomingcreativearts.org

The City of Hinckley received a grant in the amount of $11,100 for a project entitled *Sweet Summer Sounds 2019*. This free, mid-summer concert series, will take place at the West Side Park band shelter and during the annual Corn & Clover Carnival in downtown Hinckley. This concert series will include a variety of artists and musical offerings to the local community throughout the summer. For more information visit: https://hinckley.govoffice2.com/

Tusen Tack of Braham, MN received a grant in the amount of $10,150 for a project entitled *Braham 2019 Summer Concert*, a concert by artist Matt Vee and his band. This concert is free to the public and will be held at the Braham Event Center on August 3, 2019. In addition to the Neil Diamond tribute, the band will also perform a few of their songs with selected local community members who have a musical background. For more information visit: www.brahamcenter.org/upcoming-events/list

The City of North Branch received a grant in the amount of $5,694 for a project entitled *North Branch Summer Music and Movies in the Park*. The City will host a movies and music event series in the downtown Central Park. This event will kick off during the Night to Unite on August 6, 2019, th with an outdoor viewing of the movie Trolls. August 13th the city will host Monroe Crossing, a local bluegrass band, and on August 27th the series will end with a combination of music by artist Pierre Jacques Pleau, and an outdoor viewing of the movie *Sing*. All events are free and open to all. For more information, visit: http://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us

One Heartland Camp of Willow River, MN received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *Expression Therapy*. This project includes art and music therapy activities with working artist who are also licensed therapists. Camp One Heartland hosts over 450 youth, ages 7-17, which are living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, experiencing homelessness, in the LGBTQ+ community, or working towards a healthier lifestyle. Art Expression therapy will help address the difficult emotions, anxiety, and depression that many of the campers experience as a result of their circumstances. The artwork from Expression Therapy will be on display the month of December, 2019, at the Sandstone Public Library. For more information visit: www.oneheartland.org.

Pine County Ag Society of Pine City received a grant in the amount of $9,650 for a project entitled *Pine County Fair Performances*. Pine County Ag Society will host a musical concert series during the 2019 Pine County Fair from July 31 – August 4, 2019. A variety of local and regional musicians will perform at two locations within the fairgrounds. At the Bandshell fair attendees can see performances by Neighberz Band, Sonny Winberg, Kenny Krona, Ed Pangerl, Darren Hendershot, Kevin Ludtke and Dr. Kielbasa. Performances at the Event Center will include artists Fish Tone Rockers, the Rose Family, Willy Frietag, Dirt Road Dixie, Kenny Krona, and the Jolly Zuks. All performances are free and open to the public. For more information visit: www.pinecountyfair.com/live-entertainment

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN, received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *2019 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Program*. This event includes seven art-making workshops on July 20th and 21st, July 27th and 28th, and August 1st and 3rd, 2019 Franconia will then host a full-day live metal pour demonstration on Saturday August 3rd, open and free to the public. For more information visit www.franconia.org

Vasaloppet, Inc. of Mora, MN, received a grant of $15,000 for a project entitled *Many Faces of Vasaloppet – Phase III*. During the project commemorating volunteers, hundreds of volunteer faces and hands will be cast into metal sculpture. Artist Keith Raivo will create sculpture art of faces and hands using the lost wax casting process and metal engraving. These sculptures will honor the many volunteers of the Vasaloppet during a free public event where visitors can view the newly created sculptures and video of the life casting process and the lost wax and engraving techniques on May 15, 2020. For more information visit: www.vasaloppet.us

The Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community (WACAC) received a grant in the amount of $9,450 for a project entitled *Kids Can Be Artists Too!* This event is to take place during the 86th annual Stagecoach Days Festival held September 13th and 14th, 2019. During this event the WACAC will host an artistic experience for kids of all ages 0-100. Volunteer artists will be on hand to assist as needed. Also included with this project is the purchase of an enclosed trailer to transport and store supplies, as well as an additional tent for shelter during the event. For more information visit: www.wyomingcreativearts.org

The Lakes & Pines Community Action Council of Mora, MN received a grant in the amount of $6,703 entitled *Arts Education for Head Start and Group Respite*. This project entails working with three local artists to teach art at head start and group respite locations, providing arts access to primarily lower-income residents. These classes will include felting with artist Becky Utecht, printmaking with Kelli Maag, and painting with Peg Skalicky. Lakes & Pines will then host an art show featuring artwork created during these sessions at a free community event at the in Mora on November 4th. For more information visit: www.lakesandpines.org

The Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society received a grant of $11, 475 for a project entitled *Expanding the Arts at the Mille Lacs County Fair*. This project will incorporate the arts into the lineup of activities during the Mille Lacs County Fair from August 8 – 11, 2019 offering a variety of art activities for kids and families every day of the fair. New to the arts events will be Tricia and the Toonies performance and music; The Oz Brothers, Jeff Kortman and Tom Hendricks, performers and musicians; the Slew Foot Family Band, dancers and musicians; and artist DonB, comedic storyteller. All events are free and open to all at the Mille Lacs County Fair. For more information visit: www.millelacscountyfair.com

Princeton School District 477 of Princeton, MN was awarded a grant of $9,975 for a project entitled *Princeton Loves The Big Read*. During this project sixth grade students will read *When Thunders Spoke* by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, and students in grades 7-12 will read *The Sky Watched: Poems of Ojibwe Lives* by Linda LeGarde Grover. In addition to reading books the project will also include artist Pat Kruse, a birch bark artist who has been creating birch bark art for more than 30 years. The project will end with a free public open mic/ art showcase on March 2, 2020 at the Princeton Performing Arts Center Commons area. For more information visit: www.isd477.org/

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Operating 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 - March 1.

The Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community located in Wyoming, MN received an Operating Support grant in the amount of $5,000. For more information on WACAC visit: www.wyomingcreativearts.org

In His Steps Ballet & Performing Arts Company, located in Cambridge, MN, received an Operating Support grant in the amount of $5,000. For more information on this organization visit www.inhisstepsballet.com

The Pine Center for the Arts located in Pine City, MN was awarded an Operating Support grant in the amount of $5,000For more information visit www.pinecenter.org

ECRAC Small/Arts 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 were November 1, February 1, and April 1

East Central MN Pride (Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine Counties) received a grant in the amount of $4,500 for a project entitled *East Central MN Pride in the Park 2019*. This event will provide live musical performances from two professional musical groups: Mark Joseph and the American Soul, and Venus de Mars at Robinson Park in Pine City on the first Sunday in June. This event is free and open to all. For more information visit: www.eastcentralmnpride.org

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN received a grant of $5,000 for a project entitled 2019 *Kids Make Sculpture*. These workshops are designed for youth ages 4 – 18. Young participants will build larger-than-life sculpture under the direct supervision and guidance of Franconia artists during workshops on May 25th, June 8th, July 13th, August 24th and September 14th, 2019. For more information visit: www.franconia.org

Onamia Public Schools and Community Education, Onamia, MN was awarded a grant in the amount of $3,000 for a project entitled *She's My Sister/ We are Monsters*. Onamia Public Schools/ Community Education hosted a week long musical theatre day camp from June 10 – 14, 2019. This musical theatre day camp culminated in one free public performance of She's My Sister/We Are Monsters at the High School auditorium on Friday June 14, 2019. Local Onamia area youth in grades 2-8 will had the opportunity to attend the camp each day from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Local Milaca based band, She's My Sister were the visiting artists for the musical theatre camp. For more information visit: www.onamia.k12.mn.us

Franconia Sculpture Park, in Shafer, MN was awarded a grant in the amount of $5,000 for a project entitled *2019 Art and Artists Celebration*. Franconia Sculpture Park will host the 2019 Art and Artists Celebration, a full day family arts program held on Saturday, September 28, 2019 from 12 – 6pm. This celebration provides the community and art and music experience through hands on art making activities, diverse musical performances, and guided exhibition tours featuring more than 40 new sculptures created.
by intern artists in 2019. For more information, visit: www.franconia.org

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 were November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Mora Public Schools: CAPP, of Mora, MN was awarded a grant in the amount of $3,000 for a project entitled *Art Excellence in our Schools*. During this project, the Mora Alternative Learning Center (ALC) will host three local artist residencies. The focus of the residency for each artist will include ways for students to express ideas/feelings, career experiences, and art's healing impacts through body art, painting, design, mask making and collage. There are three open to the public events with this project during Mora School's parent/teacher conferences. For more information visit www.moraschools.org

Princeton School District #477 was awarded a grant in the amount of $2,675 for a project entitled *Traditional Ojibwe Drumming, Singing, Dancing*. Princeton and Milaca School Districts will host Mike Fairbanks, drum instructor and cultural consultant, to teach students the relationship of the drum, and traditional songs and dance in the American Indian culture. The schools will then host a community performance on July 18th and on August 27, 2019. For more information visit: www.isd477.org

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Program for Individual Artists

This program provides grants up to $2,500 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 were November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Karen Nelson of Onamia received a grant for $1,000 for a a project entitled *Central Minnesota Photography*. During this project, the artist will purchase a full frame digital single lens reflex camera body. With this new camera body, the artist will produce a new body of artwork to be displayed at the Rolf Olsen Center in Onamia, the Isle Recreation and Education Center in Isle, as well as on social media sites.

Chad Filley of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for his project entitled *Scandinavian Storytelling*. This project includes the purchase of a projector, cables and screen to enhance his one-person show; a mentorship with artist and storyteller Rose Arrowsmith-Decoux, to include coaching on physicality, voice, narrative and Scandinavian sensibility. Additionally, the artist will travel to four locations within the state of MN to research Scandinavian history and folklore. The public performance for this project is scheduled for May 17, 2020 in Cambridge, MN. For more information go to www.chadfilley.com

Drum Artist Kelli Rae Tubbs of Chisago City was awarded a $2,500 grant for a project entitled *Create Video Footage Showcasing Progressive Rock "Groove" and Improvisation Skills*. During this project, the artist proposes to study with two mentors; Brandon Khoo and Daniel Glass, to master her "progressive rock" fundamentals, including proficiency using a double bass drum pedal and the Moeller technique, which allows a drummer to play physically demanding music with fewer injuries. The project will include the creation of three videos as well as the purchase of new drum heads and drum cases to transport her drums. Ms. Tubbs will host an open to the public event during June of 2020. For more information visit: www.kelliraetubbs.com

ECRAC McKnight Individual Artist Grant Program

Grants up to $1,000 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 were November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Yvonne Herrmann of Foreston, MN received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for her project entitled: *Framing Project*. During this project, the artist will purchase the supplies and equipment necessary to frame 10 pieces of her artwork.

Michele Malley of Pine City, MN received a grant in the amount of $1000 for her project entitled *Wool Felting Techniques*. During this project, the artist attended three textile workshops: Introduction to Dimensional Design at the Textile Center in Minneapolis; Fabric as Paint at the Brainerd Crossing Arts Alliance; and Upwolfing: Necklace Wet Felting Technique also at the Textile Center. Along with these workshops the artist purchased supplies to create six works of art during the project.

Susan Redfield of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for her project entitled *Wood Fire Kiln Shelves*. During this project, the artist purchased kiln shelves for her manabagama wood fire kiln and experimented with new firing techniques and surface embellishments on her ceramic art work unique to the new kiln. She will produce a body of artwork as part of this project.

Kelli Maag of Mora, MN received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Cut, Ink, Repeat*. In this project the artist will continue expanding her skills as a lino-cut print maker by purchasing higher quality inks, and a pin press. She plans to complete five pieces of finished artwork along with many experimental pieces throughout the project.

Barb Orstad of Mora, MN received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for her project entitled *Silversmithing Course*. During this project, the artist will attend a silversmithing class at the North House Folk School with instructor Michael Sieter in order to further her skills as a metal artist and use those skills in the art of jewelry design.

Debra Pangerl of Rush City, MN received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for her project entitled *Silversmithing Adventures*. During this project, the artist attended two jewelry making classes with artist Marisa Martinez. The artist also purchased tools she will need to continue with this artwork in her home studio.

Kathryn Flom of Pine City, MN received a grant in the amount of $942 for a project entitled *Mosaic Study*. During this project, she studied with mentor Alice Franke at Ms. Franke's studio located in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The mentorship includes continued learning in the art of Mosaic's with increased knowledge of mosaic mediums such as tesserae, marble, stone and more. During her time with Ms. Franke the artist also purchased supplies to dig crystals at a mine in Arkansas, and is creating new art with found materials.

ECRAC Essential Artist Award Program

The Essential Artist 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. Three $7,000 awards were available.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

Rick Schneider of Isanti, MN, received a grant of $7,000 for a project entitled *New Steps in Glass Through Flameworking*. During this project, the artist will purchase equipment, tools, and supplies to complete a flameworking studio in his home. The purchase of a kiln, tools and glass supplies will allow the artist to develop new elements of his work through the process of flame or lamp work.

Tom Jaszcsak of Shafer, MN received a grant for $7,000 for a project entitled *Large Trays and Color Exploration*. During this project, the artist will develop a body of work focused on large tray forms and the purchase of an electric kiln to fire them in. The artist will also include time to develop color blocking surfaces and continue his research in cone 2 slip development as well as explore the use of monochromatic color theory. For more information visit: www.tomjaszczk.com

Maggie Jaszczak of Shafer, MN received a grant for $7,000 for a project entitled *Wood Tools and Sculpture*. During this project, the artist will purchase tools and use them to create a body of objects that use wood as the primary material, focusing on chairs, stools and other small sculptural pieces of artFor more information visit: www.maggiejaszczak.com

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.

During this project the artist BT will attend the Dance Tech Studios Summer Intensive Boot Camp. This program will assist the artist in continuing her study in Classical Ballet

GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2018

For further details on any of these funded projects contact ECRAC at 320.396.2337x1 or info@ecrac.org

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018)

Grants made to organizations, schools, non-profits, units of government, etc:

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Organization Grant Program

ECRAC Small/Arts Project Grant Program

ECRAC Operating Support Grant Program for Arts Organizations

ECRAC Art In Our Schools Grant Program

Grants made to individual artists:

ECRAC Essential Artist Program

ECRAC Individual Artist Grant Program

ECRAC K-12 Student Scholarship Program

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 November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Pine City Arts Council, Pine City, MN
$6600
Grant Project Summary: Art in Concert 2018 will host a musical concert and school residency of the Shaun Johnson Big Band Experience at Pine City High School.
Grant #: 18-7E-101

North Branch, City of North Branch, MN
$5022
Grant Project Summary: The City of North Branch is offering movie nights. The city has chosen classic, award nominated and winning films; and the locally filmed "House of Tomorrow".
Grant #: 18-7E-103

Tusen Tack/Braham Event Center, Braham, MN
$5650
Grant Project Summary: The Braham Event Center's Spring Concert will be an open to the public event. Musicians will perform "Scarborough Fair, A Simon and Garfunkel Experience."
Grant #: 18-7E-104

Cambridge-Isanti Community Education, Cambridge, MN
$15000
Grant Project Summary: Cambridge-Isanti Community Education will host an open to the public author event during the 2018 Cambridge Community Read. Author Tim O'Brien, "The Things They Carried" will be the guest speaker.
Grant #: 18-7E-106

Chisago Lakes Community Education, Lindstrom, MN
$15000
Grant Project Summary: The Find Your Artistic Voice project offers after school and evening art classes to students taught by local artists who will inspire area youth to learn artistic skills.
Grant #: 18-7E-107

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN
15000
Grant Project Summary: During the 2018 Music@Franconia Concert Series and Guided Tours they will provide attendees with diverse and engaging musical perfomances, and guided tours led by Franconia Sculpture Park artists.
Grant #: 18-7E-109

City of Mora, MN
$7133
Grant Project Summary: Mora's Music in the Park will host a weekly evening summer concert series in Library Park. This summer concert series will host a total of 12 live musical performances featuring a variety of genres.
Grant #: 18-7E-110

One Heartland Camp., Sandstone, MN
$15000
Grant Project Summary: One Heartland will offer the Expression Therapy Project to summer camp attendees near Willow River. This includes both art and music therapy activities. Artwork produced will then be on exhibit at the Sandstone Library.
Grant #: 18-7E-113

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community, Wyoming, MN
$7500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host the 3rd annual juried "In. Art Show" at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN.
Grant #: 18-7E-114

City of Sandstone, MN
$7000
Grant Project Summary: The City of Sandstone will produce a mural in Train Park. Local artist Carole Bersin will develop the mural and it will be painted with community participation.
Grant #: 18-7E-116

Hinckley, City of Hinckley, MN
$12900
Grant Project Summary: The City of Hinckley will host Sweet Summer Sounds 2018. These are musical concert events at the West Side Park in Hinckley. There will also be one concert on Main Saint during the Annual Corn and Clover Festival.
Grant #: 18-7E-117

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN
$15000
Grant Project Summary: FSP will produce the 2018 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Program. This includes 7 art-making workshops and a metal pour demonstration event. Participants will learn about and create 3-D artwork resulting in an iron sculpture.
Grant #: 18-7E-118

Chisago Lakes Community Education, Lindstrom, MN
$15000
Grant Project Summary: Chisago Lakes Community Education will offer art classes during the fall, winter, and spring of the 2018-19 school year. Artists of the area will teach painting, pottery, dancing, and music to interested adults.
Grant #: 18-7E-120

Mille Lacs County Agricultural Society, Princeton, MN
$11480
Grant Project Summary: Mille Lacs County Fair will highlight the talents of the Arts Garden, and the I Saw it in Minnesota chainsaw sculpting programs. In addition, the Elk River German Band will perform in the fairgrounds.
Grant #: 18-7E-121

Vasaloppet, Inc., Mora, MN
$15000
Grant Project Summary: The Vasaloppet grant is for a public art project. It will honor the many volunteers who participate in the Vasaloppet community. The lost wax casting process will be used by artist Keith Raivo.
Grant #: 18-7E-122

Chisago Lakes Community Education, Lindstrom, MN
$15000
Grant Project Summary: Chisago Lakes Community Education will offer a variety of art classes to youth. These after school and evening classes will be taught by 26 artists. Classes include music, dance, pottery, and painting.
Grant #: 18-7E-123

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN
$15000
Grant Project Summary: Franconia Sculpture Park will host the 2018 Art and Artists Celebration, a full-day family arts and music program.
Grant #: 18-7E-124

ECRAC Small/Arts 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 November 1, February 1, and April 1

East Central Minnesota Pride, Braham, MN
$5000
Grant Project Summary: The East Central Minnesota Pride in the Park 2018 event will provide live performances from two professional musical groups. This event is held in Pine City and is open to all.
Grant #: 18-7E-01

Onamia Community Education, Onamia, MN
$1049
Grant Project Summary: In the Art is FUNdamental project, Onamia community members will have the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of art.
Grant #: 18-7E-03

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN
$5000
Grant Project Summary: The 2018 Valentine's Day Hot Metal Pour Program provides workshops for people of all ages and abilities to create individually designed relief molds. It culminates in a hot metal pour led by artists.
Grant #: 18-7E-04

Cambridge, City of Cambridge, MN
$2500
Grant Project Summary: The City of Cambridge will host "Painting in the Park" at City Park. This series will feature instructor Katherine Salverda and will include 4 sessions each for youth and adults.
Grant #: 18-7E-05

Pine City Heritage Players, Pine City, MN
$5000
Grant Project Summary: Pine City Heritage Players will produce a summer community theatre production of "Shrek the Musical", to provide an engaging theatrical opportunity for both youth and adults in East Central MN.
Grant #: 18-7E-06

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN
$5000
Grant Project Summary: The 2018 Kids Make Sculpture is an arts learning and arts making program for youth ages 4-18. Participants will build large sculptures under the direct supervision and guidance of artist instructors.
Grant #: 18-7E-08

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community, Wyoming, MN
$4300
Grant Project Summary: Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host the 6th annual “Kids Can Be Artists, Too” event during the 85th annual Stagecoach Days Festival. This event offers creative fun for kids of all ages.
Grant #: 18-7E-09

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN
$5000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will offer a Guided Exhibition Tour Program from August 15, 2018 to December 31, 2018.
Grant #: 18-7E-11

ECRAC Operating Support Grant Program for Organizations

$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.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community, Wyoming, MN
$5000
Grant Project Summary: The Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community brings art to the community through monthly art shows and other events at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN.
Grant #: 18-7E-301

Old School Arts Center, Sandstone, MN
$3000
Grant Project Summary: The Old School Art Center in Sandstone builds and enriches community through arts education, exhibition, and performance opportunities. It supports the efforts of local and regional artists.
Grant #: 18-7E-302

Paradise Community Theatre Association, Inc., Mora, MN
$4360
Grant Project Summary: The Paradise Community Theatre in Mora provides low-cost cinematic and performing arts events to East Central Minnesota residents.
Grant #: 18-7E-303

Pine Center for the Arts, Pine City, MN
$5000
Grant Project Summary: The Pine Center for the Arts in Pine City is a resource for artists, students and the community. It is dedicated to providing artistic opportunities for all.
Grant #: 18-7E-304

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 November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Pine City Junior Senior High School, Pine City, MN
$705
Grant Project Summary: The Pine City School District will provide a field trip for the high school Art Club students; they will visit the Minneapolis Institute of Art and the Russian Art Museum. They will then give a presentation to the public on the field trip.
Grant #: 18-7E-73

Isle Community Education, Isle, MN
$3000
Grant Project Summary: The Wild and Wiry Clay Birds project will give the 5th grade students at the Isle School District the opportunity to work with local artists to create artwork using clay slip and various clay tools. This artwork will then be displayed for the public.
Grant #: 18-7E-75

Princeton Public Schools, Princeton, MN
$1958
Grant Project Summary: Princeton School second grade students, and community older adults (65 and older), will participate in an arts field trip to Franconia Sculpture Park.
Grant #: 18-7E-76

Braham Area High School, Braham, MN
$2050
Grant Project Summary: BAHS will host a brass band. The band will provide a clinic for students on New Orleans-style brass band music, will have rehearsals with the students during the day, and, a performance open to the public in the evening.
Grant #: 18-7E-77

ECRAC Essential Artist Program

The Essential Artist program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists. These Fellowships 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. Three $7,000 Fellowships are available annually and this program is funded by The McKnight Foundation.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

Hager, Nathan Isanti, MN
$7000
Grant Project Summary: During this project the artist will upgrade their photography equipment to allow them to better capture photos of fast moving wildlife. The artist will then create a series of dynamic, yet intimate, wildlife paintings.
Grant #: 18-E-02

Spohn, David Lindstrom, MN
$7000
Grant Project Summary: The Small Worlds: Life in the Saint Croix River Valley project will allow this artist to create new solar plate etchings of the flora and fauna of the Saint Croix River watershed from the Dalles at Taylors Falls to O' Brien State Park.
Grant #: 18-E-03

Krousey, Matthew Harris, MN
$7000
Grant Project Summary: The artist will purchase a 300 lb capacity Soldner Clay mixer, hire an electrician to install it, and then will create a new experimental body of sculptural work.
Grant #: 18-E-05

ECRAC Individual Artist Grant Program

Grants up to $1,000 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 November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Zobel, Stanton Pine City, MN
$1000
Grant Project Summary: Training and materials for development of a new series of 2-dimensional paintings.
Grant #: 18-I-02

Willett, Tom Cambridge, MN
$1000
Grant Project Summary: Artistic skills enhancement project.
Grant #: 18-I-03

White, Amber Shafer, MN
$1000
Grant Project Summary: Professional development through attendance at the 8th International Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron Art.
Grant #: 18-I-04

Raivo, Cyrus Ogilvie, MN
$1000
Grant Project Summary: Stainless Steel Mosaic project.
Grant #: 18-I-05

Schelinder, Shawnda Pine City, MN
$991
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend a workshop by mentor Mark Hufford and will learn how to use enamels in fused glass.
Grant #: 18-I-06

Brown, Marie Grasston, MN
$1000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will purchase supplies and create a new body of functional pottery.
Grant #: 18-I-07

Penshorn, Julie Lindstrom, MN
$1000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend the “Picture Books and All that Jazz” workshop from Highlights for Children. The workshop is designed to help children’s book writers learn the skills of excellence.
Grant #: 18-I-08

Meadows, Anthony Shafer, MN
$1000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will construct a large scale sculpture of soil and stone.
Grant #: 18-I-10

ECRAC K-12 Student 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.

KS North Branch, MN
$500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend Appalachian Mountain clogging lessons. The lessons will include classes two days a week to help improve the artist's clogging skills.
Grant #: 18-S-01

KS North Branch, MN
$500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend Appalachian Mountain clogging lesson. The lessons will include classes two days a week to help improve the artist's clogging skills.
Grant #: 18-S-02

AM Braham, MN
$461
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend piano lessons as well as purchase piano books that will assist the artist in advancing to the next level.
Grant #: 18-S-03

CE Stacy, MN
$441
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will participate in an eight week vocal workshop once a week. The student will work in a group as well as receive individual lessons.
Grant #: 18-S-04

ML Stacy, MN
$500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend Appalachian Mountain clogging lessons. The lessons will include classes two days a week as well to help improve the artist's clogging skills.
Grant #: 18-S-05

BT Cambridge, MN
$500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend a summer intensive study in classical ballet with a focus on learning the dictionary of ballet. The artist will also participate in personal study based on their level of experience.
Grant #: 18-S-09

GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2017

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2017
(July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017)

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 November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Ecumen Parmly Lifepoints *Promoting Access to art: Investing in Lifelong Learning for Adults*
$7,944
Grant Project Summary: During this project the applicant will offer painting and tap dance classes at the Vitalize! Wellness Centre, a program of Parmly Life Pointes. These classes will be offered at a reduced rate to promote engagement in the arts for adults within the Chisago Lakes area.

Princeton School District 477 *Band Blast & Copper Street Brass – Beyond Ordinary*
$8,820
Grant Project Summary: During the all school "Band Blast" the Princeton School District will bring in a musical group, "Copper Street Brass," for seven instructional sessions as well as include them in the yearly "Band Blast" event to enhance the artistic learning/exposure for the school and community. The school band students will have the opportunity to work with, and perform with, "Copper Street Brass" during this project.

Mora Public Schools *THEATERical Science Integration*
$6,030
Grant Project Summary: The Mora Public Schools will use Theater Arts to teach core science knowledge with first and sixth graders. They will hire COMPAS Arts from St. Paul for a one week residency integrating the science standards along with Theater Arts. The activities will include acting, voice projection, props, timing, blocking, scenery, costuming, performance, character development, setting development, plot development, conflict development, advertising, and playwriting skills. There will be two open to the public performances, one for each grade. The

open to the public performance audience will include families of the students and the Mora community.

Chisago Lakes Community Education *Future Chisago Lakes Artists*
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: The Chisago Lakes Community Education will offer a series of after school art classes to be taught by local artists who will inspire the area youth to become artists and encourage them to become a part of a community of artists. The project will culminate in an art show open to the public and all artists from the area will be encouraged to join. The art classes will include drawing, painting, photography, pottery, dance, theater, music and more.

Franconia Sculpture Park *2017 Music @ Franconia Concerts Series and Guided Tours*
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: The 2017 Music at Franconia Concert Series and Guided Tours Program will provide diverse and engaging musical performances. The concert series will include three new musical genres for the 2017 music series. On June 24th Sonny Knight and the Lakers as well as Jay Smart will represent the classic sounds of Retro-Soul. July 22nd presents Actual Woulf along with Corey Medina and Brothers, both Folk Rock artists. The third concert on August 26th will feature Blues with Davina and the Vagabonds and Tim Mahoney.

Onamia Public Schools Community Education *Lake Wobegon Brass Band in Onamia*
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: The Lake Wobegon Brass Band in Onamia project will infuse arts into the Mille Lacs area by presenting an opportunity for local youth and adult instrumentalists to attend a clinic with the Lake Wobegon Brass Band players. The 90 minute clinic will provide tips on becoming better musicians, including discussion on practicing, breathing, and other subjects that apply to all instruments. The project will also include a free, open to the public, event following the clinic. The clinic participants will have an opportunity to practice, and then play, alongside the Lake Wobegon Brass Band during the evening performance.

Pine County Agricultural Society *Pine County Fair Performances*
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Pine County Agricultural Society will offer 16 free events at the Pine County Fair from August 2, 2017 to August 6, 2017 at both the Band Stand and the Band Shell locations within the fairgrounds in Pine City. Various local and regional entertainers will be hired to perform during the fair including country, old time, and rock n roll. In addition, on Sunday afternoon, a talent show will be held with pre-teen, teen and open participants, of which the costs will be a local match for the grant. Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday the Band Stand will have groups that will play dance music.

City of Hinckley *Sweet Summer Sounds*
$12,900
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the City of Hinckley will offer a free to the public music event series in the downtown Hinckley Westside Park area to promote the arts while simultaneously promoting neighborhood and group cooperation/cohesion. The music series will take place on Thursday evenings starting June 1st and will end August 3rd, with the inclusion of National Night Out on Tuesday August 1st and will be a total of seven performances.

City of Cambridge *Arts in the Park Summer Series*
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the City of Cambridge will feature both music and films. They will host a Concert in City Park series every Thursday evening for the month of June, as well as two separate days in the mornings where they will offer a children's music program. During the month of August the City will showcase films in four different parks throughout the City on Friday evenings at dusk.

City of Mora *Mora's Music in the Park*
$7,520
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the City of Mora will host twelve musical performances at Mora's downtown Library Park on Thursday evenings during June, July and August. This concert series will be open to the public free of charge. The twelve musical performances will represent a variety of genres and will represent the fifth consecutive year of Mora's Music in the Park.

Chisago Lakes Community Education *Take Time To Create*
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Chisago Lakes Community Education will offer arts classes to the adult residents of southern Chisago County during the fall, winter, and spring of 2017 and 2018. Local artists will share their artistic passion and skill with adult students so that they are given a chance to experience art making skills first hand. The goal of Take Time To Create is to give adults a convenient and high level art experience designed to open a door to creativity.

Vasaloppet, Inc. *Many Faces of Vasaloppet*
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Vasaloppet, Inc. will begin phase 1 of 3, commemorating the 50th Anniversary as a cross country ski race in year 2022 through sculpture. During phase 1 Vasaloppet, Inc. will work with artists Keith Raivo and Dee Kotaska in the creation of a movable, standalone sculpture of the Vasaloppet founders, and past board presidents, and use this sculpture to promote the next phases of the planned project.

Mora Public Schools *THEATERical Literacy Neighborhood Bridges Project*
$13,284
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Mora Public Schools will integrate the Theater Arts with Literacy for over 480 students in the Mora School District. The Children's Theater Company, out of Minneapolis, has an Arts/Literacy integration residency program called Neighborhood Bridges. This proposal will bring a week long Neighborhood Bridges Program /Children's Theater artist residency in for all students in grades 2, 3, 4, & 5; for a total of 4 weeks. School staff will also have in-service time. All children in those grades will work with the Children's Theater Artists, and then they will prepare a theatrical performance for an audience to view on the final day of the residency. Other classrooms, as well as families and Mora community members, will be invited to see these free, open to the public performances.

Franconia Sculpture Park *2017 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Program*
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host the 2017 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour program, providing seven art-making workshops on July 22 – 23, July 29 – 30, August 2 – 3, and August 5; and, a full-day live metal pour demonstration event on Saturday, August 5th, 2017, for the people and communities of Region 7E and beyond. This program will provide a one-of-a-kind opportunity to create three-dimensional artwork, to hand-carve a sand mold that will permanently be cast in iron. This is an opportunity to participate in the multi-step process of iron sculpture-making.

Mille Lacs County Fair *Bringing the Arts to the Mille Lacs County Fair*
$8,350
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Mille Lacs County Fair will bring the creative works of artists to this year's county fair from August 10 – 13, 2017. They will bring in two artists to both expose and involve the public to art creation. The Mille Lacs County Fair is bringing in the "Arts Garden", run by Jill Whitney-Birk to provide creative hands-on art projects for all ages; as well as the carving talents of Joe Semler, who is a wood carver. The Mille Lacs County Fair has selected these particular artists to provide an artistic experience for people of all ages.

Chisago Lakes Community Education *Real Artists Teaching Young Artists*
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Chisago Lakes Community Education will connect the children of southern Chisago County to high quality local artists in order to inspire them to be the artists of tomorrow. These artists will teach the students artistic skills, during after school and evening art classes. These professional artists will teach, inspire, and mentor the students and the result will be the production of their own artwork. The program will end with an open to the public art show that will feature the art of the students alongside the artwork created by the artists teaching them.

ECRAC Small/Arts 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 November 1, February 1, and April 1

East Central MN Pride *Pride in the Park 2017*
$4,820
Grant Project Summary: During this project, East Central MN Pride will once again provide live music/performances at the annual Pride in the Park 2017 summer festival. The event, free and open to all, gives LGBTQ people, their friends and allies an opportunity to create community and engage and educate the broader community within a cultural context. Based on previous year's feedback, this year two musical artists (Mark Joseph & American Soul and performer Kat Perkins) will present 75 -90 minute performances presenting a more concentrated musical experience. East Central MN Pride will also continue the use of a professional narrator, Val Mondor, for dialogue. Pride in the Park 2017 provides a safe gathering space and gives an opportunity for the greater community to enjoy the arts and exchange ideas.

Pine City Arts Council *40th Anniversary Pine City Arts Council*
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Pine City Arts Council's Art in the Park celebrates its 40th Anniversary Pine City Arts Council and three of its ten Friday night concert series will be funded with this grant. Belle Amor will provide jazz, Monroe Crossing is a Blue Grass Band, and Tom Mason & the Blue Buccaneers is Folk Music. All performances will be held in the covered gazebo at Robinson Park, centrally located in downtown Pine City.

In His Steps Ballet & Performing Arts Company *Our Volitant Province*
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Our Volitant Province is a collaborative and interdisciplinary project through which the students of In His Steps & Performing Arts Company will create an original dance and musical production. With the assistance of professional artists, the students will use their creative writing, dance, and musical training to create original art. The students will showcase their creativity and perform Our Volitant Province on two occasions at the Richard Hardy Performing Arts Center.

Franconia Sculpture Park *2017 Guided Exhibition Tours*
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will support the 2017 Guided Exhibition Tour Program, which will be conducted from May thru October 2017. This program will provide the public with guided tours and hands-on arts activities lead by

professional artists and staff that promote educational advancement as well as hands-on interaction and exploration of over 120 sculptures on exhibition at the Franconia Sculpture Park.

Pine Center for the Arts *Summer Arts 2017*
$2,100
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Pine Center for the Arts will host the Summer Arts Program for children in the Pine City and surrounding area. The classes will be offered to children in grades K-6th on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and Monday classes for High School Students. The program will run for six weeks, is free of charge and will offer hands-on activities including sculpture, painting, music, movement and theater.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community *In. Art Show*
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host their 2nd annual juried “In. Art Show” at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, MN. The show will be held August 24th to October 15th with an opening ceremony on August 24th. The show is open to visual artist in Region 7E and the surrounding areas, and will include cash prizes to draw a diverse variety of participants.

City of Cambridge *Painting in the Park*
$2,535
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the City of Cambridge will provide the citizens of Cambridge the opportunity to paint and create their own masterpiece. Every Thursday from July 13th – July 27th there will be painting classes in Cambridge City Park. Two classes a day, one for youth at 9:30 am – 11:00 am and one for adults at 6:00pm – 9:00 pm. Painting in the Park classes will provide a step-by-step instruction on the painting of a specific picture. Katherine Salverda will be the artist teaching these classes. The fee for the class is $15 per student. This grant will allow the City of Cambridge to offer the class at a reduced rate of $15 per student and the City will cover the additional expenses.

Franconia Sculpture Park *Kids Make Sculpture*
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host their arts learning and arts-making program for youth ages 4 – 18. These workshops will be offered once a month starting in May and ending in September. During the workshop participants will build larger-than-life sculpture under the direct supervision and guidance of Franconia artists.

Pine City Arts Council *Art on the Road 2017-2018*
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Pine City Arts Council will host Art on the Road, a program that brings people to the art in the Region 11 area. This project will host three trips, the Chanhassen Dinner Theater in November 2017, the Plymouth Playhouse in February 2018, and lastly a combined trip to tour the State Capitol and also a tour of the fine artwork at the U.S. Bank Stadium in April of 2018. This grant will fund the transportation needed to bring a group of constituents to these locations in the metro because transportation is limited from the Pine City area.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community *Kids Can Be Artists, Too!*
$4,100
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will host the 5th year of “Kids Can Be Artists, Too!” event during the Wyoming, MN Stagecoach Days September 15th-17th in Downtown Wyoming. There will be three days of painting where kids are able to open up and discover feelings, and gain interest in continued art creation, build self-esteem, and encourage dialog among the community about the importance of art, and art inclusion in the lives of children. This is a free to the public event and will include prize drawings for art supplies given to the kids, as well as a t-shirt to all kids for participation.

Franconia Sculpture Park *2017 Art and Artists Celebration*
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will host the 2017 Art and Artists Celebration, a full-day family arts program held on Saturday, September 23, 2017 from 11am-6pm. This program invites the regional community to experience art and music through a multi-faceted program. Franconia artists and artist alumni will lead art-making stations, conduct guided exhibition tours focusing on the 40+ newly created and installed sculptures. Music will be provided by Platypus, a youth rock group from Minnesota; Bruise Violet, an all-girl indie band; Hobos Nephews of Uncle Frank, blending folk, rhythm and blues with rock and roll; and Malamaya, a diverse group of musicians and vocalists performing traditional rhythms and melodies of Latin America and Caribbean music.

Chisago Lakes Community Education *Community Theater: A Box Theater*
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Chisago Lakes Community Education will offer an adult, Black Box Theater experience for the adults living in the Chisago Lakes area. The project will be led by artist Rachel Lexvold who has an extensive resume of acting and directing. Black Box Theater is an inexpensive means to put on plays using minimal set pieces and using stages that are thrust towards the audience. Adults in the community will be offered a high quality art experience and a chance to act in a public performance. The one performance of the show will take place on March 8 and will be free and open to the public. This one performance will be filmed and then televised on the local cable channel on March 22nd.

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 November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Braham Area High School *The Composition Experience Presents "The Vertical Plunge Tour" featuring Composer Darryl Johnson II*
$830
Grant Project Summary: During this project, students in the Braham Area High School Band will work directly with the Composer Darryl Johnson II on April 11, 2017. He will talk with the students about the composition process and give tips about how his music is intended to be performed. He will also teach the High School math students about the connection between music and math. Following the residency the students will perform the works of Darryl Johnson II at the May 1, 2017 Spring Concert open to all community members.

Princeton Public Schools *One Community /One Read*
$3,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, The Princeton School District will be hosting its first-ever One Community/One Read event. Every student in the district, pre-K through 12, will receive a free book that explores the theme of "belonging." Community members will have the option of reading any, or all, of books along with all the students in the district. Reading a common book together will spark a community-wide conversation and will begin to establish culture of literacy in every home.

Cambridge-Isanti Comm. Education *Artist in residence with Cambridge-Isanti Schools Bands*
$3,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Cambridge-Isanti High School, Cambridge Middle School, and Isanti Middle School bands will spend a week working with Nick Videen, a jazz musician based out of New York. Nick is a former Cambridge-Isanti Schools graduate who will share his experience with the Cambridge-Isanti bands culminating in a community performance the last weekend in April or the first weekend in May.

Braham School District *Youth Musical Theater Camp*
$420
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Braham School Dist. will expose youth in grades 3-7 to a two week musical theater program where they will learn some basic singing, dancing and acting skills. The hope is this program will create interest in theater as they advance to the high school.

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Program for Individual Artists

This program provides grants up to $2,500 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 November 1, February 1, and April 1.

Keith Raivo *Sculptural Bench*
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: During this project the artist will create at least 25 separate castings using a model and mold making, wax casting process resulting in a new piece of sculptural art in the form of a functional bench. The focus of the project will be on model making and mold making, two steps in the lost wax casting process.

Kelli Rae Tubbs *The Study of Trap Drummers and Playing Fills in Early Jazz*
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: During this project the artist will work primarily with Daniel Glass, but will have some mentorship with Dr. T. Dennis "Denny" Brown, to continue her studies in early American drumming styles as well as learn how the drummers' role has changed from 1880 to 1925, along with the transition of ragtime to the Swing Era. Also during this private instruction the artist will learn how to perform fills typical for this early variation of the drum set commonly used in dance orchestras, silent movie theater orchestras, Vaudeville shows, and circus bands. This will also include an in-depth study of sheet music, film clips, method books, catalogs, and newspaper articles from this time.

Shirl Chouinard *Wool fiber art and art business 101*
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will work with three mentors; Becky Utecht, Deborah Foutch and Joey Ervin, who will assist in the artist advancement of learning product, managing and building business skills and developing a cohesive body of work that will engage the public. This artist will also move from a stumbling novice to burgeoning expert, and have functional art as well as fine art available at her exhibit as well as on her website. Her open to the public event will be at the Pine Center for the Arts in Pine City, MN.

Kelli Rae Tubbs *A Study in Trap Drummers' Sound Effect Instruments*
$2,401
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will be learning the performance techniques associated with percussion sound effect instruments used during the Silent Film Era as well as the family history behind the sound effects invented and sold by the Ludwig and Ludwig Drum Company in the 1910's and 1920's with mentor William F. Ludwig III, a grandson of one of the co-founders. The artist will meet with William F Ludwig III in Red Wing, MN to learn from him as well as create video vignettes documenting the performance techniques and musical history of the sound effect instruments in his collection. The artist will also purchase

supplies to build several sound effects and sound effects machines and have an open to the public event to display and demonstrate a variety of sound effect instruments and to share the custom-made videos.

Zofia (Zosha) Warpeha *Hardanger Fiddle Study*
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will explore the Hardanger Fiddle's application in traditional Scandinavian music and its potential in contemporary improvised and written music. The artist will purchase a Hardanger fiddle and pursue an independent course of study, culminating in the composition, recording, and performance of new music. She will produce five new compositions for the Hardanger fiddle and three audio or video recordings to be published online and shared through social media, as well as host a public performance at the Princeton Library in Princeton, MN.

ECRAC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Program

Grants up to $1,000 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.

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

Steve Weihsmann *Journey to Excellence*
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will "Journey to Excellence" during a 12 month study with a mentor, Victory Malon. Meeting for about an hour each session, the focus of the mentorship will be on adding detail to paintings, light and shadow, color mixing and brushing techniques. The artist will work on some of the paintings he has already done, to enhance them. Also to complete a surrealistic piece now in progress, along with painting a couple new pieces including a large work with a religious theme.

Chad Filley *Mentorship with Kevin Kling*
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will mentor with world-renowned storyteller Kevin Kling who has agreed to mentor the artist through a variety of methods including reading and editing his works, face to face meetings to further develop material, and offering storytelling coaching. The goals of this mentoring are to improve the artist's storytelling skills and springboard the artist towards his objective of performing in theaters and at story telling festivals.

Michael Anderson *Return to Glass Work*
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will purchase the equipment necessary to etch glass with a sandblasting technique. The equipment purchase will allow handling of light weight equipment that doesn't take the precision of hand movements that etching with a hand held carver requires. Due to the onset of Parkinson's the artist is no longer able to control an etching tool needed for carving in a safe manner. The artist is emerging and will develop this artistic interest.

Jake Callahan *Getting to the Next Level*
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will further his artistic development in photography by attending a workshop on the North Shore of Lake Superior with Cold Snap Photography. This four day workshop will allow the artist to learn from professional photographers who can help him expand his current photography skills and get to that next level of photography through tutorials and demonstrations on capturing, as well as post processing, his images.

Jessica Miller *Kiln for Ceramic Lighting Collection*

$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will bring unique clay ideas to life in her own studio by purchasing an electric kiln. As a teacher she has not had the opportunity to focus on her own art and is ready to expand her personal artistic skills and portfolio to become an established part of the art community in this area. An electric kiln for her studio will give the artist the freedom to create and experiment, bringing her art to the next level. Her first project will be a collection of eight lamp shades, using different clay bodies and glazes, and exploring how carving and texture allow for light penetration. This grant will allow her to pursue this passion.

Sarah Howes *Source Song Festival*
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend the Source Song Festival for the continuation of her solo career. The Source Song Festival is a five day singers institute with masterclasses and recitals by international artists. The festival brings master vocal coaches, pianists and composers alongside singers and pianists for the purpose of coaching them on the art of performing song recital repertoire. The workshop will center on not only making the collaboration between pianist and singer stronger, but more importantly, on the ability of the duo to communicate text and poetry to their audiences through the music.

ECRAC/McKnight Fellowship Program

The Fellowship program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists. These Fellowships 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.

Three $7,000 Fellowships are available annually.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

Dee Kotaska *Abstract and Creative iPhone photography*
$7,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will spend 3 days of 1:1 study with Lynette Sheppard, an acclaimed iphontographer. After the 1:1 sessions with Ms. Sheppard she will attend a “Creative Photography for the Soul” workshop led by Jack Davis, a guru in creative photography. Both activities will take place on the Island of Molokai in Hawaii. This will be an opportunity to further her photographic skills with two of the leading experts in the field of creative iphotography.

Nikki Schneider *Creating Pickles Print Studio*
$7,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will use the Fellowship to build a Print shop at her home. Most of the artist’s work is done in Intaglio and Relief techniques because the artist likes what the process does to her drawings. Printmaking allows her to explore the image beyond one composition or set of colors. The artist feels she is at the point in her artistic career where all of her studio time is spent next to her students and she needs space to herself so she can leave her research out and let it germinate into something more.

Marilyn Cuellar *Keeping My Style*
$7,000
During this project, the artist will complete a body of approximately 10-12 portraits along with botanical drawings and will push the limits of her artistic ability and creativity with the use of abstraction. The artist will exhibit the new body of work at the Cambridge Medical Center in a one-woman show. She will also photograph the work to use for possible entry into museum style shows/galleries as well as to update her website.

ECRAC K-12 Student 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.

KR *Music Lessons* $480
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will continue with voice lessons once a week with instructor Sarah Howes.

GT *Music Lessons* $478
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will take advanced music lessons from Mrs. Adrienne Roubinek as well as purchase the Faber and Faber Level 4 music books needed for this instruction.

MR *Music Lessons* $500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will continue voice lessons with instructor Sarah Howes along with beginning piano lessons to help expand his music skills.

CE *Vocal Workshop* $441
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will participate in an 8 week vocal workshop once a week from September – October of 2017. The instructors are Lori Dokken and Judi Vinar. Each student will work in a group as well as receive individual lessons.

BT *Pre-Intensive Preparatory Ballet Camp* $500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will work with her mentor Lisa McKinnis to prepare for her summer classical ballet intensive studies with the Joffrey Ballet in NYC. The lessons will be formatted in a one on one manner and will include mental, emotional, and physical preparation for her intensive studies at Joffrey Ballet. The artist will document her progress in an exercise journal, along with documentation of her emotional and mental preparedness plan for how she can deal with the stress and demands that will be presented to her at the Joffrey.

MT *MacPhail Institute's Suzuki Institute – Full Day July 24-28, 2017* $380
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend the MacPhail Institute's Sazuki Institute – Full Day program, a week-long institute for Suzuki piano students to attend with a parent and work with master teachers.

GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2016

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2016 (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016)

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 November 1, February 1, and April 1.

City of Cambridge City Park Music Concert Series
$7,929
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the City of Cambridge will host an open to the public summer music concert series to be held outdoors at the Cambridge City Park amphitheater/shelter. The series includes seven bands: Spirit River Scandiband, on July 28 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.; The Teddy Bear Band on August 4 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; My Famous Friends Band on August 4 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Drivin' Wheels Band on August 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Kenny Krona and Rick Stener on August 18 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; White Sidewalls Band on August 25 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Ring of Kerry Band on September 1 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All concerts will be provided free of charge to the public.

Chisago Lakes Community Education Artists Inspiring Children
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Chisago Lakes Community Education will contract with 18 local artists to teach their artistic skills and share their artistic passions with the youth of southern Chisago County during after school classes and two parent-child classes in the evening. Classes will be offered in the disciplines of acting and theatre arts, pottery, piano instruction, pencil drawing, painting, mural making, knitting, wood building, clogging, Hula, photography, cinematography, magic performing arts, and singing. The classes will take place Monday through Friday afternoons between 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. from September through December. These classes are open to all students who live in the Chisago Lakes Area school district.

Chisago Lakes Community Education It's Never Too Late to Become an Artist
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, art classes taught by local artists will be offered to the adult residents of southern Chisago County through Chisago Lakes Community Education during the fall, winter, and spring of 2016 and 2017. Artists will share their artistic passions with adults allowing them to experience art first hand alongside an artist. There will be a project-ending art show in April of 2017 where the work of the adult students will be displayed alongside that of the artist instructors.

Chisago Lakes Community Education Afternoons With Artists
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Chisago Lakes Community Education will contract with local artists to teach their artistic skills to the youth of southern Chisago County during after school classes and evening advanced classes. Classes will be offered in the disciplines of acting and theatre arts, pottery, piano instruction, pencil drawing, painting, mural making, knitting, furniture building, clogging, Hula, photography, cinematography, magic performing arts and singing. An additional component will be advanced instruction in drawing, pottery, painting, and photography. The project will culminate in an art show to be held during the month of December, 2016.

Franconia Sculpture Park 2016 Music at Franconia Concert Series and Guided Tours
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide musical performances and guided tours of Franconia's sculpture exhibition. The series includes 3 concert events: Country and Swing (6/25/16), Latin Dance (7/16/16), and American Roots & Rock (8/27/16). All events will be free and open to the public from 2:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. beginning with an opening act followed by the headliner performers. Guided exhibition tours will be offered between music sets.

Franconia Sculpture Park 2016 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Program
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide five art-making workshops on July 30, July 31, August 3, August 4, and August 6, 2016, and will present a full-day live metal pour demonstration event on Saturday, August 6, 2016. The project will provide opportunities to create three-dimensional artwork, to hand-carve a sand mold that will be permanently cast in iron, and to participate in the multi-step process of iron sculpture-making.

Franconia Sculpture Park 2016 Art and Artists Celebration
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide an arts festival and music event on September 17, 2016, as the official public opening reception to celebrate over 40 new sculptures created by Franconia's 2016 Fellowship, Iron, and Intern Artists, and will celebrate the anniversary of Franconia's 20th year. Activities throughout the day

will include: guided exhibition tours, art-making stations including “Make Your Own Art”, family art activities; concerts; and theatre performances.

Isanti County Parks Department Anderson Park Sculptures
$8,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, The Isanti County Parks Department will contract with artist Keith Raivo for the design, construction, and installation of two life-size Sandhill Crane sculptures to be installed in the native prairie vegetation near the entrance to Irving & John Anderson County Park. The sculptures will be three-dimensional with lifelike shapes and will be installed onto concrete frost footings with stone facing.

Isle School District #473 Arts Around Mille Lacs
$7,987
Grant Project Summary: During the Arts Around Mille Lacs project, Isle Community Education will provide workshop opportunities for learning, observing, and appreciating the arts through the late summer, fall, and early winter of 2016. The activities will be offered free of charge to a broad array of ages and skill levels, and include: Youth Pottery Camp (grades 6 and up); Water Color Painting (grade 9 through adult); iPhone Photography; Introduction to Photoshop Elements (ages 15 through adult); Stained Glass (adults only); Block Cutting and Printing (ages 10 through adult); Navajo Rug Making (for Elementary Students). The artwork produced will be displayed to the public in several community locations, including: the Onamia Depot Library, the Mille Lacs Lake Community Library in Isle, the Isle Recreation and Education Center, the Rolf Olsen Community Center in Onamia, and Onamia Elementary School. Public activities will also include Open Studio Days during the Youth Pottery Camps in both Isle and Onamia.

City of Lindstrom Marlene Smith Statue
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: This project involves the creation and placement of a permanent full-size bronze statue of Marlene Smith to be placed in the east plaza garden area located between Highway 8 and North First Avenue in Lindstrom. This project phase will take place in the artist’s studio during the winter months with preliminary design and construction of the sculpture in steel and clay. Local art students, school classes, city residents, interested people, other artists, etc., will be invited to an open house to tour the studio and learn about the process and project. An grand opening will be held when the sculpture is completed and installed.

Milaca Fine Arts Council 2016 Music in the Park
$8,410
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Milaca Fine Arts Council will present a series of community concerts on June 23, June 30, July 14 and July 21, 2016. These Thursday evening concerts will allow the community to experience a variety of music genres in Milaca's Recreation Park, making use of the newly renovated historic band shell. The concerts will be presented free of charge, providing local access to those who do not otherwise have opportunities to participate in arts and music performances.

City of Mora Music in the Park
$15,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, The City of Mora will provide the public with a wide variety of family friendly musical experiences. The 2016 Music in the Park concert series will include 12 Thursday evening concerts scheduled from June 2 through August 25. These concerts will each last 1-2 hours and will be held at Mora's Library Park. All concerts are scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be free and open to the public.

Pine City Arts Council Art in Concert
$13,900
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Pine City Arts Council will provide three open to the public performances at the Pine City High School Auditorium : Barley Jacks - October 1, 2017; Stages Theatre Velveteen Rabbit - March 31-April 1, 2017; and Copper Street Brass - April 21, 2017. Copper Street Brass will also provide an arts learning experience to the Pine City High School Band students, exploring and analyzing how a variety of genres and styles contribute to the creation of music.

Pine County Agricultural Society Pine County Fair Performances
$9,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, The Pine County Agricultural Society will provide music performances at the Pine County fair on August 3, 2016 through August 7, 2016. Various local and regional entertainers will perform during the 5 days of the fair. The opening show begins Wednesday evening at 5 pm, with Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday entertainment times of noon, 2:30 p.m., 5:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday evening shows are scheduled from 8 pm to midnight. The types of musical entertainment include country, old time, gospel, and rock n roll.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community ADA Improvements to Halberg Center for the Arts
$13,635
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community (WACAC) will improve the accessibility of its facility. An ADA Transition Plan has been developed that identifies improvements necessary to make the venue and programming accessible to all persons and compliant with ADA requirements. The project will provide access to the main floor gallery of the Halberg Center for the Arts for persons with mobility impairments and will culminate in an open to the public event.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community In. Art Show
$8,572
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community (WACAC) will present its first juried art show entitled In. Art Show at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, Minnesota, from August 18th through September 17th. The opening reception and awards ceremony will be held on Thursday, September 1, 2016, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.and will remain up through the end of the month. The show is open to visual artists ages 18 and over living in Region 7E and the surrounding area.

ECRAC Small/Arts 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. These grants are for art projects of any discipline.

Deadlines are November 1, February 1, and April 1

East Central Minnesota Pride East Central MN Pride in the Park 2016
$4,710
Grant Project Summary: Marking the twelfth annual regional celebration in Pine City, East Central Minnesota Pride will provide live music and performances from three different musical groups. This picnic-type event will be held in downtown Pine City's Robinson Park on June 5, 2016, from noon to 5:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Family Pathways Arts for Respite
$4,875
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Family Pathways will provide artistic experiences for older adults with dementia via Family Pathways In-Home Respite program and Adult Day Break social respite programs in Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec and Pine Counties. Regional artists will guide step-by-step instructions in group settings allowing each participant to accomplish a completed art project with the help of a volunteer. Individual Art Kits will be provided to help older adults receive stimulation in their own homes during visits from Family Pathways volunteers.

Franconia Sculpture Park 2016 Guided Exhibition Tour Program
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide its 2016 Guided Exhibition Tour program, which will be conducted from May through October 2016. This program provides the public with guided tours and hands-on arts activities led by professional artists and staff in an exploration of the over 100 sculptures on exhibition at Franconia Sculpture Park. Through this program, participants will develop a deeper understanding of three-dimensional design elements and principles via guided exhibition tours and art-making activities taught by professional teaching artists and staff.

Franconia Sculpture Park Kids Make Sculpture
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide a hands-on arts learning and art-making program for youth ages 4-18. Participants will build larger-than-life sculptures under the direct guidance of Franconia artists during Saturday afternoon workshops

to be held from 1:00-4:00 p.m. on May 28, June 11, July 23, August 20, and September 10, 2016.

Franconia Sculpture Park 2017 Valentine's Day Hot Metal Pour Program
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide a winter art-making program consisting of 8 art-making workshops held on January 28 and 29, and February 4 and 5, 2017 during which community members of all ages will have the opportunity to create individually-designed relief sculptures. A live metal pour event will be held on February 11, 2017 where attendees will observe a live metal pour and learn about the process of metal casting.

City of Lindstrom Lindstrom Bakery Mural
$4,100
Grant Project Summary: This project involves the creation of an 80' long by 10' high mural of a historic 1880 railroad trestle painted on the west exterior wall of the Lindstrom Bakery building.

City of Lindstrom Karl Oskar Days Glass Blowing Demonstration
$4,132
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the City of Lindstrom will offer live demonstrations of the art of glass blowing. Local glass blower Alan Honn will conduct 10 hourly glass blowing demonstrations during two days of the 2016 Karl Oskar Days Celebration - Saturday, July 9th, from noon until 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, July 10th, from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Pine City Heritage Players 2016 Production of "Noises Off"
$3,350
Grant Project Summary: During this project, The Pine City Heritage Players will produce a play production entitled Noises Off. Performance dates include: April 2, at 7:00 p.m.; April 3, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.; April 7, at 7:00 p.m.; April 8, at 7:00 p.m.; and April 9, at 7:00 p.m. All performances will be held at the Pine City High School Auditorium.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts CommunityKids Can Be Artists, Too 2016
$5,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community will provide the 4th annual "Kids Can Be Artists, Too!" event to be held on September 9-11, 2016 in Wyoming, MN. Activities will include a children-of-all-ages painting experience with acrylic paints on canvas with artist volunteers who act as mentors. This free and open to the public event also includes an exhibition opportunity at the Hallberg Center for the Arts in Wyoming, from September 22nd through October 15th.

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 must be arts focused and may be used to support all students and/or student groups such as drama club, art classes, entire grades, or gifted and talented students. There must be an open to the public event.

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

East Central Schools ISD# 2580 Storytelling and Music of the Kettle River
$3,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, East Central Schools will provide educational sessions about the folklore of Minnesota utilizing artistic storytelling and music in classroom settings. Over the course of four days, musician and storyteller Fred Keller will hold 50-minute sessions with 6 groups of students each day during the week of May 16-20, 2016. A free community concert will be performed by The Skally Line duet (Keller with Tom Cornish) on May 18, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. The students and concertgoers will be introduced to regional folklore storytelling and how music can be a part of storytelling.

Hinckley-Finlayson Schools ISD# 2165 Spring Play 2016 – Community Theatre Expansion
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, students of Hinckley-Finlayson Schools will have the chance to work alongside fellow actors from the community to create a production of the school's 2016 Spring Play. Students will be given time before and after practices to corroborate and learn from community members, sharing their ideas and learning new techniques. The project includes expansion of the audition pool to include community members, as well as increasing production values for the Spring Play to create a higher quality experience for community members and students.

Princeton Schools ISD# 477 Jewelry and Glass Fusion
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: This project will allow students to work with a local artist, learning the elements and principles of design and the tools, techniques and procedures of glass fusion, by creating individualized glass pendants. There will be an open to the public demonstration.

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Program for Individual Artists

This program provides grants up to $2,500 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 an open to the public event as part of their project.

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

Erica Belkholm First Solo Show
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will exhibit up to fifteen pieces of artwork in her first solo show to be held at the Pine Center for the Arts in Pine City, MN. The date of the opening reception is Friday, September 9th, 2016, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The show will be up during regular exhibition hours from September 9th to October 2016.

Kelli Tubbs Fundamentals of Double Drumming & Ragtime Drumming
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: This project involves the artist learning the fundamentals of two music styles in the timeline of American popular music (from the 1860s to the 1910s) and the refurbishing of antique musical instruments. With the assistance of a videographer from the region, video vignettes will tell the story of the percussion instruments and accessories used during the time periods. The videos will be uploaded to her YouTube channel. The project will culminate in an educational/informational discussion about the music and drums of this time period, including a double drumming demonstration.

Kelli Tubbs Brushes and Cymbals Techniques for Traditional Jazz Drumming
$2,500
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will receive instruction in proper choke cymbal, China cymbal, foot-operated cymbals, and brushes techniques specific to traditional jazz drumming (circa 1915 through 1930). The project also includes the purchase of one vintage 12" cymbal (circa 1930s); the creation of video vignettes that will describe hoop-mounted cymbals and foot-operated cymbals. It will also include a public event that includes a discussion of the art form and a performance by regional musicians in the traditional jazz style.

ECRAC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Program

Grants up to $1,000 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.

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

Carole Bersin - Figurative Intensive
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend life drawing sessions at two different locations, the Pineapple Arts Center in Duluth and the Minnesota Figure Study Collaborative in Minneapolis, attending a minimum of 30 sessions at the Pineapple Arts Center and 10 sessions at the Minnesota Figure Collaborative. The artist's goal is to deepen her artistic skills by drawing and painting the human figure in a more intentional way.

Gail Gates -Towards Impressionistic Art
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: This project will allow the artist to receive lessons from a photography mentor on how to capture iPad images and manipulate them through digital applications, and then produce a series of photographs, with the goal of selecting one for entry into East Central Regional Arts Council's IMAGE Art Show. The artist wishes to strengthen her photographic skills in representative and impressionistic art.

Katherine Hovland -Natural Plant Dyes Course at North House Folk School
$960
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend a Natural Plant Dyes workshop in Grand Marais. During the workshop, the artist will learn preservation methods for the plant dyes and will practice dyeing fabrics using the Japanese Shibori method. The artist will also learn additional methods of manipulating color with the use of natural dyes on natural fibers, enhancing her current investigation into color effects on each other and on various natural fibers.

Kathy Marcy - Musikgarten
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend a workshop in Evanston, IL at the Music Institute of Chicago. This workshop will increase her training in working with parents and children, and will allow her to gain tools in sharing with parents the importance of early education in music.

Richard Marcy - Watercolor Project
$950
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will purchase high quality brushes, paint, and paper to help further develop his skills as a watercolor painter, and will produce 4 show-quality watercolor pieces. The artist will be working on still life and plein air landscapes with a focus on learning to control the watercolor medium.

Barbara Orstad - Natural Plant Dyes Course at North House Folk School
$960
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will attend a Natural Plant Dyes workshop in Grand Marais, MN. During the workshop, she will learn how to gather plant materials from the wild, how to prepare dye baths to extract the color, and will learn different mordants which set the color to prevent fading and determine the final color. These processes will be practiced on 3 different natural fibers: wool, silk and cotton, including the "shibori" style of dying silk.

Jacque Sabolik - Landscapes from the Kansas Plains to the Woods and Lakes of Minnesota
$902
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will paint 3 large (18 x 24) landscapes highlighting the diversity of the Kansas plains and the woods and lakes of Minnesota using personal photographs as reference. The project will allow the artist to go beyond her current specialty of painting animals and people, to explore painting landscapes in a mixed media of watercolor and acrylic.

Joy Tate - Boundary Waters Canoe Area Study/Painting Series
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will travel to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA) during August 2016 to spend five days photographing a variety of sunrises, sunsets and other beauty found within the BWCA. From these photographs, the artist will then create 10 oil paintings on canvas with sizes ranging from 20 x 24 - 24 x 48.

James Williams - Astrophotography
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: The purpose of this project is to allow the purchase of a new camera kit so the artist can continue to grow as an astrophotographic artist. Utilizing an already-owned high quality telescope and mount, the artist will then be able to produce images worthy of enlargement and display at art shows and other events. A minimum of six new photographic images for use in a photo club and other events will be created during the project.

Stanton Zobel - Sculpture from Tree Stumps
$1,000
Grant Project Summary: During this project, the artist will complete two sculptures using native tree stumps as raw materials, incorporating rock as a material into one of the pieces. The project includes purchasing supplies and equipment needed for the development of the sculptural work.

ECRAC Fellowship Program

Three $7,000 Fellowships are available annually. The Fellowship program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists. These Fellowships 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.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline and is supported by The McKnight Foundation.

MaryAnn Cleary Minimal Stroke Painting
$7,000
Grant Project Summary: The purpose of this Fellowship is to allow the artist to: complete ten paintings in a larger format from her current 8x8 inch studies; continue her previous studies with mentor Mary Pettis; and document her paintings and studies. She will host discussion events at Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts in Fridley, MN and at Cambridge Center for the Arts, and will submit exhibition proposals to several other community art centers.

Natalia Peterson Borderland
$7,000
Grant Project Summary: During this Fellowship, the artist will create the script and music for an historical musical and theatrical stage production entitled, Borderland, and will research documents, photos and video footage to be projected on the stage during the production. Dramaturg Wendy Weckwerth of Playwrights Center in Minneapolis will provide professional analysis of the script. After revisions and final editing, both the script and musical compositions will be reviewed by and discussed with Theatrical Producer Jamie Cesa.

Dee Ann Sibley The Studio Process From Shoot to Print
$7,000
Grant Project Summary: During this Fellowship, the artist will purchase a high-quality fine art professional printer, and will learn the fine art printing process while working in an apprenticeship with professional photographer, Robert Osborn. The artist's goal is to increase her understanding of specific elements dealing with camera operation, approaching subjects, studio basics, post processing specifics, and the black and white printing process details.

ECRAC K-12 Student Scholarship Program

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

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

Kelsi S. - Appalachian Clogging and Folk Art
$500
During this project, the student will attend Appalachian Clogging and Folk Art classes in Taylors Falls, MN to improve her dancing skills. Classes will be provided twice weekly. Private lessons will be attended twice a month.

Keri S. - Appalachian Clogging and Folk Art
$500
During this project, the student will attend Appalachian Clogging and Folk Art classes in Taylors Falls, MN to improve her dancing skills. Classes will be provided twice weekly. Private lessons will be attended twice a month.

Angelo V. - Bemidji International Music Camp
$468
During this project, the student will attend the Bemidji International Music Camp from July 17 to July 23, 2016, to improve his musical skills as a pianist.

GRANTS FUNDED - FY 2015

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2015 (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015)

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.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom, MN received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *Children Create*. During the project, Chisago Lakes Community Education will contract with 21 local artists to teach their artistic skills and share their artistic passions with the K-8th Grade youth of southern Chisago County during after school classes. Classes will be offered in the disciplines of: acting and theatre arts, pottery, pencil and charcoal drawing, painting, mural making, drumming, clogging, Hula, photography, and singing. New to the program will be ballroom dancing, woodworking, sculpture, and knitting. The entire *Children Create* program will culminate in the open to the public "Children Create Art Show" during the month of June 2015 at the Chisago Lakes High School cafeteria. For more information, visit: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom, MN received a grant in the amount of $14,800 for a project entitled *Artists of Today Inspiring the Artists of Tomorrow*. During the project, Chisago Lakes Area Community Education will connect the children who live in Chisago County to local artists so the children can be inspired to be artists tomorrow. The 19 artists will teach the children their artistic skills and share their artistic passions during afternoon art classes. The project will culminate with an open to the public art show to be held at the Chisago Lakes High School cafeteria during the month of December 2015. For more information, visit: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN, received a grant in the amount of $14,994 for a project entitled *2015 Music @ Franconia* concert series. During the project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide the Region 7E community and beyond a diverse set of musical performances by nine performing artist groups and guided tours of Franconia's sculpture exhibition. The series includes 3 six-hour events: *Rhythm and Groove* (6/27/15), *Uniquely American* (7/11/15), and *Tour of Europe* (8/15/15). For more information, visit: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN, received a grant in the amount of $14,998 for a project entitled *2015 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Program*, During the project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide the Region 7E community and beyond five art-making workshops on 7/25, 7/26, 7/29, 7/30, and 8/1/2015, and a full-day live metal pour demonstration event on Saturday, August 1, 2015. For more information, visit: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN, received a grant in the amount of $13,788 for a project entitled *Capital Expenditure for Purchase of Accessibility Vehicles.* Franconia Sculpture Park received funding for the purchase of two golf carts that will be utilized as accessibility vehicles for visitors and program participants with mobility disabilities or impairments. For more information, visit: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN, received a grant in the amount of $14,790 for a project entitled *Conversations with Creators on the Prairie.* During the project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide an arts learning program featuring public talks by exhibiting artists, live music, and youth arts activities set within Franconia's outdoor sculpture exhibition. The program will be free and open to the public from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, 2016. For more information, visit: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN, received a grant in the amount of $4,995 for a project entitled *2016 Valentine's Day Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Program*. On February 14, 2016 Franconia Sculpture Park will provide the Region 7E community with a hands-on art-making program led by professional artists offering the opportunity to create individually designed works of art and immersion in the process of metal casting. The project offers a direct arts learning experience and "behind the scenes" view of a metal pour and the cast metal process. For more information, visit: www.franconia.org.

Hinckley-Finlayson School District ISD #2165 - Summer Rec Program received a grant in the amount of $3,200 for a project entitled *Summer Community Theatre Initiative.* During the project, the Hinckley-Finlayson Schools Summer Rec. Program will perform a summer play involving the community with ages ranging from kindergarten to adults. The play, *Alice in Wonderland,* will be performed at the Ostrand Fine Arts Center in Hinckley, MN, on August 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd, 2015. For more information, visit: www.hf.k12.mn.us.

The Milaca Fine Arts Council of Milaca, MN, received a grant in the amount of $7,535 for a project entitled *Music in the Park 2015.* During the project, the Milaca Fine Arts Council will present a summer concert series on the Thursday evenings of June 25, July 9, July 16, and July 30 from 6:30-8:30 at the historic Milaca Rec Park bandshell featuring a variety of music genres. For more information, visit: www.milacaartscenter.org.

Mille Lacs Area Partners for Youth, a program of Onamia Public Schools ISD #480, received a grant in the amount of $8,266 for a project entitled *Arts & Community After School*. During the project, 4 visual artists will work with Isle and Onamia students attending After School Enrichment Programs. From January through April 2015, there will be 8 total workshops, four held in Isle, and four held in Onamia. Following the workshops, youth will be able to submit works to two public art shows, one in Onamia on May 7, 2015, and the second in Isle during Isle Days (July 11, 2015). For more information, visit: www.onamia.k12.mn.us.

The City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *Music in the Park.* During the project, The City of Mora will host a musical concert series to be held in Mora's downtown Library Park on Thursday evenings during June, July, and August 2015. The twelve musical performances will represent a wide variety of styles and will be open to the public free of charge. For more information, visit: www.ci.mora.mn.us.

Mora School District #332 received a grant in the amount of $4,810 for a project entitled *Storytelling, Writing, Imagery, and Movement Series.* The project involves a series of programs to connect school and community audiences of all ages featuring inspiring artists, authors, and storytellers. The series culminates on March 7, 2016, in an evening of arts workshops and shared stories done by elementary students. For more information, visit: www.moraschools.org.

Paradise Community Theatre of Mora, MN, received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *Free Film Series*. This project will continue and expand upon a free film series shown at the Paradise Theatre throughout the year, allowing five series of films to be seen free of charge by residents of Region 7E. For more information, visit: www.paradise-theatre.com.

Pine City Arts Council of Pine City, MN, received a grant in the amount of $12,620 for a project entitled *Art in Concert*. During the project, Pine City Arts Council will provide a series of three concerts featuring performances by Tonic Sol Fa (October 2, 2015), Monroe Crossing (December 6, 2015), and Sirens of the 60's (April 15, 2016). The three concerts will be held at the Pine City High School Auditorium.

Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for a project entitled *2015 Kids Can Be Artists, Too*. The project is designed to allow children of all ages an experience painting on canvas or throwing ceramic pots on a wheel with the assistance of volunteer area artists. The event will take place in conjunction with the Wyoming Stagecoach Days festival held on September 11-13, 2015, and will include family-friendly musical entertainment. For more information, visit: www.wyomingcreativearts.org.

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Operating Support Grant Program

The Operating Support grant program offers up to $15,000 of funding to qualified organizations to maintain ongoing operating needs and services. Assured matching funds of 10% are a requirement of this grant program.

Annual Deadline: March 1st for July 1 through June 30 allocation

Paradise Community Theatre located in Mora, MN received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for the purpose of planning an annual live music concert series and developing an accompanying marketing and public relations campaign. For more information, visit: www.paradise-theatre.com.

Pine Center for the Arts, located in Pine City, MN, received a grant in the amount of $14,982 to expand arts education classes and provide a storefront gallery for artists to display their work. The organization will also examine its mission as an arts organization and develop a strategic plan for its fiscal health and longevity. For more information, visit: www.pinecenter.org.

ECRAC Small/Arts 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

Center City Opera Company of Center City, MN, received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for a project entitled *Opera on a Schtick*. During the project, Center City Opera Company will stage an opera show in Spring of 2016 at the old creamery building in Shafer, MN, Chisago County. The show combines performances of well-known operatic arias with country-western inspired humor. For more information, visit: www.centercityoperacompany.com

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN, received a grant in the amount of $4,997 for a project entitled *The 2015 Docent-Led Guided Tours and Kids Make Sculpture Workshop.* This project will offer an arts learning and art-making program including 26 weekly docent-led guided tours (Sundays from 5/3/15 – 10/25/15) of Franconia's public art exhibition, and 4 Kids Make Sculpture workshops serving youth ages 4-18 on 5/30/15, 6/20/15, 7/18/15, and 8/22/15. For more information, visit: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer, MN, received a grant in the amount of $4,995 for a project entitled the *2015 Arts and Artists Celebration Program*. During the project, Franconia Sculpture Park will provide a full-day family arts program held on Saturday, September 12, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. This program invites the regional community to experience art and music through a multi-faceted program of guided exhibition tours, family art-making activities, and diverse musical performances. For more information, visit: www.franconia.org.

Isanti County Historical Society of Cambridge, MN, received a grant in the amount of $3,762 for a project entitled *Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Present, and Looking to the Future*. The project involves three artists performing July 22-26, 2015, at the Isanti County Fair in Cambridge, MN. The artists include: a wooden bowl turner, an early American potter, and a photographer/author/storyteller – all linking history, art, and education. For more information, visit: www.ichs.ws.

Milaca Fine Arts Council of Milaca, MN, received a grant in the amount of $4,249 for a project entitled *Workshops by the MAC 2015*. The project will provide a variety of free beginner and intermediate level instrument workshops, as well as vocal, dance, songwriting, and jamming workshops and children's art and music activities all in Milaca's Trimble Park on July 25, 2015, in conjunction with Milaca's annual Recfest bluegrass festival. For more information, visit: www.milacaartscenter.org.

Onamia Area Friends of the Library of Onamia, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,750 for a project entitled *Meet the Artist*. During the project, 5 local artists will be invited to arts shows at the library to showcase their work and to encourage interaction between artists and the public. Each artist will prepare an exhibit that will be displayed for 2-4 weeks and will attend an Open House to interact with the public and answer questions regarding their work. The dates of the events are: February 21, 2015 – artist Bill Schaaf; April 18, 2015 – artist Thelma Olds; June 20, 2015 – artist Martin Gilchrist; September 19, 2015 – artist Bill Gingery; November 14, 2015 – artist Richard Pullen. For more information, visit: www.facebook.com/pages/Onamia-Depot-Library/141443955953558.

ECRAC Art In Our Schools Grant Program

$1,000 grants 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.

NOTE: THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR THIS GRANT PROGRAM WILL BE INCREASED TO $3,000 BEGINNING WITH THE OCTOBER 1, 2015 DEADLINE.

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

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom, MN received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Summer Theatre – Peter Pan*. During the project, local theatre artist Bobbi Sells will come to the Chisago Lakes High School to teach acting skills and share her passion for acting with elementary through high school students in a summer theatre camp. The session will end in a performance for the public on the Performing Arts Stage at the Chisago Lakes High School on July 23, 2015. For more information, check out their website at: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

Mora Public School District #332 of Mora, MN, received a grant in the amount of $950 for a project entitled *Gardens and Galleries*. During the project, students in Grades 1-6 who are enrolled in Summer Art Camp (August 3-7) will create paintings and sculptures to display in the community after visiting the Como Conservatory and the Minneapolis Museum of Art. A drive-by look at the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden will round out the field trip day. For more information, visit: www.moraschools.org.

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Program for Individual Artists

This program provides grants up to $2,500 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.

Mary Ann Cleary of Cambridge, MN, received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for a project entitled *Basic Painting Strokes with Color.* During this project, the artist, working with a mentor, will complete a series of new oil paintings using a minimal brushstroke technique. After completion, an interactive open to the public demonstration of the technique and a discussion of the project will be presented at the Cambridge Center for the Arts in late Spring of 2016. For more information, visit: www.maryanncleary.com.

Terri Huro of Brook Park, MN, received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for a project entitled *Watercolor Progression.* During the project, the artist will purchase tools to create new, outside-the-box, watercolor artworks on wooden painting panels to be presented at an open to the public exhibit to be held in Spring of 2016. For more information, visit: www.terrihuroart.com.

Terri Huro of Brook Park, MN, received a grant in the amount of $2,448 for a project entitled *Night Lights.* During the project, the artist will purchase equipment and supplies needed to create five new 3-dimensional multi-media sculptures that will be lit from the inside. The newly created artwork will then be displayed at a free and open to the public event to be held during the Spring of 2016. For more information, visit: www.terrihuroart.com.

Bron McCall of Hinckley, MN, received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for a project entitled *Resurrection*. During the project, the artist will sculpt, cast, and detail 3 bronze sculptures. The completed sculptures will be displayed at an open to the public event in the Spring/Summer of 2016.

Natalia Peterson of Lindstrom, MN, received a grant in the amount of $2,498 for a project entitled *Composition and Performance*. During the project, the artist, working with a mentor, will purchase a Musical Interface Digital Instrument (MIDI) system and will then compose 10-14 new jazz music pieces. The new music will be presented to the public at the Chisago Lakes Performing Arts Center in April of 2016. For more information, visit: www.nataliapeterson.org.

Keith Raivo of Brook Park, MN, received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for a project entitled *THE VIKINGS ARE COMING!* The project involves the creation and placement of a movable 3-D Viking ship sculpture, focusing on the basic design elements of line and repetition. The movable sculpture will be place in 3 or more different locations around the city of Mora during Spring of 2016. For more information, visit: www.raivoart.com.

Valerie Raivo of brook Park, MN, received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for a project entitled *Garden Trekker.* During the project, the artist will attend a "storytelling through photography workshop" and create a story about Minnesota gardens, greenhouses, and nurseries through the use of photography, assemblage, and narrative. The project will culminate with a free and open to the public exhibition of 30-

40 new pieces of artwork to be held at the Kanabec History Center in Mora, MN, during May/June of 2016. For more information, visit: www.raivoart.com.

Rebecca Tishman (A.K.A – Becca Cerra) of Shafer, MN, received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for a project entitled *The Other Side of Beauty*. During the project, the artist will produce and provide a public performance, hiring 5 dancers to perform original choreography wearing steel sculptures the artist created. At the end of the performance, discussion time will be provided, allowing the audience to interact with and discuss the artwork and the performance. The public performance is scheduled for May 27, 2016, beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the Old Shafer Creamery Event Center in Shafer, MN. For more information, visit: www.BeccaCerra.com.

ECRAC/McKnight Fellowship Program

The Fellowship program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists. These Fellowships 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.

Three $7,000 Fellowships are available annually.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

Paul Howe of Shafer, MN, received a grant of $7,000 for a project entitled *Falsework*. During the Fellowship, the artist will create a public, large-scale, outdoor sculpture. A pine log approximately 24" in diameter and 16' in length will be hung vertically by a chain hoist from a wooden structure built expressly for this purpose. Using only an ax, standing on the ground, the artist will turn the entire log into a pile of wood chips. Photographs of the site/activity will be taken every 2 minutes and compiled into a stop-frame animation and posted to the artist's website. For more information, visit: www.paulhowe.info.

Keith Raivo of Brook Park, MN, received a grant of $7,000 for a project entitled *Creation and Documentation of a Series of Sculptures.* During the Fellowship, the artist will create seven life size metal sculptures with a dancing theme and a video documentary of the entire sculpture-making process. The newly created sculptures and the video documentary will then be exhibited at the Paradise Theatre in Mora, MN, in Spring of 2016. Portions of the video documentary will also be posted on-line. For more information, visit: www.raivoart.com.

Rebecca Tishman (A.K.A – Becca Cerra) of Shafer, MN, received a grant of $7,000 for a project entitled *Restriction, Perfection* .During the Fellowship, the artist will create 20 rubber molds of human body parts to be then cast in iron. These iron casts will be able to be placed on persons' bodies, demonstrating the artist's intent/message centering on individuals' perceptions of their own bodies. For more information, visit: www.BeccaCerra.com.

ECRAC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Program

Grants up to $1,000 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.

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

Erica Belkholm of Mora, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Frame a Show*. During the project, the artist will have 8-12 of her most recent drawings framed in preparation for a multi-artist exhibition to be held at the Cambridge Center for the Arts during the month of March 2016. For more information, visit: www.torpid-porpoise.com.

Loren (A.K.A. Bud) Bullivant of Milaca, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Support for Purchasing a Business Computer*, During the project, the artist will upgrade computer equipment used to present his artwork to customers via website and on line shop. Artwork sales will be tracked and compared to previous sales numbers throughout the project. For more information, visit: www.budbullivant.com.

Edith (A.K.A. Edee) Conner of Isle, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Grateful Images in my Life and Community*. During the project, the artist will upgrade her camera equipment, allowing her to create new and professional quality images of Central Minnesota. The artist will show her newly created images at the Isle Community Center May 1-31, 2016.

Jessie DeCorsey of Lindstrom, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Inspired*. During the project, the artist will travel to Connecticut, spending five days creating a series of paintings, drawings, and photographs of the journey. The newly created series will be based upon and inspired by the works of artist, writer, and illustrator, Lauren Ford. For more information, visit: www.jessiedecorsey.com

Angela Foster of Pine City, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Iowa Summer Writing Workshop*. During the project, the artist will attend a 6-day advanced revision class at the Iowa Summer Writing festival in Iowa City, and will revise her memoir entitled *Falling Away*. For more information, visit: www.angelafoster.com.

Tracy Gulliver of Chisago City, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Comprehensive Manuscript Edit*. During the project, the artist will work with editor Ashley Shelby to provide a comprehensive edit of her manuscript titled *Seized: Life as I (mostly) Remember It,* to prepare it for publication.

Abby Mott (A.K.A. Abby Lingle) of Onamia, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Display and Presentation Tent.* During the project, the artist will purchase a new more stable and professional dome tent for use in juried outdoor art festivals. For more information, visit: www.abbylingle.com.

Roger Nieboer of Mora, MN, received a grant in the amount of $955 for a project entitled *Go Video*. During the project, the artist will purchase two video cameras and acquire technical support for documentation of a variety of performance art projects.

Larry Ostrom of Cambridge, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Rebuild Catenary Arch Kiln.* During the project, the artist will be rebuilding his 30 year old brick catenary arch kiln, replacing the corroded firebrick to make the kiln airtight, allowing for more control of the firing atmosphere. For more information, visit: www.ostromsceramics.com.

Bernadine Roberts of Hinckley, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Mixed Media Artistic Fashion Accessories*. During the project, the artist will create artistic fashion accessories, including handbags, totes, cosmetic bags, and pouches that are embellished with mixed media materials.

Heidi Schauer of Wyoming, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Common Threads.* During the project, the artist will complete a five-day self-designed research and writing activity focused on the life and works of Lauren Ford. For more information, visit: www.HeidiSchauer.com.

Elizabeth Steffenson of Cambridge, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Writing for Children Study and Mentorship.* During the project, the artist will attend a Children's Writers Conference, attend writing lectures at Hamline University, and will be mentored by Molly Beth Griffin through a Loft Literary Center program.

Kelli Tubbs of Chisago City, MN, received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Drum Set Lessons with Daniel Glass*. During the project, the artist will participate in 9 hours of private instruction to learn how to perform ragtime and traditional jazz on a period correct drum set, and will also refurbish a snare drum to performance-ready condition. For more information, visit: www.Swing-and-a-Miss.com.

ECRAC K-12 Student 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.

Annual Deadline: March 1

Julia Gams of Mora, MN, received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled *Private Voice Lessons.* During the project, the high school student will use the Scholarship to pay for 25 voice lessons provided by vocal mentor Mrs. Sarah Howes of Mora, MN.

Alayna Heintz of Rush City, MN, received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled *Art Classes for 6-year-olds.* During the project, the 1st Grade student will participate in a variety of art classes, a summer art camp, and will participate in on-line class offerings.

Lyle Nelson of Braham, MN, received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled *Clay Summer Camp.* During the project, the 4th Grade student will attend a week-long camp at the Northern Clay Center of Minneapolis, MN, where he will learn how to sculpt clay by hand and on a pottery wheel.

Grant Pryor of Cambridge, MN, received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled *Suzuki Method Violin Lessons.* During the project, the student will participate in six months of 40 minute private violin lessons from June through December 2015.

Heidi Pryor of Cambridge, MN, received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled *String Orchestra Day Camp*. During the project, the 5th Grade student will attend the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies camp from July 13 to July 17 2015. The camp is for music students ages 8-13 with at least two years of playing experience.

ECRAC's Annual IMAGE Art Show 2015

The IMAGE Art Show is a regional judged art show sponsored by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC). The five counties included in the show are Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine County.

The 2015 IMAGE Art Show will be hosted this year by the East Central Regional Arts Council. The event will take place at the ECRAC main office located at 112 Main Avenue South in Braham, Minnesota.

Visit the ECRAC website at www.ecrac.org for IMAGE Art Show updates.

GRANTS FUNDED FY 2014

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2014 (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014)

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Organization Grant Program

$5,000 to $15000 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.

Cambridge-Isanti Performing Arts Committee, a program of Cambridge-Isanti Community Education received a grant in the amount of $4,935 for a project entitled *Stages Theatre Production of "Goodnight Moon".* This project will bring Stages Theatre Company of Hopkins, MN production of their original musical *"Goodnight Moon"* to the Hardy Center for two performances on February 21, 2015 allowing preschool and kindergarten through third grade students and their families from throughout the East Central Regional Arts Council's area an opportunity to attend a professional theatre presentation locally. For more information, check out their website at: www.hardycenter.com.

Central Minnesota Art Co-op, located in Princeton, MN, received a grant in the amount of $7,798 for a project entitled *Drive In for Art.* This project will hire an artist to lead high school age art students in painting an exterior mural depicting a drive-in movie theatre. The movie screen depicted in the mural will also function as an actual movie screen to be used showing movies and film projects outdoors. For more information, visit their website at: www.cmnartcoop.org.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *Artists Rubbing Elbows With Children.* This project connected students (Grades K-8) residing in Southern Chisago County with 13 local artists who shared their artistic skills in after school art classes held at Lakeside Elementary, Chisago Lakes Primary School, and Chisago Lakes Middle School. Classes were held Monday-Thursday after school from February through May 2014. The project culminated in May with an art show at the Chisago Lakes High School displaying the students' works. For more information, check out their website at: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *Art for All.* This project will connect the children who live in Southern Chisago County to high quality local artists. The artists will teach the children their artistic skills and share their artistic passions with the children during afternoon [after school] art classes. This relationship between the artists and the children of this area will be facilitated by the Chisago Lakes Community Education. For more information, check out their website at: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

The City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for a project entitled *Music in the Park.* Mora will host a music concert series held in Library Park on Thursday evenings during June, July and August 2014. Twelve musical performances will represent a wide variety of styles and will be open to the public free-of-charge. Musical styles will include: Irish, Dixieland, Scandinavian, Country/Folk, Rock 'n Roll, Old-Tyme, and Bluegrass. For more information, visit their website at: www.ci.mora.mn.us.

East Central Minnesota Chorale (ECMC) of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of $12,692 for a project entitled C*elebration of Freedom.* ECMC presented three concerts – February 23rd, 2014 at the Richard Hardy Performing Arts Center in Cambridge; May 10, 2014 at Stevens in Princeton; and May 9th, 2014 at Spectacular Events in Isanti – featuring the Red Bull Army Band and the ECMC Unum Vox choir. The event examined the cultural impact of WWII on music from and inspired by that time through WWII memorabilia and stories collected from Region 7E residents. For more information, check out their website at: www.eastcentralmnchorale.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $14,972 for a project entitled *2014 Music @ Franconia*. The project will provide a diverse series of musical performances and guided tours of the Franconia Sculpture Park exhibition and studio. The concert series includes four six-hour events (noon-6:00 p.m.) featuring 13 musical performers/groups. Music genres include: Blues and Soul (6-28-14), Bluegrass and Folk (7-12-14), Global Rhythm (8-16-14), and American Roots and Country (9-13-14). The events are free-of-charge and open to the public (parking fee = $5.00/vehicle). For more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $14,979 for a project entitled *2014 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Program*, offering five art-making workshops on July 26, 27, 30, 31, and August 2, 2014, plus a full-day live metal pour demonstration event on August 2, 2014.
For more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $14,957 for a project entitled *2014 Rural Arts Program* that will serve youth groups from Region 7E with *Discover Sculpture* interactive guided tours led by professional artists at Franconia Sculpture Park during September and October 2014.
For more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Milaca Fine Arts Council (MFAC) received a grant in the amount of $8,685 for a project entitled *Music in the Park 2014.* MFAC will present this summer concert series on June 5th, June 12th, June 26th, July 3rd, July 10th, July 17th, July 24th, and July 31, 2014 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the historic Rec Park bandshell in Milaca. The series will present a mix of genres featuring local and out-of-state musicians.
For more information, check out their website at: http://milacaartscenter.org.

Onamia Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $10,710 for a project entitled *Dallas Brass with Bryan Anthony in Onamia*. This project will bring the brass ensemble with special guest violinist Bryan

Anthony to Onamia on Saturday, September 20, 2014, to work with local instrumentalists and vocalists of all ages and to provide a free community performance.

Paradise Community Theatre of Mora, MN received a grant in the amount of $14,935 for a project entitled *Live Performance Sound and Lighting.* The Paradise Theatre will design, acquire, and install a professional grade concert sound system and state-of-the-art theatrical lighting equipment at their location. This project serves as the third and final phase of the theatre's auditorium renovation. For more information, check out their website at: www.paradisetheatre.com.

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Operating Support Grant Program

The Operating Support grant program offers up to $15,000 of funding to qualified organizations to maintain ongoing operating needs and services. Assured matching funds of 10% are a requirement of this grant program.

Annual Deadline: March 1st for July 1 through June 30 allocation

Paradise Community Theatre of Mora, MN received a grant in the amount of $15,000 for the purpose of long-range strategic planning. Operating support grant funds will be used to facilitate long-range planning by the board, engage the services of consultants, planners, and facilitators, and conduct fundraising and construction project feasibility studies.

ECRAC Small/Arts Project Grant Program

Grants from $500 to $5,000 will be made to organizations (501c3 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

Audubon Center of the North Woods, located near Sandstone, MN, received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for a project entitled *Robinson Park Rock and Ice Climbing Mural.* The project involved a large-scale expansion of the Center's indoor Robinson Park mural depicting rock and ice climbers to cover all walls and ceilings of the barn climbing loft. The project also added a rock climbing mural in the building entry stairwell leading up to the climbing loft. The public unveiling of the mural occurred on May 11th, 2014 during their Mother's Day Brunch event. For more information, visit their website at: www.audubon-center.org.

East Central Minnesota Pride of Braham, MN received a grant in the amount of $2,400 for a project entitled *The 10th Annual East Central Minnesota Pride in the Park.* East Central Minnesota Pride presented 2 hours of free, quality live music from 3 musical groups for the 10th Annual *Pride in the Park.* The event was held at Voyageurs Park in Pine City from noon-3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 1st, and was open to the public.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $4,981 for a project entitled *2014 Valentine's Day Hot Metal Pour.* Franconia Sculpture Park provided 8 art-making workshops where community members created relief sculptures and a live hot metal pour event where attendees observed a metal pour and learned about the process of metal casting. The event was held on February 14, 2014. For

more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $4,990 for a project entitled *The 2014 Docent- Led Guided Tours and Kids Make Sculpture Workshop.* Franconia Sculpture Park will offer an arts learning program including 26 weekly docent-led guided tours of Franconia's public art exhibition of 100+ large-scale sculptures on Sundays, from May 18th through November 9th, 2014, and four Kids Make Sculpture workshops serving youth ages 4-18 on May 24th, June 21st, July 19th, and August 23rd, 2014. For more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Milaca Fine Arts Council (MFAC) received a grant in the amount of $5,000 for a project entitled *Workshops by the MAC.* The project will be held in Milaca's Trimble Park as part of Milaca's 5th annual bluegrass festival on July 25th, 26th, and 27th, 2014. The project includes: 6 instrumental workshops; beginner and intermediate jam workshops; vocal/harmony workshop; Appalachian clogging workshop; and open stage. For more information, check out their website at: http://milacaartscenter.org.

Pine County Historical Society of Pine City received a grant in the amount of $4,129 for a project entitled *Pine County History Museum External Wall Mural.* The Pine County Historical Society will create a 2,000 square foot mural on the west end of a building facing Highway 23 in Askov, MN depicting historical events significant to Pine County's growth and development. The mural dedication event will be held on Saturday, August 23rd, at 11:00. For more information, visit their website at: www.pinecountyhistorymuseum.org.

ECRAC Art In Our Schools Grant Program

$1,000 grants 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.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Let the Children Sing.* The project created a youth choir for students in Grades 3-8 living in southern Chisago County utilizing the skills of Henry Novotny during the first week of February 2014. 10 sessions were offered, with approximately 25 students participating. The project included an open to the public Spring 2014 concert held on March 6th. For more information, check out their website at: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Make a Movie After School.* Videographer Jack Doepke will teach young people how to make their own movie. Using the Chisago Lakes High School camera and television studio, Jack will give students first-hand knowledge on how to use the principles of cinematography to create art with a video camera. The project will be offered during the first quarter of the 2014-15 school year. The final product video will appear on cable television in the Chisago Lakes area. Announcements of the time(s) and date(s) of the December showing will be made in the Chisago County Press newspaper For more information, check out their website at: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

Mora Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Poetry Alive! and in Mora*. *Poetry Alive!* performed curriculum-based literature for student audiences Grades 3-6 at Trailview Elementary, and conducted an in-service workshop for faculty. The project included a community event held on March 31st, 2014 from 6:30-8:00 entitled "Ice Cream for Books and *Poetry Alive!"*

Mora Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $820 for a project entitled *Sculpting Our Community*. This project is described as a "Summer Art Camp" with sculpture emphasis and a chance to be inspired by a field trip to see outdoor sculpture at Franconia Sculpture Park. Elements of creating sculpture through an Observe and Interpret Tour will kick off the week of August 11-15 activities for 40 students in grades 1-6. The students' art work from this project will be displayed at the Kanabec State Bank located in Mora, MN during the month of September 2014.

Onamia Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $980 for a project entitled *Block Cutting & Printing, and GREAT Theatre.* On January 29th and February 5th, 2014, visual artist Vernette Hart held two class sessions on block making and printing for 20 Onamia students. The second part of the project involved the same students visiting the Great River Educational Arts Theatre (GREAT) in St. Cloud on February 4th attending a production of *"To Kill a Mockingbird."* The community component invited local senior citizens from the Onamia Senior Club to participate in the block cutting portion and then displayed the works at the Rolf Olson Community Center for several months. During the play component, students were asked to blog on the school website, sharing their reactions to the play and the book.

Pine City Schools received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *I Love to Read Month Project.* David Geister, artist and children's book illustrator, presented his drawing and illustrating skills to students in Grades K-6th. He incorporated storytelling as he illustrated for children. The students were able to draw with him as part of the program. There were three presentations each day, so all Pine City Elementary students could be in contact with him. The community was also able to attend a public presentation by Mr. Geister held at 3:00 on February 4th, 2014.

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Program for Individual Artists

This program provides grants up to $2,500 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.

Roger Nieboer of Mora received a grant in the amount of $2,375 for a project entitled *Existentia.* This project included a premiere showing of a film documenting the creation of *Existentia,* an audience-participatory performance piece, followed by a live, interactive performance of *Existentia* held at the Paradise Theatre located in Mora, MN. The event was held on Saturday, April 26th, 2014, was open to the public, and was offered free of charge.

Lauri Rockne of Mora received a grant in the amount of $2,251 for a project entitled *Region 7E Butterfly and Moth Series.* During this project, the artist intends to photograph and then abstract 20 butterflies and moths native to the 7E region using unique leaf print and Photoshop techniques. The project will

culminate in a show at the Pine Center for the Arts in April of 2015. For more information, visit: www.laurirockne.com.

Dee Ann Sibley of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for a project entitled *Abandoned Spaces, an Isanti County Retrospective.* This project will focus on abandoned farmhouses and structures within the Isanti County limits. Photography will be used as a means to examine the context of the structure while exhibiting the ruins as artistic examples of decay and times forgotten. The artist's work will be on display at the Cambridge Center for the Arts from May 29th through June 26th, 2015, with an Artist's Reception and Show Opening on May 29th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. For more information, visit the website: www.dsibleystudios.zenfolio.com.

Terri Huro-Torgerson of Mora received a grant in the amount of $2,500 for a project entitled *Time Exposure Photography.* During the project, the artist will purchase camera equipment to allow proper time exposures and star photography. The project will culminate with an open-to-the-public show opening to be held at the Kanabec History Center in Mora, MN at 6:30 p.m. on September 12th, 2014. The artist's work will remain on display through the end of September.

ECRAC/McKnight Fellowship Program

The Fellowship program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists. These Fellowships 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 $7,000 Fellowships are available annually.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

MaryAnn Cleary of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of $7,000 for a project entitled *De-Mystifying the Complexity of Color and Light in Painting.* During the Fellowship, the artist intends to study the relationship of color and light in a controlled setting using simple still life setups and painting them. The color studies will be documented and workshops/presentations will be offered once completed. Fellowship activities include: researching color theory to develop specific projects; making a still life box; ordering/using a variety of fabrics for backdrops; setting up still life studies and painting each using pastels; documentation of works; developing presentation and workshop criteria; and making ten setups for future workshops.

Jonathan Friesen of Mora received a grant in the amount of $7,000 for a project entitled *A Bump in the Road: The Need for Literary Representation.* During the Fellowship, the artist intends to meet and secure a new Young Adult literary agent, and to develop the work of fiction necessary to do so. Fellowship activities include: attending writing conferences/workshops; manuscript editing; and acquiring a literary agent.

ECRAC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Program

Grants up to $1,000 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.

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

Hugh Bryant of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $869 for a project entitled *Time-Lapse Sculpture.* During this project, the artist will use digital photography and time-lapse video to record himself building sculptural works. These photos and videos will provide insights into creating, and will offer a better understanding of both the creative process and the sculptures.

Martin Gilchrist of Milaca received a grant in the amount of $909 for a project entitled *The Next Step.* The artist has identified two artistic areas he wants to improve – post processing and presentation of his works. For his *Next Step* project, he will purchase Photoshop software, Spyder software, photography books and equipment, and will attend a photography class/workshop to improve his artistic skills and abilities.

John Harrington of Stacy received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *St. Croix Suite.* This project involves the development of materials to be used to create 15-25 poems with corresponding photographs suitable for publication. The artist is working to complete a book with sections related to each major ecological area of Minnesota.

Colleen McKinney of Mora received a grant in the amount of $900 for a project entitled *Online Coaching/Editing of Creative Non-Fiction Manuscript.* The artist is writing a creative nonfiction memoir/manuscript. During this project, she will work individually with a writing coach/editor who can review her manuscript and help prepare it for publication. The coaching/editing will be arranged online and will include the artist submitting 20 pages of writing to the coach/editor every two weeks for six months.

Don L. Moyer of Center City received a grant in the amount of $993 for a project entitled *Voice Lessons with International Opera Star, Audrey Stottler.* During the project, the artist will attend nine hour-long voice lessons with international singing artist and voice teacher, Audrey Stottler on consecutive Sundays during the period of October 5, 2014 through November 30, 2014. During that time they will work on voice training and on duet, trio, and quartet repertoire.

Karen V. Nelson of Onamia received a grant in the amount of $950 for a project entitled *Mille Lacs Area Photography Production.* During this project, the artist will purchase a new camera and related equipment, allowing her to produce professional-quality photographs. The artist will also take online photography classes and will be mentored by a local artist/photographer.

Carissa Samaniego of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $798 for a project entitled *Documentation Equipment*. This project involves purchasing a Nikon d5100 camera with video capacity to be used for

documenting the artist's work. The equipment will allow her to produce professional-quality documentation of her artwork to be used for her online portfolio and for producing submissions to exhibitions and calls for artists.

Zachary Sander of Pine City received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *Commissioning and Performing Finnish Saxophone Repertoire.* During this project, the artist commissioned two new pieces of saxophone literature from Finnish composers, rehearsed these new pieces and other pieces of Finnish saxophone repertoire, and performed them on June 1, 2014 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Pine City, MN.

Zofia Warpeha of Milaca received a grant in the amount of $1,000 for a project entitled *World Music Study-Arabic Music Retreat.* The artist will attend the Arabic Music Retreat, a 7-day immersion in traditional Arabic music. The retreat is held at Mount Holyoake College in South Hadley, Massachusetts and will take place August 9-16th, 2014. The retreat is led by Simon Shaheen, an internationally-acclaimed Arabic music performer, composer, and educator.

ECRAC K-12 Student 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.

Annual Deadline: March 1

Heidi Pryor of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled *Summer Fiddle Camp*. Scholarship funds were used to allow the elementary school student to attend a fiddle day camp featuring three well-known violin instructors. The camp students learned Bluegrass, Canadian, Appalachian, Celtic, Jazz, and Blues music styles from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm for four consecutive days. A special recital was held on the last day. The camp took place on June 24-27, 2014 in Madison Wisconsin.

Samuel A. Roberto of Pine City received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled *Summer Jazz Camp.* The high school student will be using this scholarship award to attend the Minnesota All State Jazz Camp August 4-9, 2014. His goals are to continue to develop his improvisational skills as a soloist, and perform as part of a jazz ensemble or combo. He is planning on pursuing music in college and hopes to have a career as a professional saxophonist.

William Woulfe of Pine City received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled *Minnesota Ambassadors of Music Trip.* The high school student will use the scholarship funds to support his participation in the Minnesota Music Ambassadors of Summer Trip. The trip will take place from July 6 through July 21, 2014. The program's purpose is "to instruct American students and take their love of music to audiences abroad."

ECRAC's Annual IMAGE Art Show 2014

The IMAGE Art Show is a regional yearly judged art show sponsored by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC). The show is hosted each year by a different art group or group of individuals interested in the arts. The five counties included in the region are Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine County (Region 7E).

The East Central Regional Arts Council sponsors the show at this time with a budget of $10,000.

Annual Deadline: June 1st

The 2014 IMAGE Art Show will be hosted this year by the East Central Regional Arts Council. The event will take place in October at the ECRAC main office located at 112 Main Avenue in Braham, Minnesota. Visit the ECRAC website at www.ecrac.org for IMAGE Art Show updates.

GRANTS FUNDED FY 2013

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2013 (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013)

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Organization Grant Program

Paradise Community Theatre of Mora received a grant in the amount of $15000 for a project entitled Paradise Theatre Renovation Project. This was a theatre renovation project and included mold removal and artistic renovation to restore the theatre's accessibility and original grandeur. For more information check out their website at www.paradisetheatre.com

Cambridge Center for the Arts of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $15000 for a project entitled Personnel Grant. The Cambridge Center for the Arts is transitioning from total volunteer management to paid Executive Director Management to ensure stability and continuity in programming. For more information check out their website at http://www.cambridgecenterforthearts.org

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $15000 for a project entitled Capital Equipment Grant - Truck/Trailer for Sculpture Development. This equipment is a critical physical resource in the daily operation at the Sculpture Park in support of the arts: creation, exhibition, programming, and maintenance. For more information check out their website at www.franconia.org

City of Milaca received a grant in the amount of $15000 for a project entitled Rec Fest 2013. The Milaca Parks Commission presented a three day bluegrass music festival and art celebration in July 2013 at the historic bandshell in Milaca's Recreation (Rec) Park. For more information check out their website at http://milacarecfest.com/

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of $15000 for a project entitled Artists Rubbing Elbows With Children. Chisago Lakes Community Education facilitates this learning experience between local artists from various genres and the children of Southern Chisago County. This project culminated in an art show featuring the work of the artists and the children and was open to the public. For more information check out their website at http://www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed

Cambridge Center for the Arts of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $15000 for a project entitled Executive Director Grant. The Cambridge Center for the Arts will continue to compensate a paid Executive Director to ensure stability and continuity in programming. For more information check out their website at http://www.cambridgecenterforthearts.org

The City of Braham received a grant in the amount of $15000 for a project entitled Braham Sculpture Park. The City of Braham will install a series of 4 sculptures. For more information check out their website at http://braham.com/

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $14993 for a project entitled 2013 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Program. The 2013 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour program included 3 art making workshops and a full day metal pour event. For more information check out their website at www.franconia.org

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $14987 for a project entitled Music at Franconia Concert Series and Guided Tours. Support of musical performances and guided tours of Franconia Sculpture Parks public art exhibition. For more information check out their website at www.franconia.org

Cambridge Center for the Arts of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $14980 for a project entitled Play Inc Summer Theater Program. The Cambridge Center for the Arts will offer the Play Inc Summer Theater Program for youth and produced 3 performances of 2 plays. For more information check out their website at http://www.cambridgecenterforthearts.org

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $13914 for a project entitled 2013 Valentine's Day Hot Metal Pour. Minnesota artists and the community participated in the unique process of metal casting at an outdoor iron pour. Sand carving workshops for the public were held in preparation for the iron pour. For more information check out their website at www.franconia.org

Mora Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $13244 for a project entitled Contemporary Art Collaboration. Mora's CAPP brought in three artists for week-long residencies. This project concluded with a dance performance in which all three contemportary artists (composer, choreographer, visual artist) collaborated on a free of charge community performance. For more information check out their website at www.mora.k12.mn.us

East Central Minnesota Chorale of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $2259 for a project entitled Capital Equipment Grant - Keyboard and Amplifier for Music Development. This equipment grant included the purchase of a portable 88 key weighted action digital keyboard and amplifier to be used in performance spaces that do not have the proper instrumentation. For more information check out their website at www.eastcentralmnchorale.org

Cambridge-Isanti Performing Arts Committee, a program of Cambridge Isanti Community Education of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $9995 for a project entitled "On Stage With" Performance Series. "On Stage With" is a performance series at the Hardy Center in Cambridge. The audience as well as the performer will be on stage and backstage and the large seating area will not be used at all to increase ambience and artist audience interaction. For more information check out their website at www.hardycenter.com

The City of Mora received a grant in the amount of $9889 for a project entitled Mora's Music in the Park. Mora is sponsoring nine cultural music concerts representing a variety of styles. For more information check out their website at http://www.ci.mora.mn.us/

Braham Pie Day of Braham received a grant in the amount of $9759 for a project entitled Braham Pie Day Sings a New Song and Focuses on Arts Participation. Braham Pie Day contracted with a composer for a new Pie Song and will also fund festival performances and a professional sound technician. For more information check out their website at www.pieday.com

East Central Minnesota Chorale of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $9757 for a project entitled Sound and Lighting - Equipment Grant. Sound and lighting equipment was purchased. This equipment is being used in upcoming seasons and will support accessibility for the members and will enhance the acoustics for performances. For more information check out their website at www.eastcentralmnchorale.org

Onamia Area Friends of the Library of Onamia received a grant in the amount of $8819 for a project entitled Onamia is All About Art. Onamia is All About Art infused the arts into the Mille Lacs area by offering arts education, arts appreciation, and cultural heritage activites for all ages and all skill levels all year long. Ojibwe storytelling, a community art show, block painting, drawing, and music appreciation are were part of the project. For more information check out their website at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Onamia-Depot-Library/141443955953558

The Milaca Fine Arts Council received a grant in the amount of $8695 for a project entitled Music in the Park 2013. The Milaca Fine Arts Council is presenting a series of community concerts during the summer. There will be a wide variety of music genres and local performing artists and musicians will be featured. For more information check out their website at http://milacaartscenter.org/

Onamia Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $7750 for a project entitled Mille Lacs Community Youth Theatre Project. This project brought together youth and adults from the Mille Lacs Lake area to provide a meaningful theatre experience. The production was "Somewhere, Nowhere: A Small Town Cycle" and will coincide with the City of Isle centennial celebration.

We R Able a program of the St Croix River Education District in Rush City received a grant in the amount of $6509 for a project entitled Seven Concerts in the We R Able Service Area. Seven concerts were sponsored highlighting the music of Ireland and Sweden.

Isanti County Historical Society (ICHS) of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $1615 for a project entitled Nordic Music and Dance Concert and Workshop. ICHS will provide instruction to the general public in traditional Nordic dance and music with Ole Olsson's Old Time Orchestra. There will be a dance and workshops. For more information check out their website at www.ichs.ws

ECRAC's Annual IMAGE Art Show 2013

Old School Art Center of Sandstone received a grant in the amount of $10000 for hosting the IMAGE Art Show 2013. IMAGE will be held November 15 to the 19th, 2013. For more information on the Old School Art Center check out their website at http://oldschoolartscenter.org/

ECRAC Organization Art Project Grant Program

East Central Minnesota Chorale of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $5000 for a project entitled East Central Minnesota Winter Concerts. This grant supported the annual winter concerts. The Chorale hired a string quartet, oboe, two trumpets, and timpani, to accompany specific pieces of the program. For more information check out their website at www.eastcentralmnchorale.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $5000 for a project entitled 2012 Art and Artists Celebration. On September 22, 2012, Franconia Sculpture Park hosted an all-day arts event from 10 am to 10 pm. This event celebrated their current exhibition and featured 39 new 3-D works of art, there was also music, arts education, and family art-making workshops. For more information check out their website at www.franconia.org

We R Able a program of the St Croix River Education District in Rush City received a grant in the amount of $4999 for a project entitled Arts RX - a Prescription for a Dose of Good Arts Through Music. From March 2013 to January 2014 a series of 12 music appreciation concerts are being held in North Branch and Rush City and the artists will be Troy Heling, Pat Schonhardt, Jim Anderson, Ross Sutter, and Art Bjorngjeld. For more information check out their website at http://www.scred.k12.mn.us/

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $4990 for a project entitled 2013 Docent Led Guided Tours and Kids Make Sculpture Workshops. This project includes 26 weekly Docent Led Guided Tours of Franconia Sculpture Park's public art exhibition of 105 large-scale sculptures and 4 Kids Make Sculpture Workshops serving youth ages 4-18. For more information check out their website at www.franconia.org

Cambridge Center for the Arts of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $4057 for a project entitled Play Inc Community Theater's Production of Fiddler on the Roof. For more information check out their website at http://www.cambridgecenterforthearts.org

We R Able a program of the St Croix River Education District in Rush City received a grant in the amount of $3579 for a project entitled Arts Audience Development Through Four Days of Mime. Four mime workshops were held in conjunction with art show openings in the We R Able Service area of Pine City, Rush City, North Branch, and Chisago Lakes. For more information check out their website at http://www.scred.k12.mn.us/

Old School Art Center of Sandstone received a grant in the amount of $2847 for a project entitled Project Student Panels. A local artist was hired to work with students in two area schools to design and

create four panels mounted on the outside of the Old School Art Center building. For more information check out their website at http://oldschoolartscenter.org/

Princeton Area Visionary Committee of Princeton received a grant in the amount of $1700 for a project entitled Rhythm on the Rum. This project was held September 22, 2012, and included a performance of the Festival of Nations band at the Princeton Rum River Riverside Park site. For more information on this group check out their website at http://princetonareavisionarycommittee.org/

ECRAC Small Grant Program

We R Able a program of the St Croix River Education District in Rush City received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled Making Books As Containers of Artistic Expression. A bookmaking class was held in 4 venues. The artist was Mary Jo Pauly. Participants learned skills and were guided in personal expression both in making books and filling them with content.

We R Able a program of the St Croix River Education District in Rush City received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled Dance from Your Chair at the Pine City Senior Center. Dancer Cheryl Braddock presented a series of dance classes. Participants learned skills and were guided in personal expression through movement. The participants are adults with disabilities and older adults.

Cambridge Center for the Arts of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled Cabin Fever Art Show. In collaboration with GracePointe Crossing, the 2nd Annual Cabin Fever Art Show gave local artists the opportunity to show their artwork to the community. For more information check out their website at http://www.cambridgecenterforthearts.org

Pine Center for the Arts of Pine City received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled Music of the Pine County Lumberjacks with Brian Miller. This concert at the Northwest Company Fur Post highlighted the history of the music of the Irish lumberjacks in Pine County. For more information check out their website at http://pinecenter.org/

We R Able a program of the St Croix River Education District in Rush received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled Neiberz Honors Doris Day at the Chisago County Senior Center. The band Neighberz performed a medley concert of Doris Day songs in honor of her birthday. The audience was invited to sing along and then design a bracelet.

The Princeton ISD 477 School Age Child Care Program received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled Child Care Field Trip to Circus Juventas Oz. This field trip allowed the students the ability to attend a performance not available locally.

East Central Minnesota Pride of Braham received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled Sound Equipment Rental for the 9th Annual East Central Minnesota Pride Event. This grant allowed for the payment of rental fees for the sound equipment used at the East Central Minnesota Pride Event in Pine City. The musical artists were: Nobody's Weddin, Yassen Marie, Harley Wood, and Chastity Brown.

Kanabec County Agricultural Society of Mora received a grant in the amount of $500 for a project entitled Kids Make Art. Arts activities were available for children attending the annual Kanabec County Fair. Artists will assist the children. For more information check out their website at http://kanabecfair.org/

ECRAC Art In Our Schools Grant Program

Wyoming Elementary School, ISD 831, received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Lisa Arnold Residency. This project included a residency with mosaicist Lisa Arnold and the production of a permanent mosaic in the school.

Wyoming Elementary School, ISD 831, received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Theater Masks Residency. Ann Sawyer-Aitch provided a residency with a speaking reader's theater theme and masks were made by the students.

Onamia Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $809 for a project entitled Onamia ALC Great Theatre Field Trips. The Onamia ALC provided 2 field trips for students to the GREAT Theatre in St Cloud

Mora Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Cowles Center Field Trip. 2nd grade students attended a Zenon Dance Company performance.

ECRAC ACHF Individual Artist Grant Program

Shirl Chouinard of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $2500 for a project entitled Home Sweet Home. The artist first participate in arts learning with mentors and then developed an exhibit of her artwork. An exhibit of artwork produced from this project was held in Cambridge, MN. For more information check out their website at http://www.mnartists.org/Shirl_Chouinard

Valorie Arrowsmith of Stanchfield received a grant in the amount of $2500 for a project entitled Supporting Artistic Development through a Bookmaking Mentorship. The project is a bookmaking mentorship with artist Mary Jo Pauly.

Nancy Toskey of Chisago City received a grant in the amount of $2500 for a project entitled INTERSECTIONS. This project will culminate in a public presentation and will include an online blog of edited digital conversations and visuals around the common themes of humanity and uniqueness of personal experiences. For more information on this artist check out her website at www.mediatoremember.com

Susan Foss of Sandstone received a grant in the amount of $2493 for a project entitled Ojibwe Totem Statues. Creation of 5 sculptures of totem animals used by the Ojibwe people. For more information check out the artist's website at http://minnesotagoosegarden.com/

Terri Huro of Mora received a grant in the amount of $975 for a project entitled Solo Gallery Shows. The artist will purchase better quality water color supplies to support the creation of art to be used in upcoming exhibits and solo gallery shows. For more information check out herwebsite at http://terrihuroart.com/

ECRAC/McKnight Fellowship Program

David Spohn of Lindstrom received a Fellowship in the amount of $7000 for a project entitled The Dragon Fly Suite - A study in transformation.

Kenneth Larson of Sturgeon Lake received a grant in the amount of $7000 for a project entitled Sculpture Fellowship. For more information on Larson go to his website at http://www.larsonclayworks.com/

ECRAC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Program

Tracy Gulliver of Chisago City received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Seized. This is a manuscript editing and mentorship project For more information check out her website at www.tracygulliver.blogspot.com

Deb Frantz of Ogilvie received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled World Music Drumming Level I Workshop. Frantz attended a music workshop in order to enhance the ceramic musical instruments that she creates.

Cliff Odendahl of Grasston received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Photographing the Apostle Islands with Craig Blacklock. This was a MISA workshop.

Melanie Brooks of Pine City received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Instrumental Music Education- The Art of Conducting and Saxophone Performance. This artist continued her music education by attending the Suomen Tyovaen Musiikkiliitto Music Camp and by receiving saxophone lessons from Daniel Gordon.

Stephanie Anderson of Milaca received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Mixed Media Water, Woods, and Wildlife Study Project. Anderson is exploring the nearby water, woods, and wildlife, through a mixed media approach

Elizabeth Steffenson of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Training at the Loft Literary Center. This training will assist her in finishing 2 manuscripts.

Valerie Raivo of Brook Park received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Photography in Mixed Media Project. This project included both the purchase of a new high end digital camera for documentation of work and also included photography in the production of mixed media art work.

Marilyn Cuellar of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $1000 for a project entitled Capital Equipment Grant. This project included the purchase of new tent sides for the exhibition of her artwork during the summer of 2013. For more information check out her website at http://marilyncuellar.com/

Jason Bord of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $994 for a project entitled The Upside Down House Project. This project was to develop and install a new work of sculpture out of local lumber that deals with economic status and the outsourcing of resources. For more information check out his website at http://jasonbord.com/home.html

Dee Kotaska of Brook Park received a grant in the amount of $984 for a project entitled Artistic Photography Project. This project explores artistic photography through the technology of the iPhone and iPad.

Dane Winkler of Shafer received a grant in the amount of $944 for a project entitled Digital Camera Project. This project included the purchase of a new high end digital camera for both the documentation of artwork and also to be used in the production of his artwork. For more information check out his website at http://danewinkler.net/home.html

Barry Scanlan of Milaca received a grant in the amount of $905 for a project entitled Production Project. This project included the purchase of supplies for the production of a series of new paintings and an exhibition of those paintings. For more information check out his website at https://www.facebook.com/Barry.Scanlan.artist

Brenda Brophy of Chisago City received a grant in the amount of $894 for a project entitled Literary Mentorship Project. This is a literary mentorship with author and editor Ashley Brooks.

ECRAC K-12 Student Scholarship

Scholarships up to $500. March 1 deadline. This funding is targeted to special art learning projects or programs for kids K-12.

Heidi Pryor of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $500. This student attended the Fiddle Pal Camp in Stillwater, MN.

Clara Jacobus of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $465 the Northern Clay Center Summer Camp.

Grant Pryor of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of $ This student is taking suzuki method violin lessons and will perform a recital at the end of the training.

For more information on any of the grants or grant programs contact:

East Central Regional Arts Council
112 Main Street South
PO Box 294
Braham, Minnesota 55006
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email: info@ecrac.org
web: www.ecrac.org

This activity is made possible by a grant from the East Central Regional Arts Council with funds provided by The McKnight Foundation and also by the voters of Minnesota thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

GRANTS FUNDED FY 2012

Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council during FY 2012 (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012).

ECRAC Art In Our Schools Grant Program

Trailview Elementary School, Mora, for the Voice of Culture Drum and Dance Residency, $1000

Pine City Public Schools for the Doug Wood Residency, $1000

Onamia Community Education for a Summer Pottery Workshop, $1000

We R Able, St. Croix River Education District (SCRED), Rush City, for the Clay Narratives with Special Education Summer School Project in Pine City, $1000

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Program for Individual Artists

Dee Kotaska, Brook Park, for her "After the Shutter is Released-Photographic Post Processing" Project, $2481

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Program for Organizations

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, for Phase 2 of the Michael Richards' Memorial Sculpture Project, "Are You Down?," $15000
www.franconia.org/mrichards.html

Cambridge-Isanti Performing Arts Committee, District 911 Community Education, Cambridge, for a presentation of Stages Theatre Company's production of, *Llama Llama Red Pajama*, $5025
www.hardycenter.com

East Central MN Chorale, Cambridge, an equipment grant for Choral Risers and Shell, $14569
www.eastcentralmnchorale.org

Milaca Parks Commission, City of Milaca, for a 3 day Bluegrass Music and Art Festival '*Rec Fest 2012*', $14920
www.milacarecfest.com

Milaca Arts Center for "*Music in the Park 2012*" a series of concerts at the bandshell in Rec Park, $9605
www.milacaartscenter.com

Braham Pie Day for the Pie Day Celebration of the Arts, $9484
Rotation of the permanent pie art collection throughout Braham businesses; Pie-Alluia Chorus and Dance; and the Visual Arts Pie Art² Show at East Central Regional Arts Council
www.pieday.com

Braham Area High School for the Big Time Jazz Orchestra Concert, $2635
www.braham.k12.mn.us

Vasaloppet USA, Mora, for the production of *A Vasaloppet Trail Companion*. a radio theater performance celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Vasaloppet Cross Country Ski Race, $6300
www.vasaloppet.us

Braham Area High School, for a special Brass Residency Program and concert with The Copper Street Brass Quintet, $9250
www.braham.k12.mn.us

Chisago Lakes Community Education, Lindstrom, for "Artists Rubbing Elbows with Children," an after school project for participants to learn artistic techniques from local artists, $8600
www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, for the 2012 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Project, $14,990
www.franconia.org

Mille Lacs Area Partners for Youth, Onamia, for the Mille Lacs Youth Theatre Project, $9848
www.facebook.com/MilleLacsAreaSummerYouthTheatre

Kanabec County Art Association, Mora, for the KCAA Celebrates 50 Years of Supporting the Arts Project. a retrospective art exhibit at the Kanabec History Center and arts learning activities at the Kanabec County Fair. $5612
kcaaarts@blogspot.com

East Central Minnesota Chorale, Cambridge, for Unum Vox, the Regional High School Honor Choir, $15000
www.eastcentralmnchorale.org

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, for the 2012 3-D Concert Series and Tour Project, $15,000
www.franconia.org

Paradise Community Theatre, Mora, for the Paradise Community Theatre Digital Projector Conversion Equipment and Film Festival Project Grant, $15000
www.paradise-theatre.com

Pine City Center for the Arts for their Personnel Grant IV, $15,000
www.pinecenter.org

Cambridge-Isanti Performing Arts Committee, District 911 Community Education, Cambridge, for a concert by Indigenous, a Native American blues-rock band, $4050
www.hardycenter.com

Hinckley-Finlayson High School, Hinckley, for a for a special Brass Residency Program and concert with The Copper Street Brass Quintet, $9025
www.hf.k12.mn.us

We R Able, St. Croix River Education District (SCRED), Rush City, for dance demonstrations, dance at art exhibits and Norwegian Music at four venues-Rush City, Pine City, North Branch and Chisago Lakes, $5585
www.scred.k12.mn.us

ECRAC K-12 Student Scholarship Program

Jane Rundahl, Braham, Visual Art Mentorship with Patricia Wagner, $500

Samantha Kreyer, Stanchfield, Upright Bass Lessons with Vince Osborn, $500

Abby Salmonson, Stanchfield, St. Olaf Summer Music at Camp, $500

Jesa Spry, Milaca, for Digital Media Academy's Summer Camp for Kids, $500

Joseph Wolf, Grasston, for Tuba Lessons with Dr. Paul Budde, $500

ECRAC/McKnight Fellowship Program

Abby Lingle Mott, Onamia, Pottery Vessels: Personal Exploration into Textured Surface Treatments, $7000
www.abbylingle.com

Anthony Michaud-Scorza, Cambridge, Art Glass Fellowship, $7000

ECRAC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Program

Edee Conner, Isle, Minnesota Morning/Evening Lens Project, $1000

Stacey Foster, Pine City, Creative Nonfiction Manuscript Seminar, $890

Mary K. Carlson, Princeton, Enhanced Photography Project, $1000

Terri Huro, Mora, Singh-Ray Photography Filters Project, $1000

Mary Ann Cleary, Cambridge, Handmade Pastel Sticks Project, $1000
www.maryanncleary.com

Sharon Howell, Cambridge, MN DNR Lake Map Project, $1000

Dale Hawkins, Mora, DSLR Project and Training, $1000

William Cain, Lindstrom, Follow the Duck Comic Book Project, $1000

Jeanne Hamlin, Chisago City, Seeing the Light in Expressing Artistic Vision Project, $1000

Shelley Odendahl, Grasston, The Pilgrimages: Mindful Travel Writing and Memoir Workshop, $1000

ECRAC Organization Project Grant Program

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, for the 15th Annual Art & Artists Celebration, $5000
www.franconia.org

Audubon Center of the North Woods, Sandstone, for the Robinson Park Climbing Mural and Osprey Sculpture Project, $3800
www.audubon-center.org

Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, for the 2012 Docent-Led Tours and Kids Make Sculpture Workshops, $5000
www.franconia.org

ECRAC Small Art Project Grant Program

Milaca Fine Arts Council/Center for the Arts, Children's Art Show, $500
www.milacaartscenter.com

Northern Exposures Photography Club, Brook Park, Pictures in Paradise, $495
www.mnartists.org/NEPC

We R Able, St. Croix River Education District (SCRED), Rush City, Two Nordic Folk Concerts, $500
www.scred.k12.mn.us

District #477 Princeton School-Age Child Care Program (SACC) New Adventures in the Arts Field Trips, $500

We R Able, St. Croix River Education District (SCRED), Rush City, Two Scandinavian Concerts, $500
www.scred.k12.mn.us

IMAGE Art Show

The Kanabec County Art Association will host the IMAGE Art Show 2012 as part of their 50th anniversary celebration on October 19 and 20, 2012, at the Ogilvie High School, $10,000

For more information on any of these grants or grant programs contact:
East Central Regional Arts Council
112 Main Street South
PO Box 294
Braham, Minnesota 55006
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email: info@ecrac.org
web: www.ecrac.org



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