

## 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup>, and The Whitesidewalls on July 20<sup>th</sup>. 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 19<sup>th</sup> through September 18<sup>th</sup>, with an opening reception and awards ceremony on August 19<sup>th</sup>. 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 10<sup>th</sup> performance featuring Salsa del Soul, Dred I Dread and Tufawon. August 14<sup>th</sup> performances include Sawyer's Dream, Monica LaPlante and The Stress of Her Regard. September 26<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>. 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

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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, 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ECMC. During this project, the East Central MN Chorale will celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> 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

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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

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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 Collective. During this project Franconia Sculpture Park will host the three members of Super Futures Haunt Collective (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/>

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## 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 brooch 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/>

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## ECRAC K-12 Scholarship Program

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

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

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.

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