



# **Final Report**

**For Fiscal Year 2016**

(July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016)

Submitted to the  
**Minnesota State Arts Board**

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**BRENDA BYRON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, Inc.  
105 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE, Suite A, Waseca, MN 56093  
(800) 298-1254 or (507) 833-8721  
plrac@hickorytech.net - [www.plrac.org](http://www.plrac.org)

## Table of Contents

<b>Mission Statement and Regional Update</b>	2
<b>Goals and Objectives</b>	
<b>I. <u>Service Goal</u></b>	3
A. To encourage participation through an active arts council.	
B. To provide assistance to local arts organizations and artists to help them reach their goals.	
C. To provide arts information to the general public.	
D. To provide fiscal and program accountability to the MN State Legislature and the Minnesota State Arts Board.	
<b>II. <u>Program Goal</u></b>	4
A. To provide information to the arts council for grant review and design of future programs and services for artists and organizations.	
B. To assess grant funding and organizations served.	
C. To complete a Needs Assessment Survey of arts organizations and artists.	5
<b>III. <u>Grants Goal</u></b>	6
A. To encourage all forms of art in the region. *Small Art Project, Arts-In-Education and Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants.	
B. To seek additional art funds.	
C. To promote and fund rural arts activities in all of the region's communities.	
<b>FY 2016 Goals for Arts and Cultural Heritage fund.</b>	9
<b>FY 2016 Outcome Evaluation for Arts and Cultural Heritage fund.</b>	9
D. Monitoring and Evaluation of Grants.	12
E. Legislative and State Arts Activities.	13
F. McKnight Foundation Artist Programs.	13
G. Prairie Lakes Staff and Board of Directors.	16
H. FY 2016 Grantee List of 201 grants totaling \$421,125.	16-21
** FY 2016 Final Report Budget Spreadsheet	22
<b><u>Attachments:</u></b>	
1-3. FY 2016 Newsletters that focused on ACH grantees October 2015, February and April 2016.	
4. FY 2016 PLRAC Audit for year ended, 6-30-2016.	

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council encourages and promotes arts creation, appreciation, and education through grant programs and services to enhance the quality of life for Minnesota residents in Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Nicollet, Martin, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan County.

## **CORE VALUES**

We value: Open Mindedness, Equality of All Art Disciplines, Promotion of Artistic Excellence, Accessibility to the Arts, Availability to Our Constituents, and Maximization of Constituents' Potential.

## **REGIONAL UPDATE**

In the past population shifts have affected the availability of funding for arts experiences, since a major component of the regional funding, and the RAC Forum funding formula, is based on population. The 2010 Census Data identified 231,302 people living in the Region 9 area. Previously, the 2007 Census Data showed 228,031 and in 2000 the population was 222,790. This was about a 4% growth rate since the 2000 census for our region. The nine-county area we serve is Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan. Blue Earth County remains the most populated county in the region with 64,013 residents in 2010. No other county has more than 33,000 people, with Nicollet County being the second largest at 32,727. The least populated county is Watonwan with 11,211 people. Mankato is the largest central city in the region with a population of 39,309. Four cities with populations over 10,000 include: Fairmont (10,666), New Ulm (13,522), North Mankato (13,394) and St. Peter (11,196). One community approaching this size is Waseca (9,410). The largest growth area was New Prague at 7,321 with a 61% increase in population since 2000 (previously 4,559). Four mid-size towns having populations ranging from 3,300 – 4,700 are St. James (4,605), LeSueur (4,058), Blue Earth (3,353), and Sleepy Eye (3,599). The majority of other small towns range in size from 87 – 2,500 on average.

Small towns tend to focus on local events at the school, sporting events, and community concerts and plays. Many of the arts organizations in the region have been serving their communities for years. Thus, they may have received grants from the regional arts council for several years. Some arts activities are concentrated in the population hub cities of Mankato, North Mankato and St. Peter. However, many art organizations and community groups in out-lying towns are sponsoring arts events. In assessing the number and types of art projects funded it is evident that several art disciplines are served more with our state funded grants. In Region Nine we are fortunate to have a large variety of musical organizations and activities, both vocal and instrumental and Music represents the largest art discipline we review and fund through grant applications (about 42%). Visual art projects and exhibitions compose about 21% of all funded activities, Theater performances 18%, Multi-disciplinary 11%, Dance 6% and Literature 2%. Under-served areas continue to be literature and ethnic music and dance.

Several trends in the region have affected the availability of arts experiences for the residents. Small communities face obstacles as they struggle to improve their quality of life through the arts. There is a lack of recognition for existing arts organizations and difficulty in building an audience; there are only a few adequate facilities for performances and exhibits; limited public and private funding; lower family income; limited awareness of opportunities outside the community; and limited access to high quality, culturally diverse arts experiences due to lengthy travel time and lack of public transportation.

However, many art organizations and community groups in outlying towns are sponsoring arts events. Communities that have colleges are also more active in the arts. The four colleges and universities include: Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato; Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter; Martin Luther College, New Ulm; and Minnesota State University, Mankato. The two year schools are Rasmussen

College in Mankato and South Central College, North Mankato. PLRAC primarily serves small and mid-size arts organizations, community groups and schools that are sponsoring arts activities. On average we fund about 100 organizational grants per year. The budget size of our arts organizations, community groups and school arts activities/projects is listed below. Only one of our arts organizations in the region, the Mankato Symphony Orchestra, applies directly to the Minnesota State Arts Board for an Operating Support Grant. However, they also apply to PLRAC for a project grant annually.

Budget size of arts organizations, community groups & school arts activities/projects funded by PLRAC.

- 70% have budgets under \$25,000
- 10% have budgets from \$25,001 to \$50,000
- 9% have budgets from \$50,001 to \$100,000
- 6% have budgets from \$100,001 to \$150,000
- 5% have budgets over \$150,001

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

As defined in the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council's Biennial Plan for FY 2016-2017, the council's goals are identified in three categories: service, program and grants. The service goal is to increase the visibility of the arts and to ensure proper use of state and foundation funding in the region by encouraging citizen participation, providing technical assistance, planning, public information and administrative assistance. The program goal is to provide information and education to the council to help them address their own development. The grants goal is to provide a variety of funding opportunities which will promote artistic growth opportunities, organizational development, and exposure to quality arts experiences.

### **I. Service Goal**

**A. To encourage participation through an active arts council.** The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council Board held ten meetings in FY 2016. Our annual meeting was held in August 2015. Board members continue to advocate for state arts funding by contacting their local legislators throughout the year. Several board members and staff attended Arts Advocacy Day at the State Capitol on March 17, 2016. Board members are familiar with arts activities in their community and county and are required to attend several PLRAC funded activities each year.

**B. To provide assistance to local arts organizations and artists to help them reach their goals.** Brenda Byron, the Executive Director of Prairie Lakes provided technical assistance to several arts organizations and community groups for grant writing and organizational development throughout the year. Although many groups are becoming more structured, efficient and professional, some are experiencing board burn out, reduction in volunteers and economic decline in their communities. Small communities are losing businesses and jobs which affects participation and funding for arts activities. Several groups needed staff assistance regarding developing arts programs, financial management, hiring new staff positions and understanding the Cultural Data Project and how to complete a funder report.

**C. To provide arts information to the general public.** We have a monthly newsletter that is posted to our website at [www.plrac.org](http://www.plrac.org). Also three of those newsletters in FY 2016 focused on highlighting the Arts and Cultural Heritage Grantees as well as other arts grantees of Prairie Lakes. (Attachments 1-3) Newsletters are made available electronically and a monthly email is sent to about 1,534 constituents to alert them that it has been posted on our website. This online newsletter is an excellent inexpensive tool to communicate with our constituents about our grantees, programs, and provide an arts calendar of events in the 9-county area. The council is committed to increasing publicity for arts organizations. As

noted above, grantees events are included in the newsletter and by news releases submitted to the local media when they receive an Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant or Artist Grant from Prairie Lakes. Through our newsletter articles we continue to ask constituents to send us their email addresses, so we could keep in touch with them and also email them the monthly Arts Calendar. We periodically update the Constituent Mailing List maintained by Prairie Lakes, and it includes: 470 Arts Organizations and Community Groups; 1005 Artists; 380 School contacts, 61 Media Contacts, 16 Legislators and 48 Other; for a total of 1,980. The Email List includes: 459 Arts Organizations and Community Groups; 571 Artists; 308 School contacts, 85 Media contacts, 16 Legislators and 95 Other; for a total of 1,534. We have an email media list for the nine county area which includes 40 newspapers, 12 radio stations and 1 TV station. Staff has responded to many calls for program information and assisted people in locating artists, and statewide arts funding agencies and resources.

**D. To provide fiscal and program accountability to the State Legislature and the Minnesota State Arts Board.** A Final Report for FY 2015 was submitted on 8/12/15 and for FY 2016 on 9/23/16. The FY 2016-2017 Biennial Plan was updated on 7/29/15. Financial reports are prepared using the QuickBooks program and reviewed at board meetings. Our operating expenses are broken down into program and general support expenses and we have a chart of accounts that identifies Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH), State and McKnight revenue and expenses.

The FY 2016 Final Report Budget and the un-audited financial statements dated 6/30/16 are attachments to this report. Total Revenue is \$640,662 and Expenses are \$641,700; and the net loss is \$1,038. We planned to go over budget this year in our expenses and will use money from our Fund Balance Account #300. The Audit for FY 2016 from Meulebroeck, Tauber & Co., of Pipestone is being emailed to the MN State Arts Board with this narrative final report.

**In FY 2016 Prairie Lakes awarded 201 arts grants totaling \$421,125.** The Summary of FY 2016 grants are listed on page 17-23. It notes State general funds of \$82,015 (46 grants); Arts and Cultural Heritage funding \$293,110 (121 grants); and the McKnight Foundation supported our Artist Grant Program \$46,000 (34 grants for Emerging and Mid-Career); for a total of \$421,125.

## **II. Program Goal**

**A. To provide information to the arts council for grant review and design of future programs and services for the local artists and arts organizations.** Prairie Lakes conducts a needs assessment every four years to provide an accurate and comprehensive understanding of the characteristics of the region, as they relate to the arts, and to identify needs and problems that may be addressed by our regional arts council. We conducted our Needs Assessment Survey in March, 2016.

**B. To assess grant funding and organizations served.** In assessing the number and types of art projects funded it is evident that several art disciplines are served more with state funded grants. In Region Nine we are fortunate to have a large variety of musical organizations and activities, both vocal and instrumental. Music represents the largest art discipline we review and fund through grant applications (about 42%). Visual art projects and exhibitions compose about 21% of all funded activities, Theater performances 18%, Multi-disciplinary 11%, Dance 6% and Literature 2%. Under-served areas continue to be literature and ethnic music and dance. State funding has increased and decreased over the last decade and we are pleased to award funds from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment; now known as the Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) Fund. The ACH funding has allowed Prairie Lakes to increase the maximum grants to \$8,000 for ACH Arts & Arts Access and \$4,000 for ACH Education and Cultural Festivals. A summary of the last ten years of state funding is listed on the next page.

FY 2004 & 2005 - \$142,442	FY 2010 - \$140,537 ( <i>reduction</i> ) + ACH \$363,398 = \$503,935
FY 2006 & 2007 - \$143,175	FY 2011 - \$131,639 ( <i>reduction</i> ) + ACH \$363,398 = \$495,037
FY 2008 - \$171,637	FY 2012 - \$122,641 ( <i>reduction</i> ) + ACH \$368,994 = \$491,635
FY 2009 - \$171,753	FY 2013 - \$122,641 + ACH \$388,815 = \$511,456
	FY 2014 & 2015 - \$122,641 + ACH \$440,245 = \$562,886
	<b><u>FY 2016 - \$122,641 + ACH \$442,615 = \$565,256</u></b>

**C. To complete a Needs Assessment Survey of arts organizations, community groups and artists**

The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council continuously assesses and responds to the needs of the region through a variety of channels including day-to-day contact with constituents, feedback from applicants and grantees on their Final Reports, public workshops, meetings, etc. In addition to our ongoing evaluation of programs and services, the Council conducts a formal needs assessment every four years to provide an accurate and comprehensive understanding of the characteristics of the region, as they relate to the arts, and to identify needs and problems that may be addressed by our regional arts council. We used a web based survey service (Survey Monkey) in March 2016 to develop and distribute two online surveys, one for Artists and one for Arts Organizations, Community Groups and Schools. This information was used for our FY 2017 planning and will be used again when we submit a new 2-year plan to the MSAB in FY 2018-2019. Copies of the survey were submitted with our plan. We disseminated our survey using our internal email database of constituents. We also had an article in our PLRAC Newsletter and sent News Releases to all media in our 9-counties asking for input and directing folks to the “Survey Monkey link”.

**2016 SURVEY RESULTS**

A constituent survey was conducted in the 9-county area served by Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. **Two different electronic Survey Forms were created for Artists and Organizations, with different questions asked for each.** A total of 174 surveys were collected through the web based Survey Monkey, which was for one month, March 2-30, 2016. The Organization survey had 69 respondents and the Artist Survey had 105 respondents. The survey asked questions in regard to the types of programs offered, referencing current funding and grant maximums in each category, needs for services, trends in the community, etc. Highlighted results of the survey are listed below. According to the survey results the Council is currently on track with their allocation of State resources for Arts and Cultural Heritage, Small Arts Projects, Arts-In-Education Grants, and McKnight funds for the Artist grants. We will provide the full data when we submit our new 2-year plan to the MSAB in FY 2018-2019.

**Organizational Survey:** Here’s a few details from the survey results.

**Identifying features of respondents:**

- 51%** Identified themselves as a Non-Profit Arts Organization
- 35%** School/Community Education/College
- 14%** Non-profit Community Group (*Chamber of Commerce, County Fair, Historical Society, etc.*)

**How many years the organization has been in existence?**

- 75%** Have been in existence for 20 or more years
- 15%** Have been in existence for 11-20 years
- 10%** Are under 10 years old



### **What activities is the organization involved in?**

- 55%** Do both Producing and Sponsoring
- 36%** Produce their own events
- 9%** Sponsor arts activities

### **III. Grants Goal**

**A. To encourage all forms of art in the region.** The council supported a variety of arts activities and art disciplines with grants in FY 2016. Copies of the grant guidelines and applications for the state funded programs are available on our website [www.plrac.org](http://www.plrac.org). There were three categories of funding:

1. Small Art Project Grant, maximum \$2,500;
2. Arts-In-Education Grant, maximum \$2,500; and
3. Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants: ACH Arts & Arts Access, maximum \$8,000; and ACH Education and ACH Cultural Festivals have a maximum of \$4,000 each.

In FY 2016 Prairie Lakes awarded 201 arts grants totaling \$421,125. Summary of FY 2016 Grants: State general funds of \$82,015 (46 grants); Arts and Cultural Heritage funding \$293,110 (121 grants); and the McKnight Foundation supported our Artist Grant Program \$46,000 (34 grants for Emerging and Mid-Career); for a total of \$421,125.

The data collection information on these grants was electronically transferred to the MN State Arts Board. The number of organizations participating in the councils grant programs is very steady from year to year. The arts organizations we work with in region nine are very stable with only a very few discontinuing programming or ceasing to exist. However, their growth is limited and primarily they continue similar programs. A majority of arts activity in our region is music, both instrumental and vocal, with about 45% of the grants awarded representing this discipline. Theater and visual art activities are the next most active and thus receive funding. For the last several years' community education offices have sponsored and coordinated more youth art activities. Children's theater activities are very popular and several community education departments have sponsored Prairie Fire Children's Theater of Barrett, MN to present a children's play with local children. For several years the board has addressed funding both established arts organizations and new activities. Therefore, in order to spread the funds out more and fund more arts activities and organizations the board has placed maximums on all grant programs and also recommends partial funding of grants, in some programs, as necessary. In general, the quality of arts activities presented in grant applications in our region is very high.

**B. To seek additional arts funding.** We continue to receive funding from the McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis and administer two grant programs for Professional Mid-Career Artists and Career Development Grants, for a total of \$46,000. We prepare a separate Final Report for the McKnight Foundation, which is our only other source of re-grant funds. Additional information on McKnight activities is on page 14.

**C. To promote and fund rural arts activities in all of the region's communities.** The council is sensitive to the needs of our established and emerging arts organizations. Several new arts groups, community groups and schools applied to our programs this year and all were funded. A majority of those grantees were in the Small Arts and Arts-In-Education category. Separate state general funds are set aside for this program.

### **Brief Description of Three Grant Programs**

#### **1. Small Arts Project Grant**

Grants are for non-profit arts organizations, community groups, and public organizations that produce and sponsor arts activities in their local community. Projects or activities which are intended to develop and

enhance artists and art resources within the community (i.e. dance, literature, music, theatre, visual arts, etc.) and sponsorship of touring artists. To enable an arts organization, community group or public organization to sponsor or produce a community arts activity that may have a smaller budget or occur outside the main timeline for the Art Project Grant deadline. Applicants may submit only one grant application per fiscal year and no request may exceed \$2,500 or 25% of the project cost. Grants are reviewed on a monthly basis.

## **2. Arts-In-Education Grant**

This grant program is designed to encourage schools to join in an educational partnership with regional professional artists within the nine county area and artists throughout the state to provide artist residencies, mini-workshops, live art performances and arts-related field trips. Its purpose is to enhance the current arts curriculum. This grant program is open to all public or private non-parochial elementary, middle, or secondary schools (K-12) in the nine county area. Public and private school applicants are encouraged to collaborate with parochial schools in providing AIE experiences for all students in the area. Only one AIE grant per school building is allowed each fiscal year. Applicants may submit only one grant application per fiscal year and no request may exceed \$2,500 or 10% of the project cost. Grants are reviewed on a monthly basis. Residencies, mini-workshops and/or live art performances must involve the general community in some significant aspect, i.e. receptions, poetry readings, exhibitions, or public performance. Field trips could include: joint bus trip, slide show review, volunteer guides, or follow-up program with a local community group.

## **3. Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant**

Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council will fund proposals from regional, non-profit tax-exempt 501(c)(3) arts organizations, non-profit community groups, units of government and non-parochial schools that are sponsoring an arts activity in dance, literature, media arts, music, theater and visual arts. The applicant or organization must have an address and provide programming within the nine county region PLRAC serves. Counties include: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, or Watonwan County. Proposals are encouraged to address more than one of the three program areas.

### **A. There are three categories of funding with Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants.**

1. Arts Programming and Arts Access – Maximum proposal \$8,000. The cash match is 50%. The organization should describe their **arts programming** and request funds for those activities in the expense categories listed on the application budget, with not more than half of the funds requested for salaries of paid staff. Funds may be used for on-going programs, but groups are encouraged to offer new and different activities with the grant funds or enhance their events. Funds may also be used for **equipment** that enhances the artistic ability of the organization and includes but is not limited to: office equipment and software, instruments, risers, theater lighting, theater curtains, sound system, display cases, etc. This also includes **public art**, sculpture, murals, etc.; and activities that plan to reach **new audiences** such as youth, ethnic groups, senior citizen groups, etc. and engage the public in new ways.

2. Arts Education - There are three categories of support. The cash match is 10%.

a. Schools – Maximum proposal \$4,000. This is available to all public or private non-parochial elementary, middle or secondary schools (K-12) in the nine county area. The focus is to provide educational partnerships between local and regional professional artists, arts organizations and (K-12) schools.

1. To enhance school arts curriculum by providing artist residencies, live arts performances, mini-workshops and arts related field trips.



2. To enhance programs and curriculum design through visits to professional artists' studios, performances by professional theatre, dance or musical groups, readings by writers, visits to art galleries, exhibitions and other locations pertinent to the creation and exhibition of art.
3. To collaborate with arts organizations in the region to perform in their school and/or community.

b. Non-profit and Community Groups – Maximum proposal \$4,000. The cash match is 50%.

To support life-long learning and appreciation of the arts, through arts activities conducted by a non-profit arts organization, community group, early childhood education, community education, library, senior citizen's organization, unit of government, etc.

c. ACH Youth Scholarship/Mentorship – Maximum \$300. (No match is required.)

ACH Youth Scholarships and Mentorships provide selected students in grades 7-12, the opportunity to study their chosen art with a practicing professional artist, attend an arts workshop, series of classes or special training opportunity or performance. The scholarship can also be used to take lessons or pay fees to a non-profit arts organization serving youth (i.e. Arts Center of Saint Peter, Dance Conservatory of Southern MN, Mankato Ballet Company, Mankato Children's Chorus, Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra, Mankato or New Ulm Suzuki School of Music, other art centers which offer classes to youth, etc.). There is only one deadline per year.

3. Arts and Cultural Heritage – Maximum proposal \$4,000. Grants are for arts and music festivals and activities that represent the diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions, including folk and traditional artists and art organizations, represented in this state. This may include folk art classes, single performances, a series of cultural activities, etc. The cash match is 50%.

## **Structure of Program with Arts and Cultural Heritage Funds**

A. General Information. The Fund was established for three specific purposes:

1. **Arts and Arts Access:** to support Minnesota artists and arts organizations in creating, producing, and presenting high-quality arts activities; to overcome barriers to accessing the arts; and to instill the arts into the community and public life in this state.
2. **Arts Education:** to support life-long learning and appreciation of the arts, including support for K-12 activities that enhance but not replace school arts curriculum.
3. **Arts and Cultural Heritage:** for arts & music festivals and activities that represent the diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions, including folk and traditional artists and art organizations, represented in this state.

This program is made possible by the Arts and Culture Heritage Fund, a fund created by the people of Minnesota to support the arts and preserve our heritage. The Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council (PLRAC) grant programs and services will address these areas: Arts and Arts Access, Arts Education and Cultural Heritage. Grants must be completed within one year of the awarding of the grant, unless an extension has been requested and granted by the Executive Director of PLRAC. These grants must be matched with cash or other earned revenue (50% cash for organizations and 10% cash for schools). The exception is the ACH Youth Scholarship/Mentorship of \$300, which does not have a match requirement.

B. Biennial Goals FY 2016 for Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Several goals have been identified that correspond to the three categories of arts funding: Arts and Arts Access, Arts Education and Cultural Heritage.

C. Outcome Evaluation FY 2016 for Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Several Outcome Evaluations have been identified that correspond to the three categories of arts funding: Arts and Arts Access, Arts Education and Cultural Heritage.

## **FY 2016 Goals for Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund**

Five goals with accompanying objectives were adopted to accomplish our mission and address the organizational and individual artist needs through our Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) fund.

**1. Goal: Increase Access to the Arts** by supporting Minnesota artists and arts organizations in creating, producing, and presenting high-quality arts activities; to overcome barriers to accessing high-quality arts activities; and to instill the arts into the community and public life in this state.

**Objective A:** Provide financial support to eligible individual artists and organizations for activities that support access to the arts.

**2. Goal: Increase Art Education** by supporting life-long learning and appreciation of the arts, including but not exclusive to K-12 activities.

**Objective A:** Provide financial support to eligible individual artists and organizations for activities that support lifelong Arts Education.

**3. Goal: Increase Arts & Cultural Heritage Festival activities** by supporting events and activities that represent the diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions, including folk and traditional artists and art organizations, represented in this state.

**Objective A:** Provide financial support to eligible individual artists and organizations for activities that support arts and cultural heritage, arts and music festivals.

**4. Goal: Provide Services and Support** to individuals and organizations that provide arts activities in our region.

**Objective A:** Provide Publicity/Public Awareness services to support and increase the visibility and understanding of the arts.

**Objective B:** Provide networking opportunities to share best practices and build relationships.

**Objective C:** Provide workshops to increase knowledge and expertise of individual artists and organizations.

**Objective D:** Provide individualized support through one-on-one meetings with PLRAC staff to explore how to best utilize Arts & Cultural Heritage funds.

**5. Goal: Achieve Accountability of Arts and Culture Fund** by acting as responsible stewards of public funds.

**Objective A:** Work with our arts delivery partners to develop and refine a strategic plan for best use of the amendment funding, based on feedback from the state's residents.

**Objective B:** Develop methods to increase our system's level of accountability, including but not limited to: peer review, checks and balances and public involvement.

**Objective C:** Maintain a strong and highly functional Board of Directors.

## **FY 2016 Outcome Evaluation for Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund**

**1. Goal: Increase Access to the Arts** by supporting Minnesota artists and arts organizations in creating, producing, and presenting high-quality arts activities; to overcome barriers to accessing high-quality arts activities; and to instill the arts into the community and public life in this state. In FY 2016 this goal was met by awarding 35 ACH grants to arts organizations & community groups totaling \$233,610.

**2. Goal: Increase Art Education** by supporting lifelong learning and appreciation of the arts, including but not exclusive to K-12 activities. In FY 2016 this goal was met by awarding 4 grants to schools for a total of \$19,600 and 78 ACH Youth Scholarships at \$300, totaling \$23,400; combined total of \$43,000.

**3. Goal: Increase Arts and Cultural Heritage Festival activities** by supporting events and activities that represent the diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions, including folk and traditional artists and art organizations. This goal was met by awarding 4 grants to arts organizations and community groups in FY 2016 totaling \$16,500.

**For Goals 1, 2, 3: Total funds of \$293,110 were awarded in all three categories.**

**Objective A:** In FY 2016 we anticipated that the base line number of total Arts and Cultural Heritage applicants would stay steady at the same amount as the previous fiscal year and the goal was met. A few of the applicants in FY 2016 were new to this program. It should also be noted that some applicants did not reapply for an ACH Grant in FY 2016 because the requirements were more difficult and time consuming; so they applied for a Small Arts Grant. Many applicants were not prepared to do Evaluation Surveys and really measure their outcomes. There is a big learning curve for small all volunteer non-profit organizations to meet all of the requirements of the ACH Grant Program. Our student program for grades 7-12 is called ACH Youth Scholarship. In FY 2016 there were 78 student applicants; in FY 2015 there were 108 student applicants; FY 2014 there were 97 applicants; and in FY 2013 there were 69 student applicants. The Youth Scholarship program has a steady number of applicants each year, but it does vary somewhat from year to year. We think we are meeting our goal to serve youth.

B. In FY 2016 of those receiving grants and services from the PLRAC, 75% will indicate that their project was artistically successful, reached the target constituency and had community impact. This will be measured by the final reports.

This goal was met by tracking all of the FY 2015 ACH Grantee Final Reports. All Organizational ACH Grantee Final Reports from FY 2015 were reviewed in June 2016 and 48 Grants were complete of the 51 awarded for a total of 94% complete. From the Final Reports received 98% noted that their projects were successful and reached their targeted constituency.

The ACH Grantee Final Reports from FY 2016 were also reviewed in June 2016 and 22 Grants were complete of the 43 awarded for a total of 51% complete. Therefore, we will assess these reports in the future and comment on them in our FY 2017 MSAB Final Report.

**4. Goal: Provide Services and Support to organizations that provide arts activities in our region.**

**Objective A:** At the conclusion of FY 2016 the PLRAC will provide publicity and public awareness services for a minimum of 20 Arts and Cultural Heritage grant recipients. This will result in an increased awareness of the arts in the PLRAC region. This will be measured by staff tracking the publicity releases.

**Goal 4., Objective A. was met regarding publicity of the new Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) funding by sending Grantee News Releases and a photo three times per year to all media in the 9-county area announcing the 43 organization grantee projects and 78 ACH Youth Scholarships awarded to students; therefore 100% of grantees were acknowledged in FY 2016.** The media in the nine-county area includes 40 newspapers, 12 radio stations and 1 TV station. News releases are grouped by county and are adapted to highlight the organizations/students from that area to make it more relevant to the community. The ACH Grantees were listed in our printed newsletters as the front page article and photo and also included photos of these “big check” presentations” for organizations grouped by county. The newsletters were October 2015, December 2015 and May 2016. The Artist Grants awarded to our

Emerging Artist and Fellowship grantees are also announced through a news release and a photo of recipients twice a year to all media in the 9-county and included in the PLRAC Newsletter in February 2016 and April 2016.

### **October 2015 - Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded**

A total of \$153,570 was awarded to 22 Area Organizations



#### **Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Awarded to 22 Organizations totaling \$153,570**

Row 1 (L to R): Sara Buechmann, Mankato Symphony Orchestra; Ann Rosenquist Fee, Arts Center of Saint Peter; Mary Hillmann, South Central Service Cooperative; Sara McKay, Saint Peter Choral Society; Pat Prange, Minnesota Valley Sweet Adelines; Deb Vetter-Hoelmer, Waseca Intermediate School; Alice DeYonge, Project G.E.M.; and Megan Flod Johnson, Children’s Museum of Southern MN. Row 2: Laura Velishek, Curtain Call Theatre; Carolyn Borgen, Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra; Paul Warshauer, State Street Theater Company; Lisa Hill, Minnesota Valley Chorale; Sonja Fortune, Red Rock Center for the Arts; Lill Robinson, Blue Earth Community Foundation; Elaine Hardwick, Merely Players Community Theatre; and Brenda Byron, Executive Director of Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. Row 3: Scott Roberts, Waseca Arts Council; Jake Zeiher, Minnesota New Country School; Fred Slocum, Musicorum; Herb Kroon, Mankato Symphony Orchestra; Jeff Adams, Mankato Children’s Chorus; Sheila Morris, Waseca County Historical Society; and Richard Miller, Blue Earth Valley Concert Association.

B. By the end of FY 2016 the PLRAC will hold one networking meeting with 75% attendees responding that they were impacted favorably. This will be measured by an exit survey.

C. By the end of FY 2016 the PLRAC will hold one educational workshop with 75% attendees responding that they were impacted favorably. This will be measured by an exit survey.

**Objectives B. and C. Combined, as part of Goal 4. This goal was met in FY 2016 by staff as they provided technical assistance and educational workshops to grantees.**

The networking meeting concept was adapted to serve grantees of the Arts and Cultural Heritage (ACH) Grant Program. These organizations were required to attend an Evaluation and Survey Training Meeting which were held in October 2015 and April 2016. An Exit Survey was completed by a total of 36 attendees at the workshops. Several questions were asked to gauge the usefulness of the information presented at the workshop. The survey questions were based on a scale of 1-5; with 1 being low and 5 being high. A majority of all respondents ranked the questions as a 4 or 5 on the scale.



1. Grantees were asked if the Content of this Workshop impacted them favorably.  
Response: 48% said it was Very Useful, 39% said it was Useful, 13% somewhat useful & 0% not as useful. **Therefore, combined 87% stated it was Useful to Very Useful.**
2. When asked if specific surveys and evaluation methods were already developed.  
Response: 30% responded Yes, Definitely, 43% Yes, 24% somewhat and 3% not at all. **Therefore, 73% stated that “Yes they have specific surveys and evaluation methods already developed.**  
In FY 2015 about 62% said that Yes they have specific surveys and evaluation methods already developed. **This is an indication that our extra staff time assisting grantees in FY 2016 was successful.** *However, more PLRAC Staff time is needed to assist these organizations as they implement their new programs and attempt to meet all of the requirements of the ACH Grant Program; and new requirements that the MN State Legislature requires.*

D. By the end of FY 2016 there will be a minimum of two grant writing workshops held with constituents interested in the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Result is that 75% of constituents will indicate that these workshops were beneficial. This will be measured by a constituent survey. This goal of two workshops was met in FY 2016. We hosted Grant Writing Workshops in July 2015 and January 2016. There were a lot of constituents present at each workshop and an overwhelming majority of the participants indicated that the workshop was very beneficial.

In addition, we emailed all past grantees in July to remind them of the fall 2015 deadlines for all programs. Additional contacts were made with past Arts & Cultural Heritage grantees to complete their Final Reports by July 31<sup>st</sup> in order to be eligible for the August 1, 2015 ACH deadline. Several past ACH Grantees were delinquent in their Final Reports and therefore, we worked with them to complete their final reports.

**5. Goal: Achieve Accountability of Arts and Culture Fund** by acting as responsible stewards of public funds.

A. In FY 2016, 75% of constituents will signify a satisfaction level of acceptable to superior when asked if the PLRAC has acted as responsible stewards of the public funds they administer. This will be measured with comments on the Final Report of the Arts & Cultural Heritage grant. **This goal was met for FY 2016.** The comments on the Final Report were all very positive about the professionalism of the PLRAC staff and the assistance that we gave them.

## **D. Monitoring and Evaluation of Grants**

In order to monitor and evaluate the grants for the year, a two-step process of payment is involved for the organizational and adult artist grant program. Eighty percent of the grant is paid to each grantee one month prior to their event upon receipt of their contract. Once the project is completed and the Final Report is submitted and approved, the final 20% is paid. This process is followed for the Arts and Cultural Heritage, Small Arts and Arts-In-Education, and the PLRAC/McKnight Emerging Artist and Fellowship grantees. The only exception is the ACH Youth Scholarship Program which pays the \$300 scholarship directly to the individual instructor or youth arts organization the student is participating with. Youth scholarship grantees are required to file a Final Report with the council 60 days after completing their projects and a Student Account Form showing the use of funds is required by the instructor.

Grantees are instructed in their contract letter that any significant changes must be reported promptly, and that permission for changes or extensions must be requested through the Executive Director. If the changes represent a major change in direction for the project, the Executive Director will bring the request before the council for approval. Grantees are required to file a final report with the council 60 days after

completing their projects. Final reports are reviewed and approved by the Executive Director if no discrepancies are noted. If discrepancies exist, the director will notify the executive committee and/or full board. Final reports are always available for review by council members, and may be brought to regular meetings for review. Board members and staff who have attended funded projects report on them at monthly meetings. The Executive Director periodically reviews the grant files to see whether organizations have outstanding final reports. Should an overdue report be indicated, the Executive Director or Program Manager sends a reminder letter to the grantee. The staff sends additional letters or makes calls as needed to close the files of completed projects. Grantees are reminded of the responsibilities they share with the council for full accountability of public funds. If the Final Report is more than 6 months overdue the board has the authority to deny the final 20% payment. The contract with the grantee also states "If after an additional six months the final report has still not been submitted to the PLRAC, the organization will not be considered for funding for two years from the completion date of the project."

Our Challenge is to maintain collegial relationships with about 100 arts organizations, community groups and schools to assist them with applying for grants and tracking their grants through a Final Report and making sure all documentation is submitted. We are very proud of the fact that over 90% of the grantees submit their information in a timely manner, they are very conscientious. However, there is a lot of staff time spent assisting the other 10% that are struggling to submit their reports and information.

## **E. Legislative and State Arts Activities**

Brenda Byron, the Executive Director attended Arts Advocacy Day on March 17, 2016 at the capitol and led a team of advocates to meet with our legislators. Board member Diane Harms from St. Peter participated along with several other arts organization members. Since the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund provides a significant amount of state funding through the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, we continue to contact legislators about this issue from the PLRAC office and by informing our constituents to contact their legislators. Several emails went out about this topic. Byron is also a board member of MCA and attended quarterly MCA Board Meetings in FY 2016, held in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

## **F. McKnight Foundation Artist Programs**

We had very good attendance at our artist workshops the last two years. The FY 2015 topics included: Grant Writing, Social Media for Artists, Studio Recording Workshop for Musicians, Writing an Artist Statement and Resume, Literary Workshop/Mentorship, and Photographing Your Own Work. We have 906 Individual Artists on our PLRAC database, representing all mediums. Annually we estimate that we serve about 200 artists through our McKnight Grantee Exhibit, regional art show, workshops and grants. We continue to promote the workshops and grants by sending out reminder emails to our Artist email data base. We have a hands-on attitude in assisting our artists in the application process and the Executive Director spends a lot of time assisting artists through a grant writing workshop, individual consultations in the office, over the phone and through email notes. Several artists were first time applicants and had questions about how to describe their project and explain how it related to their professional growth, and how to select work samples that are relevant to their application. The majority of artist applicants have been primarily visual artists over the past ten years however, in the last few years we have had a significant increase in the number of musicians, literary artists and playwrights applying.

In FY 2016 we continued with our two Artist Grant Programs and Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council awarded \$46,000 in grants. Details are listed below.

1. **Fellowship Program.** In November 2015 we planned to award 10 Mid-Career Fellowships and only 6 were awarded at \$3,000 each, for a total of \$18,000. There were eleven applicants including seven visual



artists, two musicians, one theater and one playwright. The board's review process and scoring determined that several of the applicants were not mid-career artists, and were not awarded a grant. They were encouraged to instead apply for the Career Development Grant of \$1,000 which had a deadline of 1/15/16. The six Fellowships awarded were in visual arts, but included different media of photography, fashion/installation, two oil painters, and two artists doing mixed media. We were very pleased with the variety of mediums represented and that they lived in a variety of communities. The goal to increase the baseline number of Fellowship applicants was met in FY 2016 since there were eleven applications submitted, and in FY there were only ten submitted. However, the Prairie Lakes board thought they achieved the primary objective to select high quality mid-career artists for a Fellowship. A portion of these unused Fellowship funds were used to provide additional Career Development grants of \$1,000. Our publicity and contact with artists was increased, so we don't think that was a factor with the number of applicants. **We attribute the fluctuation in the annual number of applications to several factors.** This may include: Artists are just busy trying to make a living and it consumes all their time, they may not have the time to devote to their art work and the extra effort to write a grant, or they don't have work samples ready to submit with their application or the time to contact two professionals to provide a Letter of Recommendation, which is required for the Fellowship. Since we have been funding artists for over twenty years we are not surprised by these ups and downs in applicant numbers. We are optimistic that it will increase next year.

## **2. Emerging Artist Grant Program, changed its name to Career Development.**

In February 2016 we planned to fund 14 artists, but awarded 28 Career Development Grants at \$1,000 each, for a total of \$28,000; since there were unused funds in the Fellowship category. Eighteen of the artists projects were in visual art, five in literature, four in music and one theater. The board thought that the quality of the applicants was very high. We exceeded our goal by awarding 28 grants in this program. The previous year **the Executive Director Brenda Byron developed a Literary Workshop/Mentorship for both Emerging and Mid-Career Writers**, at the Arts Center of St. Peter and 5 writers participated. This was done intentionally to increase the writer's confidence, skills and develop stronger work samples to submit in the future for PLRAC Artist Grants. All but one of these writers did apply for an artist grant in FY 2016. Also in 2015 we held workshops on resume writing and photographing your own work in an effort to assist artists in having a higher quality artist application, resume and work sample; and we did see improvement by our artist applicants in 2016. **During fall 2016 the Executive Director suggested changing the name of the Artist Program from Emerging Artist to "Career Development", after doing workshops with artists and processing the Fellowship grants.** At that November board meeting Byron researched other RAC artist programs, titles and descriptions and proposed the change; and the board adopted it. New applications were created and posted immediately on the website. Byron continued to conduct Artist workshops in November and December, announcing the name change, and working with the 410 Project Gallery in Mankato; and Prairie Lakes Board Members to spread the word about the grant; and that additional funds were available in January 2016, since a couple Fellowships were not awarded. Thus, we increased our publicity for the artist grants through several methods, which included a news release to the media in the 9-county area about the new Career Development Grant, sent several email reminders to our database of 500+ artists, including information in our monthly newsletter and our Facebook page. We also have YouTube videos that describe how to apply for our Artist Grant and Fellowship and they are also posted on our website and Facebook page. We provided the links in our email announcements and in our newsletter, and they can be found in YouTube under Brenda Byron or Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. In general, we have documented a steady rate of applicants over the past several years. We know there is a strong need for these types of grants but the timing is not always ideal for artists to apply for a grant. Each year it seems that artists mention that they are "just too busy to sit down and write the grant" and they think "I don't have my work samples ready to submit" or "I'll do it next year".

3. Prairie Lakes staff coordinated the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grantee Exhibition January 11 to February 19, 2016 at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center, Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato. It featured twenty-four artists: fourteen Emerging Artists Grantees and ten Fellowship recipients from 2014. Coordination started in fall 2015 contacting visual artists to display their work and performing artists to be featured at the opening reception on January 17, 2016. Artists were very pleased to be featured in this group exhibition and we created a very nice brochure for the exhibit, which was posted on our website. Fourteen visual artists displayed a total of 51 pieces of artwork; two writers discussed their work at the reception, two musicians and two playwrights performed and each received a \$25 stipend for their participation. We videotaped the entire reception for the first time. We worked with two Bethany media students to edit the video footage so that it could be put on YouTube, in four segments. We also produced two hour long videos that could be played on Cable TV in three communities: Mankato, St. James and Waseca. The exhibit was a very successful event and about 90 people attended the opening reception on a very cold Sunday afternoon; and we estimate that over 800 people viewed the exhibit. We highlighted the exhibit in our January and February 2016 Newsletters with photos from the opening reception. PLRAC will continue to create a brochure for the exhibit that features a biography and photo of each artist's artwork, which will be posted on our website. The crowd really loved the interactive reception and we plan to expand upon that in FY 2017. General overview of exhibit, video links: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7HS3WT5U4EY>, and <https://youtu.be/9kZPFahNhkU>.

4. **We Met our Workshop Goal for FY 2016.** In FY 2016 we offered several Artist Workshops that were very successful and staff spent extra time facilitating these workshops. We facilitated the regular grant writing workshops for Artists in July 2015 but incorporated the same information into each of the other artist workshops held in Oct., Nov., and December 2015 and over 80% of participants stated in an Exit Survey that the workshops were excellent and provided useful information. These extra efforts and events described below, when combined with our discussion on artist grants, really paid off in reaching younger artists and new artists we hadn't worked with before, to consider applying for our Career Development program. It usually takes multiple interactions with artists before they apply for grants, and usually this involves increasing their awareness of the grant process, and seeing it as a friendly and encouraging process that can move them along in their career.

Workshops included: July 2, 2015 - Public Art Discussion with Artists and Interested Community Members. Held at the 410 Project Gallery in Mankato. Facilitated by Dana Sikkila and Brenda Byron. Discussion on "What Public Art Is", examples were given, discussion on "creative placemaking" and current public art projects happening in the greater Mankato area; and we had 20 artist participants! We held this workshop since Byron and Sikkila had attended a 2-day Forecast Public Art Workshop sponsored by the SW MN Regional Arts Council; and we were inspired to bring that information to our region. Perhaps in FY 2017 we can sponsor a similar public art workshop on a larger scale. October 8, 2015 – Special Artist Night held in conjunction with PLRAC Regional Art Exhibition held at the Arts Center of Saint Peter, which featured 93 pieces of artwork. Artists discussed their work in the exhibition as well as Byron presented information on PLRAC/McKnight Artist Grant deadlines and information on how to get a gallery exhibit, and the location of the various art centers in the 9-county area. About 30 artists' participated and 5 art center representatives. Nov. 12, Dec. 10, 2015 & January 21, 2016; three sessions of "The Mankato Arts Progression Panel" were held at the 410 Project in Mankato. The goal for the "Mankato Arts Progression Panel" is to give a voice to area artists who wish to sustain and expand the arts in our region. The City of Mankato wants to push the arts forward, but few of these discussions are being led or shared with our local artists. The goal of this panel was to develop a dialogue about the needs of local artists and the supporting community. The November and December artist meetings were a great success. We had about 25 people attend each session; and their backgrounds included: visual art, theatre, music and literature. We had a panel of 6 local area artist and community members that led the

discussion in November and 3 panelists in December; along with facilitator Dana Sikkila, Director of the 410 Project and PLRAC Board Member; as well as Byron.

### G. Staff and Board of Directors

Executive Director	Brenda Byron, employed 27 years as Arts Council Director
Program Manager and Bookkeeper	Cindy Lewer, employed 21 years
Administrative Assistant	Pam Trumbull, employed 6 years
Blue Earth County	Gina Wenger, Mankato
Brown County	Denice Evers, Springfield
Faribault County	Carol Soma, Blue Earth
LeSueur County	Randy Mediger, Waterville
Martin County	Bonnie Taplin, Fairmont
Nicollet County	Diane Harms, St. Peter
Sibley County	Dennis Van Moorlehem, Arlington - Secretary
Waseca County	Jessica Barens, Waseca
Watonwan County	Joe McCabe, St. James – Treasurer
City of Fairmont	Open
City of Mankato	Greg Wilkins – President
City of New Ulm	Charles Luedtke
City of North Mankato	Dana Sikkila
City of St. Peter	Lauren Shoemaker - Vice-President

### H. FY 2016 Grantee List

**In FY 2016 Prairie Lakes awarded 201 arts grants totaling \$421,125.** Grants of \$82,015 in general State funds and \$293,110 in Arts and Cultural Heritage funding; which totals \$375,125. These grants were awarded to arts organizations, community groups, schools, and for youth scholarships. Artist grants of \$46,000 were awarded with McKnight Foundation funding.

	<u>Name of Organization</u>	<u>Grant Program</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>
	<u>State Art Project and Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants</u>		
1	410 Project, Mankato	Art Project	\$1,750
2	Arlington Chamber of Commerce, Arli-Dazzle	Art Project	\$1,905
3	Arts and Heritage Center of Montgomery	Art Project	\$900
4	Arts Center of Saint Peter	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
5	Arts 'n More Festival, Amboy	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$4,000
6	Bavarian Blast, New Ulm	Art Project	\$2,500
7	Bethany Lutheran College, Speechless Film Festival	Art Project	\$2,500
8	Betsy-Tacy Society, Mankato	Art Project	\$1,500
9	Blue Earth Area Community Education	Art Project	\$1,750
10	Blue Earth Area High School	Arts-In-Education	\$1,490
11	Blue Earth Community Foundation	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$6,000
12	Blue Earth Valley Concert Association	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$6,500

13	Centennial Student Union, MN State Univ., Mankato	Art Project	\$2,500
14	Cherry Creek Days Festival, Cleveland	Art Project	\$1,750
15	Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$4,200
16	Christmas Misfits Play, North Mankato	Art Project	\$1,275
17	City of Winthrop	Art Project	\$1,725
18	Community and Seniors Together, New Ulm	Art Project	\$1,800
19	Cornstalk Festival, Dunnell	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$1,500
20	Curtain Call Theatre, Montgomery	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$6,720
21	Dance Conservatory of Southen Minnesota	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
22	Fairmont Opera House	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
23	Fairmont Opera House	Arts & Cultural Heritage Equip.	\$4,840
24	Gaylord Area Chamber of Commerce	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$4,000
25	GnomeMade Artisans, New Ulm	Art Project	\$1,200
26	Good Thunder Reading Series, MN State Univ., Mankato	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
27	Govenaires Drum and Bugle Corps	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
28	Green Isle Community School	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$3,650
29	Healthy Communities/ Healthy Youth of Brown Co.	Art Project	\$1,750
30	Henderson Heritage Days	Art Project	\$1,400
31	Henderson Sauerkraut Days	Art Project	\$1,500
32	Hermann Monument Society, New Ulm	Art Project	\$2,500
33	Irish Cultural Society of New Ulm	Art Project	\$2,220
34	Kearney International Center, MN State Univ., Mankato	Art Project	\$2,500
35	Lake Crystal Area Community Band	Art Project	\$610
36	Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial School	Arts-In-Education	\$820
37	Madelia Area Chamber of Commerce	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$4,000
38	Madelia Elementary School	Arts-In-Education	\$1,180
39	Mankato Area 77 Lancers Marching Band	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
40	Mankato Area Community Band	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$4,100
41	Mankato Area Community Education	Art Project	\$2,500
42	Mankato Area Community Education	Art Project	\$1,750
43	Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
44	Mankato Ballet Company	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
45	Mankato Children's Chorus	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
46	Mankato Symphony Orchestra	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
47	Mankato West High School	Arts-In-Education	\$2,315
48	Maple River Middle & High School	Arts-In-Education	\$2,500
49	Merely Players Community Theatre, Mankato	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
50	Merely Players Community Theatre, Mankato	Arts & Cultural Heritage Equip.	\$4,470
51	Minnesota New Country School, Henderson	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$4,000
52	Minnesota Over 60 Band	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$5,000

53	Minnesota Shorts Play Festival, North Mankato	Art Project	\$2,500
54	MN State Univ. Mankato, Music Performance Series	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
55	Minnesota Valley Chorale, Mankato	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$7,200
56	Minnesota Valley Music Teachers Association	Art Project	\$1,100
57	Minnesota Valley Sweet Adelines	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
58	Musicorum, Mankato	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$6,360
59	New Ulm Film Society	Art Project	\$1,420
60	New Ulm Suzuki School of Music	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
61	Project G.E.M.	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
62	Project G.E.M.	Arts & Cultural Heritage Equip.	\$1,280
63	Project G.E.M./Mahkato Mdewakanton Assoc.	Art Project	\$1,100
64	Red Rock Center for the Arts, Fairmont	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$6,720
65	Rock Bend Folk Festival, St. Peter	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$4,000
66	Rural Advantage, Fairmont	Art Project	\$2,110
67	Rural Route Dance Ensemble, St. Peter	Art Project	\$1,715
68	St. James Theater and Community Education	Art Project	\$2,500
69	St. Peter Ambassadors, Bluesfest	Art Project	\$1,750
70	Saint Peter Choral Society	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
71	Sibley East Elementary School	Arts-In-Education	\$2,160
72	Sibley East Public School	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$3,300
73	Sleepy Eye High School	Arts-In-Education	\$1,670
74	SMILES Center for Independent Living, Mankato	Art Project	\$2,500
75	South Central MN Interpretive Center, Fairmont	Art Project	\$1,170
76	South Central Service Cooperative	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
77	State Street Theater Company, New Ulm	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
78	String Theory Music Group, St. Peter	Art Project	\$2,500
79	The Grand Center for Arts & Culture, New Ulm	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
80	Tri-City United Summer Migrant Education Program	Arts-In-Education	\$950
81	Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, Mankato	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
82	VINE Faith in Action, Mankato	Art Project	\$2,500
83	Waseca Arts Council	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$8,000
84	Waseca Community Education	Art Project	\$1,750
85	Waseca County Historical Society	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$6,270
86	Waesca High School Jazz Festival	Art Project	\$1,800
87	Waseca Intermediate School	Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$3,600
88	Waseca Marching Classic	Art Project	\$1,500
89	Waterville-Elysian-Morristown School	Arts-In-Education	<u>\$1,230</u>
		Sub-Total	\$351,725
	<u>Art &amp; Cultural Heritage (ACH) Arts Education – Youth Scholarships</u>		
90	Isabella Aase, Nicollet	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
91	Ben Abbott, North Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
92	Elaine Adams, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300



93	Gretchen Adams, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
94	José Barrientos, Gibbon	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
95	Isabel Becker, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
96	Nikolai Becker, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
97	Halle Bemmels, LeSueur	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
98	Rachelle Boelter, LeSueur	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
99	Anja Bunge Dulin, St. Peter	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
100	Ronan Corley, North Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
101	Katharine Davis, Madelia	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
102	Aliyah Dawkins, Eagle Lake	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
103	Alyssa Enevold, North Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
104	Jordan Enevold, North Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
105	Katherine Engeldinger, St. Peter	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
106	Collin Fast, Butterfield	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
107	Lily Follansbee, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
108	Lexi Fosburgh, North Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
109	Adriana Freitag, Lewisville	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
110	Judith Frelich, Madelia	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
111	Anna Freyberg, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
112	Julia Goodburn, Madelia	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
113	Cameron Hainy, Fairmont	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
114	Rebekah Hartwig, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
115	Eric Head, Fairmont	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
116	Mackenzie Helget, Sleepy Eye	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
117	Julia Herzberg, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
118	Lauren Hoffmann, Sleepy Eye	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
119	McKenzie Hoffmann, Sleepy Eye	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
120	Noah Huseby, New Ulm	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
121	Praticha Jagdish, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
122	Kezia Kim, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
123	Mya Kotten, New Ulm	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
124	Viktoria Kranz, Gaylord	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
125	Taylor Krienke, Waterville	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
126	Luci Kulseth, St. James	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
127	Timothy Kulzer, LeSueur	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
128	Molly Landkammer, Sleepy Eye	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
129	Alex Liebl, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
130	Kendra Lyimo, Gibbon	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
131	Megan Lyons, Eagle Lake	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
132	Stefan Mark, Springfield	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
133	Montanna Michels, St. Peter	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
134	Emmy Munson, New Ulm	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300



135	Samuel Murray, North Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
136	Maggie Newsom, Gaylord	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
137	Brianna Nolte, New Ulm	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
138	Joseph Park, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
139	Grace Peterson, New Ulm	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
140	Isaac Peterson, St. Peter	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
141	Anna Prchal, Montgomery	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
142	Anna Remes, Delavan	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
143	Kiara Riehl, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
144	Brianna Ringen, Butterfield	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
145	Britta Roth, Montgomery	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
146	Sayontan Roy, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
147	Amber Rudenick, Nicollet	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
148	Eli Scheidel, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
149	Kayla Schroepfer, Sleepy Eye	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
150	Laura Schwartz, LeSueur	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
151	Sarah Schwartz, LeSueur	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
152	Tikvah Schwartz, Wells	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
153	Emily Simoni, Wells	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
154	Lauren Smith, North Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
155	Brooke Sonnek, Janesville	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
156	Avarey Steffensmeier, Mankato	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
157	Madeleine Stenzel, Eagle Lake	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
158	Kelby Stocker, New Ulm	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
159	Michael Thompson, St. Clair	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
160	Annalisa Tostenson, Nicollet	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
161	Katherine Tostenson, Nicollet	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
162	Isaac Turner, LeSueur	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
163	KaSondra Wiederich, LeSueur	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
164	Noah Wilson, St. Peter	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
165	Alexandra Zachman, St. Peter	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
166	Victoria Zachman, St. Peter	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
167	Rachelle Zinniel, Sleepy Eye	ACH Youth Scholarship	\$300
		Sub-Total	\$23,400
		State and Arts & Cultural Heritage Grant Total	\$375,125
	<u>PLRAC/McKnight Fellowship and Emerging Artist Grants</u>		
168	Leo Derkowski, Sleepy Eye	Fellowship - McKnight	\$3,000
169	Ann Judkins, North Mankato	Fellowship - McKnight	\$3,000
170	Lois Peterson, St. Peter	Fellowship - McKnight	\$3,000
171	Amy Sinning, Mankato	Fellowship - McKnight	\$3,000

172	Malia Wiley, Lake Crystal	Fellowship - McKnight	\$3,000
173	Gregory Wilkins, Mankato	Fellowship - McKnight	\$3,000
174	Lisa Bierer, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
175	James Bonilla, St. Peter	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
176	Carolyn Borgen, New Ulm	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
177	Megan Flod Johnson, St. Peter	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
178	Marilyn Frank, North Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
179	Le Ann Gehring-Ryan, North Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
180	Mara Heinze, Madison Lake	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
181	James Hohenstein, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
182	Kaitlin Hohenstein, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
183	Elizabeth Horneber, Pemberton	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
184	Rachel James, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
185	Cam Johnson, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
186	Zachary Johnson, St. Peter	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
187	Julie Johnson-Fahrforth, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
188	Melinda Kjarum, North Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
189	Sean Knickerbocker, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
190	Virginia LaFrance, St. Peter	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
191	Jerry Mollenhauer, Elysian	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
192	Macey Page, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
193	Barbara Pearson, Blue Earth	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
194	Steve Pottenger, Eagle Lake	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
195	Charles Putnam, St. Peter	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
196	Patrick Ryan, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
197	Joseph Steinbach, New Ulm	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
198	Peggy Tauer, Sleepy Eye	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
199	Tice VanderHeiden, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
200	Michael Wellner, Springfield	Career Development - McKnight	\$1,000
201	Amanda Wirig, Mankato	Career Development - McKnight	<u>\$1,000</u>
		McKnight Foundation Artist Grant Total	\$46,000
		<u>Total of Grants Awarded FY 2016</u>	<u>\$421,125</u>

<b>R9: Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council</b>			<b>Arts &amp;</b>	<b>Arts</b>	<b>Arts &amp; Cult</b>			
<b>FINAL REPORT BUDGET: Fiscal Year 2016</b>		<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Arts Access</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Heritage</b>	<b>McKnight</b>	<b>Other</b>	
		<b>2016 State</b>	<b>2016 State</b>	<b>2016 State</b>	<b>2016 State</b>	<b>Foundation</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2016 Total</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>								
1	State of Minnesota	\$122,641	\$349,138	\$70,108	\$23,369			\$565,256
2	State of Minnesota: Carryforward from 2015	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
3	McKnight Foundation					\$70,000		\$70,000
4	Other Income	\$0	\$4,832	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,832
5	Interest	\$0	\$574	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$574
6	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$122,641</b>	<b>\$354,544</b>	<b>\$70,108</b>	<b>\$23,369</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$640,662</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>								
<b>Programs and Services</b>								
7	Grant Programs and Services							
	State Small Art Project and Arts Education	\$84,300						\$84,300
	ACH Grant - Arts & Arts Access		\$233,610					\$233,610
	ACH Grant - Arts Education			\$43,400				\$43,400
	ACH Grant - Cultural Heritage Festivals				\$16,500			\$16,500
	McKnight/PLRAC Artist Grants					\$46,000		\$46,000
8	Grant Programs and Services, Operations and Support	\$18,850	\$96,454	\$21,320	\$3,856	\$20,437	\$0	\$160,917
9	<b>Subtotal Grant Programs and Services</b>	<b>\$103,150</b>	<b>\$330,064</b>	<b>\$64,720</b>	<b>\$20,356</b>	<b>\$66,437</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$584,727</b>
10	Non-grant Programs and Services							
	Art Exhibitions, special programs	\$0	\$1,120	\$0	\$0	\$1,813		\$2,933
	Workshops and trainings	\$0	\$1,532	\$528	\$546	\$665		\$3,271
	Arts promotion, newsletter, etc.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
11	Non-grant Programs and Services, Operations/Support	\$2,411	\$8,170	\$1,653	\$1,644	\$1,085		\$14,963
12	<b>Subtotal Non-grant Programs and Services</b>	<b>\$2,411</b>	<b>\$10,822</b>	<b>\$2,181</b>	<b>\$2,190</b>	<b>\$3,563</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$21,167</b>
13	<b>Total Programs and Services</b>	<b>\$105,561</b>	<b>\$340,886</b>	<b>\$66,901</b>	<b>\$22,546</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$605,894</b>
14	<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
15	<b>General administration</b>	<b>\$17,389</b>	<b>\$14,387</b>	<b>\$3,207</b>	<b>\$823</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$35,806</b>
16	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$122,950</b>	<b>\$355,273</b>	<b>\$70,108</b>	<b>\$23,369</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$641,700</b>
17	<b>Surplus/Carryforward or Deficit</b>	<b>-\$309</b>	<b>-\$729</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Note: PLRAC will use cash reserves to cover deficit.</b>								