

## Chris Steller

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**From:** Maxine Adams <directorlrac@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 20, 2017 10:40 AM  
**To:** Chris Steller  
**Subject:** Lake Region Arts Council, FY 17 MSAB Final Report  
**Attachments:** FY17 MSAB Final Report, Narrative.pdf; FY17 MSAB Final Report Attachments A-D.pdf

State Reference Library  
645 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Saint Paul, MN 55155-1050

To Whom it may concern:

Attached is the FY 17 Lake Region Arts Council, MSAB Final Report. This report has also been mailed to the Minnesota State Arts Board. We are sending a hard copy by regular mail to your office. Please let me know if you have questions. We will file our FY 17 Audit by a separate communication with your office.

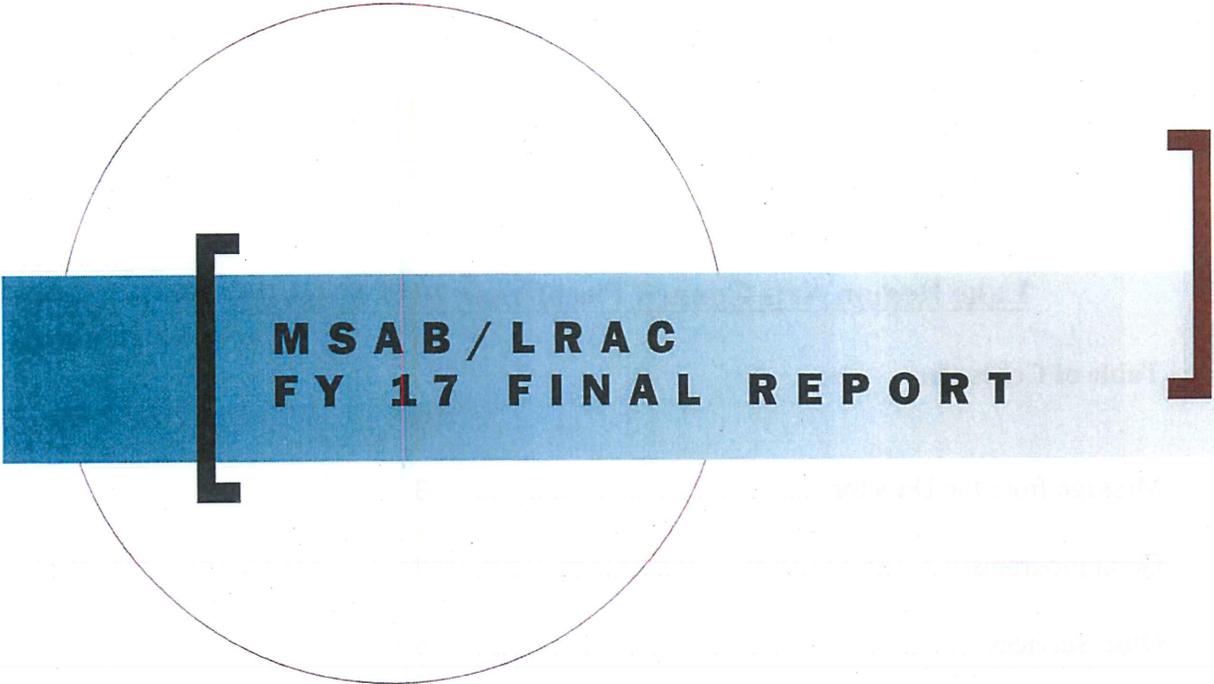
*Maxine Adams*

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**MSAB / LRAC  
FY 17 FINAL REPORT**

**AUTHORED BY:**

Maxine Adams, Executive Director  
For second year of a two year grant  
July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

Date submitted: 09/2017

**MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT**

**Lake Region Arts Council Fiscal Year 2017 Final Report**

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## MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT

### Message from the Director:

Fiscal year 2017 was the eight year that the Lake Region Arts Council received Arts & Cultural Heritage funding. This additional source of funding has made a huge impact on the grants and services we offered our constituents. Please note that we have split our reporting into two separate focuses, one for the Base Legislative appropriation and one for the Arts & Cultural Heritage funding, to more easily report the differences between the two sources of funding.

LRAC celebrated 40 years as a Regional Arts Council and we are excited and encouraged to have this opportunity to report on the growth that the Lake Region Arts Council has experienced this past year.

#### 2017 Lake Region Arts Council activities:

- The LRAC awarded an Arts Legacy City Grants to the City of Moorhead, bringing the number of cities in the LRAC region, receiving the designation of “Arts Legacy City” to ten. These cities have changed their city government structure to include an arts advisory committee.
- This year the LRAC Board implemented a strategic, long range goal of broadening our concept of providing grants and services. The Board is supportive of the concept that LRAC is part of a statewide arts support system and more emphasis was placed on connecting artists and arts organizations in our region with statewide resources, not just what is available through LRAC. The FY17 activities that support this goal are; support of the Springboard for the Arts, Lake Region, Fergus Falls office, and Artist Work Sample Improvement Project.
- In FY 17 was our second year of our “Surviving to Thriving” program, designed to help regional arts organizations work on capacity building. Our “Surviving to Thriving” program has resulted in a cohort of 16 organizations identifying priority areas of funding, marketing and community engagement and the best ways for LRAC to support their capacity building in these areas.

— Maxine Adams, Executive Director

## MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT

### GRANT PROGRAMS

<u>Grant Program:</u>	<u>#Req.</u>	<u># Fnd.</u>	<u>\$ Req.</u>	<u>\$ Funded</u>	<u>% Funded</u>
Project Grants	38	21	\$67,818	\$34,544	50.9%
Operating Support Grants	12	12	\$51,860	\$49,700	95.8%
*Legacy Grants, Individual	12	9	\$91,115	\$67,115	73.6%
*Legacy Grants, Organizations	36	19	\$306,840	\$165,732	54%
Legacy Local Gov. Grants	1	1	10,000	10,000	100%
*Career Development	18	7	\$21,080	\$8,500	40.3%
*Artist Quick Start Grant	17	6	\$12,750	\$4,500	35.2%
*Fellowships	11	1	\$55,000	\$5,000	9%
*Artist Mentor Program	21	17	\$12,600	\$10,200	80.9%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>\$795,185</b>	<b>\$293,529</b>	<b>56%</b>

During fiscal year 2017, the Lake Region Arts Council awarded grants as shown above. A detailed listing of all grants awarded has been submitted to the MN State Arts Board in a separate document.

#### Summary of Grants Awarded

This year 56% of the requests were funded, down from 59% in FY 16 and 56% of the dollars requested were funded, up from 37% in FY16.

These figures indicate that we are not able to sufficiently meet the need that exists. This inability to adequately fund the requests we receive has existed since these statistics have been tracked beginning in 1999.

## MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT

### OTHER SERVICES

**Website:** In FY 17, the LRAC website was completely redesigned. The website continues to be a heavily used vehicle for sharing information about LRAC and all regional arts activities. All grant applicants are now directed to our website to access our online grant application process. Visitors to the website may access any of our services such as the Arts Calendar, Artist Registry, Newsletter, Workshop registration and information on our Galleries. Constituents reported in the satisfaction survey that they highly value this resource.

**Arts Calendar:** In FY 17 the Arts Calendar received a major overhaul. The result has been a more user friendly format, easier search options and the ability to display featured arts events. The revamp has made it easier to cross promote Arts Calendar events to the LRAC Facebook page.

**Monthly newsletter:** The monthly newsletter, Art Headlines, was sent via email to a mailing list of 1,438 households compared to 1,772 households in FY 16. A PDF of the Art Headlines is included with this report.

**Facebook:** LRAC's Facebook page helps promote our grants, services and arts activities. The Facebook Page also appears on our website and the Face Book page now has 6,414 "likes". In Fiscal Year 2017, our expanding Facebook presence enabled us to help promote events and activities of our regional arts organizations, as well as arts activities at area public schools and colleges throughout the region. On almost any given week, LRAC's Facebook page is viewed by more people, has more engagement, and continues to grow with more new followers than all the other regional arts councils' and the Minnesota State Arts Board's Facebook pages combined.

**Artist Registry:** Through the LRAC website artists can now apply and upload work sample images online. The Artist Registry can be accessed and searched by the public online. At the end of FY 17 there were 209 individual artists listed compared to 198 in FY 16.

**Technical Assistance:** The LRAC staff provided technical assistance and site visits to arts organizations in and beyond the region. This assistance was offered through consulting in the office, site visits, and by phone.

**Workshops:** The LRAC provided eleven grant writing workshops, one prior to every grant round. The LRAC provided the following workshops, Alcohol Inks, Matting & Framing, Creative Enhancement, Landscape Painting in Oils, Holiday Painting, Community Theatre. 92% of participants reported meeting or exceeding their expectations.

## **MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT**

### **OTHER SERVICES, Cont.**

**Artist Work Sample Improvement Project:** In FY 17 LRAC worked with 7 artists to improve their work sample photographs by providing photo sessions with professional photographers and classes on how to take your own work sample photographs. 100% of those responding to the satisfaction survey reported that the quality of their work samples had improved and 100% reported they had taken action or intended to take action in the next 6 months, to use the new work samples to further their career goals.

### **BIENNIAL PLAN FY 16-17 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The LRAC goals, as specified in the FY 16-17 Biennial Work Plan, regarding both the Base Legislative appropriation and the Arts and Cultural Heritage funding, are dealt with separately in this final report. Each of the two work plans has a corresponding outcome evaluation report. The base legislative appropriation work plan and outcome evaluation is presented first, pages 7-8, followed by the Arts and Cultural Heritage work plan and outcome evaluation on pages 9-12.

These goals are in addition to the ongoing provision of grant programs, technical assistance, and other services such as grant writing workshops, the monthly newsletter, resource information, and technical services.

## **MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT**

### **Biennial Goals FY 2016-17, Base Legislative Appropriation :**

Four goals with accompanying objectives were adopted to accomplish our mission and address the organizational and individual artist needs through our base legislative appropriation.

#### **I. Goal: Provide financial and technical support to artists.**

**Objective A:** Provide Career Development, Artist Quick Start, Artist Mentor and Fellowship grants to individual artists.

**Objective B:** Offer artist registry, Art Headlines newsletter, resource library, LRAC Gallery, LRAC website, and workshops for artists.

**Objective C:** Increase regional awareness of LRAC grants and services.

#### **II. Goal: Provide financial and technical support to organizations.**

**Objective A:** Offer Project, Operating Support, and Organizational Small grants to organizations.

**Objective B:** Offer artist registry, Art Headlines newsletter, resource library, LRAC website, and workshops for organizations.

**Objective C:** Increase regional awareness of LRAC grants and services.

#### **III. Goal: Maintain strong communication between LRAC and the MN Legislature.**

**Objective A:** Keep region's Legislators informed about current activities and issues.

**Objective B:** Support Arts Advocacy Day.

**Objective C:** Maintain memberships in Minnesota Citizens for the Arts and Americans for the Arts.

#### **IV. Goal: Act as responsible stewards of public funds.**

**Objective A:** In FY 16-17 work with our arts delivery partners to develop a strategic plan for best use of the amendment funding, based on feedback from the state's citizens.

**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.

## **MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT**

### **Outcome Evaluation Base Legislative Appropriation:**

**I. Goal: Provide financial and technical support to artists.**

**II. Goal: Provide financial and technical support to organizations.**

A. In FY16 and FY17, of those receiving grants and services from the LRAC, 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.

**Results:** 95% of the grantees indicated that their projects met or exceeded their project goals to be artistically successful, reach the target constituency and have community impact.

**III. Goal: Maintain strong communication between LRAC and the MN Legislature.**

A. In FY16 and FY17 their will be at least 5 staff and constituent interactions with each of the LRAC legislators. This will be measured by letters, emails and phone calls from staff and constituents, attendance at Arts Advocacy Day and responses to calls for action from Minnesota Citizens for the Arts.

**Results:** There were 10 direct contacts with legislators. Announcements of grants awarded in their districts after each grant round, monthly newsletters, invitation to LRAC 40th Anniversary Celebration and Arts Advocacy Day.

**IV. Goal: Act as responsible stewards of public funds.**

A. In FY16 and FY17, 75% of constituents will signify a satisfaction level of acceptable to superior when asked if the LRAC has acted as responsible stewards of the public funds they administer. This will be measured by a constituent survey.

**Results:** Based on FY17 Needs Survey, 86% reported they felt LRAC had either, achieved, exceeded, or highly exceeded accountability as responsible stewards of the public funds they administer.

## MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT

### Biennial Goals FY 2016-17, 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 fund.

**I. 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.

**II. 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 life long Arts Education.

**III. Goal: Increase Arts & Cultural Heritage 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.

**IV. 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 LRAC staff to explore how to best utilize Arts & Cultural Heritage funds.

**Objective E:** Provide "LRAC Arts Organizational Development Program: From Surviving to Thriving", focused on building capacity in the areas of financial management, strategic planning, evaluation, publicity and board leadership.

**Objective F:** LRAC will provide an "Artist Work Sample Improvement Program" designed to improve artists' ability to apply for and receive grants and enter juried competitions.

**V. 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 citizens. (cont.)

# MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT

## Biennial Goals FY 2016-17, Arts and Cultural Heritage fund

### V. Goal: Achieve Accountability of Arts and Culture Fund (cont.)

**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.

## MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT

### Outcome Evaluation Arts and Cultural Heritage fund :

- I. 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.
- II. Goal: Increase Art Education** by supporting life long learning and appreciation of the arts, including but not exclusive to K-12 activities.
- III. Goal: Increase Arts & Cultural Heritage 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.

For Goals I, II, III:

A. In FY16-17, of those receiving grants and services from the LRAC, 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.

**Results:** Overall, of those who have completed final reports, 99% felt the project's goals were either met or exceeded.

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

A. In FY16-17, the LRAC will provide publicity/public awareness services to minimum of 15 grant recipients. This will result in an increased awareness of the arts in the LRAC region. This will be measured by staff tracking of publicity releases.

**Results:** Through the LRAC newsletter, arts calendar, Face Book, publicity releases, and website, LRAC provided publicity for 45 grant recipients.

B. In FY 16-17 the LRAC will provide resources for arts organizations and artists to attend a minimum of 2 networking opportunities with 75% attendees responding that they were impacted favorable.

**Results:** LRAC provided a Networking Meeting for Regional Theatre Organizations, 20 representatives attended. 90% of those attending responded that they were impacted favorably by their attendance. LRAC provided scholarships to attend the Rural Arts and Cultural Summit, 8 scholarships were awarded and 85% said they were impacted favorably.

C. In FY 16-17 LRAC will provide resources for arts organizations and artists to attend a minimum of 2 workshop opportunities, through scholarships or by holding workshops, with 75% attendees responding that they were impacted favorable. This will be measured by an exit survey.

**Results:** In FY 17 LRAC provided the following workshops: Alcohol Inks, Matting & Framing, Creative Enhancement, Landscape Painting in Oils, Holiday Painting, Community Theatre. 92% of participants reported meeting or exceeding their expectations.

## MSAB/LRAC FY17 FINAL REPORT

### Outcome Evaluation Arts and Cultural Heritage fund :

**IV. Goal: Provide Services and Support** to individuals and organizations that provide arts activities in our region. (cont.)

D. In FY16-17 there will be a minimum of 20 individual support meetings held with constituents interested in the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Results:** In FY16 LRAC staff provided 368 support meetings, in person, by email or editing of applications by email. 253 meetings pertaining to Legacy.

E. In FY 16-FY 17 at least 75% of the arts organizations participating in the "LRAC Arts Organizational Development Program: From Surviving to Thriving", will report an increase in their ability to successfully manage their organizations. This will be measured by a participation satisfaction survey.

**Results:** 98% of the organizations participating felt the "LRAC Arts Organizational Development Program: From Surviving to Thriving", met or exceeded their expectations.

F. In FY 16-17 at least 75% of the artists that participate in the "Artist Work Sample Improvement Program" will report an increase in the quality of their work samples.

**Results:** 100% of those participating reported an increase in the quality of their work samples.

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

A. In FY16-17, 75% of constituents will signify a satisfaction level of acceptable to superior when asked if the LRAC has acted as responsible stewards of the public funds they administer. This will be measured by a constituent survey.

**Results:** Based on FY17 Needs Survey, 86% reported they felt LRAC had either, achieved, exceeded, or highly exceeded accountability as responsible stewards of the public funds they administer.

**Attachments**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Financial reports are included for the General Legislative appropriation, Arts & Cultural Heritage funding, and The McKnight Foundation funding (Attachments A).

**SUMMARY OF ALL GRANTS AWARDED**

A complete listing of all grants awarded by LRAC in FY17 were previously submitted to the MN State Arts Board by a separate document.

**BOARD AND STAFF**

**Board Member and Staff information:**

Rosters of Council and staff members, a list of Council committees and Council member biographical information are included with this report (Attachments C and D).



	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
LAKE REGION ARTS COUNCIL			Arts &	Arts	Arts & Cult			
Actual Year-to-Date: Fiscal Year 2017		General Fund	Arts Access	Education	Heritage	McKnight	Other	
		2017 State	2017 State	2017 State	2017 State	Foundation	Funds	2017 Total
<b>REVENUE</b>								
1	State of Minnesota	122,832	411,880	72,649	24,216	0	0	\$631,577
2	State of Minnesota: Carryforward from 2016	6,817	4,088	1,064	171			\$12,140
3	McKnight Foundation					61,902		\$61,902
4	Other Income	36,164	0	0	0	0	0	\$36,164
5	Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
6	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$165,813</b>	<b>\$415,968</b>	<b>\$73,713</b>	<b>\$24,388</b>	<b>\$61,902</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$741,783</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>								
Programs and Services								
7	Grant Programs and Services							
	Project grants -Gen. Allocation	34,544						\$34,544
	Artist Mentor prog. Costs-Gen.	13,416						\$13,416
	Operating Support grants-Gen. Allocation	49,700						\$49,700
	Arts Access-ACHF		192,987					\$192,987
	3% Set Aside - Arts Access		0					\$0
	Arts Ed.-ACHF			34,350				\$34,350
	3% Set Aside - Arts Ed.			0				\$0
	Arts/Cult. Heritage-ACHF				5,510			\$5,510
	3% Set Aside - Arts/Cult. Heritage				0			\$0
	Career Dev.-McK					8,400		\$8,400
	Artist Small grants-McK					4,500		\$4,500
	Fellowship- McK					5,000		\$5,000
	Arts Legacy City grants		10,000					\$10,000
	Capacity Building grants		26,098					\$26,098
	Base OpSup Supplement		19,188	3,384	1,128			\$23,700
	Artist Mentor Supplement			5,264				\$5,264
	Grant program name							\$0
8	Grant Programs and Services, Operations and Support	38,670	83,203	14,676	4,892	4,189	0	\$145,630
9	Subtotal Grant Programs and Services	\$136,330	\$331,476	\$57,674	\$11,530	\$22,089	\$0	\$559,098
10	Non-grant Programs and Services							
	McK Gallery	0	0	0	0	18,341	0	\$18,341
	McK Springboard Satellite office	0	0	0	0	11,100	0	\$11,100
	Workshops	0	7,005	1,236	412	0	0	\$8,653
	Public Awareness ACHF	0	30,609	5,399	1,800	0	0	\$37,808
	Grant review meetings	3,569	1,382	244	81	1,958	0	\$7,234
	Staff Training Gen./ACHF/McK	52	457	81	27	13	0	\$630
11	Non-grant Programs and Services, Operations and Support	5,991	28,069	4,951	1,650	2,297	0	\$42,958
12	Subtotal Non-grant Programs and Services	\$9,612	\$67,523	\$11,910	\$3,970	\$33,709	\$0	\$126,723
13	Total Programs and Services	\$145,942	\$398,998	\$69,584	\$15,500	\$55,798	\$0	\$685,822
14	Fundraising	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
15	General administration	21,348	15,488	2,732	911	6,114	0	\$46,593
16	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$167,290</b>	<b>\$414,487</b>	<b>\$72,316</b>	<b>\$16,411</b>	<b>\$61,912</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$732,415</b>
17	Surplus/Carryforward or Deficit	-\$1,477	\$1,481	\$1,397	\$7,977	-\$10	\$0	\$9,369

Featured in this issue: LRAC 40 Anniversary Party Invitation, Gallery Exhibits, Upcoming Grants, Other Opportunities

## LRAC May Art Headlines

### You Are Invited to the Biggest Arts Party of 2017

LRAC Annual Meeting & 40th Anniversary Celebration  
July 25, 2017  
Rourke Gallery, Moorhead, MN

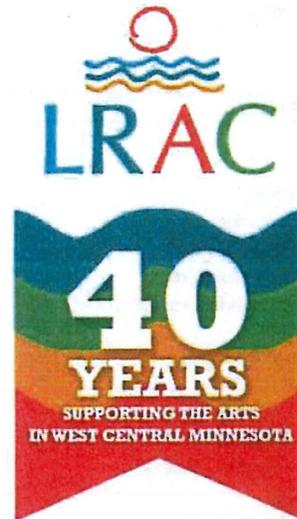
What better way to celebrate 40 years of supporting the arts in west central Minnesota, than to invite everyone we know to a big party?

Here are just a few things we will be celebrating; in 40 years we have had over 200 board members, awarded over 1500 grants, featured the work of over 600 artists in our galleries and provided mentorships to over 400 high schools students.

Curious how much money LRAC has awarded in grants since 1977? Well, we are keeping that a closely guarded secret, which we will announce at the big party in July. If you think you have a good guess, we will be announcing a cool contest this month, "Guessing the Investing: 40 Years of LRAC Funding". Watch our Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/LakeRegionArtsCouncil/](http://www.facebook.com/LakeRegionArtsCouncil/) for more details.

Plans for the July 25 Annual Meeting and 40th Anniversary Party are underway and we have confirmed that you should save the following to your calendars:

LRAC Annual Meeting & 40th Anniversary Celebration  
July 25, 2017  
5 pm Social hour, meal at Rustica in Moorhead  
6:30 -9 pm reception and awards at the Rourke Gallery, Moorhead, MN



Join the Arts Resource Fair email list

LRAC Website

our website

### Featured Event

"First Friday Concert - Patty Kakac"  
May 5, 2017, 7:00 PM  
Evansville Art Center  
111 Main St NW, Evansville, MN 56326



Patty Kakac

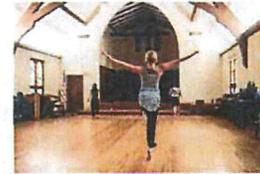
Singer/songwriter Patty Kakac has been described as a "wild rose of the prairie who pours her love of the land into her songs." Patty is recognized around the world for her recordings and has toured internationally with Anne Dunn, Anishinaabe story teller, in "Grandmother's Voices." You are guaranteed a treat when you come to her concert.

This is a free concert, donations are accepted. Bring a treat to share at intermission if you like, beverages provided.

For More Information

## Featured Artist

**Molly Johnston, Battle Lake**, is a dancer and choreographer, Gallery Operations Manager at the Kaddatz, former School Coordinator at Zenon Dance Company (Minneapolis), Regional Dance Teacher, and LRAC Artist Mentor.



Molly Johnston

Molly graduated from Battle Lake High School in 2007, and her passion for dance brought her to Philadelphia, Oregon, and Minneapolis. After earning her MFA in Dance from the University of Oregon, Molly brings her extensive accomplishments back to rural Minnesota as co-director of DanceBARN.

*"As I sat in the audience during our performance for the community, I thought, 'I actually did it!'" she said. "And that's when I decided being a trained professional dancer wouldn't be impossible in Battle Lake." - Molly Johnston, Battle Lake*

Read more about Molly's career path as a professional dancer returning to rural Minnesota here:

**"Battle Lake Living is 'En Pointe' for dancer, Molly Johnston"**

Watch a Community Dance Collaborative at DanceBARN's website

## Featured Arts Partner Organization

**Legacy of the Lakes Museum**  
205 3rd Ave W  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
(320) 759-1114  
[www.legacyofthelakes.org](http://www.legacyofthelakes.org)



Legacy of the Lakes Museum in Alexandria is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of antique and classic watercraft, resort memorabilia and sporting equipment used on lakes throughout Minnesota. It was founded in 1995 by citizens who recognized the value of Minnesota's lake traditions and legacies, and the need to preserve them for future generations.

Legacy of the Lakes Museum and Gardens are open daily from May through October. The adjacent gardens, which have been developed over the last six years, are free and open to the public and are available for rental events. Several live music events are scheduled in the gardens this summer. For more information check out Music in the Garden events as found on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/pg/LegacyoftheLakes/events/>

Legacy of the Lakes Museum is featured on  
POSTCARDS: formerly Minnesota Lakes  
Maritime Museum

## LRAC Gallery Exhibits

**Main Gallery,**  
"Refraction: Collaborative Work by Jenny Field & John Olesen"

Now - July 28, 2017  
 M-F, 9-5  
 Reception in June 20, 5-6:30 pm

What happens when two creative, but very different, artists decide to combine their talents?  
 When the artists are painter Jenny Field and glass blower John Olesen, the result is a group of striking three dimensional and vividly alive works of art.

Using acrylics, oils and hand blown glass, Jenny Field and John Olesen courageously embarked on an adventure that they say was challenging and enlightening. Often learning new techniques from each other and jointly working through the process of working together to produce one piece, both artists agree that the collaboration helped them to expand their approach to their art.

Jenny Field's work can be seen on her Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/jenny.field.526>

John Olesen's work can be seen on a recent episode of "Postcards". View by clicking here:  
<http://www.tpt.org/postcards/episode/john-olesen>



Collaborative Work by  
 Jenny Field & John  
 Olesen

**Solo Gallery,**  
 "The Massive Machines of Phelps Mill"  
 Mary Jo Wentz, Solo Artist Exhibit"  
 April 4 - May 31, 2017  
 M-F, 9-5  
 Reception in April 12, 5-6:30 pm

Mary Jo Wentz's traveling exhibit, "The Massive Machines of Phelps Mill" was created through an Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant from Lake Region Arts Council.



"Phelps Mill Shaft &  
 Pulleys"  
 Photograph & Alcohol  
 Inks on Yupo  
 Mary Jo Wentz

POSTCARDS: Mary Jo Wentz You Tube Video

## LRAC Spring Project Grants

**\$20,720 Awarded for 14 Spring Project Grants**

The Lake Region Arts Council, Fergus Fall, MN announces the fourteen Project Grants awarded to eight organizations in the LRAC region. From solo performances to big musicals, from award winning quilts to exceptional photography, there will be something inspiring for everyone.

[CLICK HERE for the full article](#)



## LRAC Spring Grants for Individuals

## LRAC Career Development Grant

- Grant Review: Tuesday, May 16, 2017.
- Project Start: any time after May 17, 2017
- **Award Announcement: June 2017.**



## LRAC Fellowship Grant 2017

Open to the Literary and Performance Artists

***It's now or never for your Fellowship Application!***

The Fellowship Grant will award \$5,000 to one person to recognize, reward, and encourage the fellow, focusing on the past 5 years of work.

- **Grant Deadline: Tuesday, May 2, 2017**
- Grant Review: Tuesday, June 20, 2017
- Project Start: any time after June 21, 2017
- Award Presentation: Tuesday, July 25, 2017



[Click Here to Apply](#)

Fellowship  
Guidelines

## MN State Arts Board

### FY2018 Artist Initiative

The Artist Initiative grant program is designed to support and assist professional Minnesota artists at various stages in their careers by encouraging artistic development, nurturing artistic creativity, and recognizing the contributions of individual artists to the creative environment of the state of Minnesota. Grants will be awarded for career building and the creative development of artists.

There are two deadlines for the FY 2018 Artist Initiative grant application, depending on discipline:

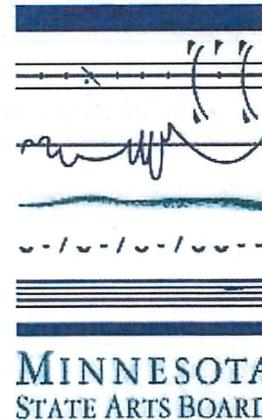
- **Literary Arts and Performing Arts: Friday, May 19, 2017**
- **Visual Arts: Friday, August 4, 2017**

### FY2018 Folk and Traditional Arts Program

Folk and traditional arts refer to artistic traditions that come from and are rooted in the cultural life of a community. Community members may share a common ethnicity, geographic location, occupation, language, or tribal affiliation. Folk and traditional arts are learned and passed on through community based systems of training and education where younger generations learn and attain mastery of a form by observation and practice or through apprenticeships with elders and masters.

A folk and traditional arts project may be a single event or activity, or a series or combination of multiple events or activities. Apprenticeship projects, where a master artist passes on skills to a promising apprentice, also are encouraged. Projects may include creation of work, field research, documentation, and presentation of folk and traditional art forms. All projects must have a community component such as a concert, exhibition, workshop, or other activity that engages members of a larger audience in the work of Minnesota's folk and traditional artists.

- **Deadline is Friday, June 2, 2017**



Visit MSAB Website

## Greater Minnesota Nonprofit Summit

Minnesota Day on Wednesday, May 31, 2017 in Fargo, ND



The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN) is pleased to host our seventh annual conference for nonprofits in small towns and rural communities, this year in Fargo. It will be co-hosted with the North Dakota Nonprofit Leadership Conference, the annual event of the North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations (NDANO).

This two-day event is designed to bring together staff, board members and volunteers from across North Dakota and Minnesota to learn, network and strategize. The event is especially designed for small to mid-size organizations, especially those working in regional centers, small towns and rural communities.

This year's Summit will tackle some of the most pressing themes for nonprofits in Greater Minnesota; rural philanthropy, demographic shifts in small communities, and a spectrum of nonprofit leadership including governance, emotional intelligence, legal topics, advocacy and more. Throughout each discussion, they'll look at the ways that these issues play out in Greater Minnesota communities and they'll highlight opportunities for building a vibrant landscape for all.

Join MCN on Wednesday, May 31 for the one-day Greater Minnesota Nonprofit Summit. Wednesday's sessions will focus on both Minnesota and North Dakota. Or stay 2 days for the combined event. Thursday's sessions will be relevant to all -- and will have more of a ND focus.

- Scholarships are available and the deadline to apply is May 10.
- Come as a group; bring 3 people and the fourth person is free.

[Click Here to learn more about the Greater Minnesota Nonprofit Summit](#)

Lake Region Arts Council | 218-739-5780 | LRAC4@LRACgrants.org | www.lrac4.org

STAY CONNECTED:



Lake Region Arts Council, 133 South Mill Street, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

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**BECKER COUNTY**

**Susan Kay** (02/16) 7/16 - 6/19, 1st Term  
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Open

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**Delayne (DeeDee) Karls** (07/16) 7/16 - 6/19, 1st Term  
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**DOUGLAS COUNTY**

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**GRANT COUNTY**

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 C: 218-770-3954

**Mike Weatherly** (02/17) 7/17-6/20, 1st Term  
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 Elbow Lake, MN 56531 W: 612-385-1851  
 C:

**OTTER TAIL COUNTY**

**AmyAnn Mursu** (10/13) 7/14 - 6/17, 1st Term  
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**Carolyn Flieder** (01/12) 7/12-6/18, 2nd Term  
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## BECKER COUNTY

Open

Open

Susan Kay, Osage

After receiving a B.A. degree in Liberal Studies from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA, Susan attended the University of Cincinnati where she received a master's degree in Women's Studies with a concentration in literature. She completed coursework in a doctoral program in American Studies at Washington State University in Pullman, WA. After eight years of teaching courses in English and American history at Cascadia College, located in the Seattle metropolitan area, Susan returned to her home state where she is employed at The New York Mills Cultural Center. She is involved with programming and serves as coordinator for their arts retreat residency program. With a firm belief that exposure to artistic experiences can enhance sense of community especially for those living in rural areas, Susan hopes that her service on the LRAC Board will contribute to community building through the arts.

## CLAY COUNTY

Delayne Karls (DeeDee), Moorhead

Delayne Karls has a BS in Elementary Education from Minnesota State University, Moorhead. A former Elementary Art Teacher, DeeDee is an art consumer, museum volunteer and is a chairperson for the art section of Fine Arts Club. She serves as a member of the LRAC Board to help organizations in communities thrive to their fullest, and to know more about and visit communities to see what they offer to their audiences.

W. Scott Olsen, Moorhead

W. Scott Olson has a BA (English) from the University of Missouri, Columbia, a MA (English) from the University of Missouri, Columbia, and an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He is currently a Professor of English, Concordia College, Moorhead. Olsen has received grants from LRAC, and has been a deeply impressed audience member for the work of others supported by the Council. He serves as a member of the LRAC Board to repay his longtime admiration for the LRAC.

## DOUGLAS COUNTY

Gregory DeGier, Alexandria

Greg DeGier is currently a member associate of several music, education, and band organizations both nationally and within the state, holding chair positions and completing direct assignments. A graduate of U of MN, Morris, he is a

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teaching artist in the Instrumental Music Program at Alexandria Area Schools. He enjoys playing the trumpet and performing in pit orchestras for musicals, and the Central Lakes Symphonic Orchestra.

### Ann Hermes, Alexandria

Ann Hermes has a MA in Philanthropy and Development, Saint Mary's University of MN, a BA in Broadcast Journalism, Moorhead State College, and a BS in Speech Rhetoric/Public Address, from Moorhead State College. She is currently serving as the Executive Director of Alexandria Area Arts Association. Ann feels it is an incredible opportunity to be part of the MN Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund process that has supported so many individual artists and art organizations in our 9-County area.

## GRANT COUNTY

### Jeff Merrick, Ashby

Jeff Merrick has a BFA from Iowa State University and currently serves as the Grant County Facilities Manager. Jeff is involved in "Arts Based Community Development", a Creative Action Network project in the city of Elbow Lake. He believes the LRAC is vital in supporting and lifting up of the many talented local artists that choose to live in our area.

### Mike Weatherly, Elbow Lake

Mike Weatherly received his degree in Graphic Art and Design from Alexandria Technical School, and a BFA in Art History/Minor Studio Art from the University of Minnesota, Morris. He is currently a Technical Writer at LGC Douglas Scientific, and a part-time working artist and organizer. He serves on the LRAC Board as a result of feeling it is time to give back with his time and talents after receiving many grants from the Council.

## OTTER TAIL COUNTY

### AmyAnn Mursu, New York Mills

AmyAnn Mursu received her Juris Doctorate from Notre Dame Law School, and holds a BA in Philosophy and Political Science with Minors in Business and English from Concordia College, Moorhead. Amy has a history of serving as a community ambassador in support of the arts, beginning as a secondary and post-secondary student and going on to volunteer as a board member for United Arts of Central MN. Music is a large part of her life, beginning with piano lessons at age 4 and studying the flute, clarinet, tuba, and violin. She also enjoys painting and writing.

### James A. Arvidson, Parkers Prairie

James Arvidson attended U of MN, Crookston and obtained an Associate of Agriculture degree. In 2007, he completed the Regional Leadership Institute. His community leadership roles have earned him with medals and awards internationally as well as national and local recognition. James held many executive positions through community service organizations, including the Lions, Jaycees, Lutheran Brotherhood, Church Council, Lakeland Hospice, Dollars for Scholars, and more recently the West Central Initiative/Parkers Prairie Swimming Pool Fund. He has a lifetime of service in the region with

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the goal of making a difference in the lives of those who choose to live in West Central Minnesota. He believes all art forms benefit our culture. He looks forward to the important work that lies ahead with LRAC.

### POPE COUNTY

#### Jeannie Pladsen, Starbuck

Pladsen attended Moorhead State University, Moorhead studying education, and worked for 37 years as the payroll manager for the University of MN, Morris. After 13 years of owning and operating "Berries & Marigolds Bed and Breakfast", she has retired. A life-long volunteer, Jeannie's leadership positions include serving as a City Council Member for the City of Starbuck, MN. While in this role she provided support for establishing an Arts Commission for city improvements that have an arts focus. Other community supported initiatives include youth programming, holding office in her church, local museum, organizer for reunions, Chamber of Commerce among others. Jeannie states "Not having the talent to be an artist myself I have come to appreciate the beauty of everyone who has artistic talent."

#### Barbara Lent, Glenwood

Lent attended the School of Communication Arts for Photography and operated a studio in Rogers and Brooten, MN. She has held state positions in both Minnesota and Iowa. Barbara also spent 14 years in corporate America in both Minneapolis and Chicago. Most recently she has been a realtor for the past nine years. Barbara is an artist in several mediums, preferring textiles and painting. She currently owns a retreat center, and continues to enjoy photography. She has organized art shows and will serve on the LRAC Board with the goal of personally becoming closer to and be more currently informed of the art world. She thrives in assisting other artists in fulfilling their artistic dreams.

### STEVENS COUNTY

#### Siobhan Bremer, Morris

Bremer is an Associate Professor of Theatre at the University of MN, Morris, and holds an M.F.A. Degree in Acting from Minnesota State University at Mankato, MN, and a B.S. Degree in Speech/Theatre, graduating cum laude from Winona State University, MN. She has acted professionally at the Guthrie Theatre, Minneapolis, The Black Hills Playhouse, South Dakota, Northern Lights Playhouse, Wisconsin as well as directed, danced and acted in many productions since the age of four. She is the recipient of the Association and Theatre in Higher Education and American College Theatre Festival Region V, 2014-15 Innovative Teaching Award. Bremer looks forward to contributing to the LRAC Board through institutional and strategic planning and policy making.

#### Andrew Sletten, Morris

Sletten holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of MN, Morris and serves as the U of M's Admissions Counselor on the Morris campus. An avid musician and performing arts artist, Sletten is working with students and community members to create a community arts space and performance venue in Morris, MN. He enjoys the intersection of music and history, and a scholarly perspective of this intersection creates a passion within that Sletten describes as "a personal motivator to ensure that the same endlessly meaningful and extraordinarily fulfilling arts experience is available to

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everyone." Serving on the LRAC Board allows him to contribute to the growth and development of the arts in West Central Minnesota.

### TRAVERSE COUNTY

#### Jamie Beyer, Wheaton

Jamie Beyer obtained her BA in Philosophy from the U of MN, Morris and completed the coursework for the Masters of Science Public Administration Program at MSUM, Moorhead. She is currently providing marketing, graphic design and bid packaging services for national companies and works with her family farm business. Her portfolio suggests her creativity in the business world is expressed through t-shirt designs, furniture design and various computer illustrations. Jamie serves on the Traverse County Arts Council.

#### Carolyn Flieder, Wheaton

Carolyn has a B.S. in Elementary Education and Special Education, and one year in Psychology. She has worked as a Social Worker for Lutheran Social Services and has owned and operated a quilt shop, bed and breakfast and provided private social work services. Carolyn is a fiber artist and also works with Fimo clay sculpting, mixed media. Additionally she enjoys theater and classical music. She has been a member of Glacial Ridge Artists for over 10 years, and a past member of the SW Minnesota Art Meander. Carolyn would like to help represent artists in Traverse County and to encourage people to utilize their creative talents in any way they can. She would like to help provide and promote art opportunities in Traverse County.

### WILKIN COUNTY

#### Erin Gunderson, Breckenridge

Erin Gunderson holds a BA in Religion from Concordia College with a Minor in History. She is the Lake Agassiz Regional Library Branch Manager in Breckenridge. Her volunteer service includes council member of the Flathead Symphonic Band, Kalispell, MT, providing support and designed pieces for the Campus Entertainment Commission, Concordia. Erin is also a board member of the Three Rivers Arts Council. Erin sings, plays flute and piano, paints, and makes jewelry, pottery and graphic designs.

#### Stan Goldade, Breckenridge

Stan has a background in Mathematics and Physics, receiving his MA in Mathematics from Minot State University. Stan also has a diverse interest in the arts. He has arts experience in photography, pottery and was the sculptor for "The Sierpinski Tetrahedron: Metal Sculpture" a public art piece in Breckenridge, MN. He is currently employed as a math instructor at the Breckenridge Senior High School. Stan's reasons for serving on the LRAC Board are, "I would like to promote art in our community and create opportunities for artist to display and sell their artwork."