



# Cultural Heritage Programs

## (SF 2070) Legacy Fund FY '26-'27

### SF 2070 - Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES)

#### Introduced by Sen. Mann

CLUES is seeking a \$1.5M biennium appropriation from Minnesota's Legacy Fund (\$750,000 in FY '26 and \$750,000 in FY '27). A new appropriation will help CLUES expand programming to new audiences and meet the demand for programming in Greater Minnesota through traveling exhibits, digital gallery shows and creating educational tools and materials.

Funding will also allow CLUES to emphasize Latino heritage by advancing:

- Artmaking and art access by embedding programs in cultural and community knowledge and research-informed best practices
- Taking art to the public through community festivals and by bringing art into public spaces.
- Supporting Latino artists gain new tools through professional development, art commissioning, a Latino Cultural Market, and business development support.

A \$1.5M Legacy Fund award in fiscal years '26 -'27 will help CLUES expand the creation of arts programming, Latino artists gallery exhibits, and community festivals for the public.

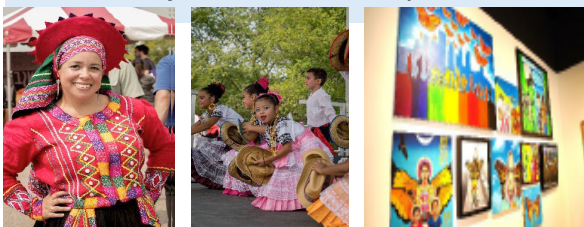


CLUES Arts & Cultural programs center around the theme **"La Cultura Cura"** or **"Culture Heals"**. Through art exhibits and community workshops and convenings, we inform, educate, and celebrate our cultural heritage. CLUES is home to a unique **Latino Arts Gallery** dedicated to showcasing Latino artists and celebrating the richness and diversity of our cultural heritage. Our work fosters community wellness, economic advancement, and cultural and intergenerational engagement.



In 2024, an estimated **20,000+ visitors** to the CLUES building had the opportunity to visit the Arts Gallery located in the lobby. **Over 2,000** people attended Arts Gallery shows and our programming engaged **16,000+** people from throughout the Metropolitan area, and some Greater Minnesota visitors.

93% of participants surveyed graded CLUES programming and exhibits at A+. All surveyed respondents said our programs are **impactful, accessible and engaging**.







**“Culture heals you;** it heals because it connects us. The services CLUES provides are for the soul and the spirit. Our culture is very important for our community, it **strengthens us, boosts self-esteem and creativity,** and reinforces our **identity.** A healthy community creates and thrives.”

***Gustavo Boada, artist.***



CLUES is Minnesota’s largest Latino-led nonprofit, founded 45 years ago to advance social and economic empowerment of Minnesota’s Latino community. CLUES serves over 45,000 people annually through culturally tailored services designed to engage people holistically and in multigenerational ways. We deliver our work through our 150 staff and 700+ volunteers at our offices in Saint Paul, Minneapolis, Willmar, and Austin.

Minnesota’s Latino population surpasses 350,000+ people who are dispersed throughout the State – 48% of all Latinos in Minnesota are under the age of 20, making Latinos one of the youngest populations in the State. Besides a diverse platform of services, CLUES offers mental and chemical health care delivered at its Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC), a Teen Tech Center, cultural arts programming and a Latino Art Gallery and an upcoming childcare business incubator owned by Latina Family Care Providers.