

ANNUAL FINAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

For Regions 6E, 6W, and 8

Submitted to

Minnesota State Arts Board

as

fiscal agent

for

SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA ARTS COUNCIL

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September 30, 2015

Janet Olney, President

Joyce Meyer, President-Elect

Paula Nemes, Treasurer

Cindy Reverts, Past-President

Tom Wirt, Board Member at Large to Executive Committee

Greta Murray, Executive Director

Attachments

Narrative Summary

Lists of Board and Panelists

SMAC FY15 Program List

FY2015 Highlights

Lists of Grants Awarded in FY2015

Summaries & Comments from FY15 Grantee Final Reports

*2015 Unaudited Income & Expense Report on Regional Arts Council Template

*An audited 2015 financial report, with a breakdown of spending by program, will be submitted by
December 31, 2015

SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA ARTS COUNCIL
Regions 6E, 6W & 8

REPORT ON FISCAL YEAR 2015

The goals and objectives included in our biennial plan have been addressed during fiscal year 2014 and fiscal year 2015. See the attached “FY2015 Highlights” and “Final Report Summaries for SMAC Grants Awarded in FY15” for further detail and additional examples of how we have met our goals and objectives. Also attached is a report showing all 2015 grantees, including project descriptions and funding sources.

Goals and Objectives

GOAL I: Increase the awareness of and access to the arts in our region.

- 1. Provide effective and efficient grant programs for the production or sponsorship of art for individual artists, organizations, communities, schools, and youth through regular appropriations, McKnight funds, Arts & Cultural Heritage funds, and memberships, contributions and donations.**

SMAC announced the guidelines for grant categories at least six weeks in advance of the deadline. Grants were posted on our website, announcements sent out via press releases, email, notices on our website and Facebook page. Grant workshops were held at the SMAC offices and throughout the region prior to each grant deadline. SMAC staff provided one-on-one assistance over the phone, via email and in-person. SMAC maintained a toll-free phone number and easy access via email through our website. Grant programs are also advertised in our newsletter which is sent via US mail and email. All grant programs except the Operating Support, Cultural Bank Insurance, Prairie Disciple Award and Board Initiated Grants were conducted on-line during fiscal year 2015. Constituents needing help with the on-line application process were assisted by SMAC staff, SMAC board members and local arts organization staff and volunteers.

We have continued our outreach efforts to the Native American communities in our region. Continued work with Dakota Wicohan (Lower Sioux Reservation) in Morton has resulted in new contacts in the Dakota community and a grant award to Dakota Wicohan for “Tawokoga Dakota Art Classes.” We continue to work at making new connections with minority populations in our region as well as working with our existing contacts.

Our work with communities and local government agencies to encourage arts activities has resulted in several new art projects. Grants were awarded to the City of Cottonwood for music performances at their local farmer’s market, to the City of Spicer’s Beautification Committee for summer musical performances on the deck overlooking Green Lake in the Spicer City Park, to the City of Rushmore for summer art classes for youth, to the City of Montevideo for a mural in the Jose Artigas Plaza in downtown Montevideo, to the City of Canby for performing arts sound and light systems in the Canby Theatre, Redwood County for a mural in the county court house. The SMAC executive director work with the University of Minnesota Sustainable Development Partnerships: Tourism & Resilient Communities group, SW x SW, in the southern part of our region to encourage them to incorporate the arts in their project planning. They held two events in FY2015, one in Windom featuring artist David Strom who opened his studio to the community and talked about his art along with a local foods event that included a performance by local musician Jim Austerman, and another event in Lamberton that focused on innovative agricultural adaption strategies that included an art exhibit and performances by local musicians. Both events brought the arts to new audiences.

See attached list of grants awarded. In Fiscal Year 2015 we awarded a total of \$502,597 in grants to 146 area organizations and artists under 14 separate programs.

2. Allocate approximately 30% of SMAC staff time to collectively and individually develop artists' and arts providers' capacity to succeed.

SMAC conducted workshops on Evaluating Arts Projects and Programs led by Leah Goldstein Moses of the Improve Group in Worthington, Marshall and Hutchinson attended by 52 people. We also conducted a two day workshop on Public Art in partnership with Forecast Public Art in Granite Falls, attended by 45 people. We provided lunch, mileage reimbursement and a stipend for those who had to take time off work to attend the workshops.

SMAC Administrative Assistant conducted individualized workshops to assist organizations participation in the Cultural Data Project in Marshall, Dawson and Lake Benton in June 2015. Additional workshops were conducted in July and August of 2015.

Networking opportunities occur at these conferences and workshops as well as at our grant writing workshops. Constituents were encouraged via email, our newsletter and our website to use the Public Art Toolkit developed by Forecast Public Art and available on line. Constituents are also encouraged to take advantage of other resources available via the web, including the MN Council for Nonprofits, Springboard for the Arts, Forecast Public Art, and other state and national resources.

SMAC actively promoted attendance at the Rural Arts & Culture Summit and provided scholarships to twenty-seven participants to offset the costs to attend the Summit. Fifty-nine people from the SMAC region attended the Summit.

SMAC held an Artist Retreat for individual artists that included workshops and networking opportunities. See attached fiscal year 2015 highlights for more information. 62 artists attended the retreat.

SMAC exhibited the work of six regional artists in fiscal year 2015 at our art gallery. Exhibits were publicized via postcards, email, our newsletter and website. Artist receptions were held for each exhibit. Eleven regional musicians were showcased at the artist receptions.

3. Promote and celebrate arts creators, providers and appreciators in southwest Minnesota

SMAC publicizes regional arts activities via our newsletter, website and email, as well as with posters in our offices. SMAC staff and board members attend events throughout the region and advocate for the arts in communities and schools. SMAC encourages board, staff and constituents to attend Arts Advocacy Day to communicate with their legislators about the importance of the arts in their districts.

SMAC held our annual art celebration in Marshall, MN. The event included local artists' booths, performances by opera singer Emily Lodine of Magnolia accompanied by Janine Papik of Luverne on piano and a performance by the Great Plains String Quartet featuring cellist Aimon Dwan of Worthington. FY2014 Prairie Disciple John Voit of Ghent and 2014 Prairie Star Emily Lodine of Magnolia were honored at this event.

4. Actively and effectively connect with constituents

We have increased the use of Facebook and email communications through Constant Contact to disseminate information regarding grant deadline, events, workshops and other opportunities. Press releases have proven to be effective ways to encourage newspaper articles in regional print media. Thanks to "Google Alerts" we are able to track news articles about SMAC activities. In person contact made with constituents by SMAC staff and board members at arts events throughout the region.

5. Increase Access to the Arts (Legacy) 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

Grants included public art projects in New London and Montevideo fall and winter art programs and performances in Winsted, the Upper Minnesota River Meander Art Crawl, RiverSong Music Festival in Hutchinson, Rhythm of the River festival in Jackson, and the New London Music Festival, the Minnesota Pottery Festival in Hutchinson, a Raku Rendezvous in New London, a "Discover Dassel Art Tour", a "Front Porch Music Series" in Slayton, concerts by the Buffalo Ridge Chorale in Lincoln County, the

Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra and the Southwest Minnesota Orchestra and a summer music series in Spicer. All of these projects increase access to high quality arts activities throughout our region. Arts & Cultural Heritage Arts Access funds also allowed arts organizations to purchase equipment, participate in workshops and improve their facilities to allow increased access to their activities. See attached list of Fiscal Year 2015 grants for complete list of awards and projects.

Seven arts organizations received a second year of support through SMAC operating support grants. This was a new program last year and we continue to work out the program parameters.

Increase Art Education (Legacy) by supporting life-long learning and appreciation of the arts, including but not exclusive to K-12 activities

Seven 5th-12th grade students received grant awards to attend the Southwest Minnesota String Festival. Arts & Cultural Heritage Arts Education funds allowed the Crow River Area Youth Orchestra to conduct a varsity string program and introduction to strings classes, conduct ongoing orchestra classes and rehearsals for area youth who no longer have access to orchestra programs through the public schools; Prairie Dance Alliance to provide a summer dance camp with professional dancers instructing dance students from throughout the region; Hutchinson Center for the Arts to conduct summer art classes, Southwest Minnesota Orchestra children's concert and string concerto competition, as well as several art field trip and artists residencies in area schools. See attached list of grants awarded in Fiscal Year 2015.

6. Increase Arts & Cultural Heritage activities (Legacy) 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

Grants supported the International Festival in Worthington, Tawokaga Dakota Art classes at the Lower Sioux Community near Morton, the Upper MN River Valley Arts Meander, and "Singing for the Cows" a one woman historical play at the McLeod County Historical Society in Hutchinson.

GOAL #II: Act as responsible stewards of public & private funds in the service of the arts.

1. Invest \$442,000 each fiscal year in arts activities and arts organization development in the region through SMAC grant programs

SMAC board and staff, with the assistance of grant review panelists and input from grant applicants, continually work to make our grant programs accessible and effective. Grants are tracked through our Access database. Revisions to the programs are made as needed prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year. In fiscal year 2015 SMAC awarded \$502,957 through 146 grant awards.

2. Maintain a strong and highly functional board of directors

In addition to attendance at board meetings our board members participate through committee work and service on grant review panels. Standing committees include Long Range Planning, Marketing, Nominating, Annual Celebration Planning, Conference Planning, Grant Program, Conference Planning and Fundraising and Membership committees. Committees report at each board meeting. We held an all-day board strategic planning retreat during which we reviewed and reaffirmed our commitment to the State Arts Board/Regional Arts Councils' 25 year guiding principles, vision, key goals and strategies. We reviewed the results of our evaluation data from surveys and grantee comments and articulated the SMAC mission, vision and values and SMAC's goals for the next biennium. SMAC board members attended the SMAC workshops on evaluation and public art, SMAC grant workshops, the SMAC Artist Retreat and Arts Advocacy Day. Six SMAC board members and three SMAC staff members attended the Rural Arts & Culture Summit. Board education sessions were incorporated into board meetings. Board members use this training to inform their work at SMAC as well as to share with constituents in their counties.

3. Fund high quality projects

SMAC has continued to refine rubrics to assist grant panelists in their evaluation of grant applications. Panelists are trained to apply the criteria consistently as they review grants. The on-line grant review process has allowed us to improve our review procedures. Grant panelists are appointed by the SMAC board and represent a broad range of backgrounds, geography and expertise in artistic disciplines.

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

SMAC executive director is an active member of the Forum of Regional Arts Councils of Minnesota (FRACM) and serves as its treasurer and on the executive committee. The FRACM conducts best practices sessions prior to each in-person board meeting. They conduct peer reviews of biennial plan proposals and provide input on grant programs and other services. The executive directors of the Minnesota Citizens for the Arts and the Minnesota State Arts Board and the arts program director for the McKnight Foundation are invited to all FRACM board meetings. Other arts organization and foundation representatives are invited to make presentations at FRACM board meetings. Surveys seeking input are conducted with participants in FRACM programs.

5. Continue to evaluate our resources to benefit the arts

Board members receive monthly reports on grantee final reports that include a summary of the projects and comments about their experience with SMAC. As noted in #2 above, we conducted a Board and Staff strategic planning retreat. Time at our spring board meetings was devoted to facilitating organizational evaluation and adjusting our strategic plan as needed. The board makes modifications in our grant programs based on input from applicants, panelists, staff and board members.

Goals & Measurable Outcomes

Overall Goals for SMAC Programs:

- Support artists and arts organizations in creating, producing and presenting high-quality arts activities
- Overcome barriers to accessing high quality arts activities
- Instill the arts into the community and public life in our region
- Support high quality age appropriate arts education for residents of all ages to develop knowledge, skills, and understanding of the arts
- Support events and activities that represent the diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions including folk and traditional artists and arts organizations represented in this region.

Target Population

- Arts Organizations
- Cities
- Counties
- Schools
- Other nonprofit organizations
- Individual Artists
- Residents of the 18 counties of our service region in southwest Minnesota

Program Outcomes

- Artists and arts organizations have increased their capacity to create, present & produce high-quality arts activities
- Residents of southwest Minnesota have increased access to quality arts activities
- Residents of southwest Minnesota have access to arts learning opportunities
- Residents of southwest Minnesota have access to activities that represent the diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions represented in this region

Measurement Tools

- SMAC Database – number of applicants, number of grantees, types of projects, geographic distribution of funds, number of successful first time applicants
- Grantee final reports – number of audience members, participants and artists
- Site evaluations – quality of projects and events
- Number of attendees at SMAC sponsored events and art gallery exhibits
- Surveys of grantees, participants and constituents
- Comments from participants, grant panelists, audience members

SMAC Staff Members

During Fiscal Year 2015 SMAC staff included full-time Executive Director Greta Murray, full-time Administrative Assistant Caroline Koska, full-time Program Assistant Nicole DeBoer, and part-time Secretary/Receptionist Helen Devereaux, (32.5 hours/week).

Monitoring & Evaluation of Grants

All grant recipients are required to submit a final report within 60 days of their project completion. The final report includes financial information and number of people served as well as narrative response to specific questions about the project and examples of how the project was advertised and promoted. Twenty percent of the grant award is withheld until the final report has been received and approved. Every effort is made to evaluate projects on site by board members, panelists and staff. The SMAC board is provided with a summary of information received from the final reports.

SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA ARTS COUNCIL

Fiscal Year 2015 Board of Directors Affiliations

John White, Ortonville (Big Stone County): photographer, writer, retired journalist; has served on the boards for CURE, Chippewa County Historical Society, Entrepreneurial Assistance Network, Pioneer Public TV, and Upper MN Valley RDC Tourism; involved with Big Stone Arts Council. Elected 11/13

Jane Link, Milan (Chippewa County): artist; attended Moorhead State College and majored in Art Education. served with various boards including the Milan Village Arts School, the Milan Community Education, the Church WELCA Board; she is also a board member and treasurer of the Greater Milan Initiative; she actively attends and supports all art disciplines including music, theatre, dance, literary arts and visual arts. Elected 11/10. Resigned 2/15.

Marilee Strom, Windom (Cottonwood County): former art teacher for K-12; co-owner of First Floral-Hallmark in Windom; attends and supports the visual arts, music, theatre; plays in hand bell choir and active in community. Elected 10/10

Kathy Fransen, Jackson (Jackson County): Harpist, certified clinical musician. Coordinator, Rhythm of the River music festival in Jackson, performed in several Jackson County Art Guilds theatre productions. Elected 09/12

Janet Olney, Willmar (Kandiyohi County): Fiber artist. Coordinator, Willmar Area Arts Council. Elected 10/12

Joyce Meyer, Canby (Lac qui Parle County): Photographer and retired art teacher; involved in the Canby Arts Council and the Gary Historical Association. Elected 9/13.

Kate Aydin, Hendricks (Lincoln County): Arts advocate. Retired educator. Elected 9/11

Paula Nemes, Marshall (Lyon County): former coordinator of the Marshall Area Fine Arts Council; current Vice President of the Marshall Area Stage Company; active member and supporter of several Lyon County arts organizations; Plays guitar; has served as stage manager, director, and tech crew of many area productions; she works at the Marshall Public Library; Elected 10/10

Tom Wirt, Hutchinson (McLeod County): Elected 8/2012. Potter, gallery owner, founder Hutchinson Center for the Arts and MN Pottery Festival, past member Hutchinson Arts Commission, former SMAC and MSAB grant review panelist.

Susan Marco, Dassel (Meeker County): received Master of Arts degree in English from St. Cloud State University; currently English teacher and creative writing teacher at Dassel-Cokato High School; head coach of the speech team; former Adjunct Faculty at Ridgewater College in Willmar teaching critical reading and writing; published author; serves on the school district's Fine Arts Committee; volunteer for the Dassel Ambassador Program; Elected 10/10

Kelly Muldoon, Slayton (Murray County): trained in graphic arts, worked as graphic artist; board member of the Prairie Music Association; board member of the Prairie Oasis Players since its inception; helped start the Slayton Friends of the Library; co-founder of the Prairie Hens Club; former member of the Worthington clogging group; previously served on several boards in the Twin Cities including Community Health and Food Coop; active supporter of the arts; Elected 10/10

Ellen Copperud, Worthington (Nobles County): retired teacher of language arts; involved in the literary arts including coaching the speech team, directing one act and three act plays, and organizing field trips to theatre and other arts events; current member of the board of directors of the Historic Dayton House; on the Liberal Arts Advisory Board at Minnesota West Community College. Elected 11/08. Retired 12/14.

Brett Lehmann, Worthington (Nobles County): Musician, vocal & guitar performance, trombone in Worthington City Band, glass artist. Volunteer with Worthington International Festival, board Worthington City Band, Worthington Concert Association. Several years of experience with minority groups including disabled and new immigrants. Elected 9/14 to term beginning 1/15.

Regina Gorter, Pipestone (Pipestone County): Singer, dancer, choreographer, private dance & music studio, Calumet Players board of directors. Elected 11/12

Dan Wahl, Walnut Grove (Redwood County): visual artist; musician; published author; participant in community theater productions; BA degree in Creative Writing; MFA in Creative Writing; completing an MFA in Studio Arts; currently an adjunct instructor of English at Southwest Minnesota State University; art instructor for the Marshall Area Fine Arts Council; completed several public art projects; solo art exhibits over the last 10 years; Elected 02/11

Cindy Reverts, Luverne (Rock County): visual artist with an emphasis in pottery and glass work; Bachelor Degree in Art from Augustana College; Completing a Master's Degree in Fine Arts with an emphasis in clay; currently the treasure of the Rock County Fine Arts Association; on the board for Art Rocks in Luverne; the owner of Playing in the Mud Studio in Luverne; help with many arts festivals in Luverne including Raku Madness, Buffalo Days Art Show, Art Rocks, Art Falls in Sioux Falls, Luverne Holiday Studio Tour and Winterfest; exhibited in many locations in Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota Elected 02/11

Sydney Masee, Appleton (Swift County) artist and quilter; behind the scenes assistant in theatre productions; active in many community organizations; board member, Appleton and Lac qui Parle Valley School Districts; board chair, Appleton Area Health Services; Habitat for Humanity board secretary; active in organizational operations in many community groups; Elected 09/07. Served thru 12/15.

Dana Johnson, Appleton (Swift County) film maker, Senior Producer Pioneer Public TV, songwriter, guitar, piano, jazz band, singer; Elected 01/15

Scott Tedrick, Granite Falls (Yellow Medicine County): News Editor for Granite Falls Advocate Tribune, former vice-president Clean Up Our River Environment board, wrote/directed/ acted in Granite Falls Walking Theatre. Elected 1/15

SMAC STAFF

Executive Director – Greta Murray

1998 to present. Affiliations: Former Board Member, Minnesota Citizens for the Arts; Board Member & Treasurer, Forum of Regional Arts Councils of Minnesota; member, Marshall Area Fine Arts Council, Southwest Minnesota Weavers Guild; former panelist, MSAB SADI grant panel, MSAB Folk Arts Directory Panel and MSAB Folk Arts Presenters Grants Panel. Former member Minneota Community Jazz Band. Executive Director since 1998.

Administrative Assistant –Caroline Koska

June 2011 to present. Affiliations: vocalist in Prairie Arts Chorale, has performed in Marshall Area Stage Company's musical theatre productions; Lake Benton Opera House theatre productions; pianist & flutist; former coordinator, Marshall Area Fine Arts Council.

Program Assistant – Nicole DeBoer

April 2010 to present. Visual artist; former Artist Career Counselor, Springboard for the Arts; former president, Lyon County Historical Society, grant review panelist for SW MN United Way.

Part-time Clerical Assistant – Helen Devereaux

July 2008 to present.

SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA ARTS COUNCIL

FY 2015 GRANT REVIEW PANELISTS

ART PROJECT/LEGACY ART PROJECT GRANTS

Vonnie Saquilan	1520-10 th Street, Granite Falls, MN 56241	Arts Advocate
Kathy Schaefer	Box 3, Ghent, MN 56239	Music/Visual
Mark Thode	710-2 nd Ave SW, Pipestone, MN 56164	Theatre
Kathy Schaefer	Box 3, Ghent, MN 56239	Music/Visual
Cheri Buzzeo	615-23rd St SE, Willmar, MN 56201	Theatre
Jane Link	14085 Highway 40 NW, Milan, MN 56262	Visual
Cheryl Avenel-Navarra	726 Schell, Worthington, MN 56187	Arts Advocate
Christa Otteson	26480 Cty Rd 5 NW, New London, MN 56723	Nonprofit Admin
SMAC Board Representatives on Panel:		
John White	33166-770th Ave, Ortonville, MN 56278	Writing/Photography
Susan Marco	71092 CSAH 24, Dassel, MN 55325	Writing
Kelly Muldoon	2712 Linden Ave, Slayton, MN 56172	Music/ Literature
Janet Olney	509 Third Street SE, Willmar, MN 56201	Visual
Tom Wirt	17614-240 th St, Hutchinson, MN 55350	Visual

ARTS IN THE SCHOOLS GRANTS

Beth Habicht	235 Lake Ave, Worthington, MN 56187	Music
Bobbie Alsgaard-Lien	403-4th Street, Rushmore, MN 56168	Visual
Mary Jane Mardesen	414-4th Street- Box 65, Rushmore, MN 56168	Literature/Theatre
Mary Kay Frisvold	201 Grant St, Garvin, MN 56132	Music/Theatre
SMAC Board Representatives on Panel:		
Kelly Muldoon	2712 Linden Ave, Slayton, MN 56172	Music
Joyce Meyer	1068-121st Ave. Canby, MN 56220	Visual

OPERATING SUPPORT GRANTS

SMAC Board Representatives served as the grant review panel for these grants:

Jane Link	14085 Highway 40 NW, Milan, MN 56262	Visual
Paula Nemes	2145-280TH Ave, Marshall, MN 56258	Theatre/Music
Cindy Reverts	1013-150 th Ave, Luverne, MN 56156	Visual
Marilee Strom	314-10 th St, Windom, MN 56101	Visual/Music
John White	33166-770 th Ave Ortonville, MN 56278	Visual/Writing
Kathy Fransen	80507-550 th Ave, Jackson, MN 56143	Music
Dana Johnson	236 S Edquist Ave. Apt. 10, Appleton, MN 56208	Film
Brett Lehman	1320-7 th Ave., Worthington, MN 56187	Music/Visual
Joyce Meyer	1068-121 St Ave, Canby, MN 56220	Visual
Tom Wirt	17614-240 th St, Hutchinson, MN 55350	Visual

ARTS ORGANIZATION START-UP GRANTS

SMAC Board Representatives served as the grant review panel for these grants:

Kathy Fransen	80507-550 th Ave, Jackson, MN 56143	Music
Dana Johnson	236 S Edquist Ave. Apt. 10, Appleton, MN 56208	Film
Brett Lehman	1320-7 th Ave., Worthington, MN 56187	Music/Visual
Joyce Meyer	1068-121 St Ave, Canby, MN 56220	Visual
Tom Wirt	17614-240 th St, Hutchinson, MN 55350	Visual

ART STUDY OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH GRANTS

Cindy Demers	848 Chestnut Street, Dawson, MN 56232	Visual/Art/Educator
John Voit.	108 N English, Ghent, MN 56239	Music/Theatre/Educator
Reggie Gorter	1006-5 th Ave SW, Pipestone, MN 56164	Music/Dance/Theatre
Beth Habicht	235 Lake Ave, Worthington, MN 56187	Music/Educator

SMAC Board Representatives on Panel:

Janet Olney	509 Third Street SE, Willmar, MN 56201	Visual
Kate Aydin	510 Cottage Ave, Hendricks, MN 56136	Education

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST GRANTS

Bob Dorlac	605 West Marshall, Marshall, MN 56258	Visual
Bobbie Alsgaard-Lien	403-4th Street, Rushmore, MN 56168	Visual
John Ginocchio	102 Donita Ave, Marshall, MN 56258	Music
Judy Wilson	314 N Oak Street, Arco, MN 56113	Literature
Fred Cogelow	904 Olaf Ave NW, Willmar, MN 56201	Visual
Jesse White	131 Des Moines St, Currie, MN 56123	Visual
John Larson	1320-120 th Street SW, Milan, MN 56262	Visual
Ross Anderson	117 Park Ave, Marshall, MN 56258	Music
Pete Lothringer	204 West Saratoga, Marshall, MN 56258	Music
Jesse White	PO Box 114, Currie, MN 56123	Visual
Saara Raappana	413 Mason Street, Marshall, MN 56258	Literature
Scott Wallace	PO Box 8, Hendricks, MN 56136	Visual
Emily Olson	733-6 th Ave SW, Pipestone, MN 56164	Literature/Music

SMAC Board Representatives on Panel:

Dan Wahl	500-8th Street, Walnut Grove, MN 56180	Visual
Janet Olney	509 Third Street SE, Willmar, MN 56201	Visual
Marilee Strom	314-10 th Street, Windom, MN 56101	Visual/Music
Scott Tedrick	347-6 th Ave, Granite Falls, MN	Literature/Music/Theatre
Joyce Meyer	1068-121 st Ave N, Canby, MN 56220	Visual

LEGACY EQUIPMENT/FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Jerry Deuschle	1294-131st Street, Luverne, MN 56156	Electrician/Visual
Peg Furshong	81307-150th St, Sacred Heart, MN 56285	Arts Administration
Tom Rice	350 E. Snelling Ave, Appleton, MN 56208	Music

SMAC Board Representatives on Panel:

Sydney Massee	230 N Haven St, Appleton, MN 56208	Theatre/Visual
Joyce Meyer	1068-121st Ave N, Canby, MN 56220	Visual Artist

EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Janet Olney	509 Third Street SE, Willmar, MN 56201	Visual
Scott Tedrick	347-6 th Ave, Granite Falls, MN	Literature/Music/Theatre
Joyce Meyer	1068-121 st Ave N, Canby, MN 56220	Visual
Tom Wirt	17614-240 th St, Hutchinson, MN 55350	Visual
John White	33166-770 th Ave Ortonville, MN 56278	Visual/Writing
Kathy Fransen	80507-550 th Ave, Jackson, MN 56143	Music
Paula Nemes	2145-280TH Ave, Marshall, MN 56258	Theatre/Music
Reggie Gorter	1006 5 th Avenue W, Pipestone, MN 56164	Music/Dance/Theatre

RURAL ARTS & CULTURE SUMMIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Paula Nemes	2145-280TH Ave, Marshall, MN 56258	Theatre/Music
Kate Aydin	510 Cottage Ave, Hendricks, MN 56136	Literature
Greta Murray	SMAC Executive Director	

MONTHLY ORGANIZATION GRANTS

ARTS ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT GRANTS, ARTS LEGACY PROJECT PLANNING GRANTS, ARTS ORGANIZATION START-UP GRANTS

SMAC Board Representatives served as the grant review panel for these grants:

Kate Aydin	510 Cottage Ave, Hendricks, MN 56136	Literature
Ellen Copperud	1945 Woodland Court, Worthington, MN 56187	Literature/Theatre
Sydney Massee	230 N Haven St, Appleton, MN 56208	Theatre/Visual
Cindy Reverts	1013-150 th Ave, Luverne, MN 56156	Visual
Dan Wahl	500-8th Street, Walnut Grove, MN 56180	Visual
Janet Olney	509 Third Street SE, Willmar, MN 56201	Visual
Scott Tedrick	347-6 th Ave, Granite Falls, MN	Literature/Music/Theatre
Joyce Meyer	1068-121 st Ave N, Canby, MN 56220	Visual
Tom Wirt	17614-240 th St, Hutchinson, MN 55350	Visual
John White	33166-770 th Ave Ortonville, MN 56278	Visual/Writing
Kathy Fransen	80507-550 th Ave, Jackson, MN 56143	Music
Paula Nemes	2145-280TH Ave, Marshall, MN 56258	Theatre/Music
Reggie Gorter	1006 5 th Avenue W, Pipestone, MN 56164	Music/Dance/Theatre

Southwest Minnesota Arts Council

SERVING: Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Swift, and Yellow Medicine

114 Third St North, Marshall, MN 56258

507-537-1471 or 800-622-5284

www.swmnarts.org

info@swmnarts.org

FY 2015 Grant Calendar: July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Grants For Arts Organizations:

Art Project & Art Legacy Project Grants (separate applications): up to 20,000 in funding with 20% cash match required

- Round I deadline: August 1, 2014 (earliest start date: Sept 15, 2014)
- Round II deadline: December 15, 2014 (earliest start date: Feb. 15, 2015)
- Round III deadline: March 20, 2015 (earliest start date: May 15, 2015)

Art Legacy Project Planning Grants: up to \$2000 with 20% cash match required

- Monthly deadlines: 1st of each month, 4:30 pm; August 2014 to November 2014, and January to April 2015

Arts Organization Development: up to \$5,000 in funding with 20% cash match required

- Monthly deadlines: 1st of each month, 4:30 pm; August 2014 to November 2014, and January to April 2015

Start Up Grants: up to \$2,000 in funding with no match required

- Monthly deadlines: 1st of each month, 4:30 pm; August 2014 to November 2014, and January to April 2015

Equipment/Facilities Grant: up to \$5,000 in funding with 20% cash match required

- Round I deadline: August 1, 2014 (earliest start date: September 15, 2014)
- Round II deadline: February 2, 2015 (earliest start date: March 15, 2015)

Art Legacy Equipment/Facilities Grants: up to \$15,000 in funding with 20% cash match required

- Deadline: October 29, 2014 (earliest start date: December 15, 2014)

Arts Organization Operating Support Grants:

- FY2014 Operating Support Grantees only

Grants for Artists:

Individual Artist - Developing Artist Grants: up to \$1,500 in funding

- Round I Deadline: September 19, 2014 (earliest start date: November 15, 2014)
- Round II Deadline: February 25, 2015 (earliest start date: April 15, 2015)
- Round III Deadline: May 8, 2015 (earliest start date: July 15, 2015)

Individual Artist - Established Career Artist Grants: up to \$5,000 in funding

- Round I Deadline: September 19, 2014 (earliest start date: November 15, 2014)
- Round II Deadline: February 25, 2015 (earliest start date: April 15, 2015)
- Round III Deadline: May 8, 2015 (earliest start date: July 15, 2015)

Individual Artist - Established Career Grants with a Legacy-level project: up to \$7,000 in funding

- Round I Deadline: September 19, 2014 (earliest start date: November 15, 2014)
- Round II Deadline: February 25, 2015 (earliest start date: April 15, 2015)

Art Study Opportunity for Youth Grants: up to \$500 in funding

- Deadline: April 10, 2015 (earliest start date: May 15, 2015)

Grants for Schools:

Arts in the Schools Grant: up to \$4,000 funding for artist residencies; up to \$2,000 for art field trips with NO cash match

- Round I deadline: October 15, 2014 (earliest start date: December 15, 2014)
- Round II deadline: CANCELLED due to lack of funding

Special Awards:

2015 Prairie Disciple: \$500 honorarium

- Nomination deadline: April 15, 2015



Fiscal Year 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

Grants to Arts Organizations, Communities, Schools, and Individuals

Total: 146 grants totaling \$502,957 were awarded to area organizations and artists through fourteen grant programs, including:

- **\$195,149 for 50 matching grants through our Art Projects Grant Program, \$25,200 for 2 Art Project Legacy Grants, and \$5,920 for 3 Art Legacy Project Planning Grants.**
- **7 Operating Support Grants totaling \$56,182**
- **1 Arts Organization Start-up Grant totaling \$1050** to assist a new organization with obtaining 501(c) (3) status.
- **\$4,339 for 2 Arts Organization Development Grants**, awarded for organizations to increase their long-term stability and capacity through organizational development and management projects.
- **\$94,203 for 13 Equipment/Facilities Improvement Grants** (including legacy), awarded for the purchase of equipment items and facilities improvement that will improve the organization's capacity.
- **3 Board Initiated Grants totaling \$9,500** to sponsor the SWWC Service Cooperative's Young Writers & Young Artists Conferences and attendance at the National Association of Community Theatres Conference for members of the Dassel Fungus Among Us.
- **\$30,158 to 12 area schools in matching grants for artist residencies and arts related field trips through our Arts in the Schools Grant Program.**
- **7 grants** were awarded to students through the **Art Study Opportunity for Youth Grant Program** for a total of **\$2,480**.
- **23 individual artists** were granted a total of **\$73,500** for projects to further their careers as artists through the **Individual Artist Development, Career, and Career Legacy Grant Programs.**
- **23 Scholarships totaling \$5,976** enabled 27 people to participate in the **Rural Arts and Culture Summit.**

Awards

- **SMAC awarded the Prairie Disciple Award**, to recognize one individual from SW MN whose art work best exemplifies the highest quality of work in the SMAC region and this year's recipient was Raeanna Gislason, who has been teaching private piano lessons in Willmar since the early 1970's, and has been instrumental in founding and providing leadership for two music teacher groups in the community. She has been a leader, often holding groups together during the tough times and creating ways for survival and strength to head back towards success. She has performed beautiful art, purchased visual arts, sponsored exhibitions of local and Regional arts, and inspired and taught young musical artists.

Technical Assistance

- **SMAC staff** met with artists, volunteers, staff and boards from arts & culture organizations and schools throughout the region to provide assistance with board development, personnel, grant writing, marketing, fundraising and financial management. This free assistance is available upon request.
- **8 Grant Writing Workshops** were conducted at the SMAC office, and **12 grant writing** workshops were conducted at additional locations throughout the SMAC region including Hutchinson, Luverne, New London, Pipestone, Adrian, Worthington, Milan, Ortonville, Redwood Falls and Renville. **53** people attended the workshops.
- **3 “Evaluating Art Projects and Programs” Workshops** led by Leah Goldstein Moses of The Improve Group were conducted in Worthington, Marshall & Hutchinson, attended by **52** people.
- A **Public Art Conference**, in partnership with Forecast Public Arts, took place in Granite Falls, attended by **45** people.
- **60** SMAC region residents attended the **Rural Arts & Culture Summit** held in Morris
- SMAC region arts and cultural organizations participated in an economic impact survey. ***Creative MN: The Health and Impact of the Nonprofit Arts & Culture Sector*** was released at an event at The Barn Theatre in Willmar attended by 40 people. Copies of both the statewide and southwest Minnesota regional reports are available at: www.creativemn.org
- **SMAC Artist Retreat** was held in at the historic Danebod Folk School in Tyler with **62** artists attending. Workshops included Actors’ Secrets to a Powerful Presence, Poetry All Day, Dirty Hands Activity, Dharma Drumming, Scratch Board Activity, Follow Your Dreams, Watercolor Prints Activity, and How to Become a COMPAS Roster Artist. There were also networking opportunities, including, “Story Swap: Exploring Rural Arts & Culture in MN”.
- **SMAC’s Annual Art Celebration** held in Marshall, MN at the Golf Club. The event featured local artist’s booths, a spirit raffle, dinner, and music performed by Great Plains String Quartet & Emily Lodine. 2014 Prairie Disciple John Voit and 2014 Prairie Star Emily Lodine were honored at the event. (2015 Prairie Disciple Raeanna Gislason will be honored at the FY2016 celebration in September 2015.)
- **SMAC Art Gallery** provides an opportunity for regional artists to have a solo exhibit in an accessible space. Receptions were held honoring each artist. Exhibits in FY 2015 included: Curtis Gander, Hutchinson; Craig Edwards, New London; Don Sherman, Ortonville; Nan Karr Kaufenberg, Redwood Falls; John Larson, Milan; and James Graham, Hutchinson. Eleven regional musicians were showcased as performers at the artist receptions.
- **VOICES** newsletter was published monthly and included a calendar of events, art opportunities and news items.
- **SMAC website** www.swmnarts.org provided up-to-date information on available grants, news, on-line grant forms, calendar of arts events, and links to arts resources.

Funding for the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council’s programs and services is provided by memberships and donations from individuals, businesses, organizations, schools, cities and counties, the McKnight Foundation, an allocation from the Minnesota State Legislature and by the voters of Minnesota thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



Fiscal Year 2015 Summary of All SMAC Grant Programs

<u>Number</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>	<u>ACH Access</u>	<u>ACH Arts Ed</u>	<u>ACH Cult</u>	<u>State Funds</u>	<u>McKnight Funds</u>	<u>General Funds</u>
Art Projects										
AP 1573	Crow River Singers	Hutchinson	Crow River Singers Spring Concert 2015	\$1,014				\$1,014		
AP 1574	Willmar Area Symphoni	Willmar	WASO Fall Concerts 2014	\$4,475				\$4,475		
AP 1575	Prairie Arts Continuum	Windom	PAC performs "Annie Get Your Gun"	\$4,750				\$4,750		
AP 1578	Meander Art Crawl	Appleton	Meander 2015	\$5,000	\$3,500		\$1,500			
AP 1579	Willmar Area Arts Coun	New London	Studio Hop 2015	\$2,355				\$2,355		
AP 1580	Winsted Arts Council	Winsted	2014 Fall/Winter Art Programs &	\$5,000	\$4,300	\$700				
AP 1581	Worthington Area Symp	Worthington	WASO 2014 Fall Concert	\$5,000	\$5,000					
AP 1582	McLeod County Historic	Hutchinson	One Woman Play	\$5,000			\$5,000			
AP 1583	Willmar Community The	Willmar	The Barn Theatre Winter Season 2014-15	\$5,000				\$5,000		
AP 1584	Prairie Winds Concert B	New London	Prairie Winds Concert Band 2014-15 Season	\$2,555	\$2,555					
AP 1585	Dassel-Cokato Communi	Cokato	Produce "The Romancers"	\$4,000	\$4,000					
AP 1586	Bethel Lutheran Church	Willmar	Boston Brass in Concert	\$5,000	\$5,000					
AP 1587	Friends of the Orchestra	Marshall	Children's Concert & String Concerto	\$5,000		\$5,000				
AP 1588	RiverSong Music Festiva	Hutchinson	Riversong Music Fest 2015	\$5,000	\$5,000					
AP 1589	New London Music Gro	New London	2015 New London Music Festival	\$4,000	\$4,000					
AP 1590	Appleton 52 Wing Resto	Appleton	2015 Summer Concert Series	\$2,390	\$2,390					
AP 1592	City of Rushmore	Rushmore	Rushmore Art Workshops	\$4,000		\$4,000				
AP 1595	Crow River Area Youth	Hutchinson	CRAYO Spring Recital 2015	\$4,366		\$4,366				
AP 1596	Marshall Area Fine Arts	Marshall	MAFAC Performance Series	\$3,683				\$3,683		
AP 1597	Prairie Dance Alliance	Marshall	PDA Summer Intensive Dance Camp 2015	\$3,200				\$3,200		
AP 1598	Willmar Area Symphoni	Willmar	Spring and Fall Concerts -Sounds of the New	\$4,968				\$4,968		
AP 1599	Worthington Area Symp	Worthington	WASO Spring Concert 2015	\$4,960	\$4,960					
AP 1601	Dakota Wicohan	Morton	Tawokaga Dakota Arts classes	\$4,000			\$4,000			
AP 1602	Calumet Players	Pipestone	Into the Woods - production	\$4,680				\$4,680		
AP 1603	Willmar Area Arts Coun	Willmar	Celebrate Art! Celebrate Coffee 2015	\$5,000				\$5,000		
AP 1604	Marshall Area Stage Co	Marshall	MACT Fest Travel Expenses	\$1,700		\$1,700				
AP 1605	Cultural Awareness Orga	Worthington	International Festival 2015	\$5,000			\$5,000			
AP 1606	Walnut Grove Communit	Walnut Grove	Walnut Grove Arts & Music Fest 2015	\$3,500				\$3,500		
AP 1607	Friends of the Orchestra	Marshall	The Romantics performance	\$4,500				\$4,500		
AP 1610	Crow River Singers	Hutchinson	Concert Series 2015-2016	\$2,114				\$2,114		
AP 1611	Spicer Beautification Co	Spicer	Music on the Deck - Spicer	\$5,000	\$5,000					
AP 1612	Buffalo Ridge Chorale	Ivanhoe	Concert Series with Soloist	\$5,000	\$5,000					
AP 1614	Rhythm of the River	Jackson	2015 Rhythm of the River Music Festival	\$5,000	\$5,000					
AP 1615	Crow River Area Youth	Hutchinson	CRAYO Summer Performance 2015	\$2,322		\$2,322				
AP 1616	City of Cottonwood	Cottonwood	Musical Talent at Central Park Market 2015	\$2,400	\$2,400					
AP 1618	Redwood County	Redwood Fall	Restorative Justice mural	\$4,992	\$4,992					
AP 1619	Marshall Area Fine Arts	Marshall	MAFAC Exhibit Program 2015-2016	\$1,934				\$1,934		
AP 1620	Hutchinson Center for th	Hutchinson	HCA Youth Art Education	\$1,345		\$1,345				
AP 1621	Kandiyohi County Histor	Willmar	Sacred Places: Churches in Kandiyohi County	\$5,000	\$5,000					
AP 1622	Dawson Boyd Arts Asso	Dawson	Theatre for All Ages	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$3,000				
AP 1623	New London Clay Found	New London	Raku Rendezvous	\$5,000	\$5,000					
AP 1624	Dassel Area Historical S	Dassel	Discover Dassel Art Tour	\$2,824	\$2,824					

<u>Number</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>	<u>ACH Access</u>	<u>ACH Arts Ed</u>	<u>ACH Cult</u>	<u>State Funds</u>	<u>McKnight Funds</u>	<u>General Funds</u>
AP 1625	Murray County Historica	Slavton	Front Porch Music Series	\$1,430	\$1,430					
AP 1626	Winsted Arts Council	Winsted	Summer 2015 Programming	\$4,390	\$4,390					
AP 1627	Prairie Arts Chorale	Garvin	2015-16 Concert Season	\$2,788				\$2,788		
AP 1628	Calumet Players	Pipestone	Children's Summer Theatre Camp	\$2,500		\$2,500				
AP 1629	Lakeview School Distric	Cottonwood	Summer Theater Program	\$2,098		\$2,098				
AP 1630	Willmar Community The	Willmar	Summer Season 2015	\$5,000				\$5,000		
AP 1631	Minnesota Pottery Festiv	Hutchinson	2015 MN Pottery Festival	\$4,916	\$4,916					
AP 1632	Friends of the Orchestra	Marshall	SMO concert featuring the Artaria Quartet	\$5,000	\$5,000					
TOTAL Awards: 50			<i>Art Projects</i>	\$195,149	\$93,657	\$27,031	\$15,500	\$58,961		
<u>Art Projects Legacy</u>										
API1591	New London Arts & Cult	New London	New London Riverspace Passageway	\$16,000	\$16,000					
API1594	City of Montevideo	Appleton	Jose Artigas Mural Project 2015	\$9,200	\$9,200					
TOTAL Awards: 2			<i>Art Projects Legacy</i>	\$25,200	\$25,200					
<u>Arts in Education & Communities</u>										
AIE 660	Lakeview School Distric	Cottonwood	Ross Sutter Dulcimer Residency	\$1,973		\$1,973				
AIE 661	Southwest Minnesota Sta	Marshall	Conrad Herwig Jazz Residency	\$3,000				\$3,000		
AIE 662	Adrian High School	Luverne	Twin Cities Gallery Tour	\$2,000	\$2,000					
AIE 663	Hills-Beaver Creek Scho	Hills	Ceramic Mural Residency	\$4,000		\$4,000				
AIE 664	Adrian High School	Adrian	Copper Street Brass Residency	\$2,000		\$2,000				
AIE 665	Worthington Middle Sch	Worthington	Copper Street Brass Residency - Worthington	\$2,000		\$2,000				
AIE 668	Appleton/Milan Element	Appleton	Residency with Marie Olofsdotter:	\$3,000		\$3,000				
AIE 670	New London-Spicer Sch	New London	Craig Edwards Residency	\$3,500		\$3,500				
AIE 671	Stevens Elementary Scho	Dawson	Ross Sutter Residency	\$3,500		\$3,500				
AIE 672	Bert Raney Elementary S	Granite Falls	Ross Sutter Dulcimer Residency	\$948		\$948				
AIE 673	Red Rock Central Schoo	Lamberton	Lamberton Jazz Festival	\$2,237				\$2,237		
AIE 674	Montevideo Independent	Montevideo	Senior Class trip to the Guthrie Theatre	\$2,000				\$2,000		
TOTAL Awards: 12			<i>Arts in Education & Communities</i>	\$30,158	\$2,000	\$20,921		\$7,237		
<u>Arts Organization Development</u>										
AO 138	Friends of the Auditoriu	Luverne	Attendance at 2014 Arts Midwest Conference	\$2,880	\$2,880					
AO 139	Greater Litchfield Opera	Litchfield	Litchfield Opera House Branding & Website	\$1,459	\$1,459					
TOTAL Awards: 2			<i>Arts Organization Development</i>	\$4,339	\$4,339					
<u>Arts Organization Development - Legacy</u>										
EQL 1	Lake Benton Opera Hou	Tvler	Replace windows, doors, and purchase stage	\$5,437	\$5,437					
EQL 2	Willmar Area Symphoni	Willmar	New Percussion Equipment	\$10,759	\$10,759					
EQL 3	Big Stone Arts Council	Ortonville	Architect & Engineering Plan for BSAC	\$9,190	\$9,190					
EQL 5	Crow River Drumline As	Hutchinson	Phoenix Drumline Equipment purchase	\$14,400	\$14,400					
EQL 6	Granite Area Arts Counc	Sacred Heart	Replace upper windows in building	\$15,000	\$15,000					
EQL 4	McLeod County Historic	Hutchinson	Les Kouba Art Gallery lighting	\$11,258	\$11,258					
TOTAL Awards: 6			<i>Arts Organization Development - Legacy</i>	\$66,044	\$66,044					
<u>Equipment/Facilities Improvement</u>										
EQ 2	Winsted Arts Council	Winsted	Purchase sound system and choral risers	\$4,248	\$4,248					
EQ 3	City of Canby	Canby	Canby Theater Performing Arts Sound and	\$5,000	\$5,000					
EQ 4	Lake Benton Opera Hou	Tvler	Sound system upgrade Phase 1	\$4,639	\$4,639					
EQ 7	Milan Village Arts Scho	Milan	Silver Equipment Upgrade	\$4,285	\$4,285					

				<u>Grant</u>	<u>ACH</u>	<u>ACH</u>	<u>ACH</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>McKnight</u>	<u>General</u>
<u>Number</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Access</u>	<u>Arts Ed</u>	<u>Cult</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>
EQ 8	Hutchinson Theatre Com	Hutchinson	Hutchinson Theatre Company Lighting	\$5.000	\$5.000					
EQ 9	Crow River Drumline As	Hutchinson	Phoenix Drumline Performance Enrichment	\$3.565	\$3.565					
EQ 10	Minnesota Pottery Festiv	Hutchinson	2015 Minnesota Pottery Festival supplies	\$1.422	\$1.422					
TOTAL Awards: 7				Equipment/Facilities Improvement	\$28,159	\$28,159				
Individual Artist, Prairie Star & Prairie Disciple										
IAD 768	Kristine Leuze	Hutchinson	Photography: Critical Nature in Abstract	\$1.500					\$1.500	
IAD 769	Sima Amid-Wewetzer	Marshall	Painting: Art in Science	\$1.500					\$1.500	
IAD 770	Curt Soine	Granite Falls	Oil Painting Workshop	\$1.500					\$1.500	
IAD 771	Jennifer Bruns	Marshall	Photo illustration of 3 childrens books	\$1.500					\$1.500	
IAD 772	Glen Bruns	Marshall	Book Collage Art	\$1.200					\$1.200	
IAD 773	Mary Seifert	Willmar	Developing a Novel for Publication	\$1.500					\$1.500	
IAC 774	Bonita Van Moorlehem	Minneota	Exploring Landscapes: series & workshop	\$4.675					\$4.675	
IAC 779	Jedd Peters	Spicer	New pottery kiln, accessories, and clay	\$5.000					\$5.000	
IAC 780	Bill Gossman	New London	Website rebuild and series of new works	\$5.000					\$5.000	
IAD 782	Joanne Glor	Kandivohi	Glassworks	\$1.500					\$1.500	
IAC 783	James Graham	Hutchinson	Largess: large canvas works	\$5.000					\$5.000	
IAC 784	Nikki Bettcher Erickson	Willmar	The Vagina Monologues - theatre	\$4.850					\$4.850	
IAC 786	Lisa Bergh	New London	Research, create series, refine website	\$5.000					\$5.000	
IAD 787	Edie Barrett	Ortonville	Nest Sculptures & Large Painted Photography	\$1.500					\$1.500	
IAC 788	Brad Fernholz	Appleton	"Man on the Moon" music recording	\$5.000					\$5.000	
PD 34	Raeanna Gislason	Wayzata	Prairie Disicple Award (Nominated by Janey	\$500				\$500		
IAS 735	John Rabaey	Marshall	Southwest Minnesota String Festival	\$380		\$380				
IAS 736	David Rabaey	Marshall	Southwest Minnesota String Festival	\$380		\$380				
IAS 737	Olivia White	Montevideo	Southwest Minnesota String Festival	\$80		\$80				
IAS 738	Nicolette Lecy	Marshall	Southwest Minnesota String Festival	\$380		\$380				
IAS 739	Annabelle Lecy	Marshall	Southwest Minnesota String Festival	\$380		\$380				
IAS 740	Maeve Winter	Willmar	Southwest Minnesota String Festival	\$500		\$500				
IAS 741	Abraham Tabares	Marshall	Southwest Minnesota String Festival	\$380		\$380				
IAD 790	Lauren Carlson	Dawson	Prairie Poems Project	\$1.500					\$1.500	
IAC 794	Fred Cogelow	Willmar	Wooden eye? Mezzo Relief Carving Project	\$5.000					\$5.000	
IAC 795	Kari Weber	New London	Working Grant for Kari CL Weber	\$5.000					\$5.000	
IAD 798	Leah Smith	New London	Purchase raku kiln	\$1.500					\$1.500	
IAC 799	Andrew Nordin	New London	New work and exhibits by Andrew Nordin	\$4.575					\$4.575	
IAD 803	Gail Holinka	Worthington	Capturing Light & Color Through	\$1.500					\$1.500	
TOTAL Awards: 29				Individual Artist, Prairie Star & Prairie Disciple	\$68,280	\$2,480		\$500	\$65,300	
Legacy for Individual Artists										
LI 31	Craig Edwards	New London	Community Firing of Large Form Vessel	\$7.000	\$7.000					
TOTAL Awards: 1				Legacy for Individual Artists	\$7,000	\$7,000				
Local Arts Initiative										
INI 8	SW/WC Service Cooper		Young Writers / Artists Conference	\$2.500		\$2.500				
INI 9	SW/WC Service Cooper	Marshall	Young Artists/Writers Conference	\$2.500		\$2.500				
INI 10	Dassel Cokato Communi	Cokato	Attend American Association of Community	\$4.500						4.500
TOTAL Awards: 3				Local Arts Initiative	\$9,500	\$5,000				\$4,500
Operating Support										

<u>Number</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>	<u>ACH Access</u>	<u>ACH Arts Ed</u>	<u>ACH Cult</u>	<u>State Funds</u>	<u>McKnight Funds</u>	<u>General Funds</u>
OS 8	Crow River Players	New London	Operating Support (Yr 2)	\$3,005	\$3,005					
OS 9	Granite Area Arts Counc	Sacred Heart	Operating Support (Yr 2)	\$1,578	\$1,578					
OS 10	Hutchinson Center for th	Hutchinson	Operating Support (Yr 2)	\$11,020	\$11,020					
OS 11	Marshall Area Fine Arts	Marshall	Operating Support (Yr 2)	\$16,584	\$16,584					
OS 12	Willmar Area Arts Coun	Willmar, MN	Operating Support (Yr 2)	\$7,489	\$7,489					
OS 13	Dawson Boyd Arts Asso	Dawson	Operating Support (Yr 2)	\$8,000	\$8,000					
OS 14	Milan Village Arts Scho	Milan	Operating Support (Yr 2)	\$8,506	\$8,506					
TOTAL Awards: 7				Operating Support	\$56,182	\$56,182				
Planning Grant										
PLA 11	New London Arts & Cult	New London	Planning for Fire Sculpture	\$2,000	\$2,000					
PLA 12	City of Montevideo	Appleton	Mural in Jose Artigas Plaza	\$2,000	\$2,000					
PLA 13	Willmar Area Arts Coun	Willmar	Painted Traffic Signal Boxes	\$1,920	\$1,920					
TOTAL Awards: 3				Planning Grant	\$5,920	\$5,920				
Rural Arts & Culture Summit										
WK 36	Agnes Alsgaard Lien	Rushmore	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$272	\$272					
WK 37	Craig Edwards	New London	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$140	\$140					
WK 38	Janet Olney	Willmar	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$100	\$100					
WK 39	Todd Kent	Marshall	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$406	\$406					
WK 41	Luanne Fondell	Dawson	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$453	\$453					
WK 42	Lauren Carlson	Dawson	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$110	\$110					
WK 43	Scott Tedrick	Granite Falls	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$351	\$351					
WK 44	Sarina Otaibi	Granite Falls	Rural Arts & Cultural Summit	\$110	\$110					
WK 45	Bill Gossman	New London	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$100	\$100					
WK 46	Darwin Dyce	Ghent	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$283	\$283					
WK 47	Mary Gillespie	Granite Falls	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$401	\$401					
WK 48	Joyce Meyer	Canby	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$186	\$186					
WK 49	Greg Jodzio	Hutchinson	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$290	\$290					
WK 50	Big Stone Arts Council	Ortonville	Rural Arts & Culture Summit: Becky Parker,	\$680	\$680					
WK 51	Susan Marco	Dassel	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$502	\$502					
WK 52	Jeff Vetsch	New London	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$244	\$244					
WK 53	Judy Foley	Willmar	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$144	\$144					
WK 54	Nancy Carlson	Willmar	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$144	\$144					
WK 55	Barb Hawes	Marshall	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$190	\$190					
WK 56	Gail Holinka	Worthington	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$260	\$260					
WK 57	Robert Wilde	Dassel	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$187	\$187					
WK 58	Kathy Pauls	Watkins	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$175	\$175					
WK 59	Tom Wirt	Hutchinson	Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$248	\$248					
TOTAL Awards: 23				Rural Arts & Culture Summit	\$5,976	\$5,976				
Start-Up										
SU 3	Hutchinson Concert Ass	Hutchinson	501 c-3 Status	\$1,050	\$1,050					
TOTAL Awards: 1				Start-Up	\$1,050	\$1,050				
GRAND TOTAL Awards: 146				Grand Totals	\$502,957	\$295,527	\$55,432	\$15,500	\$66,698	\$65,300
				Grant	ACH A	ACH	ACH	State	McKnight	General
				Award	Access	Arts Ed	Cult	Funds	Funds	Funds

Final Report Summaries for SMAC Grants Awarded in FY 2015

AIE662

Adrian High School

Luverne

Request: \$2,000

Award: \$2,000

Final Report Received:

3/17/2015

Project: Twin Cities Gallery Tour

Final Report: Arts and culture are often passed over in the current era of education. The isolated location of our school in relationship to galleries makes it difficult for our students to partake in that component of culture. 30 students traveled to MPLS to experience the Walker Art Gallery and Weisman Museum on the U of M campus. The Walker served as a beautiful way to engage with the culture I had hoped the students would find. We explored the gardens before entering the center. The students said upon reflection that they loved the feeling of seeing what could be possible in the arts. The Weisman Museum was a more consumable size portion size for many of the students. This experience allowed the class to discuss the true nature of gallery based art and contemporary culture in our discussions back in the classroom.

Comments re: SMAC - Truly an outstanding organization to work with.

AIE660

Lakeview School District #2167

Cottonwood

Request: \$1,973

Award: \$1,973

Final Report Received:

4/24/2015

Project: Ross Sutter Dulcimer Residency

Final Report: Artist-in residence Ross Sutter came to Lakeview and taught the 5th grade class how to build their own dulcimer, then taught them how to play the dulcimer. At the end of the residency, the Lakeview 5th grade traveled to Granite Falls for a collaborative day with the 4th graders from Yellow Medicine East. The student used many different skills to build their dulcimers. They were required to use math and science as well as problem solving skills while building. They also gained new musical skill while learning to play the dulcimer. The students performed their dulcimers for classes around the Lakeview school.

Comments re: SMAC - I have no concerns at this time.

Comments for Legislators: Our students would not have gotten to build their own dulcimer and learn how to play it. They would not have had the opportunity to work with a wonderful musician or students from another school.

AIE672

Bert Raney Elementary School

Granite Falls

Request: \$948

Award: \$948

Final Report Received:

4/28/2015

Project: Ross Sutter Dulcimer Residency

Final Report:

Mr. Ross Sutter came to our school and helped 60 4th grade students build dulcimers. He spent two afternoons that week teaching them to play the dulcimers. On Friday, the fifth grade students from Lakeview came to the Kilowatt Community Center and the two groups played together, had a snack and learned some Scandinavian dances and singing games. The students learned about sound production of stringed instruments. They also learned to play the dulcimers and we spent time after the residency perfecting songs that Mr. Sutter taught us and played them at our Spring Concert. The students were thrilled to take their instruments home at the end of the unit. We extended the project a bit and did some composing in the music room.

Comments re: SMAC - The process was fine. I hope to do a similar project again. Thank you.

Comments for Legislators: Without these funds, students would not have learned about dulcimers. They would not have been able to build their own dulcimers, learn to play it, and take it home to enjoy with their families.

AIE674

Montevideo Independent School District #129

Montevideo

Request: \$2,000

Award: \$2,000

Final Report Received:

4/29/2015

Project: Senior Class trip to the Guthrie Theatre

Final Report: In March 85 students and 2 chaperones traveled to the Guthrie Theatre to see "A Midsummer Night's Dream". All students studied the play itself or Shakespearean comedy in general before attending the play. Upon return a survey was given and students shared their most memorable moments. Only 50% of the students had previously attended any professional theatre performance, with just 17% reporting having seen three or more live theatrical performances before this one.

Comments re: SMAC - I appreciate everything you do to promote arts in Southwest Minnesota. I think of your organization as a partner in education!

Comments for Legislators - Because of the funding provided by a SMAC grant, students who might never have seen a professional theater production in their entire lives have done so. And 88% of them said they would likely or most likely go back to the Guthrie to see another play. Together we are creating a citizenship that appreciates the arts.

AIE663**Hills-Beaver Creek School District #671****Hills**

Request: \$4,000 Award: \$4,000 Final Report Received: 5/8/2015

Project: Ceramic Mural Residency

Final Report: Artist in-residence Anne Krocek led art classes at the Jr/Sr High level in making a glass and ceramic mural that was permanently installed in the commons area of Hills-Beaver Creek High School. Students learned that they were participating in making public art by creating this mural. They learned about the different stages of clay and sculpting clay and how glaze is like liquid glass with pigment to add color and shine to their sculptures. High school students learned to cut glass and apply it like puzzle pieces to fill in the mural and make it whole. We had a public unveiling with students, school board and community members. Students each wrote an artist statement on the process of making the mural and their feelings. At times the project deadline seemed too demanding but we poured on the manpower and worked hard to stay focused and we accomplished our goal of a 4 ft. x 4 ft. x 6 inch mosaic mural in just 8 days with 38 students.

Comments re: SMAC - Since the residency involved us making a public piece of art, the numbers of people served is ongoing isn't it? I don't feel counting the number of people for the unveiling should be a "final tally". Many, many others will come into our school and see the mosaic on the wall. People that come for concerts, sport events, graduations, etc.

Comments for Legislators: We would not have been able to hire Anne to come do this mosaic residency had the grant not been available to apply for. We simply would not have had the funding to buy the materials or pay for the expertise of a public artist to teach us how to accomplish what we did.

AIE661**Southwest Minnesota State University - Music De****Marshall**

Request: \$4,000 Award: \$3,000 Final Report Received: 5/11/2015

Project: Conrad Herwig Jazz Residency

Final Report: Conrad Herwig conducted a residency with the SMSU Jazz Ensemble focusing on the authentic performance of jazz by large ensembles and the individual skills required. Additional educational opportunities were provided for area high school band directors and students through open clinics at Marshall high school and Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg high school. Mr. Herwig spent four hours in rehearsals with the primary group plus an additional 2 hours with some of the members in clinics on improvisation and careers in music. The members of the Jazz Ensemble learned a great deal from the guest artist about authentic performance and what it means to play with a featured soloist. They had the opportunity to hear Mr. Herwig's ideas on developing greater musical and improvisational skills as a jazz artist. He shared experiences and insight that are valuable in helping students develop a sense of the art and business of jazz musicianship and their place in it.

Comments re: SMAC - I believe that the communication and process worked very well.

Comments for Legislators: This is the ninth year for this program, and I believe that the community and area music educators have begun to see the benefits of visiting jazz artists and what they can tell our students about the music, the culture, and the business. I hope that this program will continue to grow in popularity and notoriety over the next several years. If funding was not available it would become increasingly difficult to make plans for the future of this program.

AIE664**Adrian High School****Adrian**

Request: \$4,000 Award: \$2,000 Final Report Received: 5/31/2015

Project: Copper Street Brass Residency

Final Report: Adrian High School & Middle School brought the Copper Street Brass to our school for a one-day visit. They presented three educational sessions throughout the day including an elementary school lyceum, a showcase for the 6th graders and a rehearsal with our middle and high school bands in preparation for the evening concert. They performed alongside our students on the evening concert providing a once in a lifetime opportunity for the kids. Because we were not awarded full funding, we had to scale back the project as we were not able to afford the remaining expenses. Our students and community were able to experience live music by professionals. Due to our location in the state, access to quality, professional music performances are rare. The students also learned about brass instruments and how to work together to play in a small ensemble. They learned practice techniques and music theory. My students' learning took place over two months while we learned the concepts of the music, learned what cadenza was as well as thirteen different master works and their composers. After all the hard work, the best reward was being able to share the spotlight with the brass quintet at the concert that evening.

Comments for Legislators:

This grant allowed my students to have a rich musical experience with professional musicians. With this grant, we were able to bring the music to our community. While our community supports music, they do not often have the opportunity to attend professional music concerts, and the Copper Street Brass Quintet offered an amazing combination of education and entertainment for our students and community.

AIE673**Red Rock Central Schools****Lamberton**

Request: \$2,237 Award: \$2,237 Final Report Received: 6/1/2015

Project: Lamberton Jazz Festival

Final Report: Douglas Snapp (trumpet), Rich MacDonald (percussion), Craig Bailey (Saxophone) and Scott Agster (trombone) worked with the 10 participating bands. They presented a mini-performance before lunch. This performance focused on jazz improvisation. The clinicians also gave section-specific masterclasses. The festival concluded with an evening of performances by the clinicians and the 2015 guest bands, the MSU Jazz Mavericks. All of the participants received new techniques and ideas to improve their jazz playing and improvisational skills. Many of the participating schools are from rural areas and, without the Lamberton Jazz Festival, would not have an opportunity to work with and hear professional jazz musicians of this caliber.

Comments re: SMAC - SMAC has always been extremely supportive of the Lamberton Jazz Festival. The festival would not be possible without SMAC support. The online application process is very smooth and easy to understand; however, some of the formulas on the final budget report form are incorrect. I was able to correct them, but it would be a smoother process for the grantee if they were correct. Again, I am so thankful for the continued support of the Lamberton Jazz Festival from SMAC.

Comments for Legislators - Arts education is extremely important and I am concerned about its future. Without the help of SMAC, the Lamberton Jazz Festival would not happen in its current state. We would not be able to afford the world-class musicians we are currently bringing in as clinicians. We need to continue to provide high-quality arts experiences for our students. Without programs like SMAC this would not be possible.

<u>AIE665</u>	<u>Worthington Middle School</u>	<u>Worthington</u>
Request: \$4,000	Award: \$2,000	Final Report Received: 6/1/2015

Project: Copper Street Brass Residency - Worthington

Final Report: This one-day residency addressed our four bands (5-8th grades) reaching a total of more than 250 students. The four classroom presentations featured performances of several of the Copper Street Brass Quartet's own arrangements of classical, jazz and pop tunes. The CSBQ challenged students to be active listeners and to be participants in discussions about what they heard, how the music works, and other observations with live professional musicians present. The evening performance featured music from Mozart to Dave Brubeck to Billy Joel and wowed the audience with its innovative blend of musical styles and dazzling fusion of electronic effects. The students were energized and involved as an engaged audience. A fifth grade percussionist became inspired to arrange music after this residency and arranged a 90 second version of "Stay with Me" for keyboard, clarinet, sax, euphonium and xylophone. They performed at the school talent show and took second place!

Comments re: SMAC - All seemed orderly.

Comments for Legislators: Many community members and students at the Worthington Public Schools hardly ever have the opportunity to hear professional musicians perform live. This project provided a performance that excited the general public and students about the power and potency of live music. Worthington is known for its outstanding music programs and this was one way to thank the community and students for their support.

<u>AIE670</u>	<u>New London-Spicer School District #345</u>	<u>New London</u>
Request: \$3,945	Award: \$3,500	Final Report Received: 6/3/2015

Project: Craig Edwards Residency

Final Report: This project consisted of a pottery workshop at the Paramount Visual Arts Center as well as a residency and mentorship program with ceramicist Craig Edwards. Students involved included a core class of 20 high school students in the Ceramics & Sculpture Class and 30 younger students in other classes offered in the art department. The class was better and curriculum more well-rounded because of the residency. The work we did with Craig Edwards was part of one art history component for the class (Asian Pottery and Aesthetics). The workshop at the Paramount focused on wheel thrown and hand built ceramics. It allowed all students to have several hours on the wheel as they made their first attempts at it. Kids came away with at least one successful piece that kick started the rest of the school year. One of the pieces made during the residency was awarded the Spotlight on the Arts Award in Ceramics at the MSHSL Art Festival and went on to be displayed at the state show at the Perpich Center. The mentor program is still ongoing even after school is out. Students will still be working with Craig over the summer. Hopefully this creates a lifelong pursuit in the arts for these students. We held a senior art show with work from the residency.

Comments re: SMAC - Thank you for your continued support for my art program. It is very much appreciated.

Comments for Legislators: The grant funding offered through the Southwest MN Arts Council and the MN Legacy Act has made a big impact to the students in our school district. Museum field trips, art workshops, artist residencies and students exhibitions would not be possible without this financial support. It is certainly state funding well spent!

<u>AIE668</u>	<u>Appleton/Milan Elementary School</u>	<u>Appleton</u>
Request: \$3,396	Award: \$3,000	Final Report Received: 6/4/2015

Project: Residency with Marie Olofsdotter: Writing/Poetry

Final Report: Marie Olofsdotter came to our school for 4 days and worked with the third and fourth grade students. She spent her time teaching third grade about poetry. Students wrote a different kind of poem each day, including a heart poem, name poem and

"I am from" poem, as well as an animal poem. She read students examples of each type of poem and led them through their writing. Fourth grade wrote fairy tales with two different settings: a port hole, a hero or heroine and a problem. This residency was great for students. It raised their interest in writing and reading the genres that were taught and gave new experiences with an expert. The additional \$273 in funding was used to also bring Marie Olofsdotter over to the Madison Schools to do a similar residency.

Comments for Legislators:

Students benefited so much from this project. They had a greater interest and appreciation for poetry and fairy tales. This interest included reading these genres, as well as trying new things in their writing and being creative. It allowed students to learn from real writer and gain many new experiences through her teaching and stories.

AIE671

Stevens Elementary School

Dawson

Request: \$4,000 Award: \$3,500 Final Report Received: 8/4/2015

Project: Ross Sutter Residency

Final Report:

We hired Ross Sutter to do a folk music & dulcimer residency. Ross visited the school on three different occasions for a total of 5 1/2 residency days. The fourth grade students built two different instruments: a limberjack dancing doll and a one-string dulcimer. Ross taught the students how to play each of the instruments and they performed on them for the whole school. In addition, both classrooms visited a first grade classroom and taught the students how to play each of the instruments. Ross worked with students to teach them traditional European song dances and games. These were also performed at the final program for the whole school and the community. Ross was unable to attend a performance at the Senior Center, however students went and performed on their own. Students helped Ross with a project he is doing to record Swedish song dances. This elevated the importance of at least the experience of learning those song dances and perhaps gave the students added insight into the work of an artist.

Comments re: SMAC - All went smoothly in the application process. No changes suggested! Greatly appreciate the online grant format.

Comments for Legislators: Art is important in the lives of our students at Stevens Elementary School! Interaction with professional teaching artists is an important part of our students' experience. Residencies like these give our students an important opportunity to interact with teaching artist from outside the school community.

AP1586

Bethel Lutheran Church

Willmar

Request: \$5,000 Award: \$5,000 Final Report Received: 12/29/2014

Project: Boston Brass in Concert

Final Report: Music at Bethel hosted Boston Brass in Concert on November 9, 2014. Michael Schaner, director of music at Bethel played the organ on two pieces. The concert provided a level of music not often seen in this community. The selections came from numerous genres, with many pieces new to audience members. The quality of music was extremely high and Boston Brass incredibly professional. An unexpected snow storm came up within 48 hours of the concert, and played a large role to our low audience numbers. 98 total people served.

Comments re: SMAC - The grant process was clear, and the SMAC staff was incredibly helpful every time I had a question.

Comments for Legislators: This concert simply could not have occurred without this grant and funding from the state arts board. Internationally renowned groups such as the Boston Brass are often very expensive, and while we received a deal on their fees, it took these grants to make this concert possible. Outstate Minnesota has a high appreciation for the arts, but often these grants and other funding is the only way for events to happen in communities outside of the Twin Cities.

AP1581**Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra****Worthington**

Request: \$5,000

Award: \$5,000

Final Report Received:

1/21/2015

Project: WASO 2014 Fall Concert

Final Report: The concert program presented Handel's MESSIAH with 4 soloists and a 65 voice community chorus. The second half of the concert allowed chorus members to enjoy the instrumental portion of the concert which included Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite. The concert concluded with Dan Goeller's Christmas Carol Sing-Along grand finale. This grant impacted the Worthington Symphony Orchestra because new skills were acquired by performing a more difficult masterwork of music than previously performed. The participation of a community choir brought in more audience members that may not have experienced a symphony concert before. We were excited to have a full house that spanned a wide range of ages, backgrounds and musical abilities. In an effort to expose area string students to an orchestra performance, the WASO Board gave complimentary tickets to local string students. 135 artists participated. 924 total people served.

Comments re: SMAC - We are truly grateful for the support that the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council has invested in the Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra. We have always found the SMAC staff and board members to be very helpful and willing to provide us with guidance and answers to our questions. The Art Project application form is slightly different from the longer Legacy Grant form. This makes the writing process more focused and thus easier to communicate the needed and intended information. Thank you

Comments for Legislators: Without the funding of the Minnesota State Legislator, with funding through the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council, the Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra could not and would not exist. Because of your invaluable support, we are able to provide a unique and valued cultural opportunity that cannot be found within a 60 mile radius of Worthington. Several of our members drive over 100 miles to participate in each rehearsal and concert. Our membership includes a wide variety of ages, interests and careers. We all have a great love of playing music together. Our Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra has become a major source of community pride. We are grateful to have the support of the Minnesota State Legislature so that this legacy may continue. Thank you.

AP1574**Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra****Willmar**

Request: \$4,475

Award: \$4,475

Final Report Received:

4/13/2015

Project: WASO Fall Concerts 2014

Final Report: This was our first year with new conductor Sergey Bogza. The Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra presented 2 concerts: Orchestral Masterworks and Dances, Waltzes and Sing-Along. This year we added two preview concerts for the December concert. We played segments of our concert at Rice Hospital and the Kandi Mall in Willmar. We also added a February concert not sponsored by a grant. The pieces our new conductor chose were challenging both tonally and technically which enhanced our skills as individual musicians and as an ensemble. Finlandia was the first full symphony our orchestra has played. We met the goals of engaging our audience and providing high caliber music through the music, a local soloist and a sing-along in our December concert. Music students in the area are encouraged to participate to gain musical experience and are mentored by orchestra players. 47 artists participated.

Comments re: SMAC - The SMAC staff have been great. They have let us know if there were mistakes in the grant.

Comments for Legislators: The state funding has helped both our orchestra and our band flourish in Willmar. It helps support community institution helping us provide better shows and bring soloists to delight our audiences and reach out to students and teachers in our community and surrounding communities.

AP1604**Marshall Area Stage Company****Marshall**

Request: \$1,989

Award: \$1,700

Final Report Received:

5/21/2015

Project: MACT Fest Travel Expenses

Final Report: The Marshall Area Stage Company brought our spring production of the "Cagebirds" to the Minnesota Association of Community Theaters to take part in their bi-annual One Act Play Festival, MACT Fest.. This year's festival was held at the Dassel-Cokato Performing Arts Center. MASC utilized the grant to pay for the hotel rooms, mileage and admission costs for the MACT Fest events. The grant was not utilized to pay for the registration fees to perform as part of the festival. MASC was able to witness what other community theaters were able to accomplish with their traveling shows through their costuming, musicianship and lighting effects. We took part in workshops to further develop stage combat and choreography skills, improve auditioning skills, character development, administration, stage safety, directing methods and practices, singing techniques, relaxation techniques and stage lighting. The ability to network with other community theaters and professionals across the state has opened up new relations for future theater opportunities. "The Cagebirds" was performed in Marshall, Dassel and Tyler.

Comments re: SMAC - Thank you for your assistance in filling out these forms and teaching individuals how to write effective grants.

Comments for Legislators; Grants like this are important to small theatre groups like this. We are able to bring a variety of theatre events into rural communities and collaborate with groups that we were not able to in the past. Thank you for your continued support for theatre in Minnesota.

AP1575

Prairie Arts Continuum

Windom

Request: \$4,750 Award: \$4,750 Final Report Received: 5/29/2015

Project: PAC performs "Annie Get Your Gun"

Final Report:

We produced four performances of the musical "Annie Get Your Gun" by our community theatre/arts organizations. We involved several new cast members as well as many new crew members who took on roles other than they have in the past, or were completely new to our organization. The community received it well and we involved many of different ages and experience. We have established some more resources for future growth and gained experience. The attendance was below expectations and below our past musicals, we are not sure what the reason for this is and will try to determine the factors. We have financial reserves to cover our loss and it is our number one goal to give opportunity to have people participate and attend artistic events.

Comments re: SMAC

The application form can be very repetitive and drawn out. One difficulty we have had is that grant application has to be turned in so far in advance and often we don't have things finalized so it gets difficult to complete, especially since nothing can be done until the official starting date. I do like the forms are all online. I did have difficulty the last few times uploading items I have scanned or photos because of the size limit on the files. Overall, it is a good system.

Comments for Legislators

The impact of us being able to provide this experience to those in our community made a difference in lives. With out these funds we would not be able to serve the community in the way we want to and provide these experiences.

AP1582

McLeod County Historical Society

Hutchinson

Request: \$5,000 Award: \$5,000 Final Report Received: 5/31/2015

Project: One Woman Play

Final Report:

The McLeod County Historical Society and Art Museum provided the public with two presentations of the one woman play, "Singing for the Cows". This play was created by actress Deborah Jean Templin who grew up in McLeod County and is now a working actress in New York City. Deborah's family has a long history in the area and it is this history of rural Minnesota life that Deborah takes her inspiration from for the performance. A corresponding gallery display was setup as a photo opportunity for artists to showcase their view of rural farm life. The play performances opened up the Historical Society to a new audience of performing arts lovers, as well as learning ways to use the resources to educate through the performing arts. The profit made will ensure that more great arts programming can be offered to the public.

Comments re: SMAC

They have been great! So helpful and the classes they provide are well worth taking. Thanks so much!

Comments for Legislators

Legacy funds are so important to small non-profits like us. These funds are building bridges between communities, organizations and changing and inspiring lives for the better. I am so proud to be a Minnesotan!

Keep it up!

AP1583

Willmar Community Theatre

Willmar

Request: \$5,000 Award: \$5,000 Final Report Received: 6/23/2015

Project: The Barn Theatre Winter Season 2014-15

Final Report:

The Barn Theatre's winter season consisted of three main stage productions: "A Christmas Carol", "Little Shop of Horrors" and "The Glass Menagerie". Marketing was used to highlight the 50th anniversary of the theatre. There is a new younger group of individuals who have become involved on stage. This infusion of new people provides energy and continuity. Strengths included the quality productions and teamwork that is put forward in bringing the productions to fruition. Ticket sales were a disappointment. In particular, the Glass Menagerie was not well attended for this stretch production featuring classic serious drama. Funds were made up with increased miscellaneous revenues from concession sales and the wine bar and costume rentals. 65 artists participated, 2488 total people served.

Comments re: SMAC

SMAC staff have always been very helpful in problem solving and offering ideas and information. SMAC also serves a valuable function of offering workshops and classes to promote and educate artists and arts organizations in the southwest Minnesota area.

Comments for Legislators

Legislative support is critical to providing high quality arts in a more rural environment. Population demographics with a smaller number of core arts supporters than the metro area have been mitigated by state arts funding. This is crucial to the continued quality of life in Greater Minnesota.

AP1580**Winsted Arts Council****Winsted**

Request: \$5,000 Award: \$5,000 Final Report Received: 6/23/2015

Project: 2014 Fall/Winter Art Programs & Performances

Final Report:

This project was designed to offer a variety of opportunities Fall 2014 through Spring 2015. Visual art, music, storytelling/performance were all included in this diverse season of programming. Minor changes included an extension of the after school art club into May, consolidating the puppet show/storyteller into one show and a change of featured musical guest at open mic night from Cooker John to Singleton Street. WAC learned that leveraging community connections can really impact a project's outcome. Events with stronger local connections had better attendance. The after school art class was extended beyond our original plan to continue through the school year as the kids loved teacher, Rosanne Hansen. Biggest strength was the quality of programming from a nationally known puppeteer to first class musical performers. Profit is used for day to day operations so we can continue to have a physical presence in which to offer these opportunities and fund projects not included in this grant (currently a fiber arts class and exhibit). 38 artists participated, 793 total people served.

Comments re: SMAC

The SMAHC has continued to improve its forms and applications - much appreciated. It's still a bit arduous, but I'm sure the information is necessary. I also appreciate the staff and their willingness to help wherever they can.

Comments for Legislators

This grant helped our community experience art-in-place. This benefits our seniors, our children, and the community as a whole. Healthy communities value art, culture, and the humanities. This grant is to overall community health as access to fresh food is to a healthy body. Thank you for investing in the health of rural Minnesota.

AP1585**Dassel-Cokato Community Education****Cokato**

Request: \$4,000 Award: \$4,000 Final Report Received: 6/30/2015

Project: Produce "The Romancers"

Final Report:

The goal of our project was to expand our audience, actor and crew base for Dassel-Cokato Community Theatre. The play that was chosen had a larger-than-normal cast size. Public performances were very well received, garnered great reviews resulting in more ticket sales than anticipated. After the run of the play we entered a one-act version in the bi-annual MACT Fest and won the state competition -- we went on to represent Minnesota at the regional level and won again! D-CCT represented the 7-state region very well at the national competition on June 24, 2015 and brought home numerous nominations and awards! The success of the local performances as well as the production that went on to compete helped many in our communities value the quality of theatre we present. Much of this is due to our award-winning director, cast, costumer, set construction crew and everyone involved. 31 artists participating, 416 total people served.

Comments re: SMAC

We have very much appreciated the grant writing workshops SMAC provides, especially those held right in our community and surrounding communities. SMAC staff is always ready and willing to answer any questions we might have and are very supportive of our programming! We truly appreciate that!

Comments for Legislators

With funding provided by the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment, small communities can accomplish big things! The cost of producing quality theatre productions has risen over the years, especially for small theatre troupes such as ours who must rent lights, costumes, set pieces, performance space, etc.. We wouldn't be able to do this, while keeping ticket prices affordable, without support from our legislators. Thank you!

AP1587

Friends of the Orchestra

Marshall

Request: \$5,000 Award: \$5,000 Final Report Received: 7/14/2015

Project: Children's Concert & String Concerto Competition

Final Report:

Our project consisted of two children's concerts coupled with a string concerto competition. Each 40-45 minute concert was comprised of a 20-25 minutes performance with full orchestra, a performance by Marshall Beats, Narration by Dr. Jan Loft, and a solo performance by this year's concerto competition winner, Olivia White on violin. The original plan included a planetarium show by Dr. Ken Murphy of SMSU however his planetarium equipment could not be set up in the concert hall. He did, however give us several links to online shows that were to be broadcast on the large screen in the auditorium. Unfortunately, due to weather, Marshall Schools closed the day of the concert. All musicians were in place and ready to perform. We immediately contacted the audio/video program at SMSU and asked them to come and record the concert with hopes of making a CD to distribute to attending schools. In the haste of setting up hours earlier than planned, there was a glitch with the system and a quality recording failed to materialize. We also contacted Studio One in Marshall, But they were not able to mobilize that quickly. Our concerto competition winner, Olivia White, was able to have her orchestral debut at a later date, as she performed at our spring concert in front of an audience. The diverse members of the SMO which includes SMSU students, MHS students, Community members and homeschool students were able to rehearse and perform challenging music with fellow orchestra members and rehearse with professional musicians. Sectionals were held during the rehearsal period which allowed orchestra members to improve their playing ability while receiving one-on-one tutelage.

Comments re: SMAC

I have no suggestions for improvement other than allowing larger downloads for promotional materials. 2 MBs just doesn't allow for full-color submittals. Allowing 3 MB would be an improvement.

Comments for Legislators

Due to deep cuts to all universities across the state, the Southwest Minnesota Orchestra is ONLY in existence because of the grants made available through SMAC. It seems that when budgets get cut, arts programming is the first to go. With this funding, we are able to share the experience of a live orchestral performance with approximately 1,500 area youth representing rural Minnesota, as well as senior citizens who wouldn't otherwise be able to travel to a performance or afford a performance of this caliber.

AP1599

Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra

Worthington

Request: \$4,960 Award: \$4,960 Final Report Received: 7/19/2015

Project: WASO Spring Concert 2015

Final Report:

The Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra presented its Spring Concert on May 21, 2015 at Memorial Auditorium. The first half of the concert featured talented orchestra members as soloists and a composition by WASO's conductor, Dr. Christopher Stanichar. In honor of the fifth anniversary of WASO, the ensemble performed Symphony #5 in C Minor, Opus 67 by Beethoven during the second half of the concert. New skills were acquired by performing a more difficult masterwork than they had performed before. Another great impact was the opportunity to feature our soloists. The orchestra has grown to 55 musicians -- to achieve consistent attendance at rehearsals an incentive was introduced. Orchestra members with perfect attendance had their name put in a drawing for a \$50 (donated) prize. Special marketing efforts were made through Memorial Auditorium and the school district. 400 total people served.

Comments re: SMAC

We are truly grateful for the support that the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council has invested in the Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra. We have always found the SMAC staff and board members to be very helpful and willing to provide us with guidance and answers to our questions. The Art Project application form is slightly different from the longer Legacy Grant form. This makes the writing process more focused and thus easier to communicate the needed and intended information. Thank you.

Comments for Legislators

With funding from the Minnesota State Legislators and funding from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council, the Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra is able to exist. Because of your invaluable support, we are able to provide a unique and valued cultural opportunity that cannot be found within a 60 mile radius of Worthington. Several of our members drive over 100 miles to participate in each rehearsal and concert. Our membership includes a wide variety of ages, interests and careers. We all have a great love of playing music together. Our Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra has become a major source of community pride. We are grateful to have the support of the Minnesota State Legislature so that this legacy may continue. Thank you.

AP1573**Crow River Singers****Hutchinson**

Request: \$1,014

Award: \$1,014

Final Report Received:

7/21/2015

Project: Crow River Singers Spring Concert 2015**Final Report:**

The Crow River Singers did a presentation of 2 spring concerts for this project. The concerts were directed by Paul Otte and titled: "Our Favorite Things..." featuring choir favorites and director favorites. We experience an influx of new and returning members this spring. We tackled some very difficult pieces along with some popular favorites. We put a lot of effort into advertising. Our goals were met and exceeded with this concert series. Total ticket sales broke attendance records. Profit will be used toward future choir concerts. 45 artists, 363 total people served.

Comments re: SMAC

SMAC has a great presence and importance in the role it plays in distributing funds in support of the arts. They give good guidance and are easy to communicate with on a daily basis. Nothing needs to be improved.

Comments for Legislators

The Crow River Singers are a small community choir that really benefits from arts funding. Our choir promotes increased arts awareness in the rural areas in our state and brings the community members together. A community choir creates an affordable venue in education and enjoyment of the arts moves our society upward & forward. State grant funding is very important in helping our small scale group to grow and thrive.

AP1607**Friends of the Orchestra****Marshall**

Request: \$5,000

Award: \$4,500

Final Report Received:

7/24/2015

Project: The Romantics performance**Final Report:**

The Southwest Minnesota Orchestra presented "The Romantics: Schubert and Tchaikovsky". It included music of Grieg (Air from the Holberg Suite), which was performed in memory of long time SMO member Rev. Anne Ward, Schubert's Symphony number 4 and the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto #1 with Dr. Luke Norell as soloist. In addition, the winner of this year's string concerto competition, Ms. Olivia White, performed three movements of Vivaldi's Concerto in G Major. Olivia was originally scheduled to perform at the Children's Concert in Marshall but the performance was called off due to inclement weather. The opportunity to play with a world-class pianist, such as Luke Norell, is a wonderful experience for the orchestra members. This was the first time in many years that we performed during the middle of the week, later in the evening -- and saw an increase in audience which might be due to this schedule modification.

Comments re: SMAC

I really appreciate the quick replies and open communication from/with SMAC. You continue to be flexible and understanding when schedules or repertoires change. Thank you for your continued support of our orchestra!

Comments for Legislators

This grant allowed the Southwest Minnesota Orchestra to produce a quality concert, bringing live orchestral music to Southwest Minnesota. Not only did it benefit audience members, but also provides a group for local and regional musicians to play challenging orchestral pieces without limitations on inclusion and membership. Our group includes high school students, college students, business people, educators, retirees and is not limited by race, color, or creed. The funds are used to hire contracted musicians to fill our ranks. This particular grant helped the SMO form a "professional quartet", called the "Meadowlark Quartet". These hired musicians provide private lessons to our members, and leadership to their particular string sections. In addition, the presence of these Principal players has made it possible for our local school districts that have orchestra programs to have a professional presence in their classrooms, exposing high school string students to high quality teaching and lessons. The SMO has a unique relationship with Southwest Minnesota State University, as they provide the Director for the SMO, rehearsal space, music, and professional design and layout of all publicity materials at no cost to the SMO. Funding for Fine Arts programs was largely cut by MnSCU in 2003. However, this relationship between SMO and SMSU allows students of SMSU to take SMO for credit and further their musical studies. Simply put, without the funds provided by SMAC and the appropriation from the MN State Legislature, the SMO would not be in existence today. Because of the grants received, SMO is in its 46th season!

AP1584**Prairie Winds Concert Band****New London**

Request: \$2,555

Award: \$2,555

Final Report Received:

8/4/2015

Project: Prairie Winds Concert Band 2014-15 Season**Final Report:**

This project funded performances at 2 indoor concerts, 5 summer band concerts in Rice Park plus 2 concerts honoring veterans, performed at the Kandiyohi County Fair. We provide an opportunity for individual musical expression and growth among band members, provide contact between musicians of varying proficiencies for the purpose of continued musical growth and to foster shared musical experiences (9th grade through people in their 70's). Our director, Brock Duncan, challenges us with difficult music

and allows us to also play fun music. Our indoor concert audiences enjoy the more serious band repertoire while the "Concerts in the Park" are attended by all variety of community members, especially senior and young families. Our concert honoring veterans is well received with hundreds in attendance.

Comments re: SMAC

When and if we apply again, do we re-write everything again, or can we use the same narrative in instances where things have not changed? It takes many hours to fill out the application, and is very difficult for busy volunteers to find time to do so (especially those unfamiliar with downloading, etc.!). The grant was so essential for our ability to continue as an organization, it was worth the time, but any simplification would be appreciated.

An ongoing problem was mentioned in the budget variances section, and that is the difficulty in knowing whether or not to apply for both a SMAC grant and a Willmar Community Foundation grant when the due dates are only 2 weeks apart. Concern over not receiving one or the other is the reason we apply to both. The past few years we have applied to both, just in case there is a funding difficulty. It is great that both organizations are generous, but it is somewhat of a dilemma to know how to respond.

Comments for Legislators

It is wonderful that the Prairie Winds Concert Band has been awarded grant money from the Legacy Amendment funds, through the auspices of the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council. The band members receive so much enjoyment out of playing in an ensemble, and the feedback from our audiences is very positive. We served over 1400 people (band members, and audience members) this past year. We believe we are helping to build community, and keep our community vibrant. The mental, physical, and emotional benefits to our band members make playing in the band a real plus for living in the West Central area. It is definitely a positive for the community to be able to offer the opportunity to play in a concert band. We are very grateful to the Minnesota legislators for recognizing the importance of the arts to quality of life.

AP1595

Crow River Area Youth Orchestra

Hutchinson

Request: \$4,866 Award: \$4,366 Final Report Received: 8/10/2015

Project: CRAYO Spring Recital 2015

Final Report:

The Crow River Youth Orchestra offered its Varsity Strings and Introduction to Strings classes from Feb 15 - April 26. Enrollment was good and there were no changes to the original plan except that our director had hours cut from the budget as we had no one sign up for the Viola 2 classes. Strengths included: 11 new string players including 3 adult members. The growth in the Introduction levels provides us a great foundation for the symphonic orchestra in the future. As of now, we are only a program as long as we receive grants. It is our goal to implement the program without relying on SMAC grants.

Comments re: SMAC

It takes a bit to learn the grant system, but Greta and others have been more than helpful. Our phone calls are always received with polite helpfulness. We also appreciate the patience displayed with us as we are a new program and have had to learn so much along the way.

Comments for Legislators

Without these funds, these musicians would not have had the opportunity to pick up a new instrument and try their hand at music in this sort of environment. For many of these kids, it is their first chance to show what they are capable of and begin to explore new hobbies and talents.

AP1592

City of Rushmore

Rushmore

Request: \$4,000 Award: \$4,000 Final Report Received: 8/11/2015

Project: Rushmore Art Workshops

Final Report:

The project involved creating Art Workshops for children from 5-13 years of age. The workshops held were painting, sculpture, printmaking and crafts. The dates of the workshops had to be adjusted due to illness in the Coordinator/Artist family. Additional aides were hired because of the number of children participating. Feedback was incredibly positive and the Rushmore City Council voiced their gratitude for this project. Students were from many small area communities and their parents were willing to transport over 25 miles away. Children were eager to come to the Saturday workshop and encouraged us to have it every Saturday. Students learned art vocabulary and used it during the workshops -- many participating came from a diverse cultural background in which English is their second language. The impact was exposing students and community to the role of art, the importance of art for children and how it allows them to communicate visually.

Comments re: SMAC

Excellent implementation of funds.

Comments for Legislators

The City of Rushmore served almost 200 children from the Adrian, Rushmore, Round Lake, Brewster, Jackson, and Sioux Falls, SD communities. The program was excellent with high school students and area adults employed as aides.

AP1590**Appleton 52 Wing Restoration Committee****Appleton**

Request: \$2,390 Award: \$2,390 Final Report Received: 8/14/2015

Project: 2015 Summer Concert Series**Final Report:**

We held seven concerts from June through August. We featured community bands and bands that play different styles of music including: Route 68 Big Band, Blue Ox Jazz Babies, the 34th Infantry Division "Red Bull Band", the Wendinger Band, and the Swift County Concert Band. There were no changes to the schedule of bands. The concerts are well attended by the audience. The artists played several new selections and enjoyed the experience. The concerts allow for a common community experience through music.

Comments re: SMAC

We appreciate the quality of the programs which SMAC funds and we are very grateful that our program can be included with the best arts programs in Minnesota.

Comments for Legislators

Our program could not have taken place without the support of the Legacy grant program. Our community looks forward to our Summer Concert Series.

AP1597**Prairie Dance Alliance****Marshall**

Request: \$3,499 Award: \$3,200 Final Report Received: 8/17/2015

Project: PDA Summer Intensive Dance Camp 2015**Final Report:**

Prairie Dance Alliance (PDA) presented its 25th annual dance camp the last week in May 2015. There were two changes: we replaced instructor Whitney Hart with Stanley Glover (she had a last minute conflict and he was an outstanding replacement); also we added another dance assistant due to increased enrollment. PDA was extremely pleased with all aspects of camp. Instructors were excellent and the facility worked very well, even with the additional participants. We were able to recruit Stanley Glover as our modern instructor -- the kids loved him and he brought some name recognition to our camp. Also, PDA fulfilled a long standing goal of including members of the local high school dance teams who do not otherwise participate in classic dance. We had 11 members from Marshall and 6 from Redwood who came for an intensive 3 hours session in the afternoon. They received instruction in both ballet and jazz. PDA continues to evaluate our facility needs - but so far have been unable to come up with an alternative location.

Comments re: SMAC

PDA appreciates the fact that this final report form is brief and to the point.

Comments for Legislators

Prairie Dance Alliance of Southwest Minnesota is a small, non-profit, ALL VOLUNTEER organization which promotes dance education and performance in Marshall and the surrounding area. We produce a dance camp every year and a full length dance production every other year. These are really the only opportunities like this in the area. While we are able to sell tickets and get support from businesses and other locally, stated funding is critical to enable us to continue to provide these things for the community.

EQ2**Winsted Arts Council****Winsted**

Request: \$4,248 Award: \$4,248 Final Report Received: 3/2/2015

Project: Purchase sound system and choral risers**Final Report:**

Funds used to purchase sound system appropriate for amplification of performances in small to medium size venue; purchased choral risers appropriate for choir use in a variety of venues. Now that we have quality sound equipment to use with performances we don't need to borrow, cobble together and wonder if it will work properly.

Comments re: SMAC

The SMAC serves a very large geographic area, and that poses a challenge for both the grantor and grantee when trying to coordinate workshops and promote the information.

Comments for Legislators

To our MN Legislators - the funds administered by the SMAC have an enormous impact on rural communities. With these funds we are able to provide quality cultural opportunities to an underserved and frequently overlooked population. To be able to present

these opportunities in a local setting impacts our seniors that may not wish to drive a long distance to a more metropolitan area and may be on a limited income; it impacts our youth in providing these opportunities locally and enabling them to attend/participate without having their parents drive them long distances which can cost time and money, both of which can be in short supply. Metro areas have the advantage of location, and many metro opportunities are subsidized, thus making them more accessible. We need to provide accessible opportunities in rural settings, and SMAC helps make that happen. Thank you!

EQL2**Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra****Willmar**

Request: 10,759 Award: 10,759 Final Report Received: 7/16/2015

Project: New Percussion Equipment

Final Report:

The Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra, and community partner, Prairie Winds Concert Band, believe it was important to upgrade much of the percussion equipment both organizations used for rehearsals and concerts. Especially important to upgrade were the set of 3 timpani that were outdated and in poor condition. The suspended and crash cymbals and other smaller accessory instruments were also not up to the standard desirable for the level of repertoire both organizations were able to perform. The entire process went well, with the usual limitations of having many busy people involved, thus taking somewhat more time than was ideal. We didn't get to use the new equipment until the final concerts of the year, but the end result was everything we had hoped for! 1200 people served.

Comments re: SMAC

We have always found the staff at SMAC to be very helpful with both their training sessions, and their responses to specific questions.

Comments for Legislators

There is no doubt that offering opportunities to participate in high-quality music organizations like the Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra and the Prairie Winds Concert Band helps to attract many talented and well-educated people to our area. Our audiences also appreciate the opportunity to hear quality music. Besides these 2 aspects, it is great to be able to offer local students a chance to play advanced repertoire that is beyond what they usually play at school. Another positive outcome to having these organizations in our community is that they provide an avenue for musicians to form smaller ensembles that play in many venues in our community. These ensembles play at festivals, churches, fundraisers, and so forth. It takes practice and the chance to play with other musicians that make it possible for these small ensembles to exist.

Without grants from organizations like SMAC and other arts grantors we simply would not be able to offer such a high level of musical performance. It would take years to raise the money for a set of timpani - yet the difference our new percussion equipment makes to our sound is remarkable.

EQL1**Lake Benton Opera House****Lake Benton**

Request: \$5,437 Award: \$5,437 Final Report Received: 7/28/2015

Project: Replace windows, doors, and purchase stage equipment

Final Report:

The Lake Benton Opera House replaced all windows on the front of the building, replaced doorsills and weather-stripping on exit doors, added portable light trees with crossbars for our productions, added a backstage monitor for actors to see a video feed of the stage, added a fog generator, purchased assorted light gobos and added a wireless microphone and transmitter. The main outcome and strength of the project was creating a more energy efficient facility to help us save on electricity and LP gas costs - which will help ensure our financial stability and thereby continue to serve our region by bringing the arts to an underserved area of the state.

Comments re: SMAC

We are completely satisfied with the help that SMAC and the staff provides for us.

Comments for Legislators

The funds received by this project will help us continue to operate our organization and our historic building for many years to come. Without these funds, we would have continued to pay higher energy costs for 130-year-old building.

IAD773**Mary Seifert****Willmar**

Request: \$1,500 Award: \$1,500 Final Report Received: 7/1/2015

Project: Developing a Novel for Publication

Final Report:

The final project is a novel, completed and revised, following a manuscript critique by Erin Hart of The Loft Literary Center, and suggestions made to a query letter and the synopsis to accompany it. The author of four mysteries, Erin Hart's support, assessment and encouragement to improve the writing and storytelling was inspirational, emotional, enlightening, didactic and fun. Hart gave

positive feedback and took an enormous amount of time combing through the text she was sent, making suggestions, slashing entire pages, notating inconsistencies, providing alternatives, proposing options and discussing subsequent plans. Before submitting the novel to the Loft, it had gone through the hands of thirteen BETA readers, each of whom has since supported the continued work on the novel.

Comments re: SMAC

I cannot say thank you enough for the opportunity to speak to an author/editor who has a clear voice and extensive knowledge in the field of writing novels and discuss the possibilities. Everyone along the way was helpful. Communication with SMAC was invaluable and response time was prompt. The whole process was straightforward. Information was always accessible. The webpages were easy to navigate and the information required on the forms was clear. The only question I had filling out the final report form revolved around the evaluation means and outcomes. I could not find an applicable example. When "Titanic Cocktail" is published (fingers crossed), I would have more promotional material to incorporate into the grant Follow Up and the final test results would be tabulated.

Comments for Legislators

The funds of the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council Grant provided an unequalled opportunity to write a novel and have it critiqued, use possible improvements offered by a professional, and receive support conducive to improving writing skills. The funds pay-it-forward as well as support opportunities to individuals in all areas of the arts. I am so very grateful to be able to explore and share my passion with words.

IAD770

Curt Soine

Granite Falls

Request: \$1,500 Award: \$1,500 Final Report Received: 7/10/2015

Project: Oil Painting Workshop

Final Report:

My project was to attend Krausman's Woodcarving Studio to learn how to paint in oils. After attending the workshop I was to have two completed carved and oil painted shorebirds. I learned to paint with a new medium and acquired new techniques in finishing from a world class instructor, which will also apply to my acrylic painting. I learned different brush strokes for painting feathers and blending techniques as well as color theory and properties of different oil paints. I am anticipating that what I learned in this class will make a difference in the quality of my decoys and start to set me apart from other decoy makers. As I do reproductions of antique decoys they will look more authentic and historically correct. My next big show is the Art Meander where I am anxious to see the response to my newer work. The budget increase was due to needing oil paints, mediums, thinners, brush cleaners and palettes. Although expensive, the supply can be used for a very long time.

Comments re: SMAC

I am eternally grateful for receiving this grant.

Comments for Legislators

This grant had a great impact on my artwork. Without these funds, I would not have been able to attend.

IAS738

Nicolette Lecy

Marshall

Request: \$380 Award: \$380 Final Report Received: 8/13/2015

Project: Southwest Minnesota String Festival

Final Report:

Southwest Minnesota String Festival is a week-long camp for string students. It takes place at SMSU. There are daily lessons, seminars, sectionals, a master class with cellist Tanya Remenikova and rehearsals for the end of camp concert. The camp gave me knowledge and skills on how to be a better string player. The master class was very interesting even though I play violin and not cello. It gave me an idea of what it takes to be a professional string player. Performing with SMO at Liberty Park in Marshall had a large audience -- as well as the end of camp concert at the SMSU Religious Center. I enjoyed the responsibility of Junior Counselor where often I had the opportunity to demonstrate playing and bowing techniques for younger students.

Comments re: SMAC

The SMAC scholarship is very generous. String students definitely gain further knowledge about the arts. The scholarship can be a motivator for being more involved in the arts. Would it be possible to simplify the application form and final report? For young students, and even for a parent, some of the questions are difficult to understand and hard to answer, and we do not always have access to the required information.

Comments for Legislators

The scholarship is very generous. It encourages parents to involve their children in the arts. Both concerts were well attended and greeted enthusiastically, demonstrating an interest in the community for having area children learning about, and participating in, the arts. For the students, interest level and enthusiasm for the arts is heightened in a camp environment.

IAS739

Annabelle Lecy

Marshall

Project: Southwest Minnesota String Festival

Final Report:

Southwest Minnesota String Festival is a week-long camp for string students. Held on the SMSU campus, it provides daily lessons, seminars, sectionals, master class with renowned cellist, Tanya Remenikova and rehearsals for recital at the end of camp. Through a lot of study, I gained more knowledge and skill on how to be a better string player. With my cello instructor, the master class with Tanya Remenikova helped me to see the skills needed for a cello career. It was helpful to prepare me for All State Orchestra camp which I attended a week later. A strength were the members of the Meadowlark String Quartet who taught us as well as Tanya Remenikova. During master class I was told to correct a technique in a short period of time. After several attempts, I was successful and learned that I need to adjust my speed and dynamics based on the time period of the music.

Comments re: SMAC

Maybe the application forms and final report forms could be made easier for students who are applying. Sometimes we don't understand, or know where to get some of the information asked for. Thank you for asking.

Comments for Legislators

This scholarship is very generous. It encourages parents to get their children into the arts. Many local people go to the concerts, showing they have an interest in getting kids more excited about the arts. It helps students get more knowledge about the arts and make us more enthusiastic and motivated to be in the arts.

PLA11

New London Arts & Culture Alliance

New London

Request: \$2,000 Award: \$2,000 Final Report Received: 3/11/2015

Project: Planning for Fire Sculpture

Final Report:

We are planning to create a permanent ceramic sculpture that is fired in place in New London, MN. The sculpture will be created in the fall of 2015 with the help of Ann-Charlotte Olhsson from Denmark. The grant helped create a more efficient work group with better understanding of each participants skill set. It created more networking with other arts groups and the New London Arts Alliance is more visible in the community. The next step is to put the funding in place. The site and permits are already secured and materials have been sourced. Plans are underway to pour the concrete slab once the weather cooperates. The next step is to execute the plan.

Comments re: SMAC

Forms are clear and understandable. SMAC does a good job responding to the needs of its constituents.

Comments for Legislators

In a community the size of New London, this arts grant has made a noticeable impact on the community. The arts have become an economic driver for the community. The arts by their very nature demand excellence, this standard of excellence, has a direct influence on the quality of life in New London. The grant has helped the community create a vision and focus that has helped to unify New London.

PLA12

City of Montevideo

Appleton

Request: \$2,000 Award: \$2,000 Final Report Received: 3/24/2015

Project: Mural in Jose Artigas Plaza

Final Report:

The "Mural in Artigas Plaza" (MAP) group put together an RFP to solicit interested mural artists to send us their resume and work samples. Then they reviewed the work samples and chose three artists to hire to create a full proposal and drawings. Kristi Fernholz from the UMVRDC implemented the project and coordinated artist contracts. We encouraged artists to communicate with the Uruguayan Partners and citizens of Montevideo. Full proposals were received in November and the MAP met and chose one artist - Shawn McCann to paint the mural in Jose Artigas Plaza. Throughout the process we updated the community via Facebook and press releases. The process generated ideas to do projects in the future with perhaps some of the artists that submitted their qualifications. Next step is to fund and complete the mural in downtown Montevideo. The overrun will be paid by the City of Montevideo and CVB who already had committed funds to the overall project.

Comments re: SMAC

More complicated art projects will likely cost more to reimburse the artists for their design and research. It would be nice if the planning grants would allow for additional costs.

Comments for Legislators

This funding is extremely important to communities such as ours. Without this funding, this project would have been extremely difficult.

Rushmore

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit

From what I learned at the Summit, I plan to explore grants and search for financial assistance from communities and contacts throughout the state.

Marshall

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit

From what I learned at the Summit I plan to periodically use my display window at my frame shop for a democratic placemaking dialog space; get involved with "Artists Thrive" project by the MN State Arts Board; try to visit artist/writers I met on their home ground; update my mnartists.org account and stay enthused about the art community in Marshall, MN.

Canby

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit

I am sharing the ideas and optimism for the future of rural Minnesota with folks I work with in my area communities, through social media and my own website. Cost is a big factor and the projects that were effective involved the community and were low budget will help springboard possible activities in my own area. I especially found it helpful to hear how others have gotten community members involved from the ground up. The presenters from New London were especially helpful and informative.

Marshall

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit

The Rural Arts & Culture Summit both informed and inspired me. I was specifically challenged in two ways: The Summit made me realize that I AM AN ARTIST -- and that I should identify and define myself as such without hesitation, qualification or question. Secondly, the Summit taught me that, as an artist, I am faced with additional roles and responsibilities and have a unique and much more complicated set of demands and contentions to navigate. Ever more so than the traditional artist's role. The formula of rural art seems to work out much like this: 10% art and creative energy + 90% struggle to surface = 300% effort towards, at best, a 50/50 chance of success. There is no doubt, and at the conference it was glaringly obvious, that the effort is truly worth it.

Dassel

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit

I was blown away by the quality and concept behind this Summit. I feel like I gained perspective and knowledge that will help me to be a better decision maker, thinker and innovator. I also gained a vision of what could be possible in the future along with continuing a present stronghold.

Watkins

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit

I was so impressed with the success stories that were shared. I gleaned lots of information about starting an "arts building" in my small hometown of Watkins, possibly in one of the vacated buildings on main street. The whole concept of "rural" was creatively and humorously portrayed and gave me a new appreciation and positive spirit of what it means to be rural. I heard stories of trails and the work that promoting the arts include. I would love to bring others to the experience to help start a small group in our community for the preservation and continuation and support of the arts.

WKS42**Lauren Carlson****Dawson**

Request: \$110 Award: \$110 Final Report Received: 6/10/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit**Final Report:**

I expect to use what I gained in two concrete ways: promotion and funding. Immediately after the conference I created a profile on mnartists.org. Here I was able to post personal contact info and links to my published writing on a social media website. My goal is to create a network of similarly minded people who would be interested in my work in order to generate more opportunities for funding, income, publication and collaboration. I learned about several sponsors who award individual grants including the MN State Arts Board. I am also interested in offering an adult creative writing class for summer or fall of 2016 in my community.

WKS38**Janet Olney****Willmar**

Request: \$100 Award: \$100 Final Report Received: 6/10/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit**Final Report:**

While I feel attending the Summit was a worthwhile experience and look forward to the next one, I didn't come away with a lot of "specific" things to help me in my work. I did gain an over-all appreciation for the impact of what we do as artists and arts organizations to make our state a better place to live, so in that respect it was extremely helpful.

WKS54**Nancy Carlson****Willmar**

Request: \$144 Award: \$144 Final Report Received: 6/10/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit**Final Report:**

I collected many ideas that we can incorporate into projects for our arts council. The breakout sessions were especially useful. Those of use in attendance are planning to use various ideas for marketing purposes.

WKS53**Judy Foley****Willmar**

Request: \$144 Award: \$144 Final Report Received: 6/11/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit**Final Report:**

The Willmar Area Arts Council held a retreat workshop Tuesday where we set long-range plans to promote awareness and membership as an outcome of the Rural Arts and Culture Summit.

WKS47**Mary Gillespie****Granite Falls**

Request: \$401 Award: \$401 Final Report Received: 6/12/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit**Final Report:**

I am the chair of the Granite Falls public art committee and have written one planning grant which wasn't awarded (part of another MN Historical Society grant). Some of the ideas I've gained will be used with this project and also caused me to change what our original plans for the public art, include some temporary art installations and involve more community members. I also plan to complete a photography project about Granite Falls residents. The Summit renewed my idea that small town and rural living is a wonderful lifestyle and one thing I want to do is create an excitement about our town and living here.

WKS41**Luanne Fondell****Dawson**

Request: \$453 Award: \$453 Final Report Received: 6/14/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit**Final Report:**

As a result of attending this conference and the specific sessions I plan to: 1. Spend more time brainstorming about projects with non-DBAA insiders or constituents. Use a slightly different lens to view outcomes. 2. Investigate the concept of an agricultural/cultural tour with the RDC and/or SMAC. 3. Discuss with the DBAA Board the possibility of hosting more free community-building events that include the arts, existing traditions and place in the Dawson-Boyd community.

WKS44**Sarina Otaibi****Granite Falls**

Request: \$110 Award: \$110 Final Report Received: 6/14/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Cultural Summit**Final Report:**

I plan to use what I have gained from this experience in all of the organizations I volunteer for. In addition, this experience helped

<u>WKS45</u>	<u>Bill Gossman</u>	<u>New London</u>
Request:	\$100	Award: \$100
		Final Report Received: 6/15/2015

<u>WKS59</u>	<u>Tom Wirt</u>	<u>Hutchinson</u>
Request:	\$248	Award: \$248
		Final Report Received: 6/15/2015

<u>WKS37</u>	<u>Craig Edwards</u>	<u>New London</u>
Request:	\$140	Award: \$140
		Final Report Received: 6/15/2015

<u>WKS49</u>	<u>Greg Jodzio</u>			<u>Hutchinson</u>
Request:	\$290	Award:	\$290	Final Report Received: 6/15/2015

<u>WKS50</u>	<u>Big Stone Arts Council</u>				<u>Ortonville</u>
Request:	\$680	Award:	\$680	Final Report Received:	6/15/2015

<u>WKS56</u>	<u>Gail Holinka</u>	<u>Worthington</u>
Request:	\$260	Award: \$260
		Final Report Received: 6/15/2015

<u>WKS43</u>	<u>Scott Tedrick</u>	<u>Granite Falls</u>
Request:	\$351	Award: \$351
		Final Report Received: 6/15/2015

Plan to use contacts and inspiration toward further development and execution of placemaking in the Granite Falls area relative to the cultural, historical, natural and creative assets of the Minnesota River Valley and southern Minnesota areas.

WKS52

Jeff Vetsch

New London

Request: \$244 Award: \$244 Final Report Received: 6/15/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit

Final Report:

I will be using ideas from the Rural Arts and Culture Summit to help shape arts activities in New London. The biggest take away from me is that what we are doing in Minnesota is unique and could ultimately be called a movement. I am planning to stay connected with folks from around the state to see how we can continue to collaborate and find ways to help each other thrive. We have also been talking about hosting a "mini regional summit" so that we don't have to wait another two years to get together again.

WKS46

Darwin Dyce

Ghent

Request: \$283 Award: \$283 Final Report Received: 6/16/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit

Final Report:

I will be continuing to work with a group called SW x SW. Recently I met with someone to learn about using GPS technology to create field art.

WKS57

Robert Wilde

Dassel

Request: \$187 Award: \$187 Final Report Received: 6/16/2015

Project: Rural Arts & Culture Summit

Final Report:

The Summit has given me a number of possible opportunities to pursue. I hope to be included in a future Pioneer TV Postcards production. I also want to investigate the possibility of opening my metals studio to other artists. I am going to keep in touch with people that I met at the conference.

Regional Arts Council Budget Template			General Fund	Arts & Access	Arts Education	Arts & Heritage	McKnight Foundation	Other Funds	
SW MN Arts Council			General Fund	Arts Access	Education	Heritage	McKnight	Other	
Fiscal Year 2015 Actuals			2015 State	2015 State	2015 State	2015 State	Foundation	Funds	2015 Total
		REVENUE							
1		State of Minnesota	\$143,307	\$420,595	\$73,585	\$33,484			\$670,970
2		McKnight Foundation					\$96,806		\$96,806
3		Other Income						\$44,180	\$44,180
4		Interest	\$46	\$136	\$24	\$11		\$3,411	\$3,628
5		TOTAL REVENUES	\$143,353	\$420,731	\$73,609	\$33,494	\$96,806	\$47,591	\$815,584
		EXPENSES							
		Programs and Services							
6		Grant Programs and Services							
		Art Project/Legacy Art Project Grants	\$58,961	\$118,857	\$27,031	\$15,500			\$220,349
		Arts Organization Development/Equipment & Facilities Improvement Grants		\$98,542					\$98,542
		Small Grants		\$6,970					\$6,970
		Cultural Bank Insurance							\$0
		Operating Support Grants		\$56,182					\$56,182
		Prairie Disciple Award	\$500						\$500
		Arts in the Schools Grants	\$7,237	\$2,000	\$20,921				\$30,158
		Board Initiated Grants		\$5,976	\$5,000			\$4,500	\$15,476
		Individual Artist Grants		\$7,000	\$2,480		\$65,300		\$74,780
7		Grant Programs and Services - Operations and Support	\$18,437	\$70,355	\$18,177	\$17,994	\$16,306	\$543	\$141,811
8		Non-grant Programs and Services							
		Regional exhibits and showcase e.g.		\$12,286			\$3,479		\$15,765
		Workshops, training, and technical assistance	\$2,284	\$16,321			\$9,961	\$6,638	\$35,205
		Arts promotion, newsletter, website, etc.	\$5,212						\$5,212
9		Non-grant Programs and Services - Operations and Support	\$12,344	\$26,241			\$1,759	\$16,989	\$57,334
10		Fundraising						\$3,495	\$3,495
11		General administration							
		Personnel	\$31,088					\$4,797	\$35,885
		Other	\$7,289					\$1,125	\$8,414
12		Subtotal - General administration	\$38,377	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,921	\$44,299
13		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$143,353	\$420,731	\$73,609	\$33,494	\$96,806	\$38,086	\$806,079