

## FY 19 Final Report to MSAB from the Lake Region Arts Council

### **Use of this report:**

This document has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Minnesota State Legislature to qualify the Lake Region Arts Council for receipt of a block allocation to be used in funding local arts development programs and activities. In addition, this FY19 Final Report is to provide a basis for decisions to be made by the Lake Region Arts Council regarding overall activities as a Regional Arts Council and to act as a guide against which progress can be measured as the Council strives to attain its stated goals in this biennium (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019).

### **Planning Process**

The Planning Process for this Biennium has relied on several assessment tools, including the regional needs assessment survey done in January, 2019, (see attachment), on site interviews with grantees, input from our grantees final reports, workshop/networking evaluations and a LRAC Board self-assessment tool.

The prioritized critical issues gleaned from the feedback and surveys related to the work of LRAC are:

- LRAC should provide networking opportunities
- LRAC should provide workshop opportunities
- Public awareness and education about the arts is vital
- Increase accessibility to LRAC services and grants to underrepresented groups
- Encourage building partnerships and relationships with underrepresented groups
- Individual artists need more direct help to connect with arts resources
- There is an increased need for operational support
- Need to hold LRAC workshops, networking meetings and events in a wider variety of locations within the region

The LRAC dedicates its McKnight Foundation funding to the needs of individual artists, for which the critical issues were:

1. Need funding resources for artists
2. Need marketing/advertising expertise and guidance
3. Need space/opportunities to display art or performance space
4. Need opportunities to network with other artists

### **Grants \***

Provide a narrative summary reflecting on the grants that you awarded, include your observations related to number of applications, successful marketing, training you provided, and other interesting activities related to awarding grants this year across all your funding sources.

LRAC Grant Programs	# Req.	# Funded	% Grants Funded	\$ Requested	\$ Funded	% Dollars Funded
Project Grants	28	16	57%	\$61,768	\$35,120	57%
Operating Support Grants	13	13	100%	\$53,565	\$52,500	98%
Legacy Grants, Individual	14	4	29%	\$118,260	\$35,039	30%
Legacy Grants, Organization	24	17	71%	\$222,510	\$157,687	71%
Legacy Local Gov. Grants	2	1	50%	\$20,000	\$10,000	50%
Career Development Grants	12	7	58%	\$14,710	\$7,504	51%
Artist Quick Start Grants	10	6	60%	\$7,500	\$4,500	60%
Fellowships	5	1	20%	\$25,000	\$5,000	20%
Arts Mentorship	16	14	88%	\$9,600	\$8,400	88%
Total	124	79	64%	\$532,913	\$315,750	59%

During fiscal year 2019, the Lake Region Arts Council awarded grants as shown above. A detailed listing of all grants awarded has been submitted to the MN State Arts Board in a separate document.

#### Summary of Grants Awarded

This year 64% of the requests were funded, up from 61% in FY 18. These figures indicate that we are not able to sufficiently meet the need that exists. This inability to adequately fund the requests we receive has existed since these statistics have been tracked beginning in 1999.

There was a slight shift in the number of Legacy Individual Artist applications compared to Legacy Organizational applications. The number of individual artists applying increased by 5 and the Organizations applying decreased by 3.

---

### **Services\***

Provide a narrative summary reflecting on the services your region offered, include your observations related to number of people served, successful marketing, training you provided, and other interesting activities related to serving your region this year across all your funding sources.

#### Services Snapshot:

Service	Funding Source	Comments
Arts Newsletter	Legacy	Emailed every mo. to over 1,400 households, ranked as important in Needs Assessment Survey

Artist Registry	Legacy	Lists 221 regional artist, ranked as important in Needs Assessment Survey
LRAC Website	Legacy	Has over 800 visits/mo. average, ranked as very important in Needs Assessment Survey
LRAC Facebook Page	Legacy	Has over 6,000 followers, ranked as very important in Needs Assessment Survey
Networking Meetings	Legacy	LRAC held 3 networking meetings, ranked as important in Needs Assessment Survey
Workshops	Legacy	LRAC held and sponsored over 10 workshops, ranked as very important in Needs Assessment Survey
Regional Media Promotion	Legacy	LRAC produced over 15 videos promoting artists, arts organizations and arts events, feedback is that the videos are very valuable
Equitable Access Program	Legacy	See detailed info below
Arts Resource Experts Program	Legacy	See detailed info below
Galleries, Main and Solo gallery space	McKnight Foundation	11 exhibits per year, average attendance is 150 viewers per exhibit, but it varies greatly.
Springboard for the Arts office	McKnight Foundation	Connects and helps 536 artists, provided 28 workshops. 17 artist residencies, ranked as very helpful in Needs Assessment Survey

FY19 Measurement of success: In FY19 of those receiving services from the LRAC, 75% will indicate that the services provided by LRAC are important or very important to them and have provided access to a variety of resources they need.

End of year measurement shows that 80% of those responding to the FY19 Needs Assessment Survey indicated that the services provided by LRAC are important or very important to them and have provided access to a variety of resources they need.

Observations from survey comments: There is a continued strong interest by individual artists and arts organizations to have access to networking opportunities. LRAC will work to provide networking aspects in our workshops and other gatherings. In the FY18 Needs Assessment, the value of the Arts Calendar was identified as a service that could be improved. In FY19 LRAC redesigned the online calendar to be more user friendly and did paid promotion/advertising of the calendar. These efforts resulted in an 8% increased perception of value.

**FY 19 was the second year for the Arts Resource Experts Program and our Equitable Access Program.**

- **End of year observations: Arts Resource Experts Program** continues to be successful, but the following changes will be made in FY20, based on feedback and observations of what works and didn't work in FY19.
  - The number of artists participating in the Artist Cohort will be reduced from 10 to 6. The commitment by the artists to participate will be reinforced by having them sign off on their application forms that they will be willing to dedicate time and be fully involved in the program.
  - LRAC staff, Rebecca Davis, will assume the duties of Artist Cohort Coordinator and work more directly with members of the FY20 Artist Cohort. Administration of the Cohort will no longer be done through an independent contractor.
  - LRAC will discontinue offering the Arts Resource Fair. Instead we will work more intensively with individual artist year round through the Arts Resource Experts Program, Artist Cohort and in partnership with the Fergus Falls office of Springboard for the Arts.
  
- **End of year observations: Equitable Access Program**, LRAC was able to identify and begin to build relationships with the following underserved groups:
  - White Earth Head Start Program, supported Storytelling/Sign Language project
  - Pelican Rapids Multicultural Committee, supported their Festival of Nations event
  - Moorhead Pangea Festival, supported multi-cultural event
  - Access for All, a nonprofit for those with disabilities, LRAC was involved in strategic planning and surveying of needs and barriers related to arts events.

The building of these relationships is slow work. It has become evident that to build trust, LRAC has to be involved with these groups, not just as an organization that provides funding. In the coming year LRAC will continue to be involved, attend meetings and events.

---

**Overall Success and Evaluation**

Use this space for additional comments that do not fit in another section but you have included in your final report.

The following are additional indicators of success that LRAC identified in their FY18-19 Biennial Plan, Work Plan:

1. In FY 19 of those receiving grants from the LRAC 75% will indicate that their project was artistically successful, reached the target constituency and had community impact.

End of year measurement shows that 100 % of those receiving grants indicated that their project was artistically successful, and 91% reached the target constituency and had community impact. Evaluation method: Grantee Final Reports

2. In FY 19 of those receiving services from the LRAC, 75% will indicate that the services provided by LRAC are important or very important to them and have provided access to a variety of resources they need.

End of year measurement shows that 80% of those responding to the survey indicated that the services provided by LRAC are important or very important to them and have provided access to a variety of resources they need. Evaluation method: FY19 Needs Assessment Survey

3. In FY19 75% of those responding to the FY 19 Needs Assessment Survey will agree that LRAC awards grants with fairness to all applicants.

End of year measurement shows that 94% of those responding to the survey indicated that LRAC awards grants with fairness to all applicants.

Evaluation method: FY 19 Needs Assessment Survey

4. In FY 19 75% of those surveyed will indicate that LRAC acts as a responsible steward of public funds.

End of year measurement shows that 99% of those responding to the survey indicated that LRAC acts as a responsible steward of public funds.

Evaluation method: FY 19 Needs Assessment Survey.

5. In FY19 LRAC will communicate a minimum of 5 times per year informing regional legislators of arts activities and issues. LRAC will maintain membership in MCA, AFTA and participate in Arts Advocacy Day.

End of year evaluation: A total of 7 mailings were sent to regional legislators announcing LRAC and MSAB grants that were awarded in their districts. Legislators also receive our monthly eNewsletter and were invited to our Annual meeting. In FY19 LRAC paid dues to MCA and AFTA. LRAC participated in Arts Advocacy Day, March 2019.

Attachments:

1. Needs Assessment Survey, 2019
2. MSAB budget template, FY19 EOY, unaudited

FY19 End of Year Actual Expenses, MSAB Financial Report

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
<b>LAKE REGION ARTS COUNCIL</b>								
Fiscal Year 2019	General Fund	Arts & Arts Access	Education	Arts & Cult Heritage	McKnight Foundation	Other Funds		2019 Total
	2019 State	2019 State	2019 State	2019 State				
<b>REVENUE</b>								
1	State of Minnesota	122,243	421,239	75,889	25,302	0	0	\$644,672
2	State of Minnesota: Carryforward from 2018	665	5,947	1,071	357			\$8,041
3	McKnight Foundation					60,073	0	\$60,073
4	Other Income	39,577	0	0	0	0	0	\$39,577
5	Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
<b>6</b>	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$162,485</b>	<b>\$427,186</b>	<b>\$76,960</b>	<b>\$25,659</b>	<b>\$60,073</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$752,362</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>								
<b>Programs and Services</b>								
7	Grant Programs and Services							
	Project grants -Gen. Allocation	35,120						\$35,120
	Artist Mentor prog. Costs-Gen.	9,721						\$9,721
	Operating Support grants-Gen. Allocation	52,500						\$52,500
	Arts Access-ACHF		156,057					\$156,057
	3% Set Aside - Arts Access		0					\$0
	Arts Ed.-ACHF			30,140				\$30,140
	3% Set Aside - Arts Ed.			0				\$0
	Arts/Cult. Heritage-ACHF				4,932			\$4,932
	3% Set Aside - Arts/Cult. Heritage				0			\$0
	Career Dev.-McK					7,504		\$7,504
	Artist Small grants-McK					4,500		\$4,500
	Fellowship- McK					5,000		\$5,000
	Arts Legacy City grants		10,000					\$10,000
	Capacity Building grants		18,019					\$18,019
	Base OpSup Supplement		27,173	4,895	1,632			\$33,700
	Artist Mentor Supplement			5,877				\$5,877
	Building Equity Program				5,999			\$5,999
8	Grant Programs and Services, Operations and Support	36,019	93,558	16,855	5,620	3,143	0	\$155,195
<b>9</b>	<b>Subtotal Grant Programs and Services</b>	<b>\$133,360</b>	<b>\$304,807</b>	<b>\$57,767</b>	<b>\$18,183</b>	<b>\$20,147</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$534,264</b>
10	Non-grant Programs and Services							
	McK Gallery	0	0	0	0	17,703	0	\$17,703
	McK Springboard Satellite office	0	0	0	0	11,100	0	\$11,100
	Workshops	0	14,570	2,625	875	0	0	\$18,070
	Public Awareness ACHF	0	48,212	8,686	2,896	0	0	\$59,794
	Grant review meetings	2,506	1,887	340	113	949	0	\$5,796
	Staff Training Gen./ACHF/McK	83	221	40	13	0	0	\$357
11	Non-grant Programs and Services, Operations and Support	5,581	29,925	5,391	1,797	2,471	0	\$45,166
<b>12</b>	<b>Subtotal Non-grant Programs and Services</b>	<b>\$8,170</b>	<b>\$94,816</b>	<b>\$17,082</b>	<b>\$5,695</b>	<b>\$32,222</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$157,985</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Total Programs and Services</b>	<b>\$141,530</b>	<b>\$399,623</b>	<b>\$74,849</b>	<b>\$23,878</b>	<b>\$52,369</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$692,250</b>
14	Fundraising	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
15	General administration	19,530	15,143	2,728	910	6,136	0	\$44,447
<b>16</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$161,060</b>	<b>\$414,766</b>	<b>\$77,577</b>	<b>\$24,788</b>	<b>\$58,506</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$736,697</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Surplus/Carryforward or Deficit</b>	<b>\$1,425</b>	<b>\$12,420</b>	<b>-\$617</b>	<b>\$871</b>	<b>\$1,567</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$15,666</b>