



✉ admin.info@state.mn.us

☎ (651) 201-2555

📍 50 Sherburne Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55115

Date: March 3, 2025

To: Senator Fong Hawj, Chair, Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee
Senator Justin Eichorn, Ranking Member, Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee,
Representative Joe McDonald, Chair, Legacy Finance Committee
Representative Samantha Vang, Ranking Member, Legacy Finance Committee

From: Tamar Gronvall, Commissioner

RE: 2025 Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grants Report

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 129D.17 Subd. 6 attached is the specified information regarding the Department of Administration's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund grants.

Please contact Julie Bayerl, julie.bayerl@state.mn.us, if you have additional questions.

Summary Information on Competitive Grant Programs

Per Minnesota Session Laws-2023, Chapter 40, Article 4, Section 2, Subdivision 6 the Minnesota Department of Administration issued a request for proposals to improve and develop a unified and standardized Latin alphabet form of the Hmong Romanized Popular Alphabet (RPA) writing system as a means to preserve Hmong Minnesotans' heritage, history, language and culture.

The request for proposal was posted on February 6, 2024, and closed on April 9, 2024.
The grant was awarded to MN Zej Zog for \$288,000 the first year and \$292,500 the second year.

Grant Information for Grants Provided to Individuals, Entities or Organizations

The Department of Administration was appropriated the following Fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund grants per Minnesota Session Laws-2023, Chapter 40, Article 4, Section 2, Subdivision 6 and Minnesota Session Laws-2024, Chapter 106, Article 4, Section 2, Subdivision 4

2025 Department of Administration Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grants Summary Report

Grantee	Funding Distributed as of 12/31/24	Funding Not Yet Expended as of 12/31/24	Project Completed	Assessment of Whether the Funding Celebrates Cultural Diversity or Reaches Diverse Communities in Minnesota	Summary Information on Programs Supported By Funding
30,000 Feet	\$99,122.84	\$46,002.16	No	This grant will support youth who can't afford to participate in the arts and African American teaching artists who are from the community and work within diverse audience.	To help youth and community artists further develop their artistic skills, to create community art and artistic performances, and to promote and share African American history and culture through the arts.
Appetite for Change	\$76,248.20	\$115,751.80	No	Appetite For Change operates in North Minneapolis, a community comprised of nearly 83% people of color. We are run by and work with members of the Black community, and our vision is driven by community needs.	For the Community Cooks programming, which will preserve the cultural heritage of growing and cooking food in Minnesota.
Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations	\$1,338,122.19	\$503,385.62	No	Ampers and its member stations always take steps to ensure all of our programming, especially Legacy programs, help to amplify stories, voices, and cultures that are absent or marginalized in the mainstream media and our society as a whole.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
Bakken Museum	\$144,000.00	\$0.00	Yes	The two projects that The Bakken Museum is proposing through our FY24/25 ACHF grant directly incorporate and celebrate cultural diversity and reach diverse audiences in Minnesota.	For a grant to The Bakken Museum for interactive exhibits and outreach programs on arts and cultural heritage.
City of Saint Paul-Hmong Plaza (Phase II Friendship Garden)	\$266,397.12	\$165,602.88	No	The design of the plaza is informed by Hmong artists and the contributions of the broader Hmong community and art pieces within the plaza are also designed by Hmong artists.	To construct the Hmong Plaza at Phalen Lake
City of Saint Paul-Suni Lee Public Art Grant	\$0.00	\$480,000.00	Grant not yet executed.	Grant not yet executed.	For an art installation celebrating Olympic gold medalist Suni Lee
City of Wyoming	\$0.00	\$96,000.00	No	The history walk will provide an inclusive narrative, acknowledging the City's founding in 1855 and its earlier history which entwines with local Native American groups.	To build the Veterans Memorial Plaza and related interpretive walk in Railroad Park.
Clitherall Township	\$7,511.21	\$7,113.79	No	Clitherall Township's Veterans Park was established to remember and honor ALL veterans regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, etc.	For a grant for the Clitherall Township Veterans Memorial in Battle Lake for improvements to the grounds.
Como Park Zoo & Conservatory	\$1,615,747.99	\$1,722,127.01	No	Como Park Zoo and Conservatory is an admission free facility and many of the additional programming is also offered at no charge.	For program development that features educational programs and habitat enhancement, special exhibits, music appreciation programs, and historical garden access and preservation.
Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES)	\$313,338.98	\$170,411.02	No	Through its cultural arts programming, CLUES aims to decrease the arts access disparity faced by Latinx, immigrant populations, people for whom English is a second language, and low-income and marginalized populations.	For a grant to Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) to expand arts programming to celebrate Latino cultural heritage; support local artists; and provide professional development, networking, and presentation opportunities.
Duluth Superior Area Educational TV Corporation/WDSE TV	\$550,950.92	\$256,914.07	No	As a station, we include integrity, collaboration and inclusion in our list of values. We are committed to offering and experiences that represent the diverse communities and world in which we live.	For production and acquisition grants according to Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.18.
Duluth Superior Area Educational TV Corporation/WDSE TV	\$92,396.21	\$67,603.79	No	For our Stories of Service documentaries, we aim to tell the historical stories of our region, through the service area, that may not have been explored before. In an effort to reach and celebrate diverse audiences and narratives, we will tell two very different stories through this two year grant. One will explore Duluth in the Cold War, has a deep story not just in Duluth, but up to the Iron Range. Our second story aims to explore the Ojibwe Code Talkers and that impact of Minnesota's Native peoples on our early wars.	For producing Minnesota military and veterans' history stories and unique immigrant stories from around the state.

2025 Department of Administration Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grants Summary Report

Grantee	Funding Distributed as of 12/31/24	Funding Not Yet Expended as of 12/31/24	Project Completed	Assessment of Whether the Funding Celebrates Cultural Diversity or Reaches Diverse Communities in Minnesota	Summary Information on Programs Supported By Funding
Forest Lake Veterans Memorial Committee	\$0.00	\$96,000.00	Grant not yet executed.	Grant not yet executed.	To construct a memorial to veterans of the United States armed forces at Lakeside Memorial Park in the city of Forest Lake.
Great Lakes Aquarium	\$299,815.72	\$183,934.28	No	Our vision is to lead freshwater conservation by connecting all people to Lake Superior and the world's waters. Working with members of the local community facilitates improved access and representation for Native American nations, people of color, youth, low-income families, and people who are blind or partially sighted.	To prepare, fabricate, and install a hands-on exhibit with interactive learning components to educate Minnesotans on the history of the natural landscape of the state
Great Northern Festival	\$113,671.00	\$31,454.00	No	The Great Northern commissions, produces, and presents offerings that explore the rich and diverse communities of our region and expand the concept of Minnesota's winter culture to be inclusive of the region's population.	For a grant to support the Great Northern Festival, which connects attendees to parks, outdoor spaces, and cultural venues through a festival.
Hmong Cultural Center	\$185,668.48	\$104,581.52	No	The project will support the Hmong Cultural Center Museum's programming and projects as well as our Qeej and Hmong Arts Festival and the center's cultural arts instructional programs that teach participants about the Hmong cultural heritage and folk arts traditions.	For a grant to the Hmong Cultural Center of Minnesota for museum-related programming and educational outreach activities to teach the public about the historical, cultural, and folk arts heritage of Hmong Minnesotans.
Hong De Wu Guan - Lion Dance	\$17,639.60	\$6,360.40	No	By empowering youth with the ancient tradition of Chinese lion dance, the organization aims to break down cultural barriers.	For a grant to Hong De Wu Guan to create cultural arts projects like Lion Dance for after-school programs for youth.
Hrvatski Dom Croation Hall	\$21,143.49	\$168,981.51	No	These grant funds will be used to maintain and enhance our historic building and operations, which will significantly contribute to our mission of fostering our cultural identity as well as community inclusivity.	For a grant to the Hrvatski Dom Croation Hall in South St. Paul for restoring and operating the hall for community gatherings and to preserve the history and cultural heritage of Croatian immigrants in Minnesota.
Indigenous Roots	\$7,931.75	\$162,693.25	No	Cypher Side Dance School is an urban dance school located in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metro. Its roots in social justice is one reason why marginalized communities are drawn to this dance form. Our dance community at Cypher Side comprises youth, BIPOC individuals, LGBTQIA+ folk, and people with disabilities.	For a grant to Indigenous Roots Cultural Arts Center to partner with Cypher Side to provide dance and other arts programming.
Justus Ramsey Stone House	\$0.00	\$292,500.00	Grant not yet executed.	Grant not yet executed.	For costs related to preserving Minnesota's historic Justus Ramsey Stone House and relocating it to the Jackson Street Roundhouse property owned and operated by the Minnesota Transportation Museum.
Ka Joog	\$12,840.00	\$470,910.00	No	Our FY24/25 ACHF grant program is dedicated to celebrating cultural diversity and engaging diverse audiences across Minnesota. We have crafted our program with a deep commitment to showcasing the state's rich cultural mosaic and fostering inclusive community participation.	For a grant to Ka Joog statewide Somali-based collaborative programs for arts and cultural heritage. The funding must be used for Fanka programs to provide arts education and workshops, mentor programs, and community presentations and community engagement events throughout Minnesota.
KAXE Radio	\$157,800.85	\$73,964.78	No	All of the programs within this grant reach out to diverse audiences of all ages and demographics.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
KBEM Radio	\$140,930.15	\$90,835.48	No	Our grant projects target our Minneapolis public school constituents made up of students, parents, teachers, and administration which are largely composed of BIPOC from a wide variety of backgrounds and cultures.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.

2025 Department of Administration Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grants Summary Report

Grantee	Funding Distributed as of 12/31/24	Funding Not Yet Expended as of 12/31/24	Project Completed	Assessment of Whether the Funding Celebrates Cultural Diversity or Reaches Diverse Communities in Minnesota	Summary Information on Programs Supported By Funding
KBXE Radio	\$147,986.64	\$83,778.99	No	All of the programs within this grant reach out to diverse audiences of all ages and demographics.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
KMSU Radio	\$150,824.45	\$50,738.05	No	Part of KMSU's mission is to serve underserved communities. In serving that mission, we routinely are in touch with diverse audiences in our listening area and look for ways to provide support for music, arts, and cultural heritage events that serve diverse audiences.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
KQAL Radio	\$78,584.76	\$109,055.87	No	From guest lecturers and speakers to the post-covid return of the Dakota Gathering, KQAL continues to try and find the untold stories of marginalized voices in our community.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
KSMQ-TV	\$422,718.65	\$285,055.99	No	With more than 50 first languages spoken by residents in our viewing area, KSMQ Public Television is committed to giving a voice to black, indigenous, and people of color communities and organizations.	For production and acquisition grants according to Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.18.
KSMQ-TV	\$8,750.23	\$151,249.77	No	With more than 50 first languages spoken by residents in our viewing area, KSMQ Public Television is committed to giving a voice to black, indigenous, and people of color communities and organizations.	For producing Minnesota military and veterans' history stories and unique immigrant stories from around the state.
KSRQ Radio	\$131,094.59	\$100,671.04	No	KSRQ has designated several programs to celebrate cultural diversity over the next two years. KSRQ's programs are available free over the air to all listeners in the 11 northwest Minnesota counties in our coverage area.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
KVSC Radio	\$118,440.59	\$113,325.04	No	The projects submitted by KVSC come from a perspective of diversity, equity and inclusion.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
Lake Superior Zoo	\$202,715.23	\$87,534.77	No	By combining elements including habitat restoration, interpretive signage, and inclusive marketing strategies, the FY24/25 ACHF grant project not only celebrates cultural diversity but also actively engages diverse audiences across Minnesota, fostering a sense of connection and appreciation for the cultural and ecological richness embodied by the Caribou habitat.	To develop educational exhibits and programs.
Minneapolis Parks and Recreation	\$24,871.50	\$170,128.50	No	Other partners collaborating with MPRB to restore the fountain and drive more people to the site include Citizens for a Loring Park Community and Friends of Loring Park.	For a grant to restore Berger Fountain at Loring Park and for improvements to the surrounding plaza.
Minnesota African American Heritage Museum	\$211,715.73	\$135,759.27	No	The Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery (MAAHMG) preserves, documents and celebrates Black history, art and culture by providing exhibits and programs to various audiences throughout the state.	For arts and cultural heritage programming celebrating African American and Black communities in Minnesota.
Minnesota Military and Veterans Museum	\$0.00	\$268,125.00	Grant not yet executed.	Grant not yet executed.	For a grant to the Minnesota Military and Veterans Museum at Camp Ripley for the restoration, relocation, and interpretation of the USS Ward Number Three Gun and World War II display. This funding may also be used for site reclamation and improvements at the location of the removed work. Award of this grant is contingent on compliance and approvals in Minnesota Rules, part 2400.2703, subpart 7.

2025 Department of Administration Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grants Summary Report

Grantee	Funding Distributed as of 12/31/24	Funding Not Yet Expended as of 12/31/24	Project Completed	Assessment of Whether the Funding Celebrates Cultural Diversity or Reaches Diverse Communities in Minnesota	Summary Information on Programs Supported By Funding
Minnesota Museum of American Art	\$300,651.90	\$86,348.10	No	Our community is St. Paul and Mni Sota-based artists, culture bearers, and cultural communities with strong relationships with the region.	For a grant to the Minnesota Museum of American Art for exhibit programming and for a Native American Fellowship at the museum.
Minnesota Public Radio	\$2,884,725.09	\$1,082,024.91	No	Minnesota Public Radio’s commitment to elevate all voices equally is inherent in our mission—creating the future of public media by amplifying voices to inform, include, and inspire. Our Legacy-funded work also advances equity principles by providing compensation for those BIPOC artists who we hire to perform or create in partnership with us. In addition, our coverage of diverse artists and cultural figures through news and on our music services amplifies their important work in the community and allows audiences of color hear and see themselves reflected on MPR’s services while also broadening the perspectives of our white audiences with more complete narratives.	To create programming and expand news service on Minnesota's cultural heritage and history.
Minnesota State Band	\$28,473.25	\$19,901.75	No	Program selections represent a wide variety of composers and culturally diverse genres of music including a partnership with the Red Lake Nation on a multi cultural concert including choral works, native and contemporary dance and selected concert band music.	To provide free concerts throughout the state
MN Zej Zog	\$33,233.97	\$254,766.03	No	The grant will preserve the Hmong language and collaborate with the Hmong community.	For a grant to be used in conjunction with Minnesota universities to improve and develop a unified and standardized Latin alphabet form of the Hmong RPA writing system.
Northern Minnesota Public Television/KAWB TV	\$56,896.39	\$103,103.61	No	We plan to include stories of MN Military history and veterans that will focus on Native American people and topics.	For producing Minnesota military and veterans' history stories and unique immigrant stories from around the state.
Northern Minnesota Public Television/KAWB TV	\$553,094.08	\$221,079.68	No	The Native American population makes up over 20% of the population we serve in our KAWB northern Minnesota service area and roughly 10% of the population we serve in our KAWB central Minnesota service area. We plan to include stories of MN Military history and veterans that will focus on Native American people and topics.	For production and acquisition grants according to Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.18.
One Heartland	\$75,541.50	\$21,208.50	Yes	One Heartland is building connections and opportunities for the LGBTQ+ community and intersectional BIPOC identities to have access to and belong in the outdoors.	For programming and outdoor activities for families and youth in Minnesota.
Pioneer Broadcasting - KWCM TV	\$480,338.18	\$281,972.44	No	The grant explores the rich diversity in West and Southwestern Minnesota.	For production and acquisition grants according to Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.18.
Pioneer Broadcasting - KWCM TV	\$73,274.34	\$86,725.66	No	The grant explores the rich diversity in West and Southwestern Minnesota.	For producing Minnesota military and veterans' history stories and unique immigrant stories from around the state.
Plymouth Christian Youth Center	\$57,020.94	\$186,729.06	No	Our project to “enrich and expand youth and adult arts programming and effective arts and educational offerings for youth, families, and emerging and accomplished artists”, will reflect the cultural richness of our community and reach a broad, inclusive audience.	For a grant to Capri Theater to enrich and expand youth and adult arts programming and effective arts and educational offerings for youth, families, and emerging and accomplished artists.

2025 Department of Administration Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grants Summary Report

Grantee	Funding Distributed as of 12/31/24	Funding Not Yet Expended as of 12/31/24	Project Completed	Assessment of Whether the Funding Celebrates Cultural Diversity or Reaches Diverse Communities in Minnesota	Summary Information on Programs Supported By Funding
Prairie Public Broadcasting Inc./ KFME TV	\$467,378.17	\$152,553.29		Programming from Prairie Public instills culture, the arts, and history into the lives of all Minnesotans, regardless of their ages, ethnicities, abilities, and incomes. And the lives of those Minnesotans are reflected in the programming—as we actively strive to tell the stories of the diverse cultures in our region, including underserved communities that have contributed so much to our rich history.	For production and acquisition grants according to Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.18.
Prairie Public Broadcasting Inc./ KFME TV	\$108,401.18	\$51,598.82	No	Celebrating diversity is a priority, and can be witnessed in the variety of project topics featured each year and in the partnerships that are built within communities and organizations. These positive interactions help Prairie Public further develop new relationships with collaborators, educators, and audiences in greater Minnesota and in these diverse and underserved communities.	For producing Minnesota military and veterans' history stories and unique immigrant stories from around the state.
Proceed	\$3,500.00	\$94,000.00	No	By identifying, supporting, and strengthening various aspects of African-American culture, this program aims to preserve and protect the community's rich heritage.	For a grant to PROCEED, Inc., for arts, cultural, and environmental preservation work with youth.
Ramsey County-Keller Regional Park Tuj Lub Courts	\$461,261.60	\$18,738.40	No	Tuj Lub has a rich, culturally significant tradition and is a cornerstone to the Hmong community. Investing in this project would support members of the Hmong community by fostering a connection to this game. In addition, this investment will also provide opportunities for multi-generational families to participate in Tuj Lub and attending games is a cultural family event.	To preserve Minnesota's cultural heritage by enhancing the tuj lub courts at Keller Regional Park.
Science Museum of Minnesota	\$1,153,949.11	\$442,425.89	No	This project will celebrate cultural diversity and engage diverse audiences by engaging schools and family groups across Minnesota through the objects in the museum's collections.	For arts, arts education, and arts access and to preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage, including student and teacher outreach, statewide educational initiatives, and community-based exhibits that preserve Minnesota's history and
Sepak Takraw of USA	\$2,406.70	\$45,593.30	No	With this grant will be able to diversify our outreach to include all community of Asians as well as other Minnesotans.	For a grant to work with youth and after-school programs in the community to teach the cultural games of tuj lub and sepak takraw. This appropriation may not be used to hold events.
Siengkane Lao MN	\$72,447.30	\$24,302.70	No	Our mission is to engage with Lao community and others within the state to embrace SE Asian culture and provide an opportunity to grow the general population's understanding of who SE Asians are and the value of our culture.	For a grant to Siengkane Lao MN to create cultural arts projects and to preserve traditional performances.
Somali Artifact and Cultural Museum	\$62,209.40	\$179,665.60	No	The Somali Museum of Minnesota is the only museum in the world devoted to preserving and advancing Somali culture and art, presenting a one-of-a-kind collection of Somali traditional and contemporary art, and serving as an essential resource for Somali artists in the diaspora.	For a grant to the Somali Museum of Minnesota for heritage arts and cultural vitality programs to provide classes, exhibits, presentations, and outreach about the Somali community and heritage in Minnesota.
Tibetan American Foundantion	\$34,150.10	\$14,224.90	No	The grant will focus on maintaining Tibetan culture through the Tibetan diaspora in Minnesota.	For a grant to the Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota to celebrate and teach the art, culture, and heritage of Tibetan Americans in Minnesota.
Twin Cities Jazz Festival	\$10,500.00	\$62,625.00	No	The TCJF is the largest free civic jazz festival in Minnesota attracting over 40,000 people over two days. All stages are accessible, free and open to all.	For arts and arts access at the Twin Cities Jazz Festival.

2025 Department of Administration Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grants Summary Report

Grantee	Funding Distributed as of 12/31/24	Funding Not Yet Expended as of 12/31/24	Project Completed	Assessment of Whether the Funding Celebrates Cultural Diversity or Reaches Diverse Communities in Minnesota	Summary Information on Programs Supported By Funding
Twin Cities Public Television KTCA/TPT	\$3,222,838.03	\$1,332,606.50	No	TPT takes very seriously its role as a storyteller and story-sharer. We seek out untold stories and “absent narratives,” and we join with communities and artists across our state to celebrate Minnesota’s rich cultural diversity and artistic excellence.	For production and acquisition grants according to Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.18.
Twin Cities Public Television KTCA/TPT	\$144,074.74	\$15,925.26	No	The Special Project grant will specifically focus on sharing the stories of immigrants to Minnesota, representing diverse cultural communities and generations. To further ensure representation of diverse voices and perspectives, our intent is to engage content creators and/or educators from Minnesota’s cultural communities to contribute to and provide guidance to this project.	For producing Minnesota military and veterans' history stories and unique immigrant stories from around the state.
University of Minnesota/KUOM Radio	\$171,043.57	\$60,722.06	No	At Radio K and the University of Minnesota, we value having a diversity of views and experiences that enrich our campus community and foster excellence.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
University of Minnesota/Regents of U of M	\$48,000.00	\$0.00	Yes	This grant project will also allow our program to expand accommodations for young people with special abilities by purchasing adaptive equipment that they can use.	To provide grants to Minnesota 4-H chapters that have members participating in state and national 4-H-sanctioned shooting sports events. Eligible costs for grant money include shooting sports equipment and supplies and event fees associated with participating in state shooting sports events.
VFW Post 5252	\$0.00	\$29,250.00	No	An increased number of individuals will visit the Veterans park.	For a grant to the VFW Post 5252 in Pelican Rapids for the relocation of their Honor Wall,
WDSE FM	\$69,920.81	\$43,758.88	No	As a station, we include integrity, collaboration and inclusion in our list of values. We are committed to offering and experiences that represent the diverse communities and world in which we live.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
Wilderness Inquiry	\$665,727.32	\$399,272.68	No	This project will engage individuals across Minnesota through a progression of outdoor experiences that build confidence, connection, and interest in our state’s outdoor history and culture through outdoor educational and recreational programs.	To preserve Minnesota's outdoor history, culture, and heritage by connecting Minnesota youth and families to natural resources.
WTIP Radio	\$182,771.83	\$48,993.80	No	WTIP's stated Core Values are: honesty, inclusiveness, honoring our community's history, embracing our cultural diversity and recognizing the voices and perspectives of everyone in our community--particularly young people and elders. We are very excited to continue work on several projects that are immersed in the cultural diversity of our service area, which includes the Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe Tribal Lands.	For production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.
YWCA	\$52,800.00	\$53,625.00	No	As a leader in the field of racial equity, YWCA Minneapolis empowers communities and workplaces to stand against racism, embrace new perspectives, and promote justice for all people.	To fund an annual fellowship to be known as the Camille J. Gage Artist Fellowship.