



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Ensuring that all Minnesotans have the
opportunity to participate in the arts



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This report describes Minnesota State Arts Board activities between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025.

It is submitted in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, chapter 129D.02, subdivision 5.

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Minnesota State Arts Board is provided to all individuals regardless of race, national origin, color, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation, or disability in admission, access, or employment.

Upon request, Minnesota State Arts Board publications will be made available in an alternate format.

All photos supplied by grantees. Cover: Hispanic Outreach of Goodhue County | Red Wing, Jamie Schumacher | Bloomington, Lower Phalen Creek Project | Saint Paul, Ashland Productions | Maplewood, Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies | Saint Paul, Lakeyta Swinea | Worthington, White Bear Lake Center | White Bear Lake, zAmya Theater Project | Minneapolis, White Bear Lake Center | White Bear Lake

YEAR IN REVIEW

The Minnesota State Arts Board believes that arts are vital to our individual and collective lives. We are driven by the desire to help all Minnesotans participate in and benefit from arts experiences that are meaningful to them. For young people, the arts provide an outlet to develop self-awareness, self-expression, and self-confidence, not to mention their own talents and ingenuity. For older adults, the arts can help decrease isolation, convey a lifetime of stories and experiences, and offer magical experiences to share with children and grandchildren. Arts help us learn about and build relationships with our neighbors through traditional music, stories, dance, and other forms of cultural expression. At their core, the arts inspire, uplift, explore, and share what makes us human. Arts activities also produce important public benefits such as community pride, academic achievement, improved health outcomes, tourism, and economic development for communities and individuals.

The Arts Board strives each day to bring these important benefits to Minnesota residents and communities. We are grateful for the ongoing support that we receive from the Governor and Minnesota Legislature. During fiscal year 2025, the State of Minnesota appropriated \$58,321,000 to the Minnesota State Arts Board. Of that amount, \$7,787,000 came from the state's general fund and \$50,534,000 came from the state's arts and cultural heritage fund. This report offers glimpses of how the Arts Board used those funds.

Grant making

Grant making continues to be the Arts Board's primary activity. In FY 2025, the board offered six competitive grant programs: Accessible Arts, Arts Education, Arts Experiences, Cultural Expression, Creative Individuals, and Operating Support. It received and reviewed more than 1,500 grant applications and awarded 996 grants totaling \$38,684,439.

The following are the grant programs offered, and a few examples of grantees and their activities that were supported in fiscal year 2025. A complete list of all grants awarded is available on the Arts Board Web site at <https://www.arts.state.mn.us/grants/2025/>

Accessible Arts

People with disabilities face significant barriers to the arts as creators, participants, and attendees. Accessible Arts grants are intended to increase the capacity of the arts sector to make arts experiences



■ PILLSBURY HOUSE + THEATRE, Pillsbury Creative Commons
Grand Opening | MINNEAPOLIS

YEAR IN REVIEW

more accessible. Funds can be used for investments that will have a longer-term impact on the applicant, such as professional development related to accessibility (i.e., staff or volunteer training, etc.), and hiring accessibility consultants to conduct accessibility audits and/or develop accessibility plans, etc. Funds may also be used for small physical or equipment investments that will make programming more accessible (i.e. assisted listening or captioning equipment, grab bars, etc.).

The Arts Board received 45 applications in this program requesting more than \$800,000. It was able to award 37 Accessible Arts grants totaling \$686,873.

The following are just a few examples of those investments:

- **The Loft** (Minneapolis) received a grant to contract with WeCo, a local digital accessibility company, to conduct an accessibility audit of the Loft's website, e-mail promotions/e-newsletters, and the Submittable submissions platform used by the organization for various program applications.
- **Dawson-Boyd Arts Association** (Dawson) provides unique, high-quality performances to everyone in its rural community. Recognizing its aging audience, as well as the opportunity to attract new patrons, the organization requested funding to build capacity through accessibility enhancements including signage and hearing assisted devices.

FEATURED STORY



■ HEADWATERS MUSIC & ARTS | BEMIDJI

Headwaters Music & Arts

A 2025 grant helped support Headwaters Music & Arts in a comprehensive accessibility audit across the organization's physical environment, policies and procedures, and digital presence. The effort was focused on identifying barriers and creating a more welcoming and supportive experience for every patron and visitor. Initiatives included staff development and awareness training, and physical improvements to music lesson studios to support cleaner and calming learning environments.

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- **zAmya Theater Project** (Minneapolis) received a grant to engage arts accessibility consultants to lead creative listening sessions for program participants and troupe members with mental health conditions and devise recommendations for integration in existing practices and a training playbook.
- **Theatre L'Homme Dieu** (Alexandria) is committed to enhancing accessibility in the arts for Minnesotans. With community input, the organization used its grant to gain in-depth knowledge of accessibility barriers in order to implement practical improvements into its site planning.
- **Artistry** (Bloomington) received support to conduct an accessibility audit, offer accessibility training for the eight arts organizations housed at Bloomington Center for the Arts, and launch sensory-friendly performances.

Arts Education

This program makes grants to help Minnesotans develop personal relationships with an art form(s) by supporting learning experiences for individuals of all ages and abilities. Project grant funds may be used for age-appropriate classes, workshops, camps, after-school programs, online education programs, community arts education, school residences or partnerships, etc.

The Arts Board received 216 applications in this program requesting more than \$6.3 million. It was able to award 155 Arts Education grants, totaling \$ 4,702,415.



■ FAIRMONT OPERA HOUSE, *A Moving Sound* | FAIRMONT



■ DARCY BRAMBRINK, *Painting workshop* | LAPORTE

YEAR IN REVIEW

The following are just a few examples of those investments:

- **Northwoods Young Writers** (International Falls) hosted a camp to connect award-winning Minnesota authors to girls who have a passion for writing. The camp supports teen girls in developing their passion for writing and to become self-reflective, collaborative community members.
- **Aurora Center for the Arts** (Fosston) received support to offer a series of art classes to adults, children, and youth bringing new and expanded arts education experiences to participants, including watercolor, leather work, and paper arts.
- **Twin Cities Jazz Workshop** (Minneapolis) requested a grant to expand beyond its summer program to offer weekly music education workshops in spring and fall 2025. During the workshops, students play in small ensembles, receive instruction from jazz professionals, and learn a varied jazz repertoire.
- **Ecumen Meadows of Worthington** used its grant to collaborate with Artmobile to develop the artistic skills of 70 senior residents in ceramics, drawing, painting, and more, in their own homes.
- **Pangea World Theater** (Minneapolis) collaborated with Higher Ground Academy, Turtle Theater Collective, and Ubah Medical Academy to conduct free public theater residencies that foster skills in working as an ensemble, performance, and devising new work.



■ **RESOUNDING VOICES, Spring Concert** | ROCHESTER



■ **EDU FILM FESTIVAL**, a production company gives student a hands-on talk related to equipment and shooting footage | MINNEAPOLIS

YEAR IN REVIEW

- **The Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community** (Wyoming) received support to offer free art education programming to seniors in the community and senior living facilities, held at Hallberg Art Center and other accessible locations, promoting arts access and education through different mediums, including painting, printmaking, and sculpture.
- **Minnesota Center for Book Arts** (Minneapolis) engaged Minnesotans in meaningful in person and virtual book arts education programs, including affordable workshops in bookbinding, letterpress printing, papermaking, and paper marbling, taught by a diverse team of teaching artists.
- **Minnesota Ballet** (Duluth) used its grant to present high quality recreational and preprofessional dance instruction; adaptive ballet lessons for individuals with disabilities; and interactive workshops, classes and performances in Duluth and surrounding communities.
- **Atlas of Blackness** (Saint Paul) requested funds to offer a multimedia storytelling and filmmaking program, with ethnographic and photovoice research, for youth affected by the foster care and juvenile justice systems. The project culminated in a public showing of the completed film.

FEATURED STORY



■ RED WING ARTS, "Community Saturdays" | RED WING

Red Wing Arts

A 2025 grant helped Red Wing Arts create the new community driven program "Community Saturdays" designed to promote arts accessibility for all. Attendees were invited to stop in, explore, and try hands-on art activities ranging from throwing clay on a pottery wheel to creating polymer clay buttons or beaded brooches. Led by RWA's teaching artists and guest instructors, these mini lessons encouraged creativity and introduce participants of all ages and abilities to clay and mixed-media art forms.

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- **Waawaate Programs** (Ely) received funding to offer live classes in traditional music, dance, art, and craft to Bois Forte Band members to help restore the ancestral connection with the land and Ojibwemowin culture.
- **Zeitgeist's** Minnesota Media Arts School (Duluth) offered classes and workshops for beginner and experienced filmmakers and media artists, and will develop new teaching locations throughout northeast Minnesota.

Arts Experiences

Arts Experiences grants support individuals and organizations that provide meaningful arts experiences for Minnesotans within their communities. Funds may be used for a variety of arts programming such as creating and/or presenting concerts, plays, tours, exhibitions, arts festivals, public art, or other kinds of activities that provide Minnesotans opportunities to engage in arts activities that are instilled into community or public life.

The Arts Board received 400 applications in this program requesting more than \$11 million. It was able to award 198 Arts Experiences grants totaling \$5,719,801.

The following are just a few examples of those investments:

- **Trilingua Cinema** (Saint Paul) received support for its summer film series at the East Side Sculpture Park and to pilot an employment training and filmmaking program for youth ages 16-24.



■ CHOPS, INC, Pan Outreach program | MINNEAPOLIS



■ GUSTAVO BOADA, Cinco de Mayo Parade at East Lake Street | MINNEAPOLIS

YEAR IN REVIEW

- **Kicks Band of Fargo Moorhead** (Moorhead) received a grant to host a summer park concert series in Moorhead and Detroit Lakes.
- **More Than a Single Story** (Saint Paul) presented readings, public conversations, and writing workshops, engaging BIPOC writers with communities as a way to balance public discourse and provide a forum for cross-cultural empathy and understanding.
- **Aitkin County Friends of the Arts** (Aitkin) received a grant to host local, regional, and national touring musical and performing arts acts, transforming Aitkin County into a music and performing arts destination.
- **Selby Ave JazzFest** (Saint Paul) featured a day of live jazz, kids' activities, and artist demonstrations, surrounded by an inclusive community vibe in Saint Paul's Rondo neighborhood.
- **Mankato and North Mankato ACT on Alzheimer's** (Mankato) used its funds to provide meaningful, community based arts engagement activities designed for people living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their care partners.
- **Bluff Country Studio Art Tour** (Lanesboro) received support to plan, organize, and present a high quality studio art tour experience benefitting the residents and artists in greater Minnesota.



■ HOPKINS CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 30th Arts North International Juried Exhibition | HOPKINS



■ MINNESOTA CHINESE MUSIC ENSEMBLE, *Recital* | APPLE VALLEY

YEAR IN REVIEW

- **Contempo Physical Dance** (Shoreview) used its funding to host an international choreography residency, which included a series of workshops, premiere of a full-length work, and a subsequent tour to bring Brazilian contemporary hip hop dance to new audiences.
- **The City of Battle Lake's Art Advisory Committee** (Battle Lake) requested a grant to create a self-guided 1.5-mile tour of thirty of the city's most prominent points of interest, including artist led community created works of art, mosaics, national registry sites, and sculptures.

Cultural Expression

This program supports activities that share, explore, pass on, express, or celebrate culture through the arts. Culture may be defined by a common ethnicity, tribal affiliation, geographic or regional identity, occupation, language, or recreation. Traditional and contemporary forms of cultural expression may be funded in this program. Funds could be used to support practicing a cultural art form; presenting cultural festivals, community celebrations, performances, media or exhibitions; offering demonstrations, etc. Funds could also be used to deepen or pass on cultural traditions through apprenticeships or documentation.

The Arts Board received 211 applications in this program requesting more than \$5.9 million. It was able to award 52 Cultural Expression grants totaling \$1,576,354.

FEATURED STORY



■ MINNESOTA MARINE ART MUSEUM, "Seasonal Saturday" | WINONA

Minnesota Marine Art Museum

A 2025 grant helped the Minnesota Marine Art Museum with its "Seasonal Saturday" program designed to eliminate barriers that prevent Winona's rural community from engaging with the museum. These lively days include artmaking, artist demonstrations, live music in the galleries, curator-led tours, special community partnerships, and the popular gallery search-and-find game, "Bingo Overboard." Each quarterly event offers new exhibitions and activities to promote exploration and engagement.

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The following are just a few examples of those investments:

- **India Association of Minnesota** (Saint Paul) received support for IndiaFest 2025, a free event showcasing the arts and culture of India with live Asian-Indian dance performances by professional and community groups, held on the grounds of the State Capitol.
- **Rick Kagigebi** (Detroit Lakes) requested funds to create a new body of work while teaching Anishinaabe culture and blanket making to Indigenous youth, and engaging with their families and community through artist talks and informal studio visits.
- **Gustavo Boada** (Minneapolis) a master puppeteer and papier-mache sculptor, engaged participants and audiences in Minneapolis and around the state through the magic and color of the Latinx folk art tradition of alebrijes.
- **Funny Asian Women Kollektive** (Saint Paul) received a grant to present *The Super Hmong Show*, a performance of live standup comedy, videos, sketches, and storytelling that centers Hmong women's stories to celebrate and reflect on the fifty-year anniversary of the Hmong migration to Minnesota.
- **The Saint Peter Good Neighbor Diversity Council** (Saint Peter) presented a cross-cultural signature event in May featuring dance, music, and foods from the area's growing Somali, Latino, and Native communities.

FEATURED STORY



■ **YELLOW TREE THEATRE, *Steel Magnolias* | OSSEO**

Yellow Tree Theatre

A 2025 grant for Operating Support helped Yellow Tree Theatre with its mission of producing inclusive professional theatrical work with an emphasis on access for audiences including underserved communities in North Minneapolis and the surrounding suburbs. One of its season highlights was *Steel Magnolias*, set in a Louisiana beauty salon with a colorful cast of regulars and employees facing trials and triumphs with a shared sense of humor and community togetherness.

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- **Somali Youth and Family Development Center** (Minneapolis) requested support for traditional Somali dance, henna, and fashion workshops in Minneapolis and Saint Paul. These activities help preserve Somali cultural traditions and shared them with the broader Minnesota community.

Creative Individuals

This program awards project grants to help individual artists and culture bearers develop or sustain their creative practices and meaningfully engage with Minnesotans. Grantees may use funds to support their creative practice and meaningfully connect to and engage with audiences, participants, students, and/or communities during the grant period.

The Arts Board received 491 applications in this program requesting more than \$4.7 million. It was able to award 361 Creative Individuals grants, totaling \$3,522,128.

The following are just a few examples of those investments:

- **Marian Hassan** (Woodbury) received support to collect traditional Somali children's songs and lullabies from elderly community members, transferring them from oral to written form, preserving these cultural literacies for future generations of Somali-Minnesotan children.
- **Kristi Fernholz** (Appleton) created a new series of photo encaustic artwork about rural life on the prairie and displayed it in galleries in western Minnesota.
- **Frank Garcia** (Apple Valley) received a grant to prepare, rehearse, and perform original Latin music in live performances at various venues in 2025. Funds also helped him establish his artist website and purchase needed sound equipment.



■ WHITE BEAR ARTS CENTER, 51st Annual Northern Lights Exhibition | WHITE BEAR LAKE

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- **Elizabth Barrett** (Red Lake) requested funds to create ribbon clothing and regalia, developing her artistic skills and deepening connections with Indigenous communities in Minnesota.
- **Jesse Simon** (Saint Paul) a Minnesota jazz drummer, requested a grant to collaborate with Omar Abdulkarim to bring Muslim and Jewish musicians together to perform free concerts at Twin Cities synagogues and mosques, showcasing the power of jazz music as a medium of healing and unity.
- **Indira Lorick** (Cambridge) hosted a breakdancing workshop featuring local and national artists, highlighting the art form's history and contemporary cultural relevance, contributing to development of a children's show on breakdancing through motion capture and mixed media.
- **Rosy Simas** (Minneapolis) requested funds to organize a daylong Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) film festival to share Haudenosaunee culture with Native filmmakers, and Native and general audiences from Mni Sota Makoce.
- **Heidi Newbauer** (Mankato) used her grant to offer two historical fiction writing workshops and public readings at the Minnesota Discovery Center, featuring immigrant stories of the first miner families of the area.
- **Cody Masback** (Minneapolis) received funding to produce a series of paintings that reclaim the historically fraught practice of portraiture by depicting trans and LGBTQIA+ Minnesotans through a collaborative process that uplifts their stories and celebrates their lives.



■ MINNESOTA BOYCHOIR, Spring tour local senior care centers | SAINT PAUL



■ NATALIJA WALBRIDGE, Duluth Art Institute Annual Member Show | DULUTH

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- **Bodhi Werner** (Duluth) requested funds to complete a 3D animated short film based on his first novel, livestream a reading from his novels, and make a multimedia online curriculum showing how to make a 3D animated short film.
- **Maitzeng Chang** (Saint Paul) used her grant to interview Hmong elders and develop a script based on lived experiences from survivors of the Vietnam War.
- **Emy Wick** (Grand Marais) using a traditional Scandinavian krokbragd pattern, Wick used her grant to design and weave large tapestries to display in rural northern Minnesota. She also developed and taught a class on krokbragd tapestry technique.
- **Lane Powell** (Harmony) requested a grant to compose and distribute free copies of concert band music to public schools in Minnesota that celebrate the history of African American music in the United States.



■ REACH FOR RESOURCES, Art Abilities program | MINNETONKA



■ SUSAN DAVIES, Stand tall | BUFFALO

Operating Support

Operating Support grants provide a vital financial foundation that enables arts organizations to focus on mission driven priorities, sustain core programs, and engage new audiences. The program supports small organizations such as Rumriver Art Center (Anoka), Headwaters Music and Arts (Bemidji), Watermark Art Center (Bemidji), The Crossing Arts Alliance (Brainerd), Chatfield Center for the Arts (Chatfield), Giving Voice Initiative (Edina), Ely's Historic State Theater (Ely), Northern Lights Music Festival (Gilbert), Lanesboro Arts (Lanesboro), Great River Arts (Little Falls), Hopewell Music Cooperative North (Minneapolis), Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop (Minneapolis), Indigenous Roots Cultural Arts Center (Saint Paul), New Native Theatre (Saint Paul), Young Dance (Saint Paul), Teatro del Pueblo (Saint Paul), and The Barn Theatre (Willmar). It supports midsize organizations including Austin Area Arts (Austin), Lakes Area Music Festival (Brainerd), Historic Holmes Theatre (Detroit Lakes), Fairmont Opera House (Fairmont), North House Folk School (Grand Marais), Commonweal Theatre Company (Lanesboro), 826 MSP (Minneapolis), Cantus (Minneapolis), The Cedar Cultural Center (Minneapolis), Red Wing Arts (Red Wing), Paramount Center for the Arts (Saint Cloud), FilmNorth (Saint Paul), Forecast Public Art (Saint Paul), History Theatre

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(Saint Paul), Theatre Mu (Saint Paul), Walker|West (Saint Paul), GREAT Theatre (Waite Park), White Bear Center for the Arts (White Bear Lake), and Great River Shakespeare Festival (Winona). And it supports our largest arts institutions including the Children's Theatre Company (Minneapolis), Minneapolis Institute of Arts (Minneapolis), Minnesota Orchestra (Minneapolis), Ordway Center for the Performing Arts (Saint Paul), and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (Saint Paul).

During fiscal year 2025, the Arts Board supported 193 organizations through this program; combined grants totaled \$22,476,868.

These organizations engage audience and participants of all ages, nurture new artists and art forms, attract visitors, generate income for their communities, and enhance Minnesota's reputation as an exceptional place to live and work.

Minnesota's regional arts councils

Minnesota has a two-tier public support system for the arts that includes the Arts Board and eleven regional arts councils. Together, the board and councils ensure that state dollars reach and serve all 87 Minnesota counties: <http://www.arts.state.mn.us/racs/>

As directed by Minnesota Statutes, the Arts Board acts as fiscal agent for state funds, making block grants to each regional council. During fiscal year 2025, \$16,541,190 was awarded to the eleven regional arts councils. With these funds, the councils together awarded 1,758 grants and provided programs and services tailored to the needs of their geographic regions.

A list of the eleven councils, the geographic areas they serve by county, and the amounts of their block grants can be found in the "Fiscal Year 2025 Block Grants to Regional Arts Councils" section of this report (pages 25-26). The section "Regional Arts Councils Fiscal Year 2025 Summary of Requests and Grants" (page 27) presents the number of applications received and grants awarded, as well as the total dollars requested and granted by the regional arts councils in fiscal year 2025.

Partnerships | Service | Professional development

The Minnesota State Arts Board expands its capacity and extends its reach by working in collaboration with other agencies and organizations that share similar goals. The following are key partnerships that were in place during fiscal year 2025.



■ GREAT RIVER ARTS ASSOCIATION, *Class projects from polymer clay class with artist Layl McDill* | LITTLE FALLS

YEAR IN REVIEW

Percent for Art in Public Places

Minnesota's art in state buildings statute (Minnesota Statutes § 16B.35) allows that up to one percent of the total budget appropriated for construction of new or renovated state buildings may be used to purchase or commission works of art. The Percent for Art in Public Places program enacts the legislation established by the Minnesota Legislature in 1984. It operates under the auspices of the Minnesota Department of Administration and is managed by the Minnesota State Arts Board.

During fiscal year 2025, one new project was completed. Walker West Music Academy received \$4.1 million from the State of Minnesota's capital investment budget to acquire property, predesign, and design a new facility at 650 Marshall Avenue, Saint Paul to support its music education programs. The new building, a focal point for the Rondo community, will serve 500-600 students a week.

A selection committee was formed to guide the project. Members included: Earl Ross, Walker West; Mac McLaughlin, Walker West; Ashley Adamma Ochiagha Meeks, FMYH Studio; Christopher Harrison, visual artist; Claudius Toussaint, Metropolitan Council; Joanne Jones-Rizzi, Science Museum of Minnesota; and Mychael Wright, Golden Thyme Coffee.

A request for proposals was issued in January 2025. The committee reviewed proposals submitted and selected two artworks to purchase: *Visual Jazz 1 and 2* by Saint Paul artist Miko Simmons. The works are two oversized, vibrant, abstract paintings, both 6' tall x 9' wide. They consist of acrylic paint and mixed media on canvas, displayed in custom wooden frames, with two custom projected digital media files. *Visual Jazz 1* and its corresponding digital media file depict Miles Davis performing. *Visual Jazz 2* depicts an amalgamation of female jazz performers, highlighting Alice Coltrane. Its corresponding digital media file depicts Alice Coltrane performing. The artworks were installed in April 2025, just prior to the grand opening of the new facility.



■ MIKO SIMMONS, *Visual Jazz 1 and 2* | SAINT PAUL

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Poetry Out Loud

Poetry Out Loud is a national poetry recitation project cosponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Poetry Foundation. Through Poetry Out Loud, high school students learn about great poetry through memorization, recitation, performance, and competition. Fiscal year 2025 was the twentieth year that Minnesota has participated in the program.

The Arts Board selected South Central Service Cooperative (SCSC) of North Mankato to manage the Minnesota competition. SCSC is one of nine regional service cooperative agencies in the state. One of its key functions is to engage students and lifelong learners in academic pursuits. SCSC plans and facilitates many student academic enrichment events both regionally and statewide, reaching thousands of students annually. SCSC is well versed in competition procedures that result in fair play, organized and efficient delivery of services, and comprehensive communication to participants.

Students in thirty-three schools participated in the program during the 2024-2025 academic year. Five regional competitions were held in February, based on the geographic location of the schools (northern, central, southern, and two metro).

Two students from each region advanced to the state competition, which was held in person on February 21, 2025, on the campus of Minnesota State University Mankato. Sofia Skuza Rivera, a tenth grader from Saint Paul Academy and Summit School, was named the state of Minnesota's Poetry Out Loud champion. Percy Jones, a sophomore at Washburn High School, took second place, and Hannah Christenson, a junior at Mound Westonka High School, took third place in the state competition.

Sofia Skuza Rivera went on to compete in the Poetry Out Loud national finals that were held in Washington, DC, in early May.



■ **POETRY OUT LOUD**, Sofia Skuza Rivera, 2025 Minnesota Poetry Out Loud champion, with Dr. Gwen Westerman, Minnesota poet laureate

YEAR IN REVIEW

Professional Development – Evaluation

The Arts Board hosted a series of four training sessions on Evaluation Capacity Building for the Arts. The trainings were supported by Management Analysis and Development, the State of Minnesota's internal management consulting division.

The topics of the four trainings were:

- **Understanding evaluation and outcomes:** Introduction to basic evaluation principles and defining strong outcome statements.
- **How to evaluate:** Developing an evaluation plan and an introduction to common evaluation techniques including surveys, interviews, and observation.
- **Evaluation on a shoestring budget:** Additional evaluation techniques that may be lower cost or more innovative.
- **Data sensemaking and sharing results:** Analyzing data, communicating results, and using data for decision-making.

Community Engagement

The Arts Board believes that lives across the state are enriched by participating in the arts. We recognize, though, that for some Minnesotans, barriers caused by geography, ability, age, and historic resource imbalances have prevented full access to art enjoyment.

The board issued a request for proposals and, from proposals submitted, selected five individuals or firms to conduct community engagement activities within targeted communities. The intent of this work was to better understand the barriers individuals in these communities face that inhibit their ability to engage in and enjoy the arts.

FEATURED STORY



■ THE STRING QUEENS, *Our Favorite Things* | SAINT PAUL

The String Queens

A 2025 grant supported the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts in the Arts Partnership, composed of the Minnesota Opera, the Ordway, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, and the Schubert Club in hosting a free outdoor video of the String Queens in July as part of the Ordway Inside Out series. The String Queens are a dynamic trio with a repertoire spanning from Baroque to jazz to today's popular music.

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The consultants included: Vietnamese Community of Minnesota, working with Minnesotans of Asian heritage; Dr. Artika Tyner, working with Minnesotans of African heritage; Amanda Young, working with members of the American Indian community; Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment Through Research (HACER), working with Minnesotans of Latine heritage; and Tammy Anderson, working with Minnesotans with disabilities.

The consultants surveyed, interviewed, and conducted focus groups with members of their respective communities to find out how members of the communities currently participate in the arts or creative expression, how they would like to participate, and what barriers prevent them from participating in the ways they would like.

Each consultant provided a summary of their work and key themes for the board to consider.

Statewide arts information

The Minnesota State Arts Board continues to utilize its Web site (www.arts.state.mn.us) as its primary communications vehicle. The site is designed to be a comprehensive source of information about the Arts Board and about the arts in general.

Among the features that can be found on the Web site:

- Arts Board grant program details, application forms, and instructions
- Calendar of grant deadlines and grant review meeting dates
- Agendas, meeting materials, and minutes for board and committee meetings
- Lists of grantees for current as well as previous years
- Program information including a map of public art that the State of Minnesota has acquired through the Percent for Art program, with information about the art and artists
- Facts about the importance and impact of the arts in Minnesota
- An interactive state map linking visitors to each of the eleven regional arts councils
- Links to national and state arts research and policy information
- Links to accessibility and ADA information and resources.



■ RITA STERLING, *Picasso-Inspired Cubist Faces* | AITKIN

A TWENTY-FIVE-YEAR ARTS LEGACY FOR MINNESOTA

Vision

In twenty-five years, Minnesotans will have made a significant investment in the arts. As a result ...

In Minnesota, the arts define who we are. This is a place where people are transformed by high quality arts experiences and see the arts as essential to their communities. The arts are integrated into all aspects of our lives, connecting people of all ages and cultures, fostering understanding and respect. Arts are broadly understood to mean the products of creative expression produced by professional artists, arts organizations, and the creative expression practiced every day by Minnesotans of all ages, backgrounds, and vocations.

Arts and culture are central to Minnesota's educational system and lifelong learning opportunities. The arts develop creative minds that maximize new opportunities and find solutions to life's challenges.

In Minnesota, the arts industry is an integral part of the economy. Because of the arts, Minnesota communities are successful, dynamic, attractive places to live and work.

Minnesota is a recognized national arts leader. It attracts, nurtures, and sustains creative people and organizations and recognizes them as assets. It is a magnet for arts enthusiasts and a destination for tourists. Residents and visitors are assured a world-class, quality arts experience.

Every Minnesotan appreciates, creates, attends, participates, and invests in the arts. Minnesota's effective, innovative, vibrant, public-private support for the arts is the strongest in the country. Universal support and appreciation for the arts help ensure the state's exceptional quality of life.

Guiding Principles

Decisions that the Minnesota State Arts Board and the regional arts councils make about how best to use funds will be grounded in the following guiding principles:

- **STATEWIDE APPROACH** – The needs and interests of the entire state will be considered when determining how best to allocate funds.
- **DEMOGRAPHIC AND GEOGRAPHIC FAIRNESS** – Minnesotans of all types, in rural areas and communities of all sizes, will recognize and experience the tangible results of the arts and cultural heritage fund. Special attention will be given to underserved areas or underrepresented groups.
- **COMPREHENSIVE** – A broad, inclusive, evolving definition of art will be used—from indigenous to emerging forms. The full spectrum of arts providers and arts disciplines will be considered when determining how best to serve Minnesotans with these funds.
- **SUSTAINABLE** – Some arts activities are meant to be one-time or short term; others are meant to exist and thrive over time. All are valuable and will be eligible for support. In the latter case, funds will be allocated strategically so that the activity or organization funded can be successful into the future, beyond the life of the arts and cultural heritage fund. Funds also will be used to create a sustainable climate in which artists can live and work.
- **ANTICIPATORY AND FLEXIBLE** – Decisions about how best to allocate funds will be reassessed on a regular basis and will adapt as needs and opportunities change.
- **TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT** – Broad public input and engagement in decision making will be vital to produce the outcomes that Minnesotans' expect.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY AND STEWARDSHIP** – Public funds belong to Minnesotans. The Arts Board and regional arts councils will use them in the most effective manner possible and will routinely report the outcomes achieved through the uses of the funds. The board and councils will act with integrity, ensuring that all constituents are treated in an ethical, fair, and consistent manner.

Goals and Key Strategies

In order to realize our legacy vision, the Minnesota State Arts Board and Minnesota's regional arts councils must work together to accomplish the following goals:

OVERARCHING GOAL **The arts are essential to a vibrant society**

GOAL STRATEGY

The arts are interwoven into every facet of community life
Develop strategic relationships and partnerships

GOAL STRATEGY

Minnesotans believe the arts are vital to who we are
Enhance public understanding of the value of the arts

GOAL STRATEGY

People of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities participate in the arts
Fully engage with nontraditional and underrepresented participants
Transform everyone's life by experiencing the arts

GOAL STRATEGY

People trust Minnesota's stewardship of public arts funding
Provide an accountable arts support system
Be responsible stewards of public funds

GOAL STRATEGY

The arts thrive in Minnesota
Foster visionary, skilled arts leaders and organizations statewide
Ensure sufficient resources to sustain the arts and artists
Serve as a clearinghouse of information on best practices and successful programs

FY 2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

REVENUE

State of Minnesota	
General fund - FY 2025 appropriation	\$7,787,000
General fund - FY 2024 carryforward	\$379,495
Arts and cultural heritage fund - FY 2025 appropriation	\$50,534,000
Arts and cultural heritage fund - FY 2024 carryforward	\$1,880,211
Federal	
National Endowment for the Arts	\$1,060,600

Total Revenue	\$61,641,306
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EXPENSES

Grants - General fund		\$6,940,664
Regional arts council block grants	\$2,139,000	
Operating support grants	\$4,525,493	
Creative support for individuals grants	\$276,171	
Grants - Arts and cultural heritage fund		\$47,847,665
Regional arts council block grants	\$14,402,190	
Arts access	\$27,191,706	
Arts education	\$4,702,415	
Arts and cultural heritage	\$1,551,354	
Grants - Federal		\$437,300
Creative support for individuals grants	\$412,300	
Cultural expression grants	\$25,000	

Programs and projects	\$234,279
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Operations and services	\$2,988,438
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Total Expenses	\$58,448,346
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NOTES

FY 2025 funds, transfer to Odyssey Fund	\$400,000
FY 2025 unobligated funds, carryforward to FY 2026	
General fund	\$325,058
Arts and cultural heritage fund	\$2,242,684
Unobligated funds, return to source	
General fund	\$6,815
FY 2024 arts and cultural heritage fund	\$101,703
Federal	\$116,700

MINNESOTA STATE ARTS BOARD

FY 2025 Summary of Requests and Grants

	Number of Applications	Dollars Requested	Number of Grants	Dollars Granted
ARTS BOARD GRANT PROGRAMS				
Accessible Arts	45	\$848,073	37	\$686,873
Arts Education	216	\$6,330,900	155	\$4,702,415
Arts Experiences	400	\$11,160,344	198	\$5,719,801
Cultural Expression	211	\$5,928,540	52	\$1,576,354
Creative Individuals	491	\$4,751,984	361	\$3,522,128
Operating Support	194	\$22,532,194	193	\$22,476,868
Subtotal, Arts Board competitive grant programs	1,557	\$51,552,035	996	\$38,684,439
REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL BLOCK GRANTS				
Arts and cultural heritage fund, arts and arts access	11	\$11,692,695	11	\$11,692,695
Arts and cultural heritage fund, arts education	11	\$2,032,050	11	\$2,032,050
Arts and cultural heritage fund, arts and cultural heritage	11	\$677,445	11	\$677,445
General fund	11	\$2,139,000	11	\$2,139,000
Subtotal, regional arts council block grants	11	\$16,541,190	11	\$16,541,190
Total, all applications and grants	1,568	\$68,093,225	1,007	\$55,225,629

A complete list of fiscal year 2025 grantees and grant amounts is available on the Arts Board website:
<https://www.arts.state.mn.us/grants/2025/index.htm>

REGIONAL ARTS COUNCILS

FY 2025 Block Grants to Regional Arts Councils

Region 1	Northwest Minnesota Arts Council		
	Warren		
	Counties served: Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau		
	General fund block grant		\$ 89,453
	Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant		\$ 607,987
		Total	\$ 697,440
Region 2	Region 2 Arts Council		
	Bemidji		
	Counties served: Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, Mahnommen		
	General fund block grant		\$ 87,777
	Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant		\$ 596,594
		Total	\$ 684,371
Region 3	Arrowhead Regional Arts Council		
	Duluth		
	Counties served: Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Saint Louis		
	General fund block grant		\$ 156,267
	Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant		\$1,062,098
		Total	\$1,218,365
Region 4	Lake Region Arts Council		
	Fergus Falls		
	Counties served: Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse, Wilkin		
	General fund block grant		\$ 125,684
	Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant		\$ 854,232
		Total	\$ 979,916
Region 5	Five Wings Arts Council		
	Staples		
	Counties served: Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, Wadena		
	General fund block grant		\$ 127,392
	Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant		\$ 729,908
		Total	\$ 857,300

Region 6E/6W/8	Southwest Minnesota Arts Council Marshall Counties served: Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Swift, Yellow Medicine General fund block grant \$ 139,709 Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant \$ 949,558 Total \$1,089,267
Region 7E	East Central Regional Arts Council Hinckley Counties served: Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine General fund block grant \$ 105,260 Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant \$ 715,421 Total \$ 820,681
Region 7W	Central Minnesota Arts Board Foley Counties served: Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, Wright General fund block grant \$ 169,336 Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant \$1,150,925 Total \$1,320,261
Region 9	Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council Waseca Counties served: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan General fund block grant \$ 123,178 Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant \$ 837,205 Total \$ 960,383
Region 10	Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council Rochester Counties served: Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, Winona General fund block grant \$ 191,991 Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant \$1,304,904 Total \$1,496,895
Region 11	Metropolitan Regional Arts Council Saint Paul Counties served: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Washington General fund block grant \$ 822,953 Arts and cultural heritage fund block grant \$5,593,358 Total \$6,416,311
Total, all regions \$16,541,190	

REGIONAL ARTS COUNCILS

FY 2025 Summary of Requests and Grants

Region	Regional Arts Council	Number of requests	Dollars requested	Number of grants	Dollars granted
1	Northwest Minnesota Arts Council	90	\$541,500	90	\$513,755
2	Region 2 Arts Council	101	\$533,150	74	\$420,782
3	Arrowhead Regional Arts Council	259	\$1,273,066	142	\$669,469
4	Lake Region Arts Council	111	\$641,200	95	\$481,794
5	Five Wings Arts Council	116	\$663,926	113	\$656,083
6E/6W/8	Southwest Minnesota Arts Council	141	\$689,569	133	\$644,107
7E	East Central Regional Arts Council	61	\$477,376	61	\$468,717
7W	Central Minnesota Arts Board	237	\$1,222,894	174	\$963,619
9	Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council	338	\$771,040	327	\$706,900
10	Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council	274	\$1,519,586	203	\$1,136,955
11	Metropolitan Regional Arts Council	858	\$9,749,742	346	\$5,521,145
Total		2,586	\$18,083,049	1,758	\$12,183,326

RULES CHANGES

The Minnesota State Arts Board did not propose new rules, repeal obsolete rules, or make amendments to its existing administrative rules (Minnesota Rules, chapter 1900) during fiscal year 2025.

COMPLAINTS / CONCERNS

The Arts Board's appeal process is outlined in Minnesota Rules, chapter 1900, section 1110.
<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/1900.1110/>

The process states "There is no right of appeal for disputes of decisions with respect to interpretation of review criteria. An appeal may be made only if it is asserted that the board, or its staff, or advisory panels, did not follow the policies and procedures as provided by this chapter."

The board received one appeal at the end of fiscal year 2024 that carried over and was resolved during fiscal year 2025.

- On June 5, 2024, Patrick Wandersee submitted an appeal, asking the board to reverse a determination that his FY 2025 Creative Individuals grant application was ineligible.
- The board considered the appeal at its July 12, 2024, meeting. It determined that the appellant had not provided evidence that the board had failed to follow its policies and procedures; it denied the appeal on the basis that the appellant had not shown sufficient cause for an appeal.
- The appellant disputed the board's decision, so the matter was referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings for a contested case proceeding.
- A contested case hearing was held on September 27, 2024. The Administrative Law Judge determined that the board and its staff did not violate the board's policies and procedures with respect to the appellant's application and recommended that the board affirm its earlier denial of the appeal.
- The board held a special meeting on October 21, 2024, to consider the Administrative Law Judge's report and the official record of the contested case. The board voted to reject the ALJ's recommendation and instead allow the appellant's application to be considered by a grant review panel.
- The application was considered by a panel on November 7, 2024. It did not receive a score high enough to be recommended for funding.

MINNESOTA STATE ARTS BOARD

FY 2025 Members

Eleven private citizens, appointed by the governor for four-year terms, comprise the Minnesota State Arts Board. The board must have at least one member from each of the state's eight congressional districts. The board meets every month to establish policies, monitor agency programs, and act upon grant recommendations.

During fiscal year 2025, the board or its committees met thirty-eight times for approximately 70 hours.

The following individuals served on the board for all or part of the fiscal year 2025.

Carol Bruess, Saint Joseph
Social scientist, author, speaker
Term: January 2025 – January 2029
Congressional district: Six

Uri Camarena, Minneapolis (*)
Business consultant
Term: April 2024 – January 2028
Congressional district: Five

Michael J. Charron, Winona (*)
Former arts educator / higher education administrator, former state legislator
Term: April 2024 – January 2028
Congressional district: One

Richard Cohen, Saint Paul
Attorney, former state legislator
Term: June 2021 – January 2025
Congressional district: Four

Emily Galusha, Minneapolis
Former arts administrator
Term: June 2023 – January 2027
Congressional district: Five

Anthony Gardner, Eden Prairie (*)
Vice president, marketing and communications, CentraCare Health
Term: June 2024 – January 2026
Congressional district: Three

Ken Martin, Eagan
Chair, Minnesota DFL Party
Term: January 2023 – January 2027
Congressional district: Two

Philip McKenzie, Thief River Falls (*)
Arts educator
Term: April 2024 – January 2028
Congressional district: Seven

Michele Knife Sterner, Marshall
Associate director of access, opportunity, success, Southwest Minnesota State University
Term: June 2023 – January 2027
Congressional district: Seven

Dobson West, Minneapolis
Retired attorney
Term: June 2021 – January 2025
Congressional district: Five

Christina Woods, Duluth
Executive director, Duluth Art Institute
Term: May 2022 – January 2026
Congressional district: Eight

(*) This individual served as an officer and a member of the board's executive committee during all or part of fiscal year 2025.

MINNESOTA STATE ARTS BOARD

Arts Board Members' Conflicts of Interest

During fiscal year 2025, board members declared conflicts of interest with the following applicants or grantees. If a member has declared a conflict of interest with an artist or organization being considered for a grant, the member recuses him or herself from discussing and voting on the grant recommendation.

Member	Conflict of interest with
Carol Bruess	• Steven Lemke
Uri Camarena	• Open Eye Figure Theatre
Michael J. Charron	• Cotter Schools
Richard Cohen	• Minnesota Orchestra (*)
Emily Galusha	• No conflicts
Anthony Gardner	• No conflicts
Ken Martin	• No conflicts
Philip McKenzie	• Northwest Minnesota Arts Council
Michele Knife Sterner	• No conflicts
Dobson West	• No conflicts
Christina Woods	• Duluth Art Institute (*) • New Native Theatre (*)

(*) Arts Board members who served as an employee, director, or trustee of a grantee organization

FY 2025 Grant Program Advisors

In order to ensure that its grant making is open and fair, and that it represents the diverse interests of Minnesotans, the Arts Board recruits volunteer advisors each year who review grant requests and make recommendations to the board. In fiscal year 2025, the following individuals contributed their time and expertise to the Arts Board's grant making process.

Accessible Arts

Charlie Ainsworth	Eagan
Amber J. Andrist	Mazeppa
Haley E. Bice	Rochester
Lauren Dao	Cottage Grove
Cyd Haynes	Corcoran
Daryl Hrdlicka	Westbrook
Anthony P. Marchetti	Minneapolis
Katie Pease	Esko
Naomi M. Smith	Duluth
Davis R. Steen	Minneapolis
Briauna S. Williams	Minneapolis

Arts Education

Holly Alcott	Shevlin
Monica K. Allen	Eagan
Eric Anderson	Minneapolis
Kat Aymeloglu	Minneapolis
Racquel Banaszak	Minneapolis
James W. Bartsch	Minneapolis
Brandon J. Boat	Minneapolis
Dhana M. Branton	Minneapolis
Deborah Brister	Minneapolis
Jian-Jun Chen-Edmund	Duluth
Joy M. Christenson	Princeton
Em Christie	Moorhead
Alex Church	Minneapolis
Kelsey Dagen	Aitkin
Gloria DeFilipps Brush	Duluth
Susana M. di Palma	Minneapolis
Amy E. Driscoll	Plymouth
Kurt R. Engh	Minneapolis
Kelly Foster Lundquist	Monticello
Rebecca Froehlich	Saint Paul
Scott Gilbert	Saint Paul
Davi Gray	Minneapolis
Jennifer C. Heglund	Fergus Falls
Julia Heinen	Saint Paul
Lisa M. Horton	Duluth

Stephanie S. Hunder	Woodbury
Carla-Elaine Johnson	Saint Paul
G'ette Jones	Watson
Ginger R. Juel	Duluth
Stephen Kingsbury	Marshall
Thalia B. Kostman	Saint Paul
Dr. Jenna L. Kubly	Woodbury
Dralandra D. Larkins	Minneapolis
Mary Magnuson	Grand Rapids
Dayna Martinez	Minneapolis
Lisa Martinson	Saint Paul
Nazara Matos	Minneapolis
Charles V. Matson Lume	Saint Paul
Kim Matthews	Minneapolis
Theresa N. McConnon	Saint Paul
Rupa Nair	Maple Grove
Jack Neveaux	Plymouth
Jennifer A. O'Byrne	Saint Paul
Breanca C. Ousley	Eagan
Kristin M. Prideaux	Stillwater
Zola A. Rosenfeld	Minneapolis
Filsan Said	Minneapolis
Luverne G. Seifert	Saint Anthony
Anika R. Sieh	Hampton
Laura B. Sivert	Minneapolis
Mike Speck	Winona
Elizabeth D. Tevis	Winona
Kristina Tiedje	Rochester
Shelly J. Till	Ham Lake
Matthew Valverde	Minneapolis
Deborah A. VanderEyck	Sauk Rapids
Waabiigaagaagiikwebik	Laporte
Valerie Williams	Winona
Erin A. Wojciechowski	Duluth

Arts Experiences

Carolyn A. Aarsvold	Alexandria
Julie A. Ahasay	Duluth
J. Anthony Allen	Minneapolis

Grant Program Advisors

Dakota Andersen	Plymouth	Rebecca Jahr	Rochester
Anna J. Becker	Minneapolis	Kerri Jamison	Minneapolis
Daniela Bianchini	Minneapolis	Deborah K. Jensen	Rogers
Kayla Boeckman	Saint Joseph	Samuel A. Kellar-Long	Saint Paul
Crystal Boyd	Burnsville	Elizabeth A. Kelly	Hibbing
Jennifer Bratvold	Minneapolis	Patricia Kirby	Minneapolis
Noreen A. Buhmann	Robbinsdale	Riley K. Kleve	Minneapolis
Frank T. Byrns	Duluth	Robert W. Kohlmeyer	Minneapolis
Carol L. Chase	Minneapolis	Megan Krueger	Minneapolis
Sarah J. Clark	Saint Paul	Wendy S. Lane	North Oaks
Amelia L. Colwell	Roseville	Jeffrey D. Larson	Minneapolis
Matthew Connolly	Saint Paul	Hlee Lee-Kron	Saint Paul
Melissa Coons	Bloomington	Margaret Lindahl	Minneapolis
Sara A. Cosgrove	Apple Valley	Zoe Malinchoc DeVoe	Red Wing
Christina A. Cotruvo	Duluth	Marianne M. Manzler	Minneapolis
Starrla G. Cray	Winsted	Ivete Martinez	Rochester
Jon S. Dahl	Spring Valley	Michael Matuszak	Minneapolis
Rachel Dahl	Chisago City	Evelyn L. May	Minneapolis
Holly L. Day	Minneapolis	Zachary D. Moder	Duluth
Jennifer Dieter	Minneapolis	Nicole A. Montana	Minneapolis
Caitlin Drayna	Shakopee	Kjerstin Moody	Saint Peter
Claudia L. Dreyer	Rochester	Terrence Mulally	White Bear Township
Theodora Economou	Morris	Darryl S. Murphy	Richfield
Megan Fair	Wayzata	Blake A. Nellis	Minneapolis
Amy D. Fauble	Saint Paul	Chad Novak	Apple Valley
Megan R. Fitzgerald	Hancock	Taliesin K. Nyala	Winona
Bryan Ford	Rochester	Ayan M. Omar	Saint Peter
Susan A. Foss	Sandstone	Roseanne G. Pereira	Minneapolis
Gita J. Ghei	Saint Paul	Cole B. Perry	Coleraine
Jennifer W. Gorman	Bovey	Penny J. Perry	Duluth
Rodolfo Gutierrez-Montes	Saint Paul	Stacy Phan	Bloomington
Kathleen Hackworthy	Minneapolis	Stephen P. Pittelkow	Roseville
Nathan Hanson	Saint Paul	Aaron M. Preusse	South Saint Paul
Hannah Hassler	Mapleton	Ishwari Rajak	Minneapolis
Sara A. Hathaway	Minneapolis	Jayne L. Rothschild	Rochester
Nicholas M. Healy	Mankato	Marynel Ryan Van zee	Stillwater
Rebecca A. Heist	Minneapolis	Tyler J. Sassaman	Minneapolis
Arlinda J. Henderson	Minneapolis	Patricia L. Schaber	Mahtomedi
Lona Hendricks	Cologne	Michael C. Seward	Minneapolis
Monique Hernandez	Crystal	Dacia Sjolund	Braham
Evy Hinrichsen	Minneapolis	Douglas Snapp	Burnsville
Steven H. Hirsh	Willow River	Linda K. Snouffer	Saint Paul
Darren Houser	Duluth	John Sobieck	Carver
Rachael A. Jaeger	Mankato	Danielle Sosin	Duluth

Grant Program Advisors

Peter F. Spooner	Duluth	Anna Eveslage	New Ulm
Tyler J. Stefanich	Savage	Bernice Ficek-Swenson	Golden Valley
Xavier Thomas	Brooklyn Park	Brigid M. Fitzgerald	Little Falls
Juliana A. Thrall	Saint Paul	Grace Fogland	Minneapolis
Rebecca C. Tishman	Minneapolis	Rachel Fulkerson	Columbia Heights
Quentin Turner	Saint Paul	Ann Gaasch	Crystal
Kathryn S. Vogl	Plymouth	Susan Gainen	Saint Paul
Louise Waakaa'igan	Minneapolis	Casandra Garcia	Waseca
Sarah E. Walker	Minneapolis	Peter Giebink	Minneapolis
Emmanuel Walyaula	Woodbury	Tanya L. Gravening	Minneapolis
Maurice L. Ward	Minneapolis	Wendy Grethen	Duluth
Shawna Weaver	Duluth	Maia M. Hamann	Waite Park
Becky Wilkinson Hauser	Minneapolis	Amanda M. Hamilton	Minneapolis
Carolyn R. Williams-Noren	Minneapolis	Caitlin Hammel	Saint Paul
Lauren Witt	Woodbury	Todd A. Hannert	Saint Paul
Jacinta Zens	Dent	Richard Hansen	Duluth
		Doug Harbin	Moorhead
		Marcelline Harrisonfields	Saint Louis Park
		Asako Hirabayashi	Falcon Heights
		Kirby A. Hoberg	Plymouth
		Rebecca W. Horn	Winona
		Timothy Hornseth	Rochester
		Dakota Dave Hull	Minneapolis
		Oliver Hunter	Minneapolis
		Mark E. Jensen	Minneapolis
		Heidi A. Jeub	Royalton
		Emily C. Johnson	Minneapolis
		Mindy Johnson	Saint Paul
		Lissa Jones	Fridley
		Tanya B. Juarez-Sweeney	Saint Paul
		Kelly Kakaley	Minneapolis
		Brett Kallusky	Minneapolis
		Judy Karasch	Bloomington
		Patricia A. Kent	Columbia Heights
		Nahid S. Khan	Brooklyn Center
		Jayson M. King	Minneapolis
		Patrick Kinney	Duluth
		Elina Kotlyar	Minneapolis
		Ren Lamott	Barnum
		Mary Ann J. Laxen	East Grand Forks
		Charliey Libra	Minneapolis
		Jean E. Louis	Paynesville
		Katie Lupton	Minneapolis

Creative Individuals

Mohamed Ali	Burnsville		
Stephenie B. Anderson	Fosston		
Sam Aros-Mitchell	Minneapolis		
Karlyn Atkinson Berg	Bovey		
Leila Awadallah	Minneapolis		
Pinar Başgöze	Minneapolis		
Kat Baumann	Mankato		
Katherine Beecham	Roseville		
Bob L. Bierscheid	Roseville		
Esther Blevins	Minneapolis		
Cristeta N. Boarini	Minneapolis		
Paul B. Boehnke	Saint Paul		
Thomas Brinker	Minneapolis		
Carly T. Caputa	Minneapolis		
Dexter Carlson	Minneapolis		
LJ Chang	Saint Paul		
Robert D. Dante	Minneapolis		
Gary F. Davis	Lilydale		
Rosemary A. Davis	Golden Valley		
Reyna Day	Saint Paul		
Vincent W. DeZutti	Minneapolis		
Christy Dickinson	West Saint Paul		
Joel Eisinger	Minneapolis		
Sharon L. Elmore	Minneapolis		
Rachel Engstrom	Golden Valley		

Grant Program Advisors

Morgan Luzier	Minneapolis	Jennie Ward	Saint Paul
Mary Beth Magyar	Rochester	Greg Watson	Saint Paul
Brian J. Malloy	Grand Marais	Aurora Webster	Duluth
Elissa Mann	Minneapolis	Larry Weinberg	Saint Francis
Brighton McCormick	Minneapolis	Sara R. Weiner	Minneapolis
Isabel McNally	Wabasha	Lana Western	Eagan
Mac'Real McNicol	Sherburn	Lila R. Westreich	Minneapolis
Megan O. McNinch	Saint Paul	Samantha Whipple	Red Wing
Zamira Mendoza	Red Wing	Michelle W. Wingard	Minneapolis
Leslie A. Miller	Saint Paul	Robin Wingo	Madison Lake
Lin Nelson-Mayson	Golden Valley	Sara M. Witty	Richfield
Kennedy Niska	Baxter	Jane E. Zilch	Mendota Heights
Laura Nuckols	Minneapolis		
Mark A. Peterson	Minneapolis	Cultural Expressions	
Shelley Pierce	Mankato	Tony Adah	Moorhead
Andrea Pierre	Minneapolis	Micah Amundsen	Rochester
Dan Pinkerton	Minneapolis	Ross L. Anderson	Burnsville
Sergio Lorenzo		Claire Bancroft Loos	Minneapolis
Quiroz-Ligeralde	Saint Paul	Michael Bargas	Lakeville
Amber Raden	Bloomington	Colleen M. Bertsch	Minneapolis
Cathy Rajtar	Maplewood	Archie Bongiovanni	Minneapolis
Luke Randall	Minneapolis	Eric J. Broker	Minneapolis
Kate Renee	Burnsville	Eli Brown	Minneapolis
Barbara Roberts	Wells	Lou Brue	Edina
Scott E. Roberts	Faribault	Renee Cardarelle	East Grand Forks
Stephanie L. Rogers	Red Wing	Harry K. Chalmiers	Saint Paul
Ronald Salazar	Andover	Laurine Chang	Maplewood
Kathy Sanders	Bemidji	Christina Chung	Saint Paul
Andrew S. Schlauch	Minneapolis	Zachary Colby	Minneapolis
Lamarr Scott	Minneapolis	Nancy L. Cook	Saint Paul
Anat M. Shinar	Minneapolis	Felicia Cooper	Minneapolis
Stephanie G. Siddiqui	Farmington	Hal Cropp	Lanesboro
Dana M. Sikkila	North Mankato	Alice De Yonge	Pemberton
Laura Steinmetz	Burnsville	Kija Deer	Minneapolis
Jake Sung-Guk Sullivan	Minneapolis	Sara A. Dovre Wudali	Saint Paul
Momoko Tanno	Saint Paul	Pete Driessen	Minneapolis
Susan Tarnowski	Plymouth	V Fairchild	Minneapolis
Glenn R. Terry	East Bethel	Barbara J. Farland	New Hope
Samantha A. Thibert	Warroad	Beth Forkner Moe	Winona
Jodi Trotta	Saint Paul	Rae L. French	Crookston
Jill Underwood	Minneapolis	Kristie E.	
Rebecca J. Utecht	Ogilvie	Gaalswyk-Pomerence	Truman
Chitra Vairavan	Minneapolis	Dan Gjelten	Saint Paul
Jennifer Vickerman	Minneapolis	Trish Goggin	Minneapolis

Grant Program Advisors

Christy M. Goulet	Dilworth
Robyn Gray	Little Falls
Heather Hamilton	Mankato
Pia Charlotte Hanson	Duluth
Naomi Hart	Saint Cloud
Arden Haug	Minneapolis
Lauren Hutchinson	Rochester
Kayla Jackson	Minneapolis
Kathryn Jacobson	New Brighton
Analeise Jarvi-Beamer	Minneapolis
Mary E. Johnson	Minneapolis
Amanda Kaler	Minneapolis
Tumelo Khupe	Apple Valley
Kim Konikow	Fergus Falls
Kristi L. Koziolk	Buffalo
Nipinet Landsem	Minneapolis
Sarah Lindner	Hastings
Dawn M. Loven	Roseville
José A. Luis	Minneapolis
Eso Malflor	Saint Paul
Kara E. Maloney	Lanesboro
Presley Martin	Minneapolis
Angela McLaughlin	Maple Plain
Alissa Morson	North Mankato
Andrew Newman	Minneapolis
Angelina Nguyen	Maple Grove
Sherisa Oie	Mendota Heights
Tomi Oluwatomini	Cottage Grove
Rebecca L. Petersen	Fergus Falls
Anna M. Resele	Minneapolis
Nina M. Robinson	Shoreview
Paul B. Rucker	Minneapolis
Phaedre Sanders	Saint Paul
Deb Saunders	Saint Paul
Kari Schloner	Otsego
Lai Sze Tso	Mankato
Christa Velasquez	Minneapolis
Lauren Warmka	Saint Peter
Elayna P. Waxse	Saint Paul
Elissa Weller	Fridley
Nicole C. Zickefoose	Maple Grove



■ EDU FILM FESTIVAL, Line to enter EDU Film Festival | MINNEAPOLIS



■ HALLBERG CENTER FOR THE ARTS, Painting Class | WYOMING

Grant Program Advisors

Operating Support

Marsha A. Anderson	Mounds View
Cate Belleveau	Puposky
Rachel C. Brophy	Babbitt
Mike Brown	Robbinsdale
Charise J. Canales	Minneapolis
Cheryl Caponi	Eagan
August Carlson	Buffalo
Robyn R. Earhart	Lauderdale
Aaron A. Gabriel	Minneapolis
Judi Gay	Annandale
Janet Grove	Maple Grove
Scott J. Hebert	Duluth
Sonja M. Jacobsen	North Mankato
Jacelyn P. Johnson	Plymouth
Daniel S. Kaplan-Goland	Minneapolis
Margaret J. Kelly	International Falls
Emily H. Kelson	Saint Paul
Sharon Kwan	Woodbury
Jacqueline K.	
Markevitch Paulsen	Winona
David Marty	Grand Rapids
Suzy Messerole	Minneapolis
Tomi Oluwatomini	Saint Paul
Wendy K. Petersen Biorn	Waconia
Germaine Riegert	Ulen
Sarah Stephens	Minneapolis
Sachi Venkatakrisnan	Minnetonka
Kameron Q. White	Minneapolis
Michelle A. Wolfe	Blaine

Operating Support, artistic evaluators

Ceallaigh K.	
Anderson Smart	Robbinsdale
Melissa C. Auburn	Duluth
Melissa H. Brandt	Rochester
Amber Burns	Duluth
Heather Cassidy	New York Mills
Dawn Frederick	Saint Paul
Younin Greenfield	Hopkins
Jodi Greer	Lake Benton
Bridget Guiza	Detroit Lakes

Lynne Harper	Minneapolis
Amy L. Hunter	Richmond
Russ Kaplan	Minneapolis
Hope A. Klocker	Saint Joseph
Nickolai Kolarov	Saint Paul
Sharon Kwan	Apple Valley
Jess Levanduski	Saint Cloud
Patrick M. Lichty	Winona
Jeanette Lukowski	Alexandria
Jonathan McNeill Hardy	Minneapolis
Donte Mearon	Minneapolis
Tanya J. Miller	Park Rapids
Darryl S. Murphy	Richfield
Aryca J. Myers	Minneapolis
Ann Marie Newman	Clearbrook
Laura Nichols	Woodbury
Juan Diego Perez La Cruz	Plymouth
Esther B. Piszczek	Duluth
Tara L. Priolo	Crystal



■ WE ALL NEED FOOD AND WATER, Puppet show
| SHOREVIEW

Grant Program Advisors

Larry L. Retzlaff
Annett C. Richter
Avesa I. Rockwell
Jacque Rosenau
Paul B. Rucker
Becky Smith
Kizzy Thomas
Nathan Wunrow
Linda M. Zelig

Ham Lake
Moorhead
Duluth
Plymouth
Minneapolis
Minneapolis
Saint Paul
Saint Paul
Roseville



■ CITY OF BATTLE LAKE, *Talking Trails project*
| BATTLE LAKE

FY 2025 Grant Program Advisors' Conflicts of Interest

The following advisory review panel members (in left column) declared conflicts of interest with the grant applicants listed (in right column).

Accessible Arts

Panelist	Declared conflicts
Amber J. Andrist	ZTP
Haley E. Bice	North House Folk School

Arts Education

Panelist	Declared conflicts
Holly Alcott	Clear Waters Life Center
Racquel Banaszak	Keeyonna Fox
Brandon J. Boat	Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community
Dhana M. Branton	Paul Van Dyke
Jian-Jun Chen-Edmund	Honors Choirs of Southeast Minnesota
Davi Gray	Pangea World Theater
Thalia B. Kostman	Upstream Arts
Dralandra D. Larkins	Artstart, West Central Initiative
Dayna Martinez	Irina Rossi
Luverne G. Seifert	Ariel Detwiler
Shelly J. Till	Hastings Public Schools
Erin A. Wojciechowski	Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community

Arts Experiences

Panelist	Declared conflicts
Kayla Boeckman	Saint Catherine University
Carol Chase	Women's Drum Center
Megan Fair	Osip Nikiforov
Evy Hinrichsen	Speaking Out Collective
Riley Kleve	Northfield Arts Guild, JD Jorgenson
Jeffrey D. Larson	TigerLion Arts
Ivete Martinez	Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale
Aaron M. Preusse	Theatre 55
Jayne L. Rothschild	Calliope Theatre Company
Douglas Snapp	Mankato Symphony Orchestra Association, Inc.
Linda Snouffer	ArtReach St. Croix
Tyler J. Stefanich	Threads Dance Project
Louise K. Waakaa'igan	Central Lakes College Foundation
Maurice L. Ward	Cláudia Nascimento
Becky Wilkinson Hauser	Flip the Script Festival, Project for Pride in Living, Inc.
Jacinta Zens	Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County, Dominic Facio

Creative Individuals

Panelist	Declared conflicts
Sam Aros-Mitchell	Rose Guthrie
Pinar Başgöze	Taja Will
Cristeta N. Boarini	Lum Chi
Christy Dickinson	Jolanta Young
Asako Hirabayashi	Mary Ellen Childs
Mark E. Jensen	Timothy Nolan
Patrick Kinney	Jessica Morgan
Ren Lamott	Sheila Packa
Brian J. Malloy	Kathryn Savage, Nicholas Healy
Kate Renee	Laura Korynta
Kathy Sanders	Charles Alberti
Anat M. Shinar	Andrea Shaker
Momoko Tanno	Kent Goodroad
Aurora Webster	Paul LaJeunesse
Robin Wingo	Emily Kretschmer

Cultural Expression

Panelist	Declared conflicts
Archie Bongiovanni	Symone Wilson
Sara A. Dovre Wudali	We Are All Criminals
Beth Forkner Moe	Minnesota Polish Medical Society
Heather Hamilton	Curio Dance Company
Analeise Jarvi-Beamer	Little Earth Residents Association
Tumelo Khupe	Maia Maiden Productions
Alissa Morson	Celtic Junction Arts Center, Inc
Lai Sze Tso	American Swedish Institute, Norway House
Nicole C. Zickefoose	Cow Tipping Press

Operating Support

Panelist	Declared conflicts
Aaron A. Gabriel	The Bach Society
Jacelyn P. Johnson	Walker West Music Academy
Kameron Q. White	Great River Arts Association

MINNESOTA STATE ARTS BOARD

Staff

The following individuals served on the Arts Board staff during all or part of fiscal year 2025.

Chris Berry	Grants management systems administrator
Tim Brown	Percent for Art program assistant
Kristin Buckley	Executive assistant
Kaitlin Craven	Grant programs assistant
Annick Dall-Desbois	Outreach and accessibility coordinator
Jennifer Dodgson	Grant program officer
Taylor Erickson	Advisor recruitment coordinator
Sue Gens	Executive director
Mary Henry	Communications specialist
Kimberly Hocker	Information systems administrator
Lindi Holliday	Grant program officer
David Jacobsen	Data management assistant
Mary LaRoche	Percent for Art program administrator
Jamie Marshall	Grant program officer
Tom Miller	WebGrants manager
Jennifer Nasifoglu	Accounting officer
Jeffrey Niblack	Director, research and evaluation
Annie Schoonover	Grant programs assistant
Phillip Schramm	Program assistant
Karl Warnke	Work sample coordinator
David White	Director, finance and grants administration
Adam Wiltgen	Grant program officer
Sarah Wojciechowski	Advisor training and support specialist



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(800) 866-2787



■ PILLSBURY HOUSE + THEATRE, *Pillsbury Creative Commons rand Opening* | MINNEAPOLIS



■ THREADS DANCE PROJECT, *Youth dance class* | MINNEAPOLIS