



Northern Arts News

A Publication of the Region 2 Arts Council

November/December 2008
Vol. 11 No. 2

Guest Commentary: Taking the Self-Publishing Option

By Gail Rixen

Faced with a yellowing manuscript and advancing grey hair, I decided this spring to self-publish my third book of poems, "Living on Dew." I'm not alone in doing this; the "Regional Writers" section of bookstores shows a number of folks self-publishing books of all sorts. There can be problems getting from manuscript to bookshelf, but I have to say that my self-publishing experience was a good one, and really not too difficult.

I was lucky; I had editing and publishing experience and friends who had tons of it. I had already had some of the poems published in literary magazines, and I was able to hire local talent (a book designer) to do the computer set-up and cover. All I had to do was hand over a disc containing the poems in Word, with section titles and arrangement done. The cover art came from part of a photo the book designer had taken. A press in St. Cloud printed and bound the book. I do distribution myself.

Easy as pie, right? Well, the really hard part was the forty years of writing to get me to the third book: writing, revising, sending work out to magazines, reworking book manuscripts, getting rejection slips, and doing public readings. If you're writing literature, though, you just have to do all that hard work. Folks writing histories, how-tos, and informative prose can get by with a little less, but not much; their facts have to be right.

I went online for information on title searches, copyright, ISBN numbers, assumed name, sales tax, and distributors before the book was

sent to the printer. That took some time, and it should. Once the book's printed, you're stuck.

Let me toss out some things I found out by self-publishing. Confidence in one's writing is important, but good editors make one credible. The stigma of self-publishing isn't what it used to be; it's more acceptable, and has to be in Minnesota where there's a poet behind every tree and arts funding is shorter these days. Linda Back McKay is a great self-publishing resource. Only independent (not chain) bookstores carry my book, but so do some surprising local retailers. Publicity is up to me, though friends and the grapevine help enormously – and one should take advantage of every exposure opportunity. Printers want my repeat business and a good reputation, so treat me right if I'm businesslike. Each book costs between \$5 and \$10, including book design. I can live without a website, but it's good to have one's book as a selection on someone's website. One shouldn't have more than 500 books printed at once, no matter how optimistic one is. And, last but not least, there are things I'd do differently if I did this book over again.

Too much to worry about? Nah, I'd do it again.

Gail Rixen is a poet/writer who also serves as an editor for Loonfeather Press of Bemidji.

Workshop Funding Available

Region 2 Arts Council invites individuals and organizations from our five-county area (Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnomen counties) to propose workshop ideas for direct funding. **The workshop is funded with no financial risk to you.**

The workshop must focus on learning experiences for adult artists and be open to the public. Any group that wants to bring in an artist to do a workshop is eligible, as are regional artists who wish to present a workshop themselves. Proposals are considered on an ongoing basis, but funds are limited. The sooner you contact us, the better.

Contact Terri Widman, R2AC Executive Director, at 218-751-5447 or 1-800-275-5447 if you have questions or wish to request an application.

.....
"Follow your heart to the source of that which refreshes your soul and drink deeply from it."

~Bradely Trevor Greive

Vote Yes for the Arts

Look for the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment at the bottom of your ballot November 4th. **19.75% of the funding will be directed to the arts and cultural resources.**

Minnesota citizens will be asked the following question on the November 2008 ballot:

"Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to dedicate funding to protect our drinking water sources; to protect, enhance, and restore our wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game and wildlife habitat; **to preserve our arts and cultural heritage**; to support our parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore our lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater by increasing the sales and use tax rate beginning July 1, 2009, by three-eighths of one percent on taxable sales until the year 2034?"

It is important to know that if you do not vote on this issue, it will be counted as a "no" vote. Please educate yourself about the **Clean Water, Wildlife, Cultural heritage and Natural Areas amendment.**

Just like our natural resources, the cultural resources are important to our quality of life and tourism industry. **Passage of this amendment will increase access to the arts for all Minnesotans, including greater access for kids to arts education.** The amendment is a long-term investment in Minnesota's future generations. For more information, visit www.yesformn.org.

R2AC Recognizes Donors

Region 2 Arts Council gratefully acknowledges contributions from our donors.

Becky and Bob Agnew	Shirley J. Gilmore
Malotte Backer	Christine Hrdina
Bemidji Community Theater	Betty Masoner
M. Fern Birnstihl	Anita R. Norden
Louise Bottrell	Diane Pittman & Lawrence Krantz
Craig Dunn	Patrick Riley & Natalie Roholt
Shannon Geisen	Eve Sumsky

Showcase Artist

Dawn Standera

Necklace is wrapped in waxed linen. The stone is Swamp Bog Jasper.



~ See Page 4 for more from Dawn ~

NORTHERN ARTS NEWS is a free publication of the Region 2 Arts Council, published 6 times per year, with a distribution of over 1,300.

Funded by a grant from the McKnight Foundation, *Northern Arts News* provides news and information to artists in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnommen counties of north central Minnesota.

We welcome:

- story topic ideas;
- guest commentary topic ideas;
- names to add to our mailing list;
- collaboration and registration notifications.

To submit information and/or to be added to our mailing list, contact the R2AC office:

Call: 218-751-5447 or 1-800-275-5447

FAX: 218-751-2777

E-mail: r2arts@paulbunyan.net

Website: www.r2arts.org

Northern Arts News
Region 2 Arts Council
426 Bemidji Avenue
Bemidji, MN 56601

Fiscal Year 2009 Board of Directors

Karen Edevold, <i>Chair</i>	Clearwater	694-6201
Suzi Rhae Ross, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Beltrami	335-8486
Sue Hopkins, <i>Secretary</i>	LOW	647-3343
Germaine Riegert, <i>Treasurer</i>	Mahnomen	473-2566
Patt Rall	Beltrami	755-8942
Christine Rudnicki	LOW	783-3155
Deane Johnson	Hubbard	252-8130
Marilyn Melby	Clearwater	657-2364
Cynthia Ekren	Hubbard	652-4257
Lois Schaedler	Mahnomen	935-2843

Executive Director: Terri Widman

Executive Assistant: Kay McCune

Newsletter Editor: Amy Zimmermann

Permission to reprint *Northern Arts News* is granted (excluding Guest Commentary) so long as *Northern Arts News* is credited as the source.

GUEST COMMENTARY inquiries are invited. Submit your topic idea to Terri Widman by telephone, FAX, or e-mail. Selected works must be previously unpublished and fit within the space allotment.

Due to the advanced print deadlines of this publication, we suggest that you call to confirm dates, times, and other pertinent information about events and opportunities listed here.

Region 2 Arts Council Grant Deadlines

Jan. 7, 2009	R2AC/McKnight Grants for Arts Organizations
Feb. 11, 2009	Individual Artists Grants
Mar. 4, 2009	Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grants
Mar. 11, 2009	Arts Project Grants

Staff assistance is available to all applicants to discuss ideas, select artists, or to complete the application form.

To request an application or assistance, contact Terri Widman at 218-751-5447 or 800-275-5447. To download application, visit www.r2arts.org.

Theatre Performances

Mask and Rose Theater

Happy Christmas Tommy

School shows: November 25 and 26 at 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Contact Patty Lester at patty@vehs.org for scheduling and study guide.

Appropriate for grades five - high school.

Cost: \$5 per student

Nuncrackers

December 5, 6, 8, 12, 13 at 7 p.m.

Matinees: December 7 and 14 at 1 p.m.

Adults: \$12 Students K-college: \$5

Tickets to both shows are on sale at Bridgid's Cross Irish Pub on Nov. 17. Shows are held at the Wild Rose Theater, 501 Bemidji Ave. Bemidji.

Long Lake Theater

A Christmas Story

December 4-7 and 11-14

Thurs.-Sat. at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m.

Located in historic, downtown Hubbard (about 8 miles south of Park Rapids). For tickets, call 218-732-0099 or visit www.longlaketheater.net. Adults \$14; Children (4-12) \$7; lap children free; Groups (15 or more) \$12.50.

Other Performances

A Christmas Carol

A rock 'n roll version presented by Greg Gasman, Karen Bradley, Wayne Hoff and the Boys and Girls Club of Bemidji

December 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13

Performances at the Boys and Girls Club of Bemidji

Tickets available at Bridgid's Cross, Harmony Foods Co-op and the Boys and Girls Club.

Call for Artists

Community Art Festival

TrekNorth Junior and Senior High School

Festival date: Saturday, November 22

Cost: \$25 participation fee and a 5% donation of gross sales to TrekNorth Scholarship Fund.

This fund helps those students needing financial help to participate in TrekNorth's Outdoor Adventure Program and to support the Performing and Visual Arts Programs within the school.

This venue will provide wall space and tables at no cost.

For more information or to request an application contact TrekNorth High School office at 218-444-1888.



Gallery North

Gallery North is accepting applications for wall artists.

Information packets available at Gallery North, 502 3rd St. Bemidji. 218-444-9814.

Northern Arts News Submission deadline

December 7

for the

Jan./Feb. issue

Please send to:

amy.zimmermann@hotmail.com

r2arts@paulbunyan.net

OPPORTUNITIES

Forecast Public Art Grant Opportunities

This annual grant program supports emerging artists and interdisciplinary teams. These grants provide artists the opportunity to develop and create projects for a public audience anywhere in the state. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Funding Categories:

- Category 1: Research and Development
- Category 2: Public Project
- Category 3: University Avenue
Commission

Applications must be received by:
November 14 at 4:30 p.m.

To be eligible, an applicant must be a Minnesota resident and an emerging artist.

For more information or an application, visit www.forecastpublicart.org, call 651-641-1128 or e-mail info@forecastpublicart.org.

Grants Available to Artists with Disabilities

Minnesota artists with disabilities can apply to receive a Career Advancement Grant of \$1,250 from VSA arts of Minnesota.

Seven grants will be awarded to visual artists, performers, writers or artists of any medium. Artists must propose a project for which they need funding, as well as submit work samples, an artist resume and artist statement.

Deadline: November 21

For more information or an application, call 612-332-3888 or 800-801-3883, visit www.vsaartsmn.org, or e-mail jon@vsaartsmn.org.

Bush Artist Fellows Program Deadlines

Bush Artist Fellowships supports artists at critical points in their development with resources that enable them to deepen and advance their work and foster their careers.

Up to 15 artists receive \$50,000 each distributed over 12- to 24-month period. Selection is by national panel of working artists and arts professionals in a rigorous two-step process. Artist must be at least 25 years old at the time of the application.

Application Deadlines:
November 7 and 14, 2008
Available at www.bushfoundation.org.

2009 Categories:

- Literary Arts
- Performance-Based Work
- Script Works
- Music Composition
- Traditional and Ethnic Performing Arts

For more information, call 651-227-0891 or 800-605-7315 or e-mail artists@bushfoundations.org.

About the Showcase Artist Dawn Standera

Artist's Statement:

I knot because it is fascinating to watch a design form out of a tangle of string. I work in Cavandoli Macrame which is an intricate form of knotting used to create geometric designs.



Visit Dawn's web site at SoulCandyJewelry.etsy.com

Bemidji Symphony Orchestra

"Miraculous Fanfares"

Sunday, November 23, 2008

3 p.m.

Bemidji High School

Tickets: \$25

Features Beethoven's Prometheus Overture,
Hayden's Symphony No. 96 "Miracle."
Acclaimed pianist Andre Watts with Rachmaninoff's Piano
Concerto No. 2

Holiday Concert and Messiah Sing-A-Long

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

7:30 p.m.

BSU Main Theater

Free Admission

For more information, visit www.bemidjisymphony.org

Audition Notice

Singers needed for a fully staged and choreographed production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance* to be performed in late March.

Auditions will be held in mid-to-late November at a time and place which is not yet chosen.

For more information, contact Dick Lueben at 751-9194 or lueben@paulbunyan.net.

Anderson Center Residencies

The Anderson Center offers two-week to one-month residencies from May through October on their estate in Red Wing, MN. Food, lodging, and studio space is provided.

Residencies from May - July, apply by **Feb. 1**. Residencies from August - October, apply by **March 1**.

For more information or an application: Anderson Center at Tower View, PO Box 406, 163 Tower Dr. Rd, Red Wing, MN 55066. 651-388-2009. info@andersoncenter.com or visit www.andersoncenter.org.

Minnesota Percent for Artist Registry

The Minnesota State Arts Board is pleased to announce the Artist Registry is now open at www.percentforart.us. The registry is a collection of resumes and work samples of visual artists in all disciplines who would like to be considered for public art commissions and purchases. There is no fee to join.

E-mail msab@arts.state.mn.us or call 651-215-1617 for more information.

Reif Center Performances

Reif Dance Company Nutcracker

December 12 - 13

7p.m.

December 14

2p.m.

Ticket Cost: \$12, \$11, \$8

Sister's Catechism Christmas

December 19

2p.m. Cost: \$15

7:30p.m. Cost: \$25

For tickets: Call 218-327-5780

reifcenter.org

Reif Center

Myles Reif Performing Arts Center

720 Conifer Drive

Grand Rapids, MN 55744

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK

Nov. 7

Dec. 5

Downtown Bemidji

More information in our "Calendar of Events" under each participating business or gallery.

NOVEMBER

Through November

Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse will present the ceramic works of Cyrus Swann. **First Friday** opening reception 3-5 p.m. Nov. 7th. 523 Minnesota Ave. NW, downtown Bemidji. 218-444-5282.

Through November

Bemidji Community Art Center will feature "It's Only Clay - 2008" in the Main Gallery. In Gallery X2: "Working Potter" by Linda Christianson, 2008 Juror of the "It's Only Clay" 2008 exhibit. **First Friday** opening reception Dec. 7th 5-7 p.m. 426 Bemidji Ave N. (Carnegie Library). www.bcac.wordpress.com 218-444-7570.

Nov. 7 Headwaters School of Music and Arts and the Paul Bunyan Theater present Peter Ostroushko in Concert with Sam Miltich. 7:30 p.m. at the Historic Chief Theater in downtown Bemidji. Cost: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Tickets available at Headwaters School, Music Outlet and Overbeek Music. 218-444-5606.

Nov. 7-8 28th Annual Christmas Art & Craft Celebration and Women's Showcase. Century School Complex, Park Rapids. Fri. 10-5 p.m. Sat. 9-5 p.m. Cost: \$2 adults, \$1 teens, children free.

218-732-9439.

Nov. 8 & 15 Headwater School of Music and Arts presents a Creative Writing Workshop with Dr. CarolAnn Russell. *Unexpected Correspondence - A kind of spiritual departure.* 1-5 p.m. Cost: \$75. 218-444-5606.

Nov. 11 & 18 Gallery North Beginning oil painting with Grace Garland and Marion Reil. This is a two part class with all materials furnished. Call Grace for more information. 218-759-2952.

Nov. 15 Tinsel & Lace Showcase & Artisan Boutique. WHA School, Walker. 9-3 p.m. Free. 218-547-4360.

Nov. 20 & 22 Heim-made Yuletide Arts and Crafts Show. Featuring hand made products, hand-picked wild rice and other items. 4-7 p.m. on the 20th and 10-3 p.m. on 22nd. 18582 Battle River Rd., Kelliher. 218-647-8373.

DECEMBER

Through December

Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse will present Timothy Brockman's "Forest Quilts" a collection of wooden visuals. **First Friday** opening reception 3-5 p.m. Dec. 5th. 523 Minnesota Ave. NW, downtown Bemidji. 218-444-5282.

Dec. 2 Beltrami County Historical Society will host its annual juried "Lefse Festival Cook-off". Includes music, refreshments, lefse samples, vendors and door prizes. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Hampton Inn, Bemidji. 218-444-3376.

Dec. 5 Bemidji Community Art Center's Holiday Get Together to

meet artists from "Shop 426" a new gallery retail shop featuring work for sale by local and regional artists. 5-7 p.m. 426 Bemidji Ave N. (Carnegie Library). www.bcac.wordpress.com. 218-444-7570.

Dec. 9 Gallery North presents Painting on feathers! All materials furnished. Leave with a framed feather painting. 1-4 p.m. Call Marion Reil for more information. 218-751-7741.

Dec. 13 Beltrami County Historical Society will host morning and afternoon High Tea. Participants encouraged to wear vintage hats/clothing. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at History Center. Cost: \$10 adults, \$5 children. 218-444-3376.

Dec. 20 & 21 First City Dance Studio presents the Christmas Classic "The Nutcracker." 7 p.m. on 20th and 1 p.m. on 21st. Cost: \$3, kids 5 and under free. Tickets available at First City Dance Studio and 30 minutes before the show. Performance at Mask and Rose Theater in the Masonic Temple. 218-751-5425.

History Society Fundraiser

The Beltrami County Historical Society is raffling off "History is a Gas" raffle tickets for a gas card from Kenny's of downtown Bemidji. Winners can win \$250, \$150, or \$100 worth of gas!

Raffle drawings will be during the Lefse Festival December 2nd at the Hampton Inn. Tickets may be purchased at the History Center, Kenny's, Ink Spot, Grandma's Attic, Classic Cuts and Kut & Style. For more information, call 218-444-3376.

*Bemidji Chorale
Christmas Concert*

Sunday, December 7, 2008
3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

First Lutheran Church
9th Street and Bemidji Avenue
Bemidji

No admission charge. Free will offering appreciated.

For more information, contact Leanne Jaskowiak at 218-444-6665 or visit www.bemidjichorale.org.

*40th Annual
BSU Madrigal Dinner*

December 4, 5, 6, 7, 13
Beaux Arts Ballroom
7 p.m.
5 p.m. Sunday

Reserve your tickets!
Call 218-755-3406
Cost: \$35

BSU Department of Music
For more information, call
218-755-3406

BCAC News

Bemidji Community Art Center is looking for new board members for the upcoming year.

For more information, contact Lori at the BCAC at 218-444-7570 or bcac@paulbunyan.net.

Bemidji State University
Music Department Concerts

November

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1 | "Remember When" Jazz I
8 p.m. | Jammers Club
\$7 adults, \$5 seniors, BSU students free |
| 2 | "Fall Festival Choir Concert"
3 p.m. | Bangsberg Main Theatre
\$5 adults, \$3 seniors, students free |
| 15 | "Wind Ensemble Home Concert"
7:30 p.m. | Bangsberg Main Theatre
\$5 adults, \$3 seniors, students free |
| 22 | "Opera Scenes"
7:30 p.m. | Bangsberg Main Theatre |
| 23 | "Symphonic Band Concert"
7:30 p.m. | Bangsberg Main Theatre |

December

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 6 | "Percussion Ensemble Concert"
3 p.m. | Thompson Recital Hall |
| 8 | "Varsity Singers Community Christmas"
7:30 p.m. | Bangsberg Main Theatre
Canned goods admission |
| 10 | "Jingle Jazz"
7:30p.m. | Thompson Recital Hall
\$5 adults, \$3 seniors, students free |

Reminder: Year end donations are tax deductible.

R2AC Donation Form

Become a **partner** in developing the arts in north central Minnesota. Join R2AC today! Your donation is tax deductible. Please mail your annual donation to: R2AC, 426 Bemidji Ave, Bemidji, MN 56601.

Name _____
Address _____
Telephone _____ E-mail _____

LEVELS OF PARTNERSHIP

CONTRIBUTOR _____	\$10	DONOR _____	\$25
SUPPORTER _____	\$50	SUSTAINER _____	\$100
PATRON _____	\$250	BENEFACTOR _____	\$500 & Up



Region 2 Arts Council
426 Bemidji Ave.
Bemidji, MN 56601-3139

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Bemidji, MN
Permit #108

Inside this issue:

Vote Yes for the Arts	p. 2
Call for Artists	p. 3
Bush Artist Fellows	p. 4
Audition Notice	p. 5
BSU Madrigal Dinner	p. 7

NORTHERN ARTS NEWS is a free publication of the Region 2 Arts Council, funded by a grant from the McKnight Foundation. Mission: "The Region 2 Arts Council strengthens the presence of the arts by supporting opportunities for arts creation, promotion, education, and funding for the people of Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnommen Counties."

Noteworthy

Vivienne Morgan, Bemidji artist, has her work "Golden Promise" in the Urban Legends and Country Tales exhibition at the Bonita Museum in Bonita, California.

Jayson Knutson, Bemidji, has been inducted into the National Society of Poets in 2008 and has won Best Poet of 2008.



*The Region 2 Arts Council Board
of Directors and staff
join in wishing you a
joyous and peaceful
holiday season.*

STUDIO FOR RENT

The Bemidji Community Arts Center has studio space available for rent in the lower level.

\$85 a month.

Contact Lori at 218-444-7570 or bcac@paulbunyan.net.