A Journey for Beauty

By Fawn Bakken

When is it that we find our “it?” Our passion, our talent, our driving inspiration? My heart was sold at an early age to my grandparents’ beautiful 1920’s dark, majestic piano. When I played, my imagination led me to believe I was playing a masterpiece, and I loved the feeling of the smooth, cool keys under my fingers. My parents invested in a piano and lessons when I was eight, and that was it - piano became my identity.

Ten years later I was a music student at Bemidji State University, and became artistically inspired in new ways. Studying music theory in Dr. Riley’s classes fascinated me. Discovering new piano pieces, such as Chopin’s “Raindrop” prelude, and “Cortège” by the young French composer Lili Boulanger, taught me of beauty in music and drove me to dig deeper into the keys. After completing my Senior Recital with the melody of Rachmaninoff’s G minor etude still soaring in my spirit, I had a degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy, and no plans to leave Bemidji, the “art-siest” city I knew.

In 2003, I stepped inside the doors of Headwaters School of Music & the Arts in downtown Bemidji. HSMA affirmed that piano and I were still attached at my fingertips when piano teacher became my identity. These days, it is my greatest joy to teach one-on-one, hear funny stories from my students who love to share more than just piano with me, and to see them enraptured by a piece of music they can play with their eyes closed. Just recently, 6-year-old Abigail Fettig told me she had practiced “Jesus Loves Me” until she fell asleep. What is more inspiring than the lit-up face of a young child delighting in music?

I believe the arts inspire us in a powerful and invigorating ways. As a piano teacher, I want to share that passion for art with my students. I want them to hear a strong chord that causes them to exclaim, “That sounds cool!” I want them to realize music is not only about counting and hitting the right notes, but a way to express themselves and create something that makes them feel happy and accomplished inside.

My dad once told me he thought Bemidji was the crown jewel of Minnesota - and I can’t help but smile in agreement. Whether I am reading a Sara Teasdale poem at Cantabria, studying Berthe Morisot paintings in old books at the BSU Library, or playing a Rhapsody by Brahms on the grand piano at HSMA, I am encouraged to learn more, and to collect more art for my soul’s gallery right here.

I like to say I live on a journey seeking beauty in art: a journey that keeps me in this community working with arts organizations and artists to provide such events as the Bemidji Library Book Festival, Art in the Park, and live music each summer weekend at Lake Bemidji State Park. Surrounding me is an endless path in discovering hidden gems of art. Art livens my spirit within, and my soul’s gallery collection continues to flourish.

Fawn Bakken, a native of Hallock, MN is a piano teacher at Headwaters School of Music & the Arts in downtown Bemidji.

Region 2 Arts Council
Seeking Board Members:
Lake of the Woods & Mahnomen Counties

R2AC is seeking board members from Lake of the Woods and Mahnomen Counties to fill a two-year term vacancy.

Those who feel that the visual, performing and literary arts are an important contribution to the quality of life in north central Minnesota are encouraged to consider serving on the board of Region 2 Arts Council.

The board is responsible for planning, setting policy and reviewing and awarding grants. It meets in Bemidji seven times per year on the third Monday of the month. Members are reimbursed for travel.

Region 2 Arts Council is one of eleven arts councils in the state of Minnesota and awards over $230,000 annually for art activities in the five counties of Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahnomen. The council operates with funds from the Minnesota State Legislature, the Arts and Cultural Heritage Legacy Funds and the McKnight Foundation.

To receive an application, please e-mail: staff@r2arts.org or write to: Nominating Committee, Region 2 Arts Council, 426 Bemidji Ave, Bemidji, MN 56601; or call 218-751-5447 or 800-275-5447.

Completed applications must be received by August 1, 2011.
R2AC Offers Grants

Contingent upon funding, R2AC has several upcoming grant deadlines for eligible artists and art organizations in Region 2 which includes Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnomen Counties. For information and applications, contact R2AC.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant
August 16 & January 17
Grants provide opportunities for arts, arts access, arts education, cultural heritage activities. Individuals can apply for grants up to $3,000, and organizations can apply for grants up to $6,000.

Arts Project Grants
September 14 & March 14
Assist organizations in the creation and production of arts projects. Organizations can apply for grants up to $1,500.

R2AC/McKnight Career Development Fellowship
September 14
Recognize, reward, and encourage excellence and career advancement of individual artists. Two $6,000 fellowships are awarded per year.

Anishinaabe Arts Initiative
October 6 & March 6
Support individual native artists in creating and promoting their art. Artists can apply for grants up to $1,000. Residents of Roseau, Becker, Itasca, and Cass counties are also encouraged to apply.

Individual Artists Grants
October 5 & February 7
Support individual artists in creating and promoting their art. Artists can apply for grants up to $1,000.

Community Arts Support Grants
February 15
Foster the development and sustainability of new and existing arts organizations. Community Arts Support Grants are two year awards.

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 the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund and the McKnight Foundation, Northern Arts News provides news and information to artists in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahnomen 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: staff@r2arts.org
Website: http://r2arts.org

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

Fiscal Year 2012
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Beltrami 755-8942
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Program Coordinator: Laura Dehler-Seter
Executive Assistant: Holly Alcott
Newsletter Editor: Amy Zimmermann

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GUEST COMMENTARY inquiries are invited. Submit your topic idea to Laura Dehler-Seter by telephone, FAX, or e-mail ldehlerseter@r2arts.org. Submitted 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.
R2AC Awards Arts Project Grants

R2AC awarded $23,990 through the Arts Project Grants Program for organizations and schools to create or produce an arts project or event. Grant recipients include:

**Headwaters School of Music and the Arts, Bemidji,** received $3,000 to host the third annual Lakes Area Drumset Camp.

**Blank Canvas Gallery and Education Center, Park Rapids,** was awarded $2,200 to provide extended art education activities for school children through an art show and summer youth camps that utilize the expertise of experienced art teachers and coordinators.

**Bemidji Community Arts Council** received $2,885 to, in collaboration with Bemidji State University, present the 9th Annual “It's Only Clay” National Juried Ceramic Competition and exhibit.

**Park Rapids Lakes Area Council** was awarded $2,745 to produce the Youth Music and Art Showcase III featuring the artistic/musical talents of Park Rapids area youth August 18-20.

**Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji,** received $1,505 to present the Roe Family Singers in a concert of old-time mountain music on October 15 in Bemidji.

**District 309 Community Education, Bagley,** was awarded $1,600 to assist in creating a Kids Theater Camp to engage students in writing, developing, designing and producing an original play with music.

**Bemidji - First City for Arts Studio Cruise 2011** received $1,500 to organize and promote a self-guided tour of working artists at their studios in the Bemidji Area on October 21-23, 2011.

**ACLU-MN Greater MN Racial Justice Project, Bemidji,** was awarded $735 to create a cross-cultural art exhibit of Indigenous (American Indian) art that focuses on the first 10 amendments of the U.S. Constitution’s Bill of Rights with a theme of loss/hope.

**Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council** received $1,235 to partner with Park Rapids Community Education to sponsor a performance by an award-winning bluegrass band from the Czech Republic.

**Bemidji Community Theater** was awarded $3,000 to produce “A Christmas Carol,” complete with costumes, sets and music reminiscent of Charles Dickens’ Victorian England in December 2011 at the Paul Bunyan Playhouse in Bemidji.

**Jackpine Writers’ Bloc, Menahga,** received $985 to produce a six-week exhibit in which twenty literacy artists write poems, essays or stories inspired by the works of twenty visual artists the results of which will be shown at the Blank Canvas Gallery in Park Rapids.

**Headwaters School of Music and the Arts, Bemidji,** was awarded $2,100 to present a series of music and art performances at the Lake Bemidji State Park Amphitheater.

**Bemidji Community Arts Center** received $500 to continue its Spoken Word Series with readings by Mark R. Christensen April 30, Susan C. Hauser, Oct. 2 and others.

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R2AC Awards Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grants

R2AC recently awarded $6,170 through the Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Program to support, maintain and promote traditional and contemporary Native American arts. Grant recipients include:

**Duane Goodwin,** Bemidji, received $1,000 to purchase stone carving rock to continue his work as a sculptor.

**Debra A. Hawthorne,** Puposky, was awarded $1,000 to make hand-sewn Anishinaabe theme bags to show and sell.

**Joseph J. Allen,** Ogema, received $1,000 to purchase equipment and supplies to promote and sell his photographs at the Twin Cities American Indian Art Festival and the Powderhorn Art Fair.

**Laurie May,** Red Lake, was awarded $1,000 to expand her knowledge and practice of applique Ojibwe floral art on regalia.

**Doreen Ann Wells,** Redby, received $719 to purchase a computer to use in creation of a web site to promote and sell her various forms of art including beading, fiber art and pottery.

**Elaine Flemming,** Cass Lake, was awarded $918 to write a visual theater piece using mixed media.

**Celia Littlecreek,** Red Lake, received $533 to purchase materials to create, display, promote and sell her pottery at Bemidji Art in the Park and submit it to the “It’s Only Clay” juried show.

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R2AC Newsletter is Online!

*Northern Arts News* is now online at [http://r2arts.org/newsletter](http://r2arts.org/newsletter).
To subscribe send an e-mail to staff@r2arts.org with “Newsletter” as the subject.
Opportunities

CALL FOR ARTISTS

The City of Bemidji Chief Bemidji Statue Project
The City of Bemidji, working with the Parks and Trails Commission and its Chief Bemidji Statue Project sub-committee, wishes to commission an artist, or artist team, to design, fabricate and install a new sculpture of Chief Bemidji near the west shore of Lake Bemidji.

Deadline: September 19, 2011

RFQ can be viewed on the at www.ci.bemidji.mn.us.

2nd Annual Opener Art Festival
Visual arts show/sale open to artists in all areas of visual art with 48 booths available. Electricity, tables and chairs are included in your fees.

Fee: $90 includes 10x10 booth and processing fee (before July 15th)
Open until full

Opener date: November 5
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
New City Ballroom

Artwork will be juried – Submit 3-5 photos of proposed art with application. For information and applications, visit www.OpenerArtFestival.com or call 218-556-5907.

Send applications to Wildflower Design Studios, PO Box 610, Bemidji, MN 56619.

Call for Illustrators

In 2012, Girl Scouts will celebrate its 100th anniversary. Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys (GSRV), seeks to commission an illustration by an emerging female illustrator to commemorate this milestone.

The illustration should provide a compelling representation of Girl Scouting that connects our first 100 years with the next – evoking the power of the “long green line” of women role models. The illustration will be used to produce a run of prints, posters and other commemorative products to be determined.

Deadline: 5 p.m. July 8
Theme: Inspiring Generations of Girls Who Change the World

For the request for proposal, contact Ana Ashby at Ana.Ashby@GirlScoutsRV.org or 651-251-1278.

Showcase Artist
Carstie Clausen

Artist’s Statement:

The wizard willow commands respect and recognition. Where the rot adds to the magic is my egress onto the road less taken. It is a second path, perhaps a sacred path, a path not readily accessible to urban-based artists.

Denizen
stickman@gvtel.com
**R2AC Offers Free Grant Writing Workshops**

R2AC will offer free grant writing workshops for anyone interested in applying for a McKnight Career Development Fellowship, Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant, Community Arts Support Grants (CAS), Arts Project Grant or an Individual Artist Grant within the Region 2 area serving Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahnomen counties. Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grants are open to native artists residing in Region 2 and the counties of Roseau, Becker, Itasca and Cass. These workshops will familiarize potential applicants with the application process, eligible projects, how to develop a project budget and other tips.

**Workshop Dates**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park Rapids</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Library Conf. Rm.</td>
<td>5:00 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Artist Grant/</td>
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<td>McKnight Career Development Fellowship</td>
<td>6:30 – 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bagley</td>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>Faith Lutheran Church</td>
<td>5:00 – 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Artist Grant/</td>
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<td>McKnight Career Development Fellowship</td>
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<td>Arts Project Grant/CAS</td>
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<td>7:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bemidji</td>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>R2AC Office</td>
<td>5:00 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Individual Artist Grant/</td>
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<td>McKnight Career Development Fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bagley</td>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>LOW High School ITV Rm</td>
<td>5:00 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Individual Artist Grant/</td>
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<td>Red Apple Cafe</td>
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<td>McKnight Career Development Fellowship</td>
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<td>Bagley</td>
<td>August 11</td>
<td>Minwanjie Cafe</td>
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<td>Individual Artist Grant/</td>
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<td>Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bemidji</td>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>R2AC Office</td>
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<td>Individual Artist Grant/</td>
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<td>Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grant</td>
<td>5:00 – 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Cass Lake</td>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>Leech Lake Tribal College</td>
<td>12:00 – 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Individual Artist Grant/</td>
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<td>Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grant</td>
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<td>Ogema</td>
<td>August 25</td>
<td>Tribal Council HQ Bldg.</td>
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<td>Red Lake</td>
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ADVANCE REGISTRATION is required. To reserve a place in a free workshop or further information, please call 218-751-5447 or 1-800-275-5447 or e-mail staff@r2arts.org.

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**I dream a lot. I do more painting when I'm not painting. It's in the subconscious.**

~ Andrew Wyeth
Theater and Fleur de Lis Gallery in the Aftermath exhibit at the Wild Rose presents the opening of the Navigating Arts Center and Saarens Productions July 1-13 Bemidji Community Legislature. Funding from the Minnesota State provided by the R2AC through is made possible, in part, by a grant wcta.net for information. This activity stories. 218-237-2770 or sharrick1@ from the art to create poetry or short Bloc were selected to draw inspiration and 20 writers from Jackpine Writers’ submitted works in various media Canvas Gallery, 311 Main Ave S. in of Art and the Written Word at Blank “20x20 Exhibit” -- A combination Through July 17 The Blank Canvas Gallery presents the “20x20 Exhibit” -- A combination of Art and the Written Word at Blank Canvas Gallery, 311 Main Ave S. in Park Rapids, MN. 20 BCG artists submitted works in various media and 20 writers from Jackpine Writers’ Bloc were selected to draw inspiration from the art to create poetry or short stories. 218-237-2770 or sharrick1@wcta.net for information. This activity is made possible, in part, by a grant provided by the R2AC through funding from the Minnesota State Legislature.

July 1-13 Bemidji Community Arts Center and Saarens Productions present the opening of the Navigating the Aftermath exhibit at the Wild Rose Theater and Fleur de Lis Gallery in Bemidji. This exhibit will feature art and film by Minnesotans and Iraqis in dialogue on the current state of the war, Iraq’s 4.7 million refugees and on Iraq’s present and future. Opening Reception from 5-8 p.m. July 1st at the Fleur de Lis Gallery with a 7 p.m. presentation. A screening of the Unreturned and discussion with Director Nathan Fisher will be at 7:30 p.m. July 13 in the Wild Rose Theater. www.bcac.wordpress.com.

July 9 Bagley Art in the Park, Bagley City Park overlooking Lake Lomond. 9 - 3 p.m. A day of art and activities. 218-694-6164.

July 16 Mudsong: A Swamp Tale Sung in the Blues performance at 6 p.m. at the Lake Bemidji State Park Stage featureing Craig Haugen, Pete McDonnell, Mary Overlie, Aaron Schnackenberg, Aaron Tank and Augusta Volstad. www.maryo.org/mudsong.

AUGUST

Through August
Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse presents a multi media collaboration of over a dozen artists working with the theme of an orchid. The show includes paintings, sculpture, glass works and fiber arts. Join us for the opening reception on First Friday Aug. 5, 3-5 p.m. After the Art Walk, experience Wild Hare’s own culinary artists at the First Friday Wine Bar, 5-9 p.m., featuring a new menu every month and wine and beer list to match. 523 Minnesota Ave., downtown Bemidji. 444-JAVA or wildharebistro.com.

Aug. 1-5 Headwaters School of Music and the Arts presents its 3rd Annual Lakes Area Drumset Camp from 10-5 p.m. Open to all percussionists. Each participant will spend the majority of camp behind their own kit, playing in the mass drumset ensemble and small sectionals. Each participant will receive the Drumset Camp method book, resource CD and 2011 camp T-shirt. Applications available at HSMA or call Eric Sundeen at 218-444-7336. This activity is made possible, in part, by a grant from R2AC through funding from the Minnesota State Legislature.

Aug. 1-6 Pequana Playhouse presents its Children’s Theatre Workshop facilitated by Prairie Fire Theatre at the Lake of the Woods School in Baudette. Registration is at 8 a.m. Monday Aug. 1. Participants must be age 7 or older. Production is Beauty and the Beast with the performances Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m. Admission: $5.

Aug. 10 Drawing the Figure Workshop presented by Mary Therese Peterson at the Fern Lake Studio from 5-9 p.m. Fee: $45. Enjoy an evening of fun and challenge working with the model and a variety of techniques and mediums. Bring a sack meal and bev-
Theater Performances

Paul Bunyan Playhouse
Lend Me a Tenor
July 6 - 16

21A
July 20 - 30

The Full Monty
August 3 - 13

Downtown Bemidji in the historic Chief Theatre. Evening performances start at 8 p.m. Sunday matinee performances at 2 p.m. Tickets: 218-751-7270 or www.paulbunyan-playhouse.com.

Long Lake Theater
The Last Resort
July 6 - 30

Brighton Beach Memoirs
August 3 - 27

Performances are Wednesdays at 3 p.m. and Thursday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: visit www.longlaketheater.com, call (218) 732-0099 or stop by Sister Wolf Books (Dorset) and Beagle Books (Park Rapids). Long Lake Theater is located in Hubbard, MN (8 miles SE of Park Rapids).

The Northern Light Opera Company
The Music Man
July 29 - 31
August 4 - 6


Summer State Park Concert Series

Sit back, relax and enjoy music in the midst of natural beauty at our state park this summer. Local and state-wide musicians will provide weekend entertainment in the amphitheater at Lake Bemidji State Park. The concerts are free to everyone.

**JULY**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Performer</th>
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<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Timberline</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Bill and Kate Isles</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Free Indeed</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Northern Bass</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Ruby Tuesday</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
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**AUGUST**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>The Pinestones</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Bluebird</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Lance Benson</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
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This activity is made possible, in part, by a grant from the R2AC through funding from the Minnesota State Legislature. For more information, call HSMA at 218-444-5606.

Headwaters School of Music and the Arts presents

Comics Workshop

Do you like to draw and tell stories? Graphic novelist Erik Evensen will share his expertise in the field of comics in this unique, hands-on studio workshop. Students will create a comics project from start to finish. All skill levels welcome.

August 15 & 17
August 22 & 24
6:30 - 8 p.m.
Ages: 14 - Adults

Summer Private Lessons

The instructors at HSMA will teach from July - Sept. 2, 2011. Call 218-444-5606 to sign up with an instructor specializing in the instrument of choice.

For more information, call HSMA at 218-444-5606.

Nemeth Art Center (formerly North Country Museum of Art)

**June 28 - July 30**

The Great Carving Exhibition
This exhibit features Paul Albright and The Loon Country Carvers.

**August 2 - 25**

Quilts in the Pines
The 4th Biannual Crazy Quilters Exhibit will be an outdoor exhibition and reception held in the courtyard from 2-4 p.m. on Aug. 6 (rain date Aug. 13). Work will be on display in the Great Gallery and the four smaller galleries.

**August 25 - September 29**

1st Annual Member’s Show
Reception: 7 - 10 p.m. August 25
The Good Life Cafe in Park Rapids will host the reception and exhibit. The Member’s Show is open to the Art Center members who have personally created works (amateurs and professionals) or works they would like to share from their art collections.

Deadline for entry is August 6th.
A portion of reception ticket sales and 20% of art sales will go to the Art Center.

**Nemeth Art Center hours:**
10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
nemethartcenter.org

This activity is made possible, in part, by a grant from the R2AC through funding from the Minnesota State Legislature. For more information, call HSMA at 218-444-5606.
**Noteworthy**

Jane Freeman’s watercolor paintings can be found in L’Art De L’Aquarelle No 8, a French Watercolor Magazine that featured six pages of her work. In addition, Life-Styles, a company out of the United Kingdom, chose one of her peony images to use for their trays and place mats.

Vivienne Morgan exhibits her work Werner 7:09 17 in “Early Morning After Dark,” an exhibit at the Minnesota Photo Center. This exhibit was juried by Peter Howe, former editor of the New York Times Magazine and Director of Photography for LIFE magazine. The exhibit opened June 24th and runs through August 13. www.mplsphotocenter.com/exhibits/WAAP-jury.php.

**R2AC Awards Individual Artist Grants**

R2AC recently awarded $7,700 through the Individual Artist Grant Program to individual artists through an appropriation from the McKnight Foundation.

**Wayne Shilson** was awarded $1,000 to assist in his travels to Paris to complete the circle of his version of Camille Pissarro’s Paris Series with the missing Pantheon series from the Boulevard Morland.

**Anne Meredith Will** received $535 to record a CD of original songs and covers with Kari Munson and Jessica Conrad to promote their musical group Bluebird.

**Sean McCray** was awarded $700 to attend a photography workshop with nature photographers John and Barbara Gerlach at Pictured Rocks National Shoreline in Northern Michigan.

**Monica Hansmeyer** received $1,000 to purchase a 45mm perspective control lens to facilitate the creation of a photographic series.

**Amy Rutten** received $915 to attend a 3-day writing workshop in Stockbridge, MA given by Natalie Goldberg author of *Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within*.

**Mary Overlie** was awarded $750 to assist in her presentation of original jazz, blues, and rock songs that tell the story of a motherless child and the search for home with wisdom being conveyed by otters, muskrats, loons and others.

**Jennifer Kovach** was awarded $800 to assist her in a mentorship with Jason Colvin in his St. Paul Studio.

**Paula Swenson** was awarded $1,000 to make accurate high resolution images of her art for reproduction and archiving.