R2AC 2011 Arts Project Grant Awards

Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) awarded $35,350 in 2011 through the Arts Project Grants Program, for organizations and schools to create or produce an arts project or event. The grant recipients included:

**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**, received $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, Bemidji**, was awarded $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 Arts Council, Park Rapids**, was awarded $2,745 to produce the Youth Music & Arts Showcase III featuring the artistic/musical talents of Park Rapids area youth August 18-20, 2011.

**Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji**, received $1,505 to present the Roe Family Singers in a concert of old-time mountain music on Saturday October 15, 2011 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 of Arts Studio Cruise 2011, Bemidji**, was awarded $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, Park Rapids**, was awarded $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, Bemidji**, 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 literary 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, MN.

**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, Bemidji**, was awarded $500 to continue its Spoken Word Series with readings by Mark R. Christensen April 30th, Susan C. Hauser, October 2nd and others.
Northern Artist Association, Bemidji, received $1,500 to provide transportation for residents of assisted living facilities and/or nursing homes to visit Gallery North during First Friday Art Events.

Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji, was awarded $1,500 to create a logo, branding guide, web site and promotional brochure for the Historic Chief Theater.

Schoolcraft Learning Community, received $890 to present their Winter (Spring) Concert at the Bemidji High School Performing Arts Center at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2011 (Thursday, May 3, 2012), showcasing both the choirs and the orchestras.

Pequana Playhouse, Baudette, was awarded $1,500 to produce and present the comedy “The Foreigner” in February 2012.

Headwaters School of Music and the Arts, Bemidji received $1,500 to bring music programming to the residents of Gold Pine Homes.

Minnesota Folklore Theater, Akeley was awarded $1,407 to present a youth theater production of “I Am Not a Bully”, an interactive play promoting anti-bully behavior, in area schools.