Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) awarded $104,778 in 2011 through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Program, to individual artists and non-profits in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahnomen counties. The funds will be used to create opportunities for arts access, arts education, and building bridges between Minnesotans and were made available through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund passed by Minnesota voters on November 4, 2008. The grant recipients included:

**The Bagley City Council**, Bagley received $6,000 to assist with the purchase of a metal sculpture, created by a local artist Jay Jones, depicting historical themes that relate to the city.

**Depot Preservation Alliance**, Baudette was awarded $6,000 to obtain the services of a mural artist to research, design, and produce a mural in the Baudette Depot which will reflect the cultural heritage of the region in the early 1900’s.

**Paul Bunyan Playhouse**, Bemidji, received $6,000 to assist Paul Bunyan Playhouse in offering a drama camp for young actors in grade six through high school from the Bemidji Public Schools Summer Learning Communities.

**Aaron Tank**, Bemidji, was awarded $3,000 to conduct five song-sharing workshops and folk music performances in Region 2, and give original recordings to workshop participants.

**Bemidji State University Theater Department**, Bemidji received $3,260 to produce William Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”, in conjunction with a visiting professional costume designer, for the general public and local schools.

**Bemidji Symphony Orchestra**, Bemidji was awarded $6,000 to help provide opportunities for public education, reflection, and dialogue before and after a performance of Murry Sidlin’s “Defiant Requiem” by the Bemidji Symphony Orchestra on May 1, 2011.


**The Arc United**, Bemidji was awarded $2,710 to host artists Maureen O’Brian and Terry Honstead to mentor adults with disabilities in creating a mural and individual collage art to be on public display throughout the state.

**Northern Lights Opera Company**, Park Rapids received $6,000 to present six performances of “The Music Man” July 29 – August 6, 2011 at the Park Rapids Area High School Auditorium.

**LakeWood Care Center**, Baudette was awarded $2,460 to assist in hiring an artist-in-residence, Mary Therese Peterson, to provide care center residents with an opportunity to learn and create art, culminating in an art show.
**CSSI/Hope House, Bemidji** received $4,640 to assist in hiring two artists-in-residence to teach painting and writing skills to people with long-term mental illness, and a public exhibition of the completed projects.

**Roy C. Booth, Bemidji** was awarded $1,520 to assist in producing “Three Zombies and a Movie”, two one act plays “How to make a Brain Soufflé” and “Tenure” adapted from his book “Three Zombies and a Demon” as well as locally produced film, “The Day Lufberry Won It All.”

Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) awarded $54,083 in the spring of 2011 through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Program, to individual artists and non-profits in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahnomen counties. The funds will be used to create opportunities for arts access, arts education, and building bridges between Minnesotans and were made available through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund passed by Minnesota voters on November 4, 2008. The grant recipients included:

**Clear Waters Life Center, Clearbrook** was awarded $6,000 to assist in establishing Art & Drama classes on “Art Mondays” at the Clear Waters Life Center's Gonvick Visual and Performing Arts Center for youth and adults.

**Lake of the Woods School, Baudette,** received $4,990 to hire Don Houseman to teach printmaking to 8th through 12th grade art students for 10 days, culminating with a public show of the students’ work.

**Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji,** was awarded $6,000 to assist in supporting the Paul Bunyan Playhouse Professional Summer Theater 2011.

**Minnesota Folklore Theater, Akeley** received $4,355 to present a children’s theater arts camp June 19-26, 2011 in Akeley, MN.

**Beltrami County Historical Society, Bemidji** was awarded $3,825 to produce “The Middle Years 1941-1963,” a 56-minute TV documentary of Bemidji and Beltrami County, which will combine historic overviews of world events and the relationship to our community.

**Red Lake Nation Boys & Girls Club Unit 2 Ponemah, Ponemah** received $5,200 to encourage youth and elders to participate in community art projects to help promote the well being of their culture through hands-on experience and verbal awareness.

**Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area, Bemidji** was awarded $2,530 to offer courses for club members, aged 6-18, to learn to draw using charcoal pencil and to learn the basics of pottery on two tabletop potters wheels.

**Independent School District #162, Bagley** received $947 to assist Bagley High School Seniors and Drama Club Members to attend the Guthrie Theater production of Shakespeare’s “A Winter’s Tale” in Minneapolis.

**Pequana Playhouse, Baudette** was awarded $3,500 to purchase a professional quality programmable full-size electronic keyboard to be used in rehearsals and performances.

**Headwaters Center for Lifelong Learning, Park Rapids** received $3,340 to offer opportunities to experience the work of regional and local poets at four poetry readings and to attend a play about classic American poet Emily Dickinson.
**Bemidji Symphony Orchestra, Bemidji** was awarded $6,000 to host a performance with Carol Wincenc, a world-renowned flute soloist, who will also provide a master class to regional music students and symphony players.

**Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council, Park Rapids** was awarded $4,400 to produce “Art Leap 2011”, a 2-day open studio event, including a driving tour of artists’ studios and other cultural destinations, live performances and a variety of workshops.

**Audrey Thayer, Bemidji** was awarded $2,996 to create “Homelessness,” a photography exhibit of the human faces of the homeless.