Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) awarded $104,911 through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Program, to arts organizations and non-profits in Beltrami, Hubbard, and Lake of the Woods 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 Bemidji Woodcarvers Club, Bemidji, received $2,705 to provide 3 all-day workshops on Scandinavian flat-plane style woodcarving in Bemidji and Park Rapids, May 18-23, 2012.

North Beltrami Heritage Center, Kelliher, was awarded $2,650 to create a sculpture garden using local materials and plants that reflect the heritage of the surrounding area.

Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council, Park Rapids, received $6,000 to assist artists of many disciplines to perform/show in downtown Park Rapids on the third Thursday of every month.

Mask & Rose Theater Collective, Bemidji, was awarded $4,041 to present “Petite Rouge – a Cajun Red Riding Hood”, to under-served schools, as well as a performance at Neilson Place for elders.

Upstream Television, Bemidji, received $6,000 to provide workshops and produce a 48-hour film festival.

Bemidji High School, Bemidji, was awarded $1,200 to present “Mark Twain Himself,” to the students as an educational opportunity and to the community as a public performance.

Nemeth Art Center, Park Rapids, received $1,615 to assist in the creation of a new logo, signage and the development and distribution of printed material.

Minnesota Folklore Theater, Akeley, was awarded $3,090 to present children’s classic “Narnia” with special student matinees.

Pequana Playhouse, Baudette, received $1,200 to present a Mixed Blood Theatre Company production of “According to Coyote,” a collection of Native American tales music and folklore at the Lake of the Woods School Auditorium on October 25, 2011 at 7 p.m. and on October 26, 2011 at 9 a.m.

Depot Preservation Alliance, Baudette, was awarded $1,376 to present a high quality arts and culture experience for area residents celebrating classic, ethnic and contemporary Native American flute and Celtic Folk Harp music as performed by Timeless Traditions at the Baudette Depot Gallery Room.

Bemidji Community Theater, Bemidji, received $4,526 to produce, in collaboration with Paul Bunyan Playhouse, a children’s musical titled “The Magical Pied Piper” in April of 2012 at the historic Chief Theater in downtown Bemidji.
Red Bridge Film Festival, Park Rapids, was awarded $2,076 to select, program, promote, present and partially subsidize to a public audience a film festival consisting of at least six worthy film programs at the Park Rapids Theatre on Main Street in Park Rapids, Minnesota during April 2012.

Bemidji Symphony Orchestra, Bemidji, was awarded $6,000 to recruit and train an ensemble of young musicians from the region to perform at a March 4, 2012 concert.

Northern Light Opera Company, Park Rapids, was awarded $6,000 to produce six performances of “The Sound of Music” at the Park Rapids Area High School auditorium, July 27 – August 4, 2012.

Boys & Girls Club, Bemidji, was awarded $3,932 to assist in offering pottery, collage, and dance classes to youth ages 6-18.

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Pictured in photo left to right – standing: Paul Dove, Artistic Director, Northern Light Opera Company, Park Rapids; Karl Mork, Program Director of the Boys and Girls Club, Bemidji; Ernie Rall, President of the Bemidji Community Theater; Bob Larson, President of the Bemidji Woodcarvers Club; Terri Widman, Executive Director of the Region 2 Arts Council; Pat Dove, Board Member for Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council, Park Rapids; Kelly Gabriel, Director of the Nemeth Art Center, Park Rapids.

Clearwater Life Center, Clearbrook, received $5,246 to hire artists to engage the community through a series of two 3-day workshops for the purpose of designing and fabricating sculptures and creative walkways in the Gonvick Community Sculpture Garden.

Bemidji Community Arts Center, Bemidji, was awarded $2,322 to host four poets from “The Great Twin Cities Poetry Road Show,” and a renowned local author, for the 2012 Spoken Word Workshop Series.

White Earth Tribal and Community College, Mahnomen was awarded $3,016 to offer an Anishinaabe oral story-telling event to elementary, middle, and high school students, as well as to the larger community.

Indigenous Environmental Network, Bemidji was awarded $5,088 to hire local mural artist Wesley May to work with community members in the creation of a mural expressing the diversity of cultures in this region and community members’ relationship to the nature that surrounds them.
**Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council, Park Rapids**, received $2,282 to sponsor Youth Music & Arts Showcase IV in downtown Park Rapids.

**Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area, Bemidji**, received $2,934 to offer puppetry classes with Margaret Burger of Fortuna Puppet Theater to youth ages 6-18.

**Boys & Girls Club of the White Earth Reservation, Mahnomen**, received $3,008 to offer a class for twelve members to make pow-wow regalia with regalia artist Dana Goodwin.

**Beltrami County Historical Society, Bemidji**, received $1,400 to present performances, in conjunction with the Lake of the Woods Historical Society, by folk musician John Berquist in Bemidji and Baudette featuring lumberjack songs to celebrate north woods heritage and musical traditions.

**Pequana Playhouse, Baudette**, received $1,440 to sponsor two Mixed Blood Theater performances of “Hijab Tube,” one for the public and one for Lake of the Woods School.

**Waubun Ogema White Earth School, Waubun** received $4,371 for the school choir to attend a performance of Hairspray at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater and tour theatrical and musical arts facilities in the Twin Cities.

**Mask & Rose Women’s Theater Collective, Bemidji**, was awarded $3,160 to present “The Legend of Paul Bunyan – the Musical” in August 2012 in celebration of the 75th anniversary of Paul & Babe in Bemidji, MN.

**Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council, Park Rapids**, received $3,531 to sponsor Art Leap 2012, a driving tour of artists’ studios and other cultural destinations, including live performances, in the Park Rapids area.

**White Earth Tribal and Community College, Mahnomen** was awarded $3,956 to offer “Elemental Arts: Natural ‘Wild’ Plant Dyes and Papermaking workshops and exhibits.

**Bemidji Community Theater, Bemidji**, received $4,796 to produce the musical “Oliver” in November 2012 at the historic Chief Theater in downtown Bemidji.

**Lake of the Woods Art Guild, Baudette**, received $5,950 to hire professional artist Frank Covino to teach a Classical Academic Oil Painting Seminar in Baudette.