



R2AC Awards FY 2015 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants

Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) awarded \$135,250 through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant Program to arts organizations and non-profits in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, and Lake of the Woods counties. The funds will be used to create opportunities for arts access, arts education, and the arts and cultural heritage activities that build bridges between Minnesotans. These funds are 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:

Fall Grant Awards

Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji, was awarded \$6,000 to produce the musical Monty Python's "Spamalot" during its 65th summer season.

Heartland Concert Association, Park Rapids, was awarded \$4,265 to present Jaimee Paul, a jazz vocalist, and Leif Shires on trumpet leading a jazz combo, performing an exciting tribute to the glory days of the "Jazz Age."

Bemidji Community Theater received \$6,000 to produce the musical "Fiddler on the Roof."

Northern Light Opera Company, Park Rapids was awarded \$5,225 to mount a production of Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors" at the Park Rapids Armory Theater, December 12-14.

Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, received \$4,530 to present the 12th Annual It's Only Clay national juried ceramics competition and exhibit featuring guest artist Karin Kramer who will give an artist's talk and a workshop as part of the event.

The Depot Preservation Alliance, Baudette, received \$1,612 to provide a performance by acoustic singer/songwriter duo Bill and Kate Isles of Duluth, MN, as part of the Historic Settlement and Transportation Exhibit opening in Baudette in winter 2014/15.

Bemidji Symphony Orchestra received \$6,000 to promote and perform Mozart's "Requiem" in collaboration with the Bemidji Chorale.

Pequana Playhouse, Baudette, was awarded \$3,490 to provide a one-week children's theater workshop performing Prairie Fire theatre's original production of "Sleeping Beauty."

Bemidji Community Food Shelf received \$3,583 to hire an artist to work with food shelf clients to create two murals in order to raise an awareness of the arts and provide a high quality arts experience for all those that use the food shelf in our community.

Lake of the Woods School, Baudette, was awarded \$6,000 to bring the Copper Street Brass Quintet for a two-day residency including educational session for school students and an evening concert open to the public.

Bemidji State University English Department was awarded \$6,000 to put on the Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference to provide attendees and the community with high quality literary activities.

Red lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Red Lake was awarded \$6,000 to promote and share the rich culture and artistry of Red Lake with their community, youth, and invited neighbors at the "Honoring Our Ancestors" Art Fair.

Bemidji Public Library was awarded \$6,000 to provide the north central region of Minnesota with the 6th Annual Bemidji Library Book Festival, offering as many as 20 literary events in six days, with author presentations, writing workshops, and other cultural events.

Headwaters School of Music & the Arts, Bemidji, received \$1,745 to have Maestro Magnus Martenssen of Sweden in concert on Sunday, November 23, 2014 and then to present a one-day residency at Kelliher Public Schools on Monday, November 24, 2014.

Spring Grant Awards

Bemidji Community Theater received \$6,000 to produce the children's show "HONK!" a musical version of "The Ugly Duckling."

Clear Waters Life Center, Gonvick, was awarded \$1,720 to offer a variety of Monday art classes to provide access to high quality art experiences for area residents.

Bemidji State University Department of Music received \$3,023 to bring Ana Maria Otamendi and Elena Lacheva to Bemidji to perform recitals, present master classes, and provide private coaching to BSU music students.

Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council was awarded \$4,000 to sponsor Art Leap 2015, a driving tour of artists' studios and other local cultural destinations.

Michael Lyons, Bemidji, was awarded \$3,000 to write and illustrate an Ojibwe language activity book, which he will use to teach Ojibwe in area schools.

The City of Bagley received \$2,960 to invite four artists to demonstrate and display their art to the public, some of which the city will purchase for permanent public display.

Bemidji Symphony Orchestra received \$6,000 to perform with classically trained rock violinist Aaron Meyer, along with guitarist Tim Ellis, in a concert that bridges the genres of classical, contemporary progressive rock, and traditional styles of music.

Lake of the Woods Art Guild, Baudette, was awarded \$6,000 to offset student tuition for Frank Covino's weeklong classical academic oil painting seminar.

Schoolcraft Learning Community, Bemidji received \$5,040 to work with Design Angler, Inc. and the City of Bemidji to explore, graphically design and create public photographic displays on 7 downtown kiosks to educate the public about human-powered transportation.

Northern Light Opera Company, Park Rapids, was awarded \$6,000 to mount six productions of Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story," July 31 to August 8, 2015.

Hope House, Bemidji, was awarded \$5,340 to advance their client's watercolor skills, and assist a professional watercolor artist to teach those skills to children in the community.

Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council was awarded \$2,597 to sponsor the Youth Music & Art Showcase VII with activities that support youth musicians and encourage youths' artistic talents.

City of Bemidji Park & Recreation Department was awarded \$5,100 to expand Theater Day Camp to include introduction to theater, stage combat, set design and stage tech classes.

Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji was awarded \$6,000 to bring to the stage the dark, but often hilarious tale, of the 1935 kidnapping of William Hamm in "Prints."

Bemidji MusiCamp was awarded \$5,717 to provide an inspiring camp that encourages lifelong participation for young musicians throughout the region and that will culminate in a final performance for the public.

Headwaters School of Music & the Arts, Bemidji, received \$303 to add three low range bells and a carrying case to the existing 1st City Bell Choir.