



## **R2AC Awards Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grants**

The Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) awarded \$7,363 through the Anishinaabe Arts Initiative (AAI) Program in FY2015. Monies awarded are for arts activities related to its mission of supporting, maintaining, and promoting traditional and contemporary Native American arts in North Central Minnesota. The Anishinaabe Arts Initiative grants program is supported by a grant from the McKnight Foundation. Current AAI Council members are Mary Guardipee, Douglas Lee, Genny Lowry, Bernice Mitchell, Delana Smith, Debra Warren, Delina White, and Harold "Dunesy" White, Jr.

The grant recipients and information about their projects are listed below:

**Terri Desjarlait**, of Red Lake, received \$1,000 to purchase materials needed to create a woman's jingle dress, two men's woodland vests, and three men's traditional shirts.

**Crystal Littlewolf**, of Waubun, was awarded \$677 to purchase materials to create blankets to promote personal healing.

**Gwendolyn Johns**, of Red Lake, received \$724 to purchase wampum and local shells and stones to create natural native jewelry.

**Patty Boudreau**, of Ogema, received \$425 to make a child's Fancy Shawl regalia.

**Michele Sumner**, of Red Lake, was awarded \$772 to purchase equipment to make her jewelry studio more comfortable.

**Joy Eastman**, of Bemidji, received \$765 to purchase materials and produce two paintings depicting Native Americans in the military based on interviews she conducted with veterans.

**Betsy May**, of Waubun, was awarded \$1,000 to purchase a computer and printer to assist with online marketing for her art.

**Randy Bellanger**, of Mahnomen, received \$1,000 to purchase beads, needles, leather, thread and patterns for loom beading.

**Ronald Wind**, of Bemidji, received \$1,000 to purchase a guitar amplifier to be used in live performances and for recording his music.