R2AC 2013 Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant Awards

Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) recently awarded $122,225 through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants Program to individual artists, arts organizations and non-profits in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, and Lake of the Woods counties. The funds were used to create opportunities for arts access, arts education, 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:

**Bemidji Symphony Orchestra, Bemidji,** was awarded $6,000 to focus on Native American music and culture in its March concert and its biennial children’s concert, as well as provide educational activities in area schools.

**Nevis High School, Nevis,** received $6,000 to hire Copper Street Brass to perform a two-day residency including 8 educational sessions and one full-length evening performance.

**Bemidji Community Theater, Bemidji,** was awarded $5,560 to produce the musical “Peter Pan” in April of 2013.

**Headwaters Center for Lifelong Learning, Park Rapids,** received $1,970 to present four educational programs that will examine artistic elements and forms that are common to America’s shared cultural heritage and values.

**Bemidji State University English Department, Bemidji,** was awarded $6,000 to host the Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference at their campus during the third week of June 2013.

**Pequana Playhouse, Baudette,** received $2,990 to contract with Prairie Fire Theatre to provide a children’s theater production of “Alladin” the week of July 8-13, 2013.

**ACLU MN Greater Minnesota Racial Justice Project - North, Bemidji,** received $6,000 to mount the exhibition *Art From Within*. **Rail River Folk School, Bemidji** was awarded $4,768 to host an indigenous artisans festival at Lake Irving Marina.

**The Nemeth Art Center, Park Rapids,** was awarded $4,690 to bring Ester Partega and Brad Kahlhamer to Park Rapids as part of the Nemeth Art Center Visiting Artist Series.
Headwaters School for Music & the Arts, Bemidji, received $6,000 to present a professional high quality concert series for residents of north central Minnesota.

The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Red Lake, was awarded $6,000 to promote and develop emerging artists with an arts festival.

Lake of the Woods Art Guild, Baudette, received $2,625 to update the newly acquired Baudette Arts Center and make the space usable for studio and exhibit purposes.

The Nemeth Art Center, Park Rapids, was awarded $4,326 to partner with the Minneapolis Institute of the Arts to bring the Minnesota Artist Exhibition Program to Park Rapids.

Clear Waters Life Center, Clearbrook, was awarded $5,128 to hire artists and mentors to create a mural with the community on the subject of community for all to enjoy.

Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council was awarded $4,115 to sponsor Art Leap 2013, a driving tour of artists’ studios and other cultural destinations, as well as a number of live performances.

Mask & Rose Women’s Theater Collective, Bemidji, received $6,000 to produce the play “Evita” for high school and college youth with integration into their world history and drama classes.

North Beltrami Heritage Center, Kelliher, was awarded $720 to assist local history groups to provide the historical drama of George Nelson, 1750’s fur trade clerk for the North West and Hudson Bay Companies.

Margaret Burger, Bemidji, received $3,000 to create and perform live open-air puppetry on a bike trailer in July.

Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council was awarded $3,610 to sponsor artists’ performances or exhibitions in downtown Park Rapids the 3rd Thursday of every month.

LakeWood Care Center, Baudette, was awarded $1,456 to offer weekly musical entertainment to Care Center residents each month.

Show Choirs of Bemidji was awarded $1,725 to assist Vocalmotive Show Choir to work with a professional show choir choreographer to create a musical show with movement.

The Depot Preservation Alliance, Baudette, received $1,500 to fund the WoodPicks’ May 11th concert.

Headwaters School for Music & the Arts, Bemidji, received $5,772 to bring two international performing arts groups to the Bemidji area to present week-long residencies that will broaden out community’s understanding of different cultures.

Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council was awarded $1,818 to sponsor the fifth annual Youth Music & Arts Showcase in downtown Park Rapids.

Bemidji Community Arts Center received $2,045 to host the 2013 Spoken Word Series.

Lake of the Woods Art Guild, Baudette, received $5,950 to offer affordable tuition for a Frank Covino Classical Academic Oil Painting Seminar.
Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area was awarded $1,798 to offer painting classes to youth ages 6-18 with local artist Wesley May.

Northern Light Opera Company, Park Rapids, was awarded $1,390 to mount performances of “Carousel” in July and August at the Park Rapids Area High School Auditorium.

Solway Elementary School, ISD #31, was awarded $2,240 to hire Cate Belleveau to direct a second grade play.

Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji, was awarded $6,000 to produce the 2013 Professional Summer Live Theater.

Clear Waters Life Center, Gonvick, was awarded $1,045 to host a one-day arts fair in our community featuring artists that will demonstrate and offer hands-on instruction to willing participants.