

## **R2AC 2014 Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grant Awards**

The Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) awarded \$8,868 through the Anishinaabe Arts Initiative (AAI) Program. 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:

**Joel Smith**, of Cass Lake, received \$970 to finance the production of 600 copies of original recorded music.

**Lawrence McKenzie**, of Blackduck, was awarded \$687 to purchase a computer to prepare his book "Daylight in the Swamp" for publishing.

**Robie Rock**, of Bemidji, received \$777 to begin a photography portfolio through purchase of a camera, battery and lens filter set.

**Shirley McGregor**, of Callaway, was awarded \$1,000 to purchase a computer and software to do graphic design projects.

**Simon Zornes**, of Bagley, received \$910 to purchase a heavy-duty wet tile saw and blades to create local stone sculptures.

**Dana Bonga**, of Red Lake, was awarded \$900 to perform and record live music and to promote his original music to area residents.

**Penny Kagigebi**, of Detroit Lakes, received \$1,000 to learn to make a traditional Ojibwe quill box, using porcupine quills, birch bark and sweet grass, from award winning artist Mel Losh.

**Clem May**, of Red Lake, was awarded \$1,000 to build a portable recording studio to capture his original music and the music of other local musicians.

**Allan Smith**, of Deer River, received \$800 to build and document the making of a 16 ft. birch bark canoe.

**David B. White**, of Ponemah, was awarded \$580 to frame some paintings and drawing to enter in local art shows and help pay for travel to Springboard for the Arts in Minneapolis for a consultation and technology training.

**Jennifer Smith**, of Deer River, received \$244 to make beaded earrings to sell at pow-wows and craft fairs.