



Arts & Cultural Heritage Grants for Small Towns Sample Answers

ARTISTIC QUALITY (SAMPLES)

Artistic Quality*

How does the art at the center of this project exhibit artistic quality? (Limit of 500 characters)

1. Whether a mosaic, piece of pottery, painting or sculpture each will be unique either because of the artist's intent or simply the individuals' different skill levels. The skill level of each artist will certainly determine the quality of the piece, however, each artist, regardless of natural ability or skill, will be encouraged to continue developing his/her skill while instilling a love for the art form. Our teachers are accomplished artist displaying uniqueness and creativity.
2. Utilizing found object pieces and railroad related material, a sculpture/sign will be fabricated to compliment the Depot building as well as the general feeling of the by-gone railroad era. Pieces will be assembled and welded together for strength and styling. The sculpture/sign will be left in a natural state, allowing rust to "patina" the piece over the years. Designs and shapes will accentuate elements that relate to the railroad.

PROJECT PROPOSAL (SAMPLES)

Proposal*

Give a brief summary of your project. Include a description of all arts activities, the roles of participating artists and audiences, and an approximate timeline including dates, times, and locations. (Limit of 3,500 characters)

1. Incorporating the elements of days past as related to the railroad that used to run through Clearbrook, construct a sculpture/sign that would be placed outside the Depot Building entrance

in Clearbrook, MN. My desire for this project is to work from the strong shapes of the railroad (engines, hardware, RR ties, signs, etc) as well as elements from the community (landscape features, trestles, etc) and fabricate a “found object” wood and metal sculpture that also works as a sign for The Depot building in Clearbrook, MN. It would be an honor to be part of the vision that this opportunity presents.

2. Julie Johnson and the No-Accounts will provide one concert at the Lake of the Woods County Museum on May 8, 2016 and one at Lake of the Woods School on May 9, 2016. They will also play a few numbers as part of a Lake of the Woods School band concert on May 10, 2016. In addition, the trio will provide artist in residence activities for selected classes and/or students at Lake of the Woods School on Monday, May 9, 2016. The concert at the museum will focus on historic Minnesota folk tunes such as logging camp songs, Scandinavian polkas and waltzes, and Finnish folk songs from the Iron Range. The concert at Lake of the Woods School will include many of the same songs, as well as a variety of blues standards, some original music, and bluegrass music. The wide variety of styles will provide something for everyone. At least 50 people are expected to attend the two full concerts. Julie has researched the music from Minnesota's history and has arranged it in a way that incorporates the trio's multiple influences of classical, jazz, bluegrass, folk, and more. During the artist-in-residence component of the trio's visit, they will provide masterclass activities with the junior high and senior high school band students. Julie will also provide a special class for the flutists. And the trio will perform pieces for the students, and talk about what goes into the production of their music— elements such as research, arranging, the instruments (flute, bass flute, resonator guitar, mandolin, acoustic guitar, and voice) and the innovative and creative ways they are sometimes used, where they get inspiration, and what it means to make a living as a professional musician. At least 50 to 70 students are expected to take advantage of the in-residence opportunities. Knowing Julie attended school at Lake of the Woods will be appealing to the students. Throughout their visit, the group will reinterpret folk music from Minnesota's past, creating a bridge from our history to our present, illustrating the relevance of art expressed through music as a component of a well-rounded life. Bluegrass is one of the more popular styles of music in this area, so the trio's inclusion of the bluegrass style in their performances will appeal to many.

Artistic Merit*

Please describe how this project contributes to the vibrancy of the arts in our region. (Limit of 500 characters)

1. Bluegrass has become a popular music genre in Lake of the Woods County, so Julie's group will appeal to many in the area. Also, their use of new instruments will provide the opportunity to expose students and the public to different musical styles.
2. As we look around Clearbrook now we see very little artistic vibrancy. The existence of artwork is very minimal. The sculpture will have a big, visual impact and draw attention to the arts. It will demonstrate our dedication to provide our community with a facility that will artistically and culturally enhance Clearbrook.

Outcomes*

List the outcomes you plan to achieve through this project. These outcomes detail the specific ways in which your project will impact your key target audience(s) in terms of arts knowledge, skill, attitude, awareness, or behavior. (Limit of 500 characters)

1. We will have an increase in art learning opportunities in our rural community. An increase in arts learners participating in classes. New skills will be acquired as there is an increased opportunity to be with teaching artists. Our studio memberships will increase due to art experiences. Our teachers will be given opportunity to grow in their ability to teach their art passion and learn how to inspire others.
2. The Depot has had a long, uphill battle to maintain its presence in Clearbrook. From a historical and progressive standpoint, Clearbrook has maintained the older buildings in and around town, providing both residents and visitors, alike, the opportunity to experience a “small town” atmosphere with larger amenities and attractions. The Depot building preserves the history of the railroad in Northern Minnesota and also has the opportunity to become a “destination venue” as well.

Key Areas*

Arts & Cultural Heritage funding is to be dispersed for [Arts Activity/Access](#), [Arts Education](#), and/or [Arts and Cultural Heritage](#) project activity only. At a minimum, all eligible arts projects will reflect the Arts Activity/Access key area. Does your project also include elements of the Arts Education and/or Arts & Cultural Heritage key areas? Write a single descriptive sentence for each key area addressed in your arts project. (Limit of 500 characters)

1. Arts & Arts Access Activities: Offer 27 weeks of Art Classes in the evening for a minimal fee in our rural Gonvick facility to make art accessible to all. Arts Education Activities: We will hire engaging, teaching artists and art mentor/helpers to teach 27 weeks of classes on Monday Nights that will focus on increasing individuals’ skills and learn new art mediums that will be offered.
2. Arts/Activity/Access: We expect this sculpture to have a very strong visual impact that encourages people to stop, examine, and experience the art. Arts Education: This sculpture by its very presence will be a motivating experience and open new avenues of appreciation of art as a personal expression because of its unique medium. Arts and Cultural Heritage: It will reflect a spirit of honoring the past, which exemplifies our goals with the history center.

Artistic Needs

In what ways does the project meet the artistic needs of the community? (Limit of 500 characters)

1. Gonvick, being a very rural community has a need for increased activity locally to provide access to the arts. The travel inconvenience and cost of travel keeps many from engaging in art activities. Our evening classes that we held last spring-summer were well attended (15-19 in

many of the classes offered) which showed us evening classes were important to truly engage our community. Offering a variety of classes again in the evening would definitely meet a need in our community.

2. Exposes local audiences to performances by professional musicians and offers artist-in-residence opportunities to local students. Informs local residents about the connection and importance of music to local history.

PLANNING & MANAGEMENT (SAMPLES)

Community Support*

Describe the community support you are receiving for this project in terms of direct involvement, non-monetary donations, and financial support. (Limit of 500 characters)

1. The community is very supportive of our studios. We have 5 volunteer community members who have gone through classes in the studios and are committed to managing them every Monday from 1-5pm. The community is proud of the studio, tours are commonplace given by members to friends and family. Our Studio members help keep the studios clean and bring in new and unique supplies of their own to share with other members. Bars and coffee are commonplace!
2. Planning and grant writing support offered by personnel from the historical society, the school, and the community as in-kind donations. In-kind donations by the school and the Lake of the Woods Historical Society which will supply facilities at no charge.

Evaluation Methods*

As part of this application you are required to show the evaluation methods you intend to use to measure the specific outcomes you listed above. Any evaluation methods you describe and sample questions you provide must directly measure your intended/listed outcomes. Possible evaluation methods include surveys, focus groups, talk back sessions, recorded observations, texting polls, and interviews. This information is shared with the Legislative Coordinating Commission as stated in our Data Privacy Policy. You will be responsible for evaluating your target audiences and reporting the results on your final report. (Limit of 500 characters)

1.
 - Class participants tracked by sign-in sheets.
 - Recorded observation/personal interviews by class administrator of class atmosphere, student engagement, skills learned and the teaching methods, quality of hands-on experiences the artists provided.
2. We will pay close attention to the number of people viewing the depot. We have a book for visitors to sign. We hope to see that the sculpture and better signage will increase our visitor traffic. We will also have visitors rate their visit on a survey sheet, to see if the better visibility encouraged them to stop.

Planning & Execution*

Provide evidence supporting your ability to plan and successfully execute this project. (Limit of 500 characters)

1. CWLC started Create It! Community Art Studios with an Arts Learning grant from the State Arts Boards. We have since established the studios as Volunteer Mentor/ Member driven. We offer extra classes when we can, either with volunteers or through additional funding with grants. We are committed to keeping art alive and well in Gonvick. We have faithfully administrated classes for many years now, we are well able and have a good track record with R2Arts, BAAE Funds and a State Arts Board grant.
2. Marlys Hirst has served as the curator/executive director of the L/W County Museum since 1984. She oversees collections management, finances and daily operations. She coordinates exhibits, programs, and special events. She has served as the project director for many successful grant projects including: Grounds Enhancement (2015) from NW Regional Development Partnership, Improving Museum Environments (2014) & Acquiring Primary Resources (2013) from MN Historical Cultural Heritage Grants.