



Region 2 Arts Council awards Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Fellowship

On April 4, 2018 the Region 2 Arts Council's Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Council awarded two \$5,000 Fellowships through their Anishinaabe Arts Initiative (AAI) program. The AAI Fellowship is made possible by the generous support of the McKnight Foundation, and aims to assist the region's most talented Native American artists in their work by awarding financial support to fund creative time and/or arts experiences. This award is for Native American artists residing in Minnesota's Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Mahnomen, Lake of the Woods, Becker, Roseau, Cass, and Itasca counties.

The 2018 Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Fellows are:



Pamela Iceman, a Beadworker from Ponemah, Minnesota, taught herself to bead by watching her female elders and practiced until she became skilled at it. Preferring to work in a more traditional or "old style," she uses her inner visions to create purses, wallets, medallions, and bandolier bags. She considers her work to be a representation of who she is, and because it will remain with people for years to come, she creates each with care, love, and attention to detail. Iceman plans to use her Fellowship award to buy supplies and formatting equipment for her beadwork, and plans to expand her medallion-making and other skills.



Robyn Vanwert is a Painter and Regalia Artist from Redby, Minnesota, whose work focuses on integrating the Ojibwe teachings she's learned into her artwork. She brings her vision to life by assembling components such as birch bark and beadwork, inspired by trends in Ojibwe woodland style as expressed initially by Norval Morrisseau.

Using the Fellowship to create a beaded velvet dress with jingles, and to purchase supplies for other projects, she wishes to show the richness of her vision and her culture.