Region 2 Arts Council awards Arts Access Grants for Small Towns

On May 13, 2019 the Region 2 Arts Council Board of Directors awarded $18,000 through the Arts Access Grants for Small Towns. This grant is designed to support the creation, production, and presentation of high quality arts activities in towns with a population of less than 2,000 and to help instill the arts into community and public life in our region by removing barriers that audiences may have to accessing these activities. Granted activities must display a commitment to reaching wider audiences through providing new and/or expanded arts programming to residents of Beltrami, Hubbard, Clearwater, Lake of the Woods, or Mahnomen counties, and/or by supporting accessibility initiatives through the project.

FY2019 grant recipients included:

**Depot Preservation Alliance** was awarded $4,424 to host their 5th Annual Bluegrass Festival and music workshop at the Baudette Depot Saturday, August 3rd 2019.

**Bagley Area Arts Collaborative** was awarded $3,890 to hire local artist Maureen O'Brien to work with every student in grades 4, 5, and 6 at Bagley Elementary School to create a mural "We Are Each Unique and Beautiful, But Together We Are A Masterpiece."

**Lake of the Woods Art Guild** was awarded $3,686 to offer a week-long acrylic painting workshop in Baudette instructed by Bemidji portrait painter Alice Blessing.

**Mask & Rose Theater** was awarded $6,000 to bring the immersive & thought provoking outdoor walking play created by Tiger Lion Arts entitled "Nature" to the Belle Thalia Creative Arts Space in Puposky.

Region 2 Arts Council Arts Access Grants for Small Towns are made possible by the voters of Minnesota thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.