



## Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grants Awarded in Region 2

On December 18, 2019, the Region 2 Arts Council awarded \$5,600 through the Anishinaabe Arts Initiative (AAI) Program, which is governed by the AAI Council. These grants support and promote traditional and contemporary Native American artists in our region.

Grant recipients include:

**Richard Kagigebi**, Lac Courte Oreilles tribal member from Detroit Lakes, was awarded \$1,000 to purchase equipment and supplies to create three new appliquéd mural blankets for exhibition.

**Vincent Johnson**, Red Lake Band member from Ponemah, was awarded \$1,000 to create photos and videos for an exhibit titled "We Are Still Here" that encapsulates ancient Ojibwe teachings and traditions, where possible in the native language, and how they inform modern culture.

**Donald Applebee**, Red Lake Band member from Red Lake, was awarded \$1,000 to develop artwork to aide children to better understand and remember his traditional Anishinaabe stories.

**Ashley Cooper**, Leech Lake Band member from Bemidji, was awarded \$600 to purchase a sewing machine and supplies to create her own original fashions.

**Kristi King**, Red Lake Band member from Bemidji. was awarded \$1,000 to purchase a sewing machine and fabric to create jingle dresses for young girls to use during pow wow season.

**Gordeaux Lafleur**, Red Lake Band member from Red Lake, was awarded \$1,000 to purchase supplies to create unique airbrushed t-shirt art.

The Anishinaabe Arts Initiative grants program is supported  
by a grant from the McKnight Foundation.

Current AAI Council members are Debra Warren, Genny Lowry, Bernice Mitchell-Diver, Delana Smith, Mary Ringhand, David Ben White, Larry Vanwert, Kent Estey, and Paula Littlewolf.