



## Region 2 Arts Council awards \$144,728 in Arts Access Grants

With the support of community panel reviews conducted on October 18, 2021 and on May 16 and May 18, 2022, the Region 2 Arts Council Board of Directors granted \$144,728 to fund arts activity in our communities through the Arts Access Grant program. Arts Access Grants help fund the creation, production, and presentation of high-quality, accessible arts activities that serve the people in the Minnesota counties of Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnomen and to help instill the arts in public life.

**Headwaters Music & Arts** in Bemidji was awarded \$2,730 to host a community book reading and related activities based on "One Goal: A coach, a Team, and a Game That Brought a Divided Town Together" written by award-winning author Amy Bass.

**The Hubbard County Developmental Achievement Center** in Park Rapids was awarded \$6,000 to help participants to increase their skills in papermaking, pottery and theater by learning and exploring new techniques, and developing deeper relationships with teaching artists.

**The City of Mahnomen** was awarded \$5,986 to set-up a residency at Mahnomen school with local artist Grace Roberts, of Manoomin Performance Project, to conduct a series of puppet making workshops and community open studios with indigenous guest artists.

**Northern Light Opera Company** in Park Rapids was awarded \$6,000 to host the Workbench New Play Workshop, a 7-day workshop led by a duo of professional playwrights, to teach a group of community-based writers to create their own original plays.

**The Bagley Area Arts Collaborative** was awarded \$5,797 to bring back two nationally known artists who are very popular with area and regional artists to offer newly designed workshops.

**Bemidji Community Theater** was awarded \$6,000 to mount a full stage production of The Wizard of Oz.

**The Northern Artist Association** in Bemidji was awarded \$4,110 to offer free art classes at Gallery North including video tutorials and materials packets for those attending remotely.

**The Northern Light Opera Company** in Park Rapids was awarded \$6,000 to purchase lighting equipment and offer a Lighting Design Workshop, with award-winning lighting designer Heidi Eckwall, to area youth and theater lighting technicians.

**Pride Support Network** in Bemidji was awarded \$6,000 to host Bemidji Pride, a celebratory, interactive, one-day event featuring artists of multiple genres enhancing the lives and visibility of LGBT2S+ individuals, families, and allies in the Bemidji community.

**Red Lake Middle School** was awarded \$6,000 to engage resident artists Lady Midnight and Dexter to work with all seventh grade students to write lyrics to a song, record the song, and create a music video.

**Mask & Rose Women's Theater Collective** in Puposky was awarded \$6,000 to produce "Water From Snow," an original musical by Minnesota artist Janet Preus, in a concert showcase format, garnering audience feedback and leading to full production.

**Lake of the Woods Art Guild** in Baudette was awarded \$6,000 to offer two Acrylic Portrait Workshops to help the community to build their acrylic painting skills.

**The Boys & Girls Club of Bemidji** was awarded \$5,997 to collaborate with the Neilson Spearhead Center to offer teens the opportunity draw and paint local birds with artist Mary Therese and take part in creating a public mural.

**The Bagley Area Arts Collaborative** was awarded \$6,000 to produce a puppet presentation based on ancient tales and legends of Norwegian trolls.

**The Watermark Art Center** in Bemidji was awarded \$5,007 to host It's Only Clay, a high quality, national art exhibit and community workshop with this year's guest artist and juror Delores Fortuna.

**The Northern Light Opera Company** in Park Rapids was awarded \$5,111 to offer a 3-day "Making Film" Workshop led by award-winning film director David Leidy designed to facilitate a group of community-based filmmakers in the basics of making their own original films.

**The Bemidji Senior Center** was awarded \$2,000 to offer eight two-hour sessions with artists Les and Kathy Sanders to teach watercolor pencil and acrylic poured paint techniques.

**The City of Bemidji Parks & Recreation Department** was awarded \$5,645 to host a Summer Theater Day Camp for youth in collaboration with Bemidji Community Theater.

**The Heartland Concert Association** in Park Rapids was awarded \$2,120 to host Copper Street Brass, a Minneapolis-based brass sextet program, for students in the Park Rapids area.

**The Bagley Area Arts Collaborative** was awarded \$5,258 to host workshops by a new watercolor artist and a new pottery artist in the community.

**Bemidji Dance Academy** was awarded \$5,996 to offer a bi-monthly series of family dance parties focusing on multigenerational family-friendly movement and dance activities.

**Norda Gonvick Rosemalers** were awarded \$2,009 to offer a class on Valdres-style rosemaling taught by Lois Mueller who holds a Vesterheim Gold Medal in rosemaling and has published several instructional books.

**Heartland Arts** in Park Rapids was awarded \$6,000 to organize Art Leap 2022, a driving tour to artists' studios and other local cultural destinations.

**Clear Waters Life Center** in Gonvick was awarded \$5,900 to offer 24 different art classes to engage community members in a variety of art forms featuring hands-on instruction by local artists.

**The Bemidji Symphony Orchestra** was awarded \$6,000 to mount a concert featuring Dr. Scott Sandberg performing Eric Ewazen's Classical Concerto for Tenor Saxophone and the orchestra performing Duke Ellington's Black Brown and Beige Suite and A Medley for Orchestra.

**Bemidji State University Music Department** was awarded \$6,000 to host, in collaboration with the Silent Voices Project, a chamber music festival featuring recent compositions by womxn composers.

**Beltrami County Historical Society** in Bemidji was awarded \$3,062 to produce Depot Days! an annual history celebration showcasing local musicians.

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