



GRANTS FUNDED

FY 2014

**Grants funded by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) during FY 2014
(July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014)**

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Organization Grant Program

\$5,000 to \$15000 grants are available to organizations (501c3 nonprofits, units of government, schools, or groups that use a fiscal agent). Proceeds from the fund may be spent on arts and arts access, arts education and arts and cultural heritage and may be used in creating, producing, or presenting high quality arts projects.

Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and April 1.

Cambridge-Isanti Performing Arts Committee, a program of Cambridge-Isanti Community Education received a grant in the amount of \$4,935 for a project entitled *Stages Theatre Production of "Goodnight Moon"*. This project will bring Stages Theatre Company of Hopkins, MN production of their original musical "*Goodnight Moon*" to the Hardy Center for two performances on February 21, 2015 allowing preschool and kindergarten through third grade students and their families from throughout the East Central Regional Arts Council's area an opportunity to attend a professional theatre presentation locally. For more information, check out their website at: www.hardycenter.com.

Central Minnesota Art Co-op, located in Princeton, MN, received a grant in the amount of \$7,798 for a project entitled *Drive In for Art*. This project will hire an artist to lead high school age art students in painting an exterior mural depicting a drive-in movie theatre. The movie screen depicted in the mural will also function as an actual movie screen to be used showing movies and film projects outdoors. For more information, visit their website at: www.cmnartcoop.org.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for a project entitled *Artists Rubbing Elbows With Children*. This project connected students (Grades K-8) residing in Southern Chisago County with 13 local artists who shared their artistic skills in after school art classes held at Lakeside Elementary, Chisago Lakes Primary School, and Chisago Lakes Middle School. Classes were held Monday-Thursday after school from February through May 2014. The project culminated in May with an art show at the Chisago Lakes High School displaying the students' works. For more information, check out their website at: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for a project entitled *Art for All*. This project will connect the children who live in Southern Chisago County to high quality local artists. The artists will teach the children their artistic skills and share their artistic passions with the children during afternoon [after school] art classes. This relationship between the artists and the children of this area will be facilitated by the Chisago Lakes Community Education. For more information, check out their website at: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

The City of Mora received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for a project entitled *Music in the Park*. Mora will host a music concert series held in Library Park on Thursday evenings during June, July and August 2014. Twelve musical performances will represent a wide variety of styles and will be open to the public free-of-charge. Musical styles will include: Irish, Dixieland, Scandinavian, Country/Folk, Rock 'n Roll, Old-Tyme, and Bluegrass. For more information, visit their website at: www.ci.mora.mn.us.

East Central Minnesota Chorale (ECMC) of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of \$12,692 for a project entitled *Celebration of Freedom*. ECMC presented three concerts – February 23rd, 2014 at the Richard Hardy Performing Arts Center in Cambridge; May 10, 2014 at Stevens in Princeton; and May 9th, 2014 at Spectacular Events in Isanti – featuring the Red Bull Army Band and the ECMC Unum Vox choir. The event examined the cultural impact of WWII on music from and inspired by that time through WWII memorabilia and stories collected from Region 7E residents. For more information, check out their website at: www.eastcentralmnchorale.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of \$14,972 for a project entitled *2014 Music @ Franconia*. The project will provide a diverse series of musical performances and guided tours of the Franconia Sculpture Park exhibition and studio. The concert series includes four six-hour events (noon-6:00 p.m.) featuring 13 musical performers/groups. Music genres include: Blues and Soul (6-28-14), Bluegrass and Folk (7-12-14), Global Rhythm (8-16-14), and American Roots and Country (9-13-14). The events are free-of-charge and open to the public (parking fee = \$5.00/vehicle). For more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of \$14,979 for a project entitled *2014 Community Collaboration Hot Metal Pour Program*, offering five art-making workshops on July 26, 27, 30, 31, and August 2, 2014, plus a full-day live metal pour demonstration event on August 2, 2014. For more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of \$14,957 for a project entitled *2014 Rural Arts Program* that will serve youth groups from Region 7E with *Discover Sculpture* interactive guided tours led by professional artists at Franconia Sculpture Park during September and October 2014. For more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Milaca Fine Arts Council (MFAC) received a grant in the amount of \$8,685 for a project entitled *Music in the Park 2014*. MFAC will present this summer concert series on June 5th, June 12th, June 26th, July 3rd, July 10th, July 17th, July 24th, and July 31, 2014 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the historic Rec Park bandshell in Milaca. The series will present a mix of genres featuring local and out-of-state musicians. For more information, check out their website at: <http://milacaartscenter.org>.

Onamia Public Schools received a grant in the amount of \$10,710 for a project entitled *Dallas Brass with Bryan Anthony in Onamia*. This project will bring the brass ensemble with special guest violinist Bryan

Anthony to Onamia on Saturday, September 20, 2014, to work with local instrumentalists and vocalists of all ages and to provide a free community performance.

Paradise Community Theatre of Mora, MN received a grant in the amount of \$14,935 for a project entitled *Live Performance Sound and Lighting*. The Paradise Theatre will design, acquire, and install a professional grade concert sound system and state-of-the-art theatrical lighting equipment at their location. This project serves as the third and final phase of the theatre's auditorium renovation. For more information, check out their website at: www.paradisetheatre.com.

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Operating Support Grant Program

The Operating Support grant program offers up to \$15,000 of funding to qualified organizations to maintain ongoing operating needs and services. Assured matching funds of 10% are a requirement of this grant program.

Annual Deadline: March 1st for July 1 through June 30 allocation

Paradise Community Theatre of Mora, MN received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for the purpose of long-range strategic planning. Operating support grant funds will be used to facilitate long-range planning by the board, engage the services of consultants, planners, and facilitators, and conduct fundraising and construction project feasibility studies.

ECRAC Small/Arts Project Grant Program

Grants from \$500 to \$5,000 will be made to organizations (501c3 nonprofits, units of government, schools, or groups that use a fiscal agent). A 1:1 match is required. 10% must be an assured cash match.

Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and April 1

Audubon Center of the North Woods, located near Sandstone, MN, received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for a project entitled *Robinson Park Rock and Ice Climbing Mural*. The project involved a large-scale expansion of the Center's indoor Robinson Park mural depicting rock and ice climbers to cover all walls and ceilings of the barn climbing loft. The project also added a rock climbing mural in the building entry stairwell leading up to the climbing loft. The public unveiling of the mural occurred on May 11th, 2014 during their Mother's Day Brunch event. For more information, visit their website at: www.audubon-center.org.

East Central Minnesota Pride of Braham, MN received a grant in the amount of \$2,400 for a project entitled *The 10th Annual East Central Minnesota Pride in the Park*. East Central Minnesota Pride presented 2 hours of free, quality live music from 3 musical groups for the 10th Annual *Pride in the Park*. The event was held at Voyageurs Park in Pine City from noon-3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 1st, and was open to the public.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of \$4,981 for a project entitled *2014 Valentine's Day Hot Metal Pour*. Franconia Sculpture Park provided 8 art-making workshops where community members created relief sculptures and a live hot metal pour event where attendees observed a metal pour and learned about the process of metal casting. The event was held on February 14, 2014. For

more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Franconia Sculpture Park of Shafer received a grant in the amount of \$4,990 for a project entitled *The 2014 Docent- Led Guided Tours and Kids Make Sculpture Workshop*. Franconia Sculpture Park will offer an arts learning program including 26 weekly docent-led guided tours of Franconia's public art exhibition of 100+ large-scale sculptures on Sundays, from May 18th through November 9th, 2014, and four Kids Make Sculpture workshops serving youth ages 4-18 on May 24th, June 21st, July 19th, and August 23rd, 2014. For more information, check out their website at: www.franconia.org.

Milaca Fine Arts Council (MFAC) received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for a project entitled *Workshops by the MAC*. The project will be held in Milaca's Trimble Park as part of Milaca's 5th annual bluegrass festival on July 25th, 26th, and 27th, 2014. The project includes: 6 instrumental workshops; beginner and intermediate jam workshops; vocal/harmony workshop; Appalachian clogging workshop; and open stage. For more information, check out their website at: <http://milacaartscenter.org>.

Pine County Historical Society of Pine City received a grant in the amount of \$4,129 for a project entitled *Pine County History Museum External Wall Mural*. The Pine County Historical Society will create a 2,000 square foot mural on the west end of a building facing Highway 23 in Askov, MN depicting historical events significant to Pine County's growth and development. The mural dedication event will be held on Saturday, August 23rd, at 11:00. For more information, visit their website at: www.pinecountyhistorymuseum.org.

ECRAC Art In Our Schools Grant Program

\$1,000 grants are available to schools. This program supplements the existing school arts curriculum with such projects as artistic residencies, arts related field trips, and special arts events or projects. Grants may be used to support all students and/or student groups such as drama club, art classes, entire grades, or gifted and talented students.

Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and April 1.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for a project entitled *Let the Children Sing*. The project created a youth choir for students in Grades 3-8 living in southern Chisago County utilizing the skills of Henry Novotny during the first week of February 2014. 10 sessions were offered, with approximately 25 students participating. The project included an open to the public Spring 2014 concert held on March 6th. For more information, check out their website at: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

Chisago Lakes Area Schools Community Education Program of Lindstrom received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for a project entitled *Make a Movie After School*. Videographer Jack Doepke will teach young people how to make their own movie. Using the Chisago Lakes High School camera and television studio, Jack will give students first-hand knowledge on how to use the principles of cinematography to create art with a video camera. The project will be offered during the first quarter of the 2014-15 school year. The final product video will appear on cable television in the Chisago Lakes area. Announcements of the time(s) and date(s) of the December showing will be made in the Chisago County Press newspaper. For more information, check out their website at: www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/communityed.

Mora Public Schools received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for a project entitled *Poetry Alive! and in Mora. Poetry Alive!* performed curriculum-based literature for student audiences Grades 3-6 at Trailview Elementary, and conducted an in-service workshop for faculty. The project included a community event held on March 31st, 2014 from 6:30-8:00 entitled “Ice Cream for Books and *Poetry Alive!*”

Mora Public Schools received a grant in the amount of \$820 for a project entitled *Sculpting Our Community*. This project is described as a “Summer Art Camp” with sculpture emphasis and a chance to be inspired by a field trip to see outdoor sculpture at Franconia Sculpture Park. Elements of creating sculpture through an Observe and Interpret Tour will kick off the week of August 11-15 activities for 40 students in grades 1-6. The students’ art work from this project will be displayed at the Kanabec State Bank located in Mora, MN during the month of September 2014.

Onamia Public Schools received a grant in the amount of \$980 for a project entitled *Block Cutting & Printing, and GREAT Theatre*. On January 29th and February 5th, 2014, visual artist Vernetta Hart held two class sessions on block making and printing for 20 Onamia students. The second part of the project involved the same students visiting the Great River Educational Arts Theatre (GREAT) in St. Cloud on February 4th attending a production of “*To Kill a Mockingbird.*” The community component invited local senior citizens from the Onamia Senior Club to participate in the block cutting portion and then displayed the works at the Rolf Olson Community Center for several months. During the play component, students were asked to blog on the school website, sharing their reactions to the play and the book.

Pine City Schools received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for a project entitled *I Love to Read Month Project*. David Geister, artist and children’s book illustrator, presented his drawing and illustrating skills to students in Grades K-6th. He incorporated storytelling as he illustrated for children. The students were able to draw with him as part of the program. There were three presentations each day, so all Pine City Elementary students could be in contact with him. The community was also able to attend a public presentation by Mr. Geister held at 3:00 on February 4th, 2014.

ECRAC Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Program for Individual Artists

This program provides grants up to \$2,500 to individual artists. Funds may be spent on arts and arts access, arts education and arts and cultural heritage and may be used in creating, producing, or presenting high quality arts projects. All projects are required to have a community component as part of their project proposal.

Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and April 1.

Roger Nieboer of Mora received a grant in the amount of \$2,375 for a project entitled *Existentia*. This project included a premiere showing of a film documenting the creation of *Existentia*, an audience-participatory performance piece, followed by a live, interactive performance of *Existentia* held at the Paradise Theatre located in Mora, MN. The event was held on Saturday, April 26th, 2014, was open to the public, and was offered free of charge.

Lauri Rockne of Mora received a grant in the amount of \$2,251 for a project entitled *Region 7E Butterfly and Moth Series*. During this project, the artist intends to photograph and then abstract 20 butterflies and moths native to the 7E region using unique leaf print and Photoshop techniques. The project will

culminate in a show at the Pine Center for the Arts in April of 2015. For more information, visit: www.laurirockne.com.

Dee Ann Sibley of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of \$2,500 for a project entitled *Abandoned Spaces, an Isanti County Retrospective*. This project will focus on abandoned farmhouses and structures within the Isanti County limits. Photography will be used as a means to examine the context of the structure while exhibiting the ruins as artistic examples of decay and times forgotten. The artist's work will be on display at the Cambridge Center for the Arts from May 29th through June 26th, 2015, with an Artist's Reception and Show Opening on May 29th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. For more information, visit the website: www.dsibleystudios.zenfolio.com.

Terri Huro-Torgerson of Mora received a grant in the amount of \$2,500 for a project entitled *Time Exposure Photography*. During the project, the artist will purchase camera equipment to allow proper time exposures and star photography. The project will culminate with an open-to-the-public show opening to be held at the Kanabec History Center in Mora, MN at 6:30 p.m. on September 12th, 2014. The artist's work will remain on display through the end of September.

ECRAC/McKnight Fellowship Program

The Fellowship program is designed to recognize, reward, and encourage outstanding professional artists. These Fellowships will allow artists to set aside time to work, purchase supplies and materials, undertake advanced study (not related to a degree) or to pursue other career goals.

Two \$7,000 Fellowships are available annually.

This program has a March 1 annual deadline.

MaryAnn Cleary of Cambridge, MN received a grant in the amount of \$7,000 for a project entitled *De-Mystifying the Complexity of Color and Light in Painting*. During the Fellowship, the artist intends to study the relationship of color and light in a controlled setting using simple still life setups and painting them. The color studies will be documented and workshops/presentations will be offered once completed. Fellowship activities include: researching color theory to develop specific projects; making a still life box; ordering/using a variety of fabrics for backdrops; setting up still life studies and painting each using pastels; documentation of works; developing presentation and workshop criteria; and making ten setups for future workshops.

Jonathan Friesen of Mora received a grant in the amount of \$7,000 for a project entitled *A Bump in the Road: The Need for Literary Representation*. During the Fellowship, the artist intends to meet and secure a new Young Adult literary agent, and to develop the work of fiction necessary to do so. Fellowship activities include: attending writing conferences/workshops; manuscript editing; and acquiring a literary agent.

ECRAC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Program

Grants up to \$1,000 are available to individual artists. This program provides financial support to artists committed to personal artistic growth. Applications are encouraged from artists in all disciplines. The program funds specific art projects designed to enhance the artistic skills, artwork and/or the artistic career of the individual artist.

Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and April 1.

Hugh Bryant of Shafer received a grant in the amount of \$869 for a project entitled *Time-Lapse Sculpture*. During this project, the artist will use digital photography and time-lapse video to record himself building sculptural works. These photos and videos will provide insights into creating, and will offer a better understanding of both the creative process and the sculptures.

Martin Gilchrist of Milaca received a grant in the amount of \$909 for a project entitled *The Next Step*. The artist has identified two artistic areas he wants to improve – post processing and presentation of his works. For his *Next Step* project, he will purchase Photoshop software, Spyder software, photography books and equipment, and will attend a photography class/workshop to improve his artistic skills and abilities.

John Harrington of Stacy received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for a project entitled *St. Croix Suite*. This project involves the development of materials to be used to create 15-25 poems with corresponding photographs suitable for publication. The artist is working to complete a book with sections related to each major ecological area of Minnesota.

Colleen McKinney of Mora received a grant in the amount of \$900 for a project entitled *Online Coaching/Editing of Creative Non-Fiction Manuscript*. The artist is writing a creative nonfiction memoir/manuscript. During this project, she will work individually with a writing coach/editor who can review her manuscript and help prepare it for publication. The coaching/editing will be arranged online and will include the artist submitting 20 pages of writing to the coach/editor every two weeks for six months.

Don L. Moyer of Center City received a grant in the amount of \$993 for a project entitled *Voice Lessons with International Opera Star, Audrey Stottler*. During the project, the artist will attend nine hour-long voice lessons with international singing artist and voice teacher, Audrey Stottler on consecutive Sundays during the period of October 5, 2014 through November 30, 2014. During that time they will work on voice training and on duet, trio, and quartet repertoire.

Karen V. Nelson of Onamia received a grant in the amount of \$950 for a project entitled *Mille Lacs Area Photography Production*. During this project, the artist will purchase a new camera and related equipment, allowing her to produce professional-quality photographs. The artist will also take online photography classes and will be mentored by a local artist/photographer.

Carissa Samaniego of Shafer received a grant in the amount of \$798 for a project entitled *Documentation Equipment*. This project involves purchasing a Nikon d5100 camera with video capacity to be used for

documenting the artist's work. The equipment will allow her to produce professional-quality documentation of her artwork to be used for her online portfolio and for producing submissions to exhibitions and calls for artists.

Zachary Sander of Pine City received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for a project entitled *Commissioning and Performing Finnish Saxophone Repertoire*. During this project, the artist commissioned two new pieces of saxophone literature from Finnish composers, rehearsed these new pieces and other pieces of Finnish saxophone repertoire, and performed them on June 1, 2014 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Pine City, MN.

Zofia Warpeha of Milaca received a grant in the amount of \$1,000 for a project entitled *World Music Study-Arabic Music Retreat*. The artist will attend the Arabic Music Retreat, a 7-day immersion in traditional Arabic music. The retreat is held at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts and will take place August 9-16th, 2014. The retreat is led by Simon Shaheen, an internationally-acclaimed Arabic music performer, composer, and educator.

ECRAC K-12 Student Scholarship Program

Scholarship funding is available for specific art learning projects or programs for students currently in Grades K-12.

Scholarships up to \$500 are available.

Annual Deadline: March 1

Heidi Pryor of Cambridge received a grant in the amount of \$500 for a project entitled *Summer Fiddle Camp*. Scholarship funds were used to allow the elementary school student to attend a fiddle day camp featuring three well-known violin instructors. The camp students learned Bluegrass, Canadian, Appalachian, Celtic, Jazz, and Blues music styles from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm for four consecutive days. A special recital was held on the last day. The camp took place on June 24-27, 2014 in Madison Wisconsin.

Samuel A. Roberto of Pine City received a grant in the amount of \$500 for a project entitled *Summer Jazz Camp*. The high school student will be using this scholarship award to attend the Minnesota All State Jazz Camp August 4-9, 2014. His goals are to continue to develop his improvisational skills as a soloist, and perform as part of a jazz ensemble or combo. He is planning on pursuing music in college and hopes to have a career as a professional saxophonist.

William Woulfe of Pine City received a grant in the amount of \$500 for a project entitled *Minnesota Ambassadors of Music Trip*. The high school student will use the scholarship funds to support his participation in the Minnesota Music Ambassadors of Summer Trip. The trip will take place from July 6 through July 21, 2014. The program's purpose is "to instruct American students and take their love of music to audiences abroad."

ECRAC's Annual IMAGE Art Show 2014

The IMAGE Art Show is a regional yearly judged art show sponsored by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC). The show is hosted each year by a different art group or group of individuals interested in the arts. The five counties included in the region are Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine County (Region 7E).

The East Central Regional Arts Council sponsors the show at this time with a budget of \$10,000.

Annual Deadline: June 1st

The 2014 IMAGE Art Show will be hosted this year by the East Central Regional Arts Council. The event will take place in October at the ECRAC main office located at 112 Main Avenue in Braham, Minnesota. Visit the ECRAC website at www.ecrac.org for IMAGE Art Show updates.