John Larson’s ceramic sculptures to be featured at the SW MN Arts Council Gallery

The Southwest Minnesota Arts Council Gallery will feature the ceramic sculpture of John Larson of Milan, MN from March 5 through May 1, 2015.

Larson says, “I make sculptures, paintings, photos, drawings, and functional objects. My ceramic sculptures are an investigation into representations of environmental balance as well idealized preferences and depictions of ideas that can only be realized in sculpture.

“I create suggestions of familiar objects that are altered or detached from their natural function. I am motivated by the limitations of native clays, the demanding wood fire process, and by the desire to communicate clearly.”

Larson discovered clay at age fourteen as a means of expression and as an alternative way of exploring fundamental physics. He has studied at Utah State University and under contemporary ceramist Oh Hyang Jong in South Korea.

Larson fires an Anagama kiln and maintains his studio in Milan, Minnesota. He uses porcelain and native clays with other indigenous materials to create his works which can be found in national and international collections.

The public is invited to visit the SMAC art gallery for a reception from 5:00 - 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 5, 2015. Enjoy live music during the reception. Regular Gallery hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to noon and 1:00 to 4:30 pm.
UPCOMING SMAC GRANT DEADLINES

SMAC grants must be applied for online. Go to www.swmnarts.org for program guidelines, application tutorial, and the link to the online grant system.

March 1, 2015:

March 20, 2015:
Art Projects & Arts Legacy Projects, Round II
Earliest project start date: May 15, 2015

April 1, 2015:
Monthly Grants: Art Legacy Project Planning

April 10, 2015:
Art Study Opportunity for Youth
Earliest project start date: May 15, 2015

April 15, 2015:
Prairie Disciple Award Nominations

Grantwriting Workshops
Plan on attending one of the following workshops to learn about the requirements for your application, get your questions answered, and find out about other projects going on in the area. Contact the SMAC office at 800-622-5284 or info@swmnarts.org to register for these free workshops. Go to www.swmnarts.org for venues.

Art Study Opportunity for Youth
March 3, 2015
5:30 – 7:00 pm
SW MN Arts Council
114 N 3rd St, Marshall

Southwest Minnesota Council’s programs, grant awards, & workshops are made possible by the voters of Minnesota thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund, by an appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the State’s general fund, by a grant from the McKnight Foundation, and regional contributions.

SMAC Artist Retreat
April 24-25
Danebod Folk School, Tyler
Register online at www.swmnarts.org

Evaluation Workshops, April 22-23
Need help with evaluating your SMAC-funded projects? Leah Goldstein Moses of The Improve Group (St Paul, MN) will present workshops on evaluation for arts organizations in the following locations:

Worthington, April 22, 10:00 am—2:00 pm
Marshall, April 22, 4:00—8:00 pm
Hutchinson, April 23, 11:00 am-3:00 pm

Learn when and why evaluation is used, understand which evaluation approaches best fit different situations, find ways to be creative and have fun with evaluation, and understand how data does and does not fit into decision making.

Go to www.swmnarts.org to register.

Memberships & Donations Received
January 23 — February 18, 2015
Farmers & Merchants State Bank, Appleton • Kristi & Brad Fernholz, Appleton • John Tanquist in memory of Colleen Frey, Appleton • ARTmeyerson, Atwater • Eric Anderson, Cottonwood • McLeod County Commission, Glencoe • Gene Stukel Photography, Granite Falls • Claire Swanson, Granite Falls • Paul Jones & Lori Grote, Jackson • Lac qui Parle Broadcasting, Madison • Lac qui Parle County Commission, Madison • Lyon County Commission, Marshall • Charles & Rita Carrera, Marshall • Susan McLean, Marshall • Mary Jane Striegel, Marshall • Mary Kay Thomas, Marshall • Becky Wyffels, Marshall • Chippewa County Commission, Montevideo • Renville County Commission, Olivia • Brent & Robin Olson, Ortonville • William & Mary Ann Yseth, Pipestone • Redwood County Commission, Redwood Falls • Jan Craig Nelson, Redwood Falls • Spellbound Theatricals, Slayton • Kelly Muldoon, Slayton • Darrel & Sharon Schuetze, Spicer • Kandiyohi County Commission, Willmar • David Moody & Mary Catherwood, Willmar • Cottonwood County Commission, Windom • Nobles County Art Center, Worthington • Nobles County Commission, Worthington
Rural Arts & Culture Summit announces keynote speaker & opens registration

The Rural Arts and Culture Summit, “From the Ground Up: Cultivating Creative People and Places” (June 2-4, 2015 at the University of Minnesota-Morris) has announced keynote speaker Theresa Secord.

Secord is a traditional Penobscot basketweaver who founded the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance (MIBA) in 1993. In 2003, Secord was the first U.S. citizen to win the Women’s World Summit Foundation prize for Creativity in Rural Life, awarded at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. Secord’s work focuses on preserving the tradition of her tribe’s basketweaving. Through her efforts, she has led partnerships between her tribe, state and federal forest services, and the University of Maine to preserve the ash forests in their region, while also launching intergenerational programs to pass basketweaving skills down to the next generation, and developing economic strategies to help artists sell and promote their work.

Other highlights of the Summit include:

- A conversation with rural practitioners, artists, and leaders about the role of arts and culture in the rural narrative, facilitated by Dave Peters, the news director of Minnesota Public Radio’s Ground Level Project.
- A presentation from The Art of the Rural's Matthew Fluharty, and the Rural Policy Research Institute’s Chuck Fluharty (yes, they’re related) about the national rural arts and culture movement.
- "Stories from the Field," an interactive theater performance created by the site-specific, community driven theater company PlaceBase Productions based on a series of story swaps held throughout the state prior to the Summit.

Early bird registration rates are available through April 22, 2015. Or, register by March 12 to have the chance to win free tickets to Bush Connect, a leadership networking event designed to build stronger and more meaningful connections between leaders. In 2013, the Summit sold out almost 6 weeks early. While the Summit has worked with the University to allow more attendees this year, they also expect even more interest, so sign up today at www.ruralartsandculturesummit.com/registration/.

A SMAC grant to attend the Summit is available, with a simple application form on the SMAC website, www.swmnarts.org. The SMAC grant will reimburse organizations or individuals for:

- The early bird registration fee
- Up to $75 per night for lodging
- Mileage at $.40/mile (carpooling is strongly encouraged to allow as many people as possible to participate)
- A $50/day stipend for participants who have to take time off work to attend.

Awards will be made on a first come, first served basis, so get your application in early. Funding is made possible by the voters of Minnesota thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

The Rural Arts and Culture Summit is a partnership between the Center for Small Towns, Springboard for the Arts, the Forum of Regional Arts Councils of Minnesota, and the University of Minnesota-Morris. Sponsors include the McKnight Foundation, the Bush Foundation, and the Minnesota State Arts Board/Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.

Call for artists: “POP < 5000”

The Edward J. & Helen Jane Morrison Gallery at the University of Minnesota Morris announces a call for entries for a summer exhibition, POP < 5000, in conjunction with the Rural Arts and Culture Summit.

The exhibit seeks submissions from contemporary artists who currently reside in Minnesota communities with populations less than or equal to 5,000 residents. The exhibit will survey artists working in a range of mediums and subject matter. The opening is planned for June 2, 2015 from 6:30-9:30pm, in conjunction with the welcome reception for the Rural Arts and Cultural Summit, and the exhibit will continue through June 30, 2015.

Submission Deadline: April 1, 2015. Begin by filling out the following form online at http://z.umn.edu/pop5000. For more information, contact curator Michael Eble, at meble@morris.umn.edu or call (320) 589-6285.
SW MN Arts Council awards $81,665 in Art Project & Art Legacy Project Grants

The Southwest Minnesota Arts Council has awarded $81,665 in grants to 17 regional organizations under the following programs:

**ART PROJECT GRANTS** provide organizations in the SMAC region with up to $5,000 in matching funds to stimulate and encourage the creation, performance and appreciation of the arts.

- **‘52 Wing Restoration Committee**, Appleton, $2,390 for their summer outdoor concert series.
- **Calumet Players**, Pipestone, $4,680 for their summer musical production of *Into the Woods*.
- **City of Rushmore**, $4,000 for a series of youth art workshops taught by Bobbie Alsgaard-Lien.
- **Crow River Area Youth Orchestra**, Hutchinson, $4,366 for their spring season.
- **Cultural Awareness Organization**, Worthington, $5,000 for their 2015 International Festival.
- **Dakota Wicohan**, Morton, $4,000 for apprenticeships in three Dakota art forms, resulting in original work which will be featured in a month-long exhibit at the Granite Area Arts Council.


**Marshall Area Stage Company**, $1,700 to attend and participate in the Minnesota Association of Community Theaters’ One Act Play Festival, MACT Fest.

**New London Music Festival**, $4,000 for their 2015 summer music festival.

**Prairie Dance Alliance**, Marshall, $3,200 for their 2015 summer dance camp.

**Southwest Minnesota Orchestra**, Marshall, $4,500 for their spring concert, “The Romantics: Schubert & Tchaikovsky”.

**Walnut Grove Community Club**, $3,500 for their 2015 Arts & Music Festival.

**Willmar Area Arts Council**, $5,000 for their Celebrate Art! Celebrate Coffee! 2015 festival.

**Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra**, $4,986 for their upcoming concerts. Spring 2015 is themed “Sounds of the New World” and also features winners of the Young Artists Competition. Fall 2015 will include Beethoven Symphony No 1 and Dvorak Cello Concerto in B Minor with Canadian cellist Brooke Scholl.

**Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra**, $4,960 for their 2015 spring concert, which will include pieces by Beethoven, Copland, Bach, Vaughan Williams, and WASO conductor Christopher Stanichar.

**ART LEGACY PROJECT GRANTS** provide organizations in the SMAC region with up to $20,000 in matching funds to stimulate and encourage the creation, performance and appreciation of the arts through large-scale projects that will leave an arts legacy in southwest Minnesota.

**City of Montevideo**, $9,200 for mural painted by Shawn McCann on the wall behind the Jose Artigas Statue in downtown Montevideo.

**New London Arts & Culture Alliance**, $16,000 for the Riverspace Passageway Project, which will create a mosaic sculpture near the Crow River as part of a broader community effort to revitalize the space.
SMAC seeks nominations for 2015 Prairie Disciple award

The Southwest Minnesota Arts Council is seeking nominations of arts advocates from the SW Minnesota region for its 2015 Prairie Disciple award. The Prairie Disciple Award recognizes an individual who has been instrumental in promoting the arts, whose activities and involvement have substantially contributed to the arts in the 18-county area of southwestern Minnesota. The activities involved may have taken place within the past few years or be a lifetime of contribution. Last year, SMAC accepted nominations of teachers/educators only, but this year any arts supporter may be nominated.

Since the accomplishments of these individuals are often not widely known or appreciated, SMAC hopes to raise the profile of the arts in our communities and throughout our region by recognizing them publicly.

Recent recipients of the Prairie Disciple Award include John Voit, Ghent; Jerry Deuschle, Luverne; Tricia Mikle, Worthington; Nancy Geiger, Willmar; and Ruth McKinney, Walnut Grove. Visit our website for a complete list of past recipients.

Nomination instructions and forms are available on the SW MN Arts Council website at www.swmnarts.org. The nomination deadline is Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

Creative MN Report: SW Minnesota

A new study on the health and impact of the nonprofit arts and culture sector will be released at noon on March 3, 2015, by the SW MN Arts Council and MN Citizens for the Arts. A presentation will be made at The Barn Theater (321 4th St SW, Willmar), followed by a discussion of the economic impact of the arts in the region. Lunch will be provided, so if you are joining us, please RSVP to info@swmnarts.org. Learn more at www.swmnarts.org.

Tedrick joins SMAC Board

Scott Tedrick of Granite Falls has been appointed as the new Yellow Medicine County board representative for SMAC. Tedrick is a member of the Granite Falls Riverfront Revitalization and a former CURE board member. Tedrick is also involved in theatre as a director and actor. His term will run through December 31, 2016. The SMAC Board currently has vacancies for Renville and Pipestone County board representative positions. Contact the SMAC Office at 507-537-1471 or info@swmnarts.org if you or someone you know is interested in one of these open positions.

MARCH CALENDAR

*Indicates the project was funded in part with a grant from SMAC with funds provided by the McKnight Foundation, the voters of Minnesota thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund, or by an appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the State’s general fund.

*March 1 SMAC Grant Application Deadline: Arts Org Development, Legacy Project Planning, Start-Up Grants. 4:30 pm deadline for application submissions.

March 1 "James and the Giant Peach", 2:00 pm, Fine Arts Theater, SMSU, Marshall. Based on the beloved children's story by British author Roald Dahl, this production will use puppetry and the magic of theatre to tell the story of 9-year-old James, as he escapes his dreary home life via a miraculous giant peach that carries him and several larger-than-life insect friends on a great adventure. Info at www.smsu.edu/academics/programs/theatrearts.

March 1 "The Hallelujah Girls", 2:00 pm, Good Shepherd Hall, Jackson. A Jackson County Art Guilds production. Tickets available at Perkins Appliance/Dawn’s Fabric & Yarn, 410 2nd St, Jackson, 507-847-5509.

March 1 One Act Plays: Light Drama, 2:00 pm, Pipestone Performing Arts Center, 104 E Main St, Pipestone. Calumet Players production. Information at www.pipestonemnnesota.com/performingartscenter/ or 507-825-5537.

*March 1-8 "The Romancers", Dassel Historical Center, 901 1st St, Dassel. Dassel-Cokato Community Theatre’s production. Sundays 2:00 pm, Friday & Saturday 7:00 pm.
March 2 Harmonious Wall, 7:00 pm, Park Elementary School, 100 Glen St SW, Hutchinson. The NPR regulars feature an infectious blend of continental jazz, swing, gypsy music and melodic vocals. Presented by the Hutchinson/Glenco Concert Association. Info at www.hutchinsonarts.org.

*March 3 Creative MN Report Release/Presentation, 12:00 pm, The Barn Theatre, 321 4th St SW, Willmar. RSVP to info@swmnarts.org.

*March 3 Southwest Minnesota Orchestra: Children’s Concert “Adventures in Space”, 10:00 am & 1:15 pm, Schwan Community Center for the Performing Arts (MHS), 400 Tiger Dr, Marshall.

*March 3 SMAC Grant Workshop: Art Study Opportunity for Youth, 5:30-7:00 pm, SW MN Arts Council, 114 N 3rd St, Marshall.

*March 5 SMAC Artist Reception: John Larson, 5:00-7:00 pm, SW MN Arts Council Gallery, 114 N 3rd St, Marshall. Live music at the reception from 5:30-6:30 pm.

March 5 & 7 "Murder at the Pie Auction", 6:00 pm, Elks Lodge No. 2287, 1105 2nd Ave, Worthington. Grassroots Community Theatre dinner theatre production in which Mother Mabel’s Pie Baking Competition has finally arrived in Mynute, Alaska ... by mistake. An evening of food and fun with audience participation. Info at 507-372-2735 or www.facebook.com/GrassrootsCommunityTheatre.

March 6 Artist Reception: Student Art Show, 5:00-7:00 pm, Nobles County Art Center, 407 12th St, Worthington.

March 6 Artist Reception: Joel & Victoria McKinney, 6:30-8:30 pm, KK Berge Gallery, 807 Prentice St, Granite Falls.

*March 6-8 "The Romancers", Dassel History Center, 901 1st St, Dassel. Dassel-Cokato Community Theatre production. Sunday 2:00 pm, Fri & Sat 7:00 pm.

March 13-15 "The Cagebirds", Marshall-Lyon County Library, 201 C St, Marshall. Friday & Saturday 7:00 pm, Sunday 2:00 pm. Marshall Area Stage Company production of the one-act play, "The Cagebirds", in which six birds who live in a locked room, each absorbed in their own petty interests and in placating the "Master" who takes care of them, have a "Wild One" is thrust in among them. For more information, contact the director Amanda Castro at castrosare@gmail.com.

March 13-15 & 20-22 "Moon Over Buffalo", Palace Theatre, 104 E Main St, Luverne. Friday & Saturday 7:30 pm, Sunday 2:00 pm. Green Earth Players production of "Moon Over Buffalo", in which fading stage actors of the 1950s, George & Charlotte Hay, receive word that they may have one last chance at stardom. Info at www.facebook.com/greenearthplayers or greenearthplayers@gmail.com.

*March 14 SMAC Grant Review Panel: Individual Artists, 9:00 am, SMAC Office, 114 N 3rd St, Marshall.

*March 14 Kids' Art Workshops, Rushmore Community Center, Rushmore. 5-8 year olds -- 10:00-12:00 pm, 9-14 year olds -- 1:00-4:00 pm. The workshops will present age appropriate painting, sculpture, and printmaking projects, allowing the individual to explore creatively with gentle guidance from instructor Bobbie Alsgaard-Lien. Contact Alsgaard-Lien at 507-360-6094.


*March 15 Dervish: Traditional Roots Music from Ireland, 7:30 pm, Blue Note Ballroom, 320 3rd St S, Winsted. Information at www.winstedartsincouncil.org.

March 19-21 & 26-28 "Leading Ladies", 7:00 pm, Hutchinson Center for the Arts, 15 Franklin St SW, Hutchinson. Hutchinson Theatre Company production of the comedy "Leading Ladies", in which down-on-their-luck English Shakespearean actors, Jack and Leo, resolve to pass themselves off as the beloved relatives of a rich old lady who is about to die. The trouble is, when they arrive, they find out that the relatives aren't nephews, but nieces. Information at www.hutchtheatre.org.

*March 20 SMAC Grant Application Deadline: Art Project/Art Legacy Project Rd III. 4:30 pm deadline for applicationsubmissions.

March 20 & 21 MACT*Fest One-Act Plays (Minnesota Association of Community Theatres), Dassel-Cokato Performing Arts Center, 4852 Reardon Ave SW, Cokato. Performances at 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm both days. Participants from the SMAC region include Calumet Players (Pipestone), Fungus Amongus Players (Dassel-Cokato), and Marshall Area Stage Company. Info and tickets at www.mact.net.

March 20-22 "Moon Over Buffalo", Palace Theatre, 104 E Main St, Luverne. Friday & Saturday 7:30 pm, Sunday 2:00 pm. Information at www.facebook.com/greenearthplayers or greenearthplayers@gmail.com.

*March 22 Cornet Chop Suey, 3:00 pm, Schwan Community Center for the Performing Arts (MHS), 400 Tiger Dr, Marshall. Cornet Chop Suey applies its own

*March 23-24 SMSU Jazz Ensemble with Conrad Herwig & High School Jazz Bands. Guest artist Herwig, a New York-based jazz trombonist, will work with student ensembles over several days, ending with two concerts. March 23: 7:30 pm with Marshall HS Jazz Bands, Marshall Middle School Auditorium, 401 S Saratoga St, Marshall. March 24: 7:00 pm, Kerkhoven Murdock Sunburg HS Jazz Bands, Kerkhoven HS Auditorium, 302 15th St, Kerkhoven.

*March 24 SMAC Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, Southwest Minnesota Arts Council, 114 N 3rd St, Marshall.

March 26-28 "Leading Ladies", 7:00 pm, Hutchinson Center for the Arts, 15 Franklin St SW, Hutchinson. Information at www.hutchtheatre.org.

March 29 SMSU Chorale & Prairie Arts Chorale, 2:00 pm, First Lutheran Church, 100 Church St, Marshall.

March 30 All-City Jazz Festival, 7:30 pm, Schwan Community Center for the Performing Arts (MHS), 400 Tiger Dr, Marshall.

GALLERIES

*SMAC Art Gallery. 114 N 3rd St, Marshall. March 5-May 1: John Larson, woodfired ceramic sculptures. Reception March 5, 5:00-7:00 pm. Live music from 5:30-6:30 pm. Visit the gallery Monday through Friday from 8:00 am-noon and 1:00 - 4:30 pm.

Barn Theatre Art Gallery. 321 4th St SW, Willmar. Gallery Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM. For more info, call 320-235-9500 or email info@thebarntheater.com.

Carnegie Cultural Center. 205 N Freeman, Luverne. Hours are Tues – Fri, 12 - 5 PM and Sat 1-4 PM. For more info, email cahrc@outlook.com or call 507-283-8294.

Clay Coyote Pottery. 17614 240th St, Hutchinson. Hours are Mon - Sat 10 - 5 PM; Sunday Noon - 4 PM, or, call ahead for an appointment, 320-587-2599. Check out www.claycoyote.com or email Betsy & Tom at claypot@hutchtel.net.

*Hutchinson Center for the Arts. 15 Franklin St SW, Hutchinson. Gallery Hours: Mon—Thurs 10:00 am—5:00 pm. Info at 320-587-7278 or www.hutchinsonarts.org.

*KK Berge Gallery (Granite Area Arts Council). 807 Prentice Street, Granite Falls. Through March 28: Joel & Victoria McKinney, paintings & fiber art. Reception & Artist Talk March 6, 6:30-8:30 pm. Gallery hours Monday – Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Info at 320-564-4240 or www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil.


Nobles County Art Center. 407 12th St, Worthington. March: Student Art Show. Reception March 6, 5:00-7:00 pm. Hours: M-F 2:00-4:30 pm. Call 507-372-8245 for more information.


Robert Remick Gallery/Cottonwood County Historical Society. 812 Fourth Avenue, Windom. Through March 21: “Give It Your Best Shot”, photography, various artists. Gallery Hours: Mon - Fri 8 - 4 PM & Sat 10 - 4 PM. For more info, call 507-831-1134 or email cchs@windomnet.com.

Tokheim Pottery. 2057 361st Ave, Dawson. Visit www.tokheim-stoneware.com for more info about the gallery or call 320-769-2142 or email info@tokheim-stoneware.com.


*Willmar Education and Arts Center (WEAC). 611 5th St SW, Willmar. Info at 320-235-8560 or willmarareaartsccouncil.org.
Has your membership expired? If your address label shows that your membership has expired, this may be the last issue of VOICES you will receive in the mail. Please use the form at the bottom of this page to renew your membership now.

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Join SMAC today and have your money doubled. The McKnight Foundation will match dollar-for-dollar any new or increased donations to SMAC.

Contributions are tax-deductible. Mail your membership donation to SW MN Arts Council, PO Box 55, Marshall, MN 56258.

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Please consider making a gift to SMAC as a memorial or in honor of a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion.