McKnight Foundation Approves a Challenge Grant to Match New and Increased Donations to SMAHC!

The McKnight Foundation has approved a two year grant of $127,000 to the Southwest Minnesota Arts & Humanities Council. The grant includes up to $5,000 per year to match new or increased donations to SMAHC in 2007 and 2008. McKnight funds enable SMAHC to provide grants to individual artists, schools and local arts organizations, present conferences and conduct strategic planning.

In fiscal year 2007, revenue from a State allocation and The McKnight Foundation constituted almost 77% of SMAHC’s total budget. With decreasing population and uncertain funding levels from the State, it is essential for SMAHC to increase efforts to expand its funding base from other sources in order to provide increased financial stability.

“We believe that our membership base is an essential part of our structure and we are excited about the opportunity to increase that base. This dollar-for-dollar match of new and increased donations to SMAHC has the potential of increasing our revenue by $20,000 over a two year period,” said Greta Murray, Executive Director of SMAHC.

ABOUT THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION
The McKnight Foundation seeks to improve the quality of life for present and future generations through grant-making, coalition-building, and encouragement of strategic policy reform. Founded in 1953 and independently endowed by William L. McKnight and Maude L. McKnight, the Minnesota-based Foundation has assets of approximately $2.2 billion and granted about $93 million in 2006. Program information and full grant descriptions are available at www.mcknight.org.

SMAHC ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Over $6,000 was raised at the SMAHC Annual Celebration and Fundraising Event “Artoberfest” on Saturday, October 13th at the Marshall Golf Club in Marshall. A great time was had by all who attended this gala event. You can see additional pictures on page 2 and on the SMAHC website: www.smahc.org
NEW SMAHC BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED

The SMAHC Board of directors is happy to announce the appointment of 2 new board. **Sydney Massee** has been appointed to represent Swift County. She has extensive experience working with organizations in voluntary positions, including a school board member for Appleton and Lac qui Parle, Habitat for Humanity (board member and secretary), and Appleton Area Health Services (Board Chair). We are happy to welcome her to the SMAHC Board.

**Paul Grupe** has been appointed to represent Jackson County. Paul is a band teacher for Jackson County Central High School. He has been the musical director for many Jackson County Arts Guild productions. His expertise in music and music education will be a great asset to the SMAHC Board.

SMAHC continues to look for board members to represent Lincoln and Rock Counties. If you are interested in serving on the SMAHC Board from these counties, please call SMAHC at 800-622-5284.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION PICTURES

Prairie Star, Daniel Rieppel and Prairie Disciple, Bob Whitney

Guests visit the Silent Auction Tables

The Live Auction is in progress

The Green Lake Bluegrass Band
Arts Advocacy Day 2008 is scheduled for February 14th, 2008. Arts Advocacy Day is your chance to make sure decision makers know about the strong arts community in Minnesota and that we would like their support. Arts people come from all over the state to take part. It’s the best arts networking opportunity of the year! SMAHC always has a number of faithful participants that spends that day at the capital. We hope you will consider setting this day aside and participate. Read more now at the MCA web site (newspaceship.com/events/advocacyday/). When you visit this site, be sure to click on the Advocacy Day 2007 Video link. Our own Greta Murray is one of the featured interviews. You will also see Ben Vander Kooi speaking with some of the SMAHC contingency. Save the date—and join us!

Poetry Out Loud Deadline is Nov. 15

Minnesota high schools are invited to participate in Poetry Out Loud, a fun way to teach poetry and meet English/language arts requirements. This great event returns to Minnesota for its third year. Through Poetry Out Loud, high school students learn about great poetry through memorization, performance, and competition. They also master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.

Free, standards-based curriculum materials are available for all participating schools. Participating schools also have the opportunity to work with professional poets who give workshops on poetry recitation for students.

Poetry Out Loud is modeled on the national spelling bee. Schools host their own contests. School winners compete in regional contests. Regional winners compete in the state contest. State winners will advance to the national finals in Washington, DC, in April 2008.

Poetry Out Loud is a national program, cosponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. It is coordinated in Minnesota by the Minnesota State Arts Board.

Read more about Poetry Out Loud and download the guidelines and registration forms by visiting the Minnesota State Arts Board web site (www.arts.state.mn.us/other/poetry.htm).

Arts Advocacy Day 2008

Members from the SMAHC Region meet with Senator Jim Vickerman in his office.

SMAHC DEADLINES

Challenge Grants
APPLICATION DEADLINE - January 2, 2008
This program provides up to $500 in matching funds for new and increased memberships and/or season tickets.

Art Projects & Local Arts Development Grants
APPLICATION DEADLINE - February 1, 2008 for projects beginning after April 14, 2008.
Art Projects grants provide organizations with up to $4,500 in matching funds (Art Project) to produce or present high quality arts events. Local Arts Development grants provide up to $4,000 in matching funds to local arts organizations to strengthen their capacity to provide quality arts activities.

ONGOING:
Arts Organization Networking and Training Grants - to help with workshop fees and mileage reimbursement - due 1 week prior to planned trip.

Cultural Band Insurance - support for projects which face a possible loss of expected revenue - due 28 days prior to event.
GALLERY LISTINGS

Nobles County Art Center, Jose Lamas Paintings Oct. 14-Nov. 26, December- Holiday Exhibit & Sale 407 12th St., Worthington.  507-372-8245


The ETC Coffee Shop Gallery; Sponsored by the Fine Arts Council of Tracy. M-F 6:30am-5:00pm and Sat. 7:30-4:00pm, 507-629-3114

Willmar Education & Arts Center, 611 SW 5th St., Willmar. 320-231-8560


Robert Remick Gallery/Cottonwood County Historical Society, 812 Fourth Avenue, Windom; Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM. Contact: (507) 831-1134

Daily Grind Gallery, 316 W. Main St., Marshall, 507-537-9565 features new artwork monthly

Java River Cafe in Montevideo hosts a new art exhibit every month. They also provide a venue for musicians, poets, and performers; 210 S. 1st Street, Montevideo; Visit their website to read more about their exhibits and live musical performances. www.javarivercafe.com

Art & Healing: Mind Fields, including works by Bonnie Van Moorlehem of Minnesota, at Intermedia Arts, 2822 Lyndale Ave. South, Minneapolis, 612-871-4444 or www.intermediaarts.org

NOVEMBER

November 1-3 & 8-10 Crimes of the Heart by Beth Henley, directed by Kurt Schulz at the Peace Lutheran Church Hutchinson; Dinner at 6:00 pm and the show starts at 7:00 pm. Tickets are $28 for the dinner and show. For more information, call Betsy at 320-587-2599 or email info@hutchtheatre.org; Their organization website is www.hutchtheatre.org

November 2-3 "The Glass Managerie" presented by the SMSU Theatre at 7:30 pm in the Fine Arts Theatre at Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall. Dinner Theatre is also available on November 2-3 from 5:45 - 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Center. For tickets, call the SMSU Box Office at (507) 537-6480 or (507) 537-7103.

November 3 Tatanka Arts The "Opening Reception" for their group Art Show at the Redwood Falls Library will be from 1-3 pm at the Redwood Falls Library in Redwood Falls. The Redwood Falls Library is located at 509 S. Lincoln Street.

November 3 The Illusions of Reality Magic Show at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center, Pipestone. 8:00 PM; For ticket information, call the box office at 877-722-2787 or email dhansen110@mchsi.com

November 3 Springboard’s Health Fair for Artists Springboard for the Arts is excited to announce this year's bigger and better Health Fair for Artists, a free event dedicated to connecting artists, arts administrators and their families to healthcare resources. For more information, visit their website: www.springboardforthearts.org/HealthFair/healthfair2007.asp

November 4 The Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra at WEAC, 611 5th St. SW, Willmar; 3:00 PM; email tomann@tds.net or call 320-354-2192 for more information.

November 4 The Southwest Minnesota Orchestra presents "Music and The Academy" A tribute to the 40th anniversary of SMSU and celebration of Veteran's Day, 4:00 p.m., Schwan Community Center for the Performing Arts, 400 Tiger Drive, Marshall; Tickets are $9.00 for adults and $6.00 for students and children; Tickets available at the door. For more information, email jeannettebosveld@yahoo.com

November 4 Dakota String Quartet, sponsored by the Tyler Arts Council at the First English Lutheran Church, 245 E. Hughes St., Tyler; 3:00 PM; for more information, email rgziemers@hotmail.com or call 507-247-3811

November 8 Southwest Initiative Foundation Banquet at SMSU in Marshall. The theme for this event is "Just Imagine" focusing on the opportunities we have as a region to prepare for a bright and prosperous future in a changing world. For more information, email info@swifoundation.org

November 8-10, 16-18 “M*A*S*H” presented by the Green Earth Players at the Historic Palace Theatre in downtown Luverne; All performances at 8 PM except for 11/18 which is 2 PM; Call the Box Office for ticket information: 507-283-8294

November 9, 10, 16, 17, 18 Prairie Arts Chorale presents selections from the Messiah. 11/9-7:30pm, St. Gabriels Church, 307 SW Lake Ave., Fulda; 11/10-7:30pm, United Methodist Church, 601 Veda Dr., Redwood Falls; 11/16-7:30pm, Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 503 W. Lyon St., Marshall; 11/17-7:30, Bunde Christian Reformed Church, 5088 140th Ave. SE, Clara City; 11/18-4:00pm, Faith Lutheran Church, 310 Medayto Drive, Spicer; email mkfris@mnns.com or call 507-530-2157 for more information

November 9 Rastrelli Cello Quartet sponsored by MAFAC Concert Series, 7:30pm at the Schwan PAC, 400 Tiger Dr, Marshall. www.mafac.net or 507-532-5463 for information.

November 10 Tatanka Arts There will be "Demonstrations of Art Techniques for Adults" on Saturday from 10 am-noon at the Redwood Falls Public Library. The library is located at 509 S. Lincoln Street in Redwood Falls.

November 11 Augustana College Choir Sponsored by the Luverne Area Community Foundation, Luverne. 2:00 PM; email lawkool@prairie.lakes.com or call 507-283-9546 for more information.
November/December Calendar

November 16-18 I'll Be Home for Christmas presented by the Friends of the Arts at the Renville County West HS, 103 NE 3rd St., Renville; Nov 16 & 17, 5:30 PM dinner and 7:00 PM performance; Nov 18, 2:00 PM matinee; For more information, email mkjersten@rcw.k12.mn.us

November 17 John Smith in concert at the BARC Auditorium, 1012 5th Ave., Windom, 7:30pm; This is part of the Prairie Wind Folk Music & Bluegrass Association Concert Series. Visit www.mnriv.com/windfolk.html more information at or email bboldt@mindspring.com

November 17 Community Water Color Workshop with Charlene Buescher. 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Senior Center in Marshall; The cost is $35 for all day - bring your lunch. Kits with all supplies are available to reserve if needed. Call 605-479-3001 for more information.

November 24 Community Messiah Concert under the direction of Mark Solie at the Memorial Auditorium, 601 9th Street, Dawson; 7:00 PM, Tickets are $5.00 for adults, no charge for students; Singers from surrounding communities are encouraged to join the Messiah chorus. For rehearsal times, check the website: www.dawsonboydarts.org or email lfondell@dwbk12.mn.us or call 320-226-5625

November 29, 30 "Scotland Road" a mystery by Jeffrey Hatcher, presented by the SMSU Drama Club at 7:30 PM in the Black Box Theatre located in Fine Arts 112, Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall. Tickets sold at the door are $3.00. For more information, call (507) 537-7103

December 1 Opera House Christmas Show at the Lake Benton Opera House, Lake Benton; December 1 at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM. Admission-$6.00 - Call 507-368-4620 for reservations or visit www.lakebentonoperahouse.org

December 4 The Southwest Minnesota Orchestra presents "A Very Prairie Christmas" with the SMSU Men's Glee Club and SMSU Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m., First Lutheran Church of Marshall, 100 Church Street, Marshall; Tickets are $9.00 for adults and $6.00 for students and children. Tickets are available at the door. For more information, Email: Jeanette Bosveld @jeanettebosveld@yahoo.com

December 6-9, 13-16, 19-21 “Don’t Hug Me” at the Barn Theatre, 321 SW 4th Street, Willmar; 7:30 PM, Sundays 2:30 PM matinee; 320-235-9500; www.thebarntheatre.com

December 7, 9 Christmas Around The World presented by the Crow River Singers; Dec 7 at PM; Dec 9 at 2 PM; Vineyard Methodist Church, 1395 South Grade Rd. SW, Hutchinson; for more information email bogiestogie@hotmail.com

December 8 South Dakota State University Percussion Ensemble Annual Meeting Concert at the Memorial Auditorium, 601 9th Street, Dawson. 7:00 PM; General Admission, $6 for adults and $3 for students. Free for all Arts Association members. Visit www.dawsonboydarts.org for more information or email lfondell@dwbk12.mn.us.

December 15 The Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra 50th Anniversary Concert at WEAC, 611 5th St. SW, Willmar; 3:00 PM; email tomann@tds.net or call 320-354-2192 for more information.

***SEE MORE Calendar Events and Opportunities on the SMAHC website at http://smahc.org

What’s Happening?...Get it in VOICES
...in the arts and/or humanities in your area that you would like to publicize?
Submit upcoming events for the January/February VOICES by December 15, 2007.

Date(s):_________________________________________ Times:_________________________
Sponsoring Organization(s):_____________________________________________________
Name of Event:______________________________________Admission:_________________
Location:_________________________________________City:_________________________
Contact person for inquiries:_________________________Phone:_____________________
Name of person completing this form:_________________Phone & e-mail address:__________
Brief Description of Event:_____________________________________________________

DECEMBER

December 1 Holiday Memories with Neal & Leandra sponsored by MAFAC Concert Series, 7:30pm at the Schwan PAC, 400 Tiger Drive, Marshall. www.mafac.net or 507-532-5463 for tickets and information.

December 1 & 2 "Scotland Road" a mystery by Jeffrey Hatcher, presented by the SMSU Drama Club at 7:30 PM in the Black Box Theatre located in Fine Arts 112, Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall. Tickets sold at the door are $3.00. For more information, call (507) 537-7103
OPPORTUNITIES

MNartists.org Calendar With the new mnartists Calendar, you can search the region to find a performance around the corner or across the state as well as the dates for classes, exhibitions, films, concerts, shows, readings, and theater. Visit www.mnartists.org/calendar.

The Big Read The purpose of The Big Read is to encourage literary reading. Read more about The Big Read and to download guidelines and application at: www.neabigread.org/

Springboard For The Arts is a non-profit artist service organization. Check them out at: www.springboardforthearts.org/Workshops/Workshop.asp or call 651-292-4381.

Milan Village Arts School Classes in Milan, MN - For a brochure call 320.734.4807 or visit: www.milanvillageartsschool.org; email mvas@fedteldirect.net

Attention Writers! The Loft Literary Center lists opportunities for writers at www.loft.org

The Minnesota State Arts Board maintains a database for visual artists who want to locate new venues in which to exhibit and sell their work, and for art patrons and collectors who are interested in viewing or purchasing art in Minnesota. The database is available at www.mnarts.us/exhibit.cfm


MNArtists.org is an online database of Minnesota artists and organizations from all disciplines. Visit their website and read more at: mnartists.org

Minnesota Percent for Art Artist Registry The registry is a collection of resumes and work samples of visual artists in all disciplines who would like to be considered for public art commissions and purchases. Web site: www.percentforart.us/

Minnesota Sesquicentennial Grant Program a grant program for communities and organizations to create Sesquicentennial activities. Website: www.mn150years.org/grants.html

Applauze Magazine To publicize your upcoming Arts Event contact: info@applauze.com or www.applauze.com

New IRS Requirements For Small Tax-Exempt Organizations

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations that previously were not required to file returns risk losing their tax-exempt status if they do not file an annual electronic notice (e-Postcard).


Marshall Dancer Will Appear With The Moscow Ballet

The world-renowned Moscow Ballet is celebrating its 15th anniversary U.S tour this year, presenting the Great Russian Nutcracker and Swan Lake. With each tour, Moscow Ballet casts local children ages seven to young teens for its Great Russian Nutcracker U.S. Tour. On average, 60 children are selected per city.

Rebekah Criquet Danielson of Marshall was recently cast as Spanish in the upcoming Moscow Ballet Nutcracker that will be presented in Sioux Falls, SD at the Washington Pavilion. Rebekah’s parents thought it would be a great experience to be a part of a touring production, especially with the Moscow Ballet. Auditions were held at Main Stage Ballet & Dance Academy in Sioux Falls on October 4th. They had no idea as to what to expect, but as soon as the auditions began they realized that they were being conducted by a member of Moscow Ballet. To add to the experience, the choreography was set that evening for her part by the Moscow Ballet member. Rebekah is thrilled to have been cast as Spanish, as it appears to be the only local part cast in pointe.

Rebekah has studied dance at Southwest School of Dance (SWSD) in Marshall for nine years, and has been dancing on pointe for just one year. She is very familiar with the Nutcracker story as she has participated in two of Prairie Dance Alliance’s productions of Nutcracker. Being able to participate in this production however, was not an automatic thing. She only had Saturday afternoon’s available in her schedule, and the rehearsals for this just happened to be scheduled for Saturday afternoons. They are currently making the road trip to Sioux Falls every Saturday for rehearsals. It is very time consuming but worth it!

Performances will be held December 4th and 5th at 7:30pm at the Washington Pavilion. Tickets can be purchased by calling 605-367-6000 or 1-877-WASHPAV (927-4728), or at www.nutcracker.com.
SMAHC Awards $45,640 Throughout the Region

The SMAHC Board of Directors voted to award a total of $45,640 to organizations under the SMAHC Arts Project Grant Program and the SMAHC Local Arts Development Grant Program. We would like to congratulate all of the following recipients and their communities.

**SMAHC Arts Project Grant Program**

- **Jackson County Central Community Education**, in the amount of $2455 to bring a Minnesota Orchestra Performance to Jackson.
- **Fine Arts Council of Tracy**, in the amount of $4250 for a community production of Rogers & Hammerstein’s “Sound of Music”.
- **Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra**, in the amount of $4500 for their 50th Anniversary Concert Series.
- **Milan Village Arts School**, in the amount of $4500 for their 20th Anniversary Celebration arts activities.
- **Friends of the Orchestra, SW MN**, in the amount of $3550 for the “Music and the Academy” Southwest Minnesota Orchestra performances.
- **Blue Mound Area Theatre, Luverne**, in the amount of $1500 to host The South Dakota Symphony Orchestra.
- **Friends of the Arts, Renville area**, in the amount of $1946 for the production “I’ll Be Home for Christmas”.
- **Crow River Singers, Hutchinson**, in the amount of $1500 for their 2007-08 Concert Series.
- **Business, Arts, & Recreation Center, Windom**, in the amount of $4234 to present the Minnesota Ballet.
- **Prairie Arts Chorale, SW MN**, in the amount of $3000 for their “Selections from Handel’s Messiah.”
- **Tyler Arts Council**, in the amount of $1253 for their 2007-08 Concert and Visual Art Exhibit Series.
- **Marshall Area Fine Arts Council**, in the amount of $3858 to host the Minnesota Orchestra in Marshall.
- **The Calumet Players, Pipestone**, in the amount of $1735 for “Fractured Fairytales” Children’s Theater.

**SMAHC Local Arts Development Program**

- **Hutchinson Theatre Company, Hutchinson**, in the amount of $1845, for website improvements including online ticket purchasing.
- **Milan Village Arts School, Milan**, in the amount of $4000, for a board retreat, building upgrades, and logo development.
- **Marshall Area Fine Arts Council, Marshall**, in the amount of $549, for the purchase of a professional printer for promotional materials.

The next deadline for the Art Project Grant and Local Arts Development Grant Programs will be Feb. 1, 2008 for projects starting April 15, 2008 or after.

**Jerry Ostensoe Releases New Album**

Renville county musician Jerry Ostensoe, also known as the “Lawrence Welk of the Blues” is releasing his CD, *Just East of West*. This CD is a collection of original and traditional songs. Jerry is joined by some of the area’s finest musicians including Malena Handeen, Tom Listul, Chuck Antonson, Pete Den Blaker, Colleen Frey, Ross Anderson and Pete Lothringer as well as Minneapolis musicians Dakota Dave Hull, Clint Hoover, and Tom Schaefer.

As a life-time resident of southwestern Minnesota, he has sung about the prairie and its people for over thirty-five years. He has developed an engaging musical style that blends the blues, county and folk music into a rich, fertile ground where stories grow. His CD will be available locally soon. Check his website for more information on ordering and concert dates: www.jerryostensoe.com

**NEW BOOK AVAILABLE SOON**

A new book by two of Minnesota’s renowned authors will be available soon in local bookstores. *Southwest Minnesota: A Place of Many Places* by Joseph Amato and David Pichaske explore the region’s rich culture in their own words. From Amato’s analysis of regional lead cities like Worthington and New Ulm to Pichaske’s meditations on smaller towns like Minneota, Slayton, and Hanley Falls, the authors examine the ways this region has reacted to the changes and challenges of the late twentieth century. Along the way, they explore tiny points of interest like small town ethnic celebrations, baseball diamonds, and regional cemeteries. Extended essays like “A Meditation on Enclosed Space,” and “Seen and Unseen Faces” offer penetrating reflections on the long arc of history in Southwest Minnesota and on the natural and constructed landscapes. The cloth bound book is 152 pages and contains 165 full color photos. It will be available in time for Christmas.
Board members are needed for Lincoln and Rock Counties. If you are interested in representing one of these counties, call Greta.

Has your membership expired? If your address label shows that your membership has expired this will 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. If you prefer to receive VOICES via email, subscribe at www.smahc.org or contact the SMAHC office.

2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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                                    Pipestone................... Bronwyn Jones
                                    Redwood ................... Ramona Larson
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                                    Swift .................... Sydney Massee
                                    Yellow Medicine ...... Tamara Isfeld
                                    At-Large ............... Ruth Ascher

STAFF

Executive Director .......... Greta Murray  Administrative Assistant ... Charles Carrera
Office Assistant ............. Cat Abbott  Voices Newsletter Editors ... Charles Carrera & Cat Abbott

New & Renewing Members August 22 - October 21, 2007

Ansel Doll, Appleton  Andrea Filk-Wigern, Hutchinson  Prairieiland Economic Development
Louise Olson, Appleton  Don & Dolly Talbert, Luverne  Commission, Slayton,
Frank & Pam Lawatsch, Benson  John & Phyllis Bowden, Marshall  Corrine Totzke, Slayton
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Rolland and Janet Digre, Hendricks  ARThouse, New London  Walt & Raeanna Giselson, Willmar
Charlene Buescher, Hendricks  Renville County HRA/EDA, Olivia  Whitney Music, Willmar
Martin & Jean Bunge, Heron Lake  Donna Leiferman, Ortonville  Lynn Peterson, Windom
Dan & Theresa Honsey, Hutchinson  Song of the Prairie Chorus, Marshall  Margaret Erickson, Worthington

SMAHC Membership Form

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

Contributions are tax-deductible. Mail your membership donation to SMAHC, 1210 East College Drive, Ste 600, Marshall, MN 56258.

Name ____________________________  Address ____________________________  City __________  State ___  Zip __________

Telephone ____________________________  E-mail ____________________________

COUNTY ____________________________________________________________

LEVELS OF PARTNERSHIPS:  

$500.00 + Benefactor  $99.00 - $50.00 Supporter
$499.00 - $250.00 Patron  $49.00 - $25.00 Contributor
$249.00 - $100.00 Sustainer  Business & Organizational memberships starting at $50.00

Thank You!