MN Arts Advocacy Day February 19

SMAC Board Member Kathy Fransen of Jackson (Row 1, 3rd from right) and others meet with Representative Bob Gunther of Fairmont (Row 1, 4th from right) during last year’s Arts Advocacy Day on March 27, 2014.

Join SMAC and other arts lovers on February 19, Minnesota Arts Advocacy Day, to speak to our legislators at the Capitol about the impact that arts funding has had on our lives and our communities.

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA) organizes the event, and sends out this message to all arts advocates:

“Past Arts Advocacy Days have resulted in great gains for the arts, like the passage of the Legacy Amendment in 2008 that tripled arts funding and which we are working now to protect. The legislature decides now how much arts funding there will be for the next two years. We must protect the gains we have made, and to prevent, as has been attempted in the past, diversion of Legacy Arts funding away from the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Councils.

“New legislators, committees, and chairs are overseeing arts funding this year, so a strong showing from every corner of the state helps make sure that every legislator gets to meet with an arts advocate from their own area. They say ‘no legislator understands an issue until it’s explained to him by a constituent.’

“Throughout the day, you and your team will be led by an experienced advocate who has participated in past Arts Advocacy Days and knows what to do. Following a brief rally, you and your team will visit a series of legislators over the morning, giving you plenty of time to get to know your teammates and the issues you are discussing.”

Take advantage of this great opportunity to meet other arts advocates from around the state and to let your elected officials know what you think about the arts in Minnesota. Once you register through the website at right, let SMAC know if you’d like to ride share to the Capitol. SMAC staff will help coordinate vehicles and pick-up spots throughout the region. Call the SMAC office at 800-622-5284 or 507-537-1471.

Meet your SMAC-region legislators:

**MN HOUSE**
District 12A: Jeff Backer, Browns Valley*
District 16A: Chris Swedzinski, Ghent
District 16B: Paul Torkelson, Hanska
District 17A: Tim Miller, Prinsburg*
District 17B: Dave Baker, Willmar*
District 18A: Dean Urdahl, Grove City
District 18B: Glenn Gruenhagen, Glencoe
District 22A: Joe Shomacker, Luverne
District 22B: Rod Hamilton, Mountain Lake
District 23A: Bob Gunther, Fairmont

**MN SENATE**
District 12: Torrey Westrom, Elbow Lake
District 16: Gary Dahms, Redwood Falls
District 17: Lyle Koenen, Clara City
District 18: Scott Newman, Hutchinson
District 22: Bill Weber, Luverne
District 23: Julie Rosen, Fairmont

* New legislator

Go to [www.smac.org](http://www.smac.org) to view a short video outlining the day, then [register for Arts Advocacy Day at](http://www.mncitizensforthearts.org) [www.mncitizensforthearts.org/actnow](http://www.mncitizensforthearts.org/actnow).

If you can’t attend Arts Advocacy Day in person, contact your legislators through email using the MCA Desktop Lobbyist website: [www.mncitizensforthearts.org/actnow](http://www.mncitizensforthearts.org/actnow).

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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.

February 1, 2015:

February 2, 2015:
   Equipment & Facilities Improvement, Round II
   Earliest project start date: March 15, 2105

February 25, 2015:
   Individual Artists, Round II
   Earliest project start date: April 15, 2015

March 1, 2015:

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

April 1, 2015:

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 Projects & Art Legacy Projects

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<tr>
<th>February 3, 2015</th>
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<td>5:30 – 7:00 pm</td>
<td>3:00—4:30 pm</td>
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<td>SW MN Arts Council</td>
<td>Redwood Cty Courthouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>114 N 3rd St, Marshall</td>
<td>250 S Jefferson, RW Falls</td>
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Art Study Opportunity for Youth

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Art Study Opportunity for Youth grants are available up to $500 to aid in the development of young artists entering grades 5 – 12 for an enrichment camp or specialty study. Funding of standard weekly lessons (such as piano or voice lessons) is allowed for those students who qualify for the federal free or reduced lunch program.

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.

The SW MN Arts Council office will be CLOSED Monday, February 16 for Presidents' Day
SW MN Arts Council awards $84,944 in grants to schools and organizations

The Southwest Minnesota Arts Council has awarded $84,999 in grants to 17 regional schools and organizations under the following programs:

**ARTS IN THE SCHOOLS GRANTS** provide schools with up to $4,000 for artist residencies and up to $2,000 for arts-related field trips.

**Adrian High School**, Marshall, $2,000 for a Twin Cities art gallery tour field trip, and $2,000 for a Copper Street Brass residency.

**Appleton/Milan Elementary School**, $3,000 for a fairy tale & poetry writing residency with Marie Olofsdotter.

**Bert Raney Elementary**, Granite Falls, $948 for a Ross Sutter dulcimer residency.

**Hills-Beaver Creek School**, $4,000 for an Anne Krocak residency to complete a ceramic mural in the commons of the school.

**Lakeview Schools**, Cottonwood, $1,973 for a Ross Sutter dulcimer residency.

**Montevideo Schools**, $2,000 for a senior class trip to the Guthrie Theatre to see Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”.


**Red Rock Central Schools**, Lamberton, $2,237 for the 41st Annual Lamberton Jazz Festival.

**Southwest Minnesota State University Music Department**, Marshall, $3,000 for a Conrad Herwig jazz residency.

**Stevens Elementary**, Dawson, $3,500 for a Ross Sutter dulcimer residency.

**Worthington Middle School**, $2,000 for a Copper Street Brass residency.

**LEGACY EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT GRANTS** provide arts organizations with $5,001 up to $15,000 in matching funds for large-scale equipment & facilities improvements that will enable the organization to leave an arts legacy in Minnesota.

**Lake Benton Opera House**, $5,437 to replace doors & windows and purchase light tree stands and a backstage video monitor.

**Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra**, $10,759 for new percussion equipment.

**Big Stone Arts Council**, Ortonville, $9,190 for an architect and structural engineer to create plans to renovate an old water plant building into a cultural center.

**McLeod County Historical Society**, Hutchinson, $7,500 for gallery lighting for the Les C. Kouba Art Collection.

**Crow River Drumline Association**, Hutchinson, $14,400 for new percussion equipment for the Phoenix Drumline.

**Granite Area Arts Council**, Granite Falls, $7,500 to replace their upper windows.
Johnson joins SMAC Board

Dana Johnson of Appleton has been appointed as the new Swift County board representative for SMAC. Johnson is the executive producer, director, host, and photographer for several productions at Pioneer Public TV. She is also a film artist, singer, musician, and songwriter.

Speaking about why she would like to serve on the SMAC Board, Johnson says, “I would like to give back to my community and become better connected” with the arts in the region. Her term will run from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017.

SMAC Board vacancies

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 are interested in one of these open positions.

SMAC hires part-time communications temp

SMAC welcomes Jon Woehl as our part-time communications temp. Woehl is also an adjunct marketing professor at Southwest Minnesota State University and a consultant with the Small Business Development Center.

He will be working with us for several months to update and organize our mail and email contact lists, including verifying your addresses and finding out your preferences for receiving information about SMAC programs and regional arts opportunities.

SMAC-region potters excel at Paramount Visual Arts Center contest

Two of four awards were won by SMAC-region artists at the recent “Captivating Clay” contest, put on by Paramount Visual Arts Center, St Cloud.

Craig Edwards of New London won 1st Place, and Gene Tokheim of Dawson won 3rd Place. Other winners included Richard Wehrs of St Cloud (Best of Show) and Peder Hegland of Sartell (2nd Place).

Many submissions were received from ceramic artists from all over the state of Minnesota. The contest was judged by Sarah Millfelt, the Executive Director at the Clay Center in Minneapolis.

The Paramount Visual Arts Center is proud to exhibit the collection of ceramic sculpture and pottery at the Gallery Saint Germain, (912 W Saint Germain St, St. Cloud). This exhibit is funded by a grant from the McKnight Foundation and runs through February 28, 2015.

Minnesota Theater Alliance workshops February 19

After you’ve spoken with your legislators on Arts Advocacy Day (February 19), make your way over to the Ordway Center for Performing Arts for a series of workshops from 2:00-6:00 pm. The Minnesota Theater Alliance will present three to six workshops on audience development, fundraising, and technical theater.

Go to www.minnesotatheateralliance.org to watch for details about specific workshop topics and registration.

Also check out the MN Theater Alliance website for additional resources, such as Minnesota Arts Market and SpaceFinder Minnesota.

Arts Market is a free materials exchange where you can post and browse reusable items like set pieces, props, costumes, gear, building materials and more.

SpaceFinder Minnesota is a searchable database of cultural facilities and venues available for rent anywhere in the state of Minnesota. Browse or list your space free.
Looking Ahead...
Get out your calendars to make note of the dates of these great upcoming opportunities for artists and arts organizations!

Evaluation Workshops, April 22-23
Need help with evaluating your SMAC-funded projects? Leah 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

Artist Retreat, April 24-25
SMAC’s annual Artist Retreat will take place on Saturday, April 25 at the Danebod Folk School in Tyler, with a full day of workshops and activities for all artistic disciplines. Join us the night before for networking and on-site overnight lodging.

Rural Arts & Culture Summit, June 2-4
At the 2015 Rural Arts & Culture Summit in Morris, artists, arts organizations, and community and economic development leaders will learn about creative people and places that have built their stories “from the ground up,” and celebrate the imaginative and creative thinking that has helped to create vibrant small town cultures. The Rural Arts & Culture Summit is put on by Springboard for the Arts, the Center for Small Towns and the Forum of Regional Arts Councils.

Memberships & Donations Received
November 2, 2014 — January 22, 2015
John Tanquist, Appleton • Harvest Bank, Atwater • Linda & Terry Neugebauer, Bigelow • Ruth & Steve Ascher, Canby • Pearl Ziegenhagen, Clements • Dassel Area Historical Society • Tokheim Stoneware, Dawson • Peggy Crosby, Dawson • Diane Ladner, Granite Falls • Vonnie Saquilan, Granite Falls • Newberg Sky Spray, Hector • Hendricks Community Hospital & Nursing Home • Gary & Marcia Ellis, Hendricks • Hutchinson Theatre Company • Donna & Blaine Kurth, Ivanhoe • Meeker County Commission, Litchfield • Raymond & Alice Thull, Lucan • Curt & Marilyn Bloemendaal, Luverne • Brian & Kristin Gruhot, Lynd • Klein Bank, Madison • Richard & Sherry Hauk, Madison • Song of the Prairie Chorus, Marshall • Dana Funk, Marshall • Margery Haaland, Marshall • Marilyn Leach, Marshall • Marcy Olson & Ryan Wendland, Marshall • Carol Purrington, Marshall • Mary Kay Thomas, Marshall • Karen Jenson, Milan • Jane & Marvin Link, Milan • Daren Gislason, Minnesota • Audrey Arner & Richard Handeen, Montevideo • A to Z Letterpress Printing, Montevideo • Glen & Jackie Herfurth, Montevideo • Robert Mattson, New London • Big Stone County Commission, Ortonville • Pat Beyers, Pipestone • Tim Krause & Robert Dell, Portland, OR • Tom & Sharon Hollatz, Redwood Falls • Raye McKim, Renville • Bobbie Alsgaard-Lien, Rushmore • Spellbound Theatricals, Slayton • Tyler Arts Council • Prairie Winds Concert Band, Willmar • Cottonwood County Historical Society, Windom • Karen & Craig Pfeifer, Worthington

SMAC GALLERY

Nan Karr Kaufenberg’s exhibit of watercolored linoleum block prints continues through February 27, 2015.

Up next in the gallery is John Larson of Milan, who will show his pottery and ceramic sculpture from March 5-May 1, 2015.
FEBRUARY 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.

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

*February 2 SMAC Grant Application Deadline: Equipment & Facilities Improvement. 4:30 pm deadline for application submissions.

*February 3 & 5 SMAC Grantwriting Workshop: Art Projects & Art Legacy Projects. Feb 3: 5:30-7:00 pm at SW MN Arts Council, 114 N 3rd St, Marshall. Feb 5: 3:00-4:30 pm, Redwood County Courthouse, Restorative Justice Office, 250 S Jefferson, Redwood Falls. Contact the SMAC office at 800-622-5284 or info@swmnarts.org to register for this free workshop.

February 7 Monroe Crossing, 6:30 pm, YME High School Auditorium, 450 9th Ave, Granite Falls. Part of WinterFest. Tickets available at Thrifty Drug and the K.K. Berge Building in Granite Falls. More information at 320-564-4240, graniteAreaArts@gmail.com, or www.graniteareaarts.org.

February 7 Patsy O'Brien: Irish Love Guitar, 7:00 pm, Hutchinson Center for the Arts, 15 Franklin St SW, Hutchinson. Hear samples of his music at www.patsyobrienswebsite.com.

*February 8 Artist Reception: Robert Wilde, 2:00-4:00 pm, Dassel History Center, 901 1st Street North, Dassel.


February 13-14 "Ole & Lena's 50th Anniversary and Vow Renewal", 7:00 pm, Hutchinson Center for the Arts, 15 Franklin St SW, Hutchinson. A warm hearted comedy about love, marriage, family and growing old together. Information at www.hutchinsonarts.org.

February 13-15, 20-22, & 27-March 1 Calumet Players: One Act Plays, Pipestone Performing Arts Center, 104 E Main St, Pipestone. Calumet Players present a series of ten one-act plays over three weekends. Friday & Saturday at 7:30 pm, Sunday at 2:00 pm. Info at 507-825-5537 or www.pipestoneminnesota.com/performingartscenter/

February 16 SMAC Office Closed – Presidents’ Day.

February 19 MN Arts Advocacy Day, St. Paul.


February 20-22, & 27-March 1 Calumet Players: One Act Plays, Pipestone Performing Arts Center, 104 E Main St, Pipestone. Calumet Players series of one-act plays continues. Friday & Saturday at 7:30 pm, Sunday at 2:00 pm. Information at www.pipestoneminnesota.com/performingartscenter/ or 507-825-5537.

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

February 25 SMAC Grant Application Deadline: Individual Artists. 4:30 pm deadline for application submissions.

*February 27-March 1 & March 6-8 "The Romancers", 7:00 pm, Dassel History Center, 901 1st St, Dassel. Presented by Dassel-Cokato Community Theatre.

February 27-March 1 Calumet Players: One Act Plays, Pipestone Performing Arts Center, 104 E Main St, Pipestone. Calumet Players series of one-act plays concludes. Friday & Saturday at 7:30 pm, Sunday at 2:00 pm. Information at www.pipestoneminnesota.com/performingartscenter/ or 507-825-5537.

February 27-March 1 "James and the Giant Peach", 7:30 pm, Fine Arts Theater, SMSU, Marshall. Friday-Saturday 7:30, Sunday 2:00 pm. Info at www.smsu.edu/academics/programs/theatrearts.
February 28 HCA’s Night for the Arts: Mardi Gras Ball, 5:00-12:00 pm, Crow River Golf Club, 915 Colorado Street NW, Hutchinson. At this fundraiser for Hutchinson Center for the Arts, festivities will begin at 5pm, dinner will be served at 7pm, and entertainment and live music will continue until midnight. There will also be silent and live auctions. Mardi Gras costumes strongly encouraged. Masks will be available for purchase at the event. Tickets are $75 and are on sale at the Center for the Arts or at www.hutchinsonarts.org/gala.

GALLERIES

*SMAC Art Gallery. 114 N 3rd St, Marshall. Through February 27: Nan Karr Kaufenberg. 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. February 9-March 2 (in conjunction with “The Little Shop of Horrors”): “Scary”, various artists. 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 February 14: John G. White, photography, and Joseph Hauger, woodcarving. Gallery hours Monday – Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Call 320-564-4240 for information.


Nobles County Art Center. 407 12th St, Worthington. Through February 20: Nicolantonio Mucciaccia, photography. 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 willmarareaartscouncil.org.

SMAC ARTS CALENDAR

Do you or your organization have a performance, exhibit, class, or other arts event coming up? Go to www.swmnarts.org to use our event submission form or email us at info@swmnarts.org to submit your event to be posted on SMAC’s area arts events calendar online and in our newsletter. We’d love to hear what’s going on in your community!
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.

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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SW MN Arts Council Membership Form
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.

Name/Organization

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

E-mail

LEVELS OF PARTNERSHIPS:

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$499.00 - $250.00 Patron
$249.00 - $100.00 Sustainer

$99.00 - $50.00 Supporter
$49.00 - $25.00 Contributor
Business & Organizational memberships starting at $50.00

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