Southwest Minnesota Arts Council selects Nicole DeBoer as next Executive Director

The Southwest Minnesota Arts Council (SMAC) Board of Directors is pleased to announce that they have selected Nicole DeBoer to serve as its next executive director effective July 1, 2017.

Nicole DeBoer brings over 25 years of leadership and creative management experience, coupled with a passion for growing communities through the arts, to her new role as Executive Director at Southwest Minnesota Arts Council. With 7+ years as the SMAC Grants Program Assistant, you have likely met Nicole at a workshop or talked to her by phone about potential art projects. Prior to SMAC, she was Creative Director for The Schwan Food Company, leading corporate marketing initiatives from an art perspective. In her spare time, Nicole has been involved in the arts as a visual artist, graphic designer, volunteer, and supporter.

Nicole is excited to continue upholding the mission of SMAC, enhancing life in our region by supporting artists, arts organizations and anyone else who wants to improve their community through the arts.

2017 Prairie Disciple: Andy Kahmann of Montevideo

The Southwest Minnesota Arts Council is pleased to announce Andy Kahmann of Montevideo as the recipient of the 2017 Prairie Disciple Award, which acknowledges a person who has been instrumental in promoting the arts in the 18-county area of southwestern Minnesota.

Kahmann was nominated by Patrick Moore, who praised his collaboration with and promotion of artists: “He loves the process of collaboration, and for Andy, every collaboration is a joy. There are dozens of artists, poets and photographers who will attest to this. Many of these artists have gained confidence to print, sell and display their work as a result of working with Andy.”

Kahmann grew up in Bird Island and started working at the Bird Island Union newspaper while in high school. He says, “I was fortunate enough to get in on the tail end of letterpress printing and the beginning of offset printing. So I’ve been in some kind of printing for almost 50 years.”

Changes to newsletter format and delivery

SW MN Arts Council is discontinuing the print version of its monthly newsletter, Voices. This will be the last issue available in printed format through postal mail. Printing and mailing a newsletter continues to become less cost effective in this digital age. We apologize for any inconvenience. The electronic version of the newsletter will continue, but may go through changes as we find the most effective way to reach our audience. To access our newsletter online, go to www.swmnarts.org and click on “Voices Newsletter” under “News and Events”. If you do not have regular access to the internet, please remember most libraries have free internet access for use, or stop by the SMAC office.

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UPCOMING SMAC GRANT & NOMINATIONS 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.

July 19, 2017
Individual Artist, Special Summer Round
(Earliest project start date: September 15, 2017)

July 26, 2017
Art Projects/Art Legacy Projects, Round I
(Earliest project start date: September 15, 2017)

August 1, 2017:
Monthly Grants: Arts Organization Development, Art Legacy Project Planning, & Arts Org Start Up*

August 16, 2017:
Equipment & Facilities Improvement, Round I
(Earliest project start date: October 15, 2017)

September 1, 2017:
Monthly Grants: Arts Organization Development, Art Legacy Project Planning, & Arts Org Start Up*

September 13, 2017
Individual Artist, Round I
(Earliest project start date: November 15, 2017)

September 20, 2017 *Pre-Submission Deadline
Arts Organization Operating Support
(Grants go into effect January 1, 2018)

*Earliest project start date for monthly deadlines is the 1st of the following month.

Individual Artists grant round added
Southwest Minnesota Arts Council has added an additional Individual Artist grant round for developing or established career artists. The application deadline is July 19, 2017 by 4:30 pm and the earliest project start date is September 15, 2017.

Although this deadline is coming up quickly, we encourage you to apply during this added July round, since we have funds* that we must award by the end of August.

SMAC grants must be applied for online. Visit www.swmnarts.org/grants/ to start your application.

*Individual artist grants from Southwest Minnesota Arts Council are made possible by the McKnight Foundation.

Upcoming SMAC Grantwriting Workshops

Whether you are planning on applying for a grant for a specific project or just want to learn more about a grant program, you are encouraged to attend one of SMAC’s free grant workshops to make your grantwriting experience as successful as possible.

This year, SW MN Arts Council will be offering one grant workshop at our office in Marshall for each grant round. If you cannot attend a workshop, SMAC staff is available to consult on any potential grant project by phone, email, or in-person conversation.

While there are currently no workshops scheduled for Arts Organization Development, Art Legacy Project Planning, and Arts Organization Start-Up grants (monthly deadlines), contact SMAC staff directly if you are interested in applying for any of these.

Listed below are the first several grantwriting workshops for the year, to be held from 5:00-7:00 pm at the SMAC office (114 N 3rd St, Marshall).

- July 6: Art Project & Art Legacy Project
- July 27: Equipment/Facilities Improvement
- August 3: Individual Career & Developing Artists
- August 30: Operating Support for Arts Orgs
- October 5: Arts in the Schools

To register or to contact SMAC for more information, call 800-622-5284 or email info@swmnarts.org. We look forward to hearing from you!
SW MN Arts Council seeks board members and grant review panelists

**BOARD MEMBERS:** SMAC seeks individuals to serve on its Board of Directors as representatives for the following counties: McLeod, Murray, Pipestone, Redwood, and Swift. The Board meets monthly on the 4th Tuesday evening at the SMAC office in Marshall to set policies, make final decisions on grant awards with input from grant review panels, share ideas and information from their representative counties, and to design programs that enable SMAC to best serve our communities. To learn more and to fill out an application, go to [www.swmnarts.org/about/become-a-board-member/](http://www.swmnarts.org/about/become-a-board-member/)

**GRANT REVIEW PANELISTS:** Are you interested in being a part of bringing about arts funding in our Southwest Minnesota communities? If so, we’d love for you to consider being a grant review panelist for SMAC. For grant programs in fiscal year 2018 (July 2017 – June 2018), the SMAC Board of Directors seeks panels of artists, arts administrators, arts volunteers, and arts appreciators representing multiple artistic disciplines from throughout the SMAC geographic region.

As a grant review panelist, in addition to evaluating grant proposals, you will:
- Learn about the arts activities taking place in SW MN
- Discuss art and its impact on individuals and communities in our region
- Network with other regional artists and arts volunteers
- Weigh in on SMAC’s grant application process
- Receive free tickets to evaluate SMAC-funded arts activities.

To learn more about panelist responsibilities, dates for this year’s panels, and to apply, visit: [swmnarts.org/about/become-a-grant-panelist/](http://swmnarts.org/about/become-a-grant-panelist/)

A huge thank you to all the grant panelists who served in our 2017 fiscal year: Joyce Aakre, Dassel • Ruth Ascher, Canby • Cheryl Avenel Navara, Worthington • Lisa Bergh, New London • Pam Blake, Tyler • Eva Carlson, Willmar • Lauren Carlson, Dawson • Ellen Copperud, Worthington • Cindy Demers, Dawson • Craig Edwards, New London • Chad Felton, Slayton • Tom Flynn, Marshall • Kathy Fransen, Jackson • Mary Kay Frisvold, Garvin • Adrianne Fritz, New London • John Ginocchio, Marshall • Bill Gossman, New London • Jais Gossman, New London • Tammy Grubbs, Pipestone • Jeff Iverson, Granite Falls • Cheryl Jeska, Marshall • Georgette Jones, Watson • Maureen Keimig, Marshall • David KelseyBassett, Tracy • Michele Knife Sterner, Marshall • Brett Lehman, Worthington • Joyce Meyer, Canby • Dusan Milanovic, Marshall • Paula Nemes, Marshall • Marjorie Nilssen, Willmar • Andrew Nordin, New London • Jane Nygaard, Spicer • Anne O’Keefe-Jackson, Morton • Janet Olney, Willmar • Eric Parrish, Worthington • Mary Petersen, Luverne • Kelly Pochardt, Lynd • Ron Porep, Milan • Saara Raappana, Marshall • Cindy Reverts, Luverne • John Sterner, Marshall • Marilee Strom, Windom • Gene Stukel, Granite Falls • Sheila Tabaka, Marshall • Roberta Trooien, Hendricks • John Voit, Ghent • Dan Wahl, Walnut Grove • Kari Weber, New London • Jesse White, Currie • John White, Ortonville • Mark Wilmes, Tyler • Tom Wirt, Hutchinson

**Friends of SMAC Updates**

The Friends of SMAC have been out visiting regional arts events again! “Oscar Wilde” attended a production of *The Laramie Project* at the Historic Episcopal Church in downtown Hutchinson, funded in part by a SMAC Art Project grant to Historic Hutchinson. This was a joint venture involving the Hutchinson Theatre Company, Historic Hutchinson, and the Hutchinson Center for the Arts.

“Frida Kahlo” visited Dawson to attend The History Theatre’s on-tour production of *Sweet Land: The Musical* at the Memorial Auditorium. Dawson-Boyd Arts Association received a SMAC Art Project grant to help fund this project.

The next deadline for SMAC Art Project grants is July 26, 2017. If you would like to learn more about SMAC grants, please visit: [swmnarts.org/grants/](http://swmnarts.org/grants/)

To find out more about arts events you can attend in your area, please visit: [swmnarts.org/calendar/](http://swmnarts.org/calendar/)

*These activities were funded in part with a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council made possible by the voters of Minnesota thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.*
Edie Barrett to exhibit at Southwest Minnesota Arts Council Gallery

Edie Barrett of Ortonville will exhibit her nest sculptures and large canvas painted photography at the SW MN Arts Council gallery from July 3 through August 25, 2017. Here is how Edie describes herself:

“Edie Barrett is a fifth generation Minnesota Norwegian. She was a North Dakota State University student and then transferred into the University of California Santa Barbara. She remained in Santa Barbara, California, for twenty-six years, then returned to Minnesota in 2010. Edie now lives in Ortonville where she enjoys a quiet and inspired life on the Prairie. She is both a fine artist and a writer of fiction and nonfiction. In California, she performed her work on stage. Her jewelry designs were carried in a shop on Coast Village Road in Montecito, her nest sculptures were carried in a gallery in Carpinteria. Since returning to Minnesota, The Star Tribune has published her articles about life on the Prairie. She has written various articles for The Independent and The Northern Star, Ortonville’s regional newspapers. She is also a published poet. This year, in 2017, she finished both a novel and a film script.

“Edie Barrett has received two grants through SMAC. The first was to purchase Lucite boxes to exhibit her delicate nest sculptures and framing for her large canvas painted photography. Her second, and current grant, is focused on writing: editing support for her novel and submission funds for the film script for national and international film festivals.

“Edie Barrett’s artistic life has emerged in partnership with ecological and social awareness and responsibility. It is not possible for her to compartmentalize these, nor would she want to. She perceives art as a vehicle of self-exploration and is fascinated by the intersection of art and activism. According to Edie, “If we are receptive to an artistic experience, this allows us to step outside the realm of logical thought, which tends to be linear. When we surrender ourselves to be altered visually and/or auditorily through nature and art forms, we step into the spiral of imagination. It is in this specific hallowed ground that transformation occurs.”

“All of her artistic expressions reflect an authentic process of her individuation, an exploration of her creativity, and her commitment to “Other.” Other being defined as a responsibility to ecological issues, and a mindful, conscious interaction with each other: striving to respect diversity of thought, religion, and culture. Said another way, it is her hope to live a life of considerate conduct, and “play well” in the world. It is her personal goal to contribute intellectually, spiritually, and artistically to her community, the Western region of Minnesota, the state of Minnesota, and to a larger audience.

“Edie is a lifelong artist with writing quickly following. For the past twenty years she has been studying and exploring Jungian psychology. This perspective has had a profound impact in both her life and her creative expression. Six years ago she started a dream analysis group in Ortonville, which continues today with shared leadership. She is a brochure artist in The Meander, The Upper Minnesota River Art Crawl, which happens every October. She is also a supporter and advocate of the arts. Edie is a board member of Big Stone Arts as well as being the proprietor of The GuestHouse, a vacation rental in Ortonville, which is also a regional art gallery.”

We hope that you will join us for Edie Barrett’s reception on Thursday, July 20 from 5 to 7 pm. Edie will do a reading of her poetry and plans to read a short chapter from her novel.
Kahmann is currently the Pressroom Manager at The West Central Tribune in Willmar. Most people know Kahmann best through his print shop, A to Z Letterpress, which he launched in 2000, and where he creates specialty cards, letters, stationery and posters with hand-set type. Kahmann says “if the project is really important to the artist, and needs to be done, we can work together to find a way to pay for paper and plates and maybe down the road we can sell enough to pay for some of our time.”

His knowledge in the area of printing has allowed him to collaborate with fourteen area artists to create the limited edition posters for the Upper Minnesota River Art Crawl, the Meander. Kahmann said he insists the artist get paid for their image, “I think this is a huge part of Meanders success that each artist takes a lot of ownership in their image.” Kahmann works with each artist to explain the letterpress process and reproduce the image to their satisfaction.

Moore credits Kahmann for much of the current success of the Upper Minnesota River Valley Art Crawl, explaining that he provided the bookkeeping structure to get it started, including creative ways to sustain finances and donors. Kahmann has been a volunteer leader on the steering committee for the Meander for the last fourteen years. Kristi Fernholz, fine art photographer and a fellow coordinator of the Meander Art Crawl, praised the “enormous amount of time and effort” Kahmann has lent to the planning of the event, saying “but more than that, he has found a way to work with artists that pushes the artists in this region to great work...he encourages people to work together.”

Jo Pederson of Stony Run Woods in Granite Falls supported Moore’s nomination of Kahmann, saying that through his skills for teaching and printing “he continues to offer new ideas and opportunities to the community.” Pederson stops by the shop that’s “always open” to “be inspired by his enthusiasm and giving spirit.” Lucy Tokheim of Tokheim Stoneware in Dawson agreed, saying, “Andy’s print shop on Main Street is always open, even when he isn’t in it. This is an ongoing invitation to people to stop in and see a craftsman at work...it is another effective way that Andy is a true Prairie Disciple for the arts in southwest Minnesota.” Kahmann himself describes his letterpress shop as a “working museum.”

Moore summed up his support for Kahmann as Prairie Disciple by saying “you would have to look very hard to find a more dedicated servant to the promotion of art and its appreciation in everyday life.”

Please join the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council board of directors, staff, members, and volunteers in honoring Andy Kahmann for his contribution to the arts in southwestern Minnesota. The award will be officially presented to Andy at the SW MN Arts Council Annual Celebration on September 23, 2017 at the River City Eatery in Windom, MN. We hope you can join us! If you attend, keep an eye open for some commemorative pieces printed by Kahmann himself for attendees of the celebration.
SW MN Arts Council awards $104,900 in grants & scholarships to area artists, youth artists, and arts organizations

ART STUDY OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH GRANTS provide up to $500 to aid in the development of young artists in grades 5‐12 for an enrichment camp or specialty study. Standard weekly lessons are allowed only for those students who qualify for the federal free or reduced lunch program. No match requirements.

Annabelle Lecy, David Rabaey, John Rabaey (all of Marshall) and Olivia White of Montevideo have each been awarded $500 to attend the 2017 Southwest Minnesota String Festival, which takes place at Southwest Minnesota State University campus in Marshall from July 23th to July 29th. The Southwest Minnesota String Festival brings young musicians from across the Midwest together for musical studies, chamber music, and musical community. Performance opportunities at daily convocations and at the final concert will give participants a chance to share their talents with each other and the local community. http://www.southwestminnesotastringfestival.com/

Aleigha Glidewell, Valley Springs, $500 to attend Stringwood Chamber Music Festival, which is an intensive summer program founded by the Artaria String Quartet for advanced string players. The two week festival includes chamber music coaching, masterclasses and special guest presentations, private lessons and performing in public concerts. http://www.stringwood.com/YAP.htm

Henry Herrick, Marshall, $500 for Dance Master Classes taught by Zac Hammer at Southwest School of Dance in Marshall. Classes will be for two hours for four days and focus on professional jumps and turns, jazz technique and choreography methods.

Ava Holmgren, Marshall, $295 to attend the 2017 Prairie Dance Alliance Summer Camp, which takes place at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall from July 24‐27, with a showcase performance on July 26. Four instructors from various parts of the country will be brought in to teach classes and choreograph short combinations in order to develop a broader knowledge and understanding of dance for the students. http://www.prairiedancealliance.org/index_page0005.htm

Maeve Winter, Willmar, $500 to attend the Upper Midwest Strings Camp, held at St. Benedict's campus in St. Joseph from July 23‐28. Maeve says, "It is a week-long camp taught by experienced musicians from all across the state and out of state. We play orchestral and chamber music. I have gone to this camp before and learned a lot from all of our practices and performances throughout the week." It is a summer program for students eager to develop their string playing through chamber music, string orchestra and technique classes. http://www.mnsota.org/events/upper‐midwest‐camp

ARTS ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT GRANTS provide community‐based arts organizations in the SMAC region with up to $5,000 in matching funds to increase their long‐term stability and capacity through organizational development and management projects. This grant has a first‐come, first‐served monthly deadline until all funds have been expended.

Big Stone Arts Council (BSAC), Ortonville, $4,000 to hire a professional consultant to assist the organization in needs assessment, strategic planning, and a capacity building project. BSAC will develop a comprehensive plan with a clear focus on their mission, building existing and new arts programs and services, and identifying its communities needs and interests. http://www.bigstonearts.wordpress.com/

ARTS ORGANIZATION START‐UP GRANTS provide newly formed art organizations up to $2,000 to develop articles of

Grants awarded continued on page 7.
incorporation, by-laws, and apply for their 501(c)(3) status. No cash match required. This grant also has a first-come, first-served monthly deadline until all funds have been expended.

The Arts & Mentoring Project (AMP), Pipestone, $1,655 for aiding in their non-profit start up. AMP’s purpose is to provide an arts experience dedicated to mentoring and performing, regardless of barriers such as socio-economic status or means, ethnicity, and/or age. By welcoming all students, AMP hopes to commit to guiding their character and artistic passion in a fun, disciplined environment advancing both the individual and the community.

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 (pre-packaged theatre residencies limited to $750).

Augustana Care’s Lakeside Campus, Dassel, $2,400 for helping to bring art into the lives of patients and residents, as well as their families and the community, in a way that is geared towards celebrating heritage. The project includes a series of three concerts by Finnish musicians and painting activities that celebrate the landscape of Minnesota. lakesidecampus.org/

The Calumet Players, Pipestone, $750 for bringing a touring packaged theater, the Prairie Fire Children’s Theatre (PFCT). The PFCT is a professional touring company based in Barrett, MN. The PFCT will work with the Children's Theater in Pipestone for their children's summer camp, where rehearsals and workshops will take place from July 30-August 4. Together they will then perform their production of Pinocchio at the Pipestone Performing Art Center for two performances on August 4 & 5 at 6 pm both days. pipestoneminnesota.com/performingartcenter/calumetplayers/

The City of Cottonwood, $2,300 for providing musical talent at the Central Park Market, whose mission includes three main components to bring the community together and bring local flavor to area residents and visitors: local music, locally grown produce/homemade crafts, and a meal served by a local nonprofit. The market runs for six Wednesdays in the summer, for more details see the SMAC Calendar on page 10. www.cityofcottonwoodmn.com/

The City of Willmar, $5,000 for a series of arts events that reflect the ethnic diversity of their community and foster a local interest and capacity in the arts. All the events will take place at the Willmar Community Center. On Somali Independence Day (July 1), a Somali singer, Dalmer Yare, will perform throughout the day-long celebration, for more details, see SMAC Calendar on page 10. For four Sundays in August there will be traditional Somali dance lessons taught by Mohamoud Mohamed, a choreographer from the Somali Museum of Minnesota. There will also be traditional Somali weaving taught by members of the Somali Museum of Minnesota, for four Saturdays starting October 21 through November 18 (excluding October 28). During Hispanic Heritage Month there will be a performance by the Mariachi band, Mariachi Jalisco de Minnesota. www.willmarmn.gov/

Crow River Singers, Hutchinson, $4,200 for two holiday concerts, one at the Litchfield Christian Church and the other in Hutchinson at the Peace Lutheran Church. The Crow River singers will perform with the Litchfield Area Male Chorus. www.hutchinsonarts.org/partners/crow-river-singers-2/

The Dassel Area Historical Society, $2,337 for the means to advertise and promote their Discover Dassel Art Tour. The public is invited to tour studios and homes of artists, as well as the Dassel History Center where up to 20 artists who do not have studios or homes in the area can exhibit and sell their work. The Discover Dassel Art Tour is scheduled for Oct. 28, 2017 from 10 am - 4pm. dassel.com/history-center/

Dawson Boyd Public Schools, $3,266 for their community education children's summer musical, Peter Pan, Jr. The production is one act and about an hour long to perform. This production will be for grades K-11, with musical parts going to grades K-8 and 9-12 as stage crew. Performances will be July 21-23. For more details, see SMAC Calendar on page 11. sites.google.com/a/dwby.k12.mn.us/dawson-boyd-schools/home-1

Grants awarded continued on page 8.
The Fair Association of Jackson County, $3,144 for incorporating art appreciation at their county fair in July. Kip Davis will do a live mural painting during 2 days and Acoustic Smoke will play at the open air, free stage in the Fair Village. For more details, see SMAC Calendar on page 11. The fair will be working with Jackson Center for the Arts to promote the event and they hope to demonstrate that the performance and painting introduce involvement in the arts for all age groups. jacksoncountyfairmn.com/

Granite Falls Area Community Theater, $5,000 for their summer production of The Lion King, Jr. They had a week long, intensive theater camp and two performances for the public in June at the Yellow Medicine East High School’s "Little Theater". Jeff Iverson directed and Tammy Isfeld was the set artist, both of Granite Falls. gfcommunitytheater.weebly.com/

Historic Hutchinson, $3,755 for their production of The Laramie Project, which ran June 13-22 at the Historic Episcopal Church in Hutchinson. The Laramie Project is a dramatic play about the people of Laramie, WY and how the community dealt with the brutal murder of Mathew Sheppard, a hate crime based in sexual orientation. See “Friends of SMAC” updates on page 3 for more on the event. www.hutchinsonarts.org/partners/historic‐hutch/

Lac qui Parle County Historical Society, $3,723 to offer a two day photography class with Gene Stukel (of Granite Falls), which took place in June, and an art exhibit at the Lac qui Parle County museum featuring photographs of churches in Lac qui Parle County. The exhibit will feature photos taken by photographer Kelly Lund (of Madison) and photographs taken by students of the photography class. The opening for the exhibit is on May 6 of 2018 and will run through June 30. There will be a second reception on June 28, 2018 from 7‐9 pm. lqphc.org/

Lakeview School District, Cottonwood, $2,655 for their summer theater program for youth. Their production will be Cloaked, which is written and directed by Josie Laleman, who teaches at Lakeview Schools. Cloaked will be performed by elementary and high school students who took part in the week long summer theater program. The play is meant for both young audiences and adults to enjoy and will be performed on August 4 at 6:30 pm. www.lakeview2167.com/

The Lyon County Agricultural Society, $1,000 for bringing the band Escuadron Musical to the Lyon County fairgrounds, under the "hoop barn", which is free to the public. The performance will be on August 13, 1:30-4 pm. Escuadron Musical is an energetic Spanish band that started in 2006 under the name Musical Youth, as a way to get kids involved in music. www.lyoncountyfair.com/

Marshall Area Farmers Market, $3,250 for bringing musicians to the Saturday morning Farmers Market in Marshall. The performances are meant to help develop arts appreciation, promote diversity and meet the artistic needs of the community gathering place. The market starts July 8 through October 14, with a total of 14 performance dates. Performances include a variety of singer/songwriters, vocalists, and groups of musicians. There will also be different cultural groups performing dance and music. See SMAC Calendar on page 10.

Marshall Area Fine Arts Council (MAFAC), $1,662 for their exhibit program of nine six-week-long exhibits that showcase a mix of local, regional, and out-of-region artists. Each exhibit will have an accompanying artist reception, hosted by MAFAC. www.mafac.net/

Grants awarded continued on page 9.
Milan Village Arts School (MVAS), $2,613 to put on its Spoon Gathering, which is a unique green woodworking event founded more than a decade ago by MVAS spoon carving instructor, Frank Foltz. The Gathering attracts artists, spoon carvers, enthusiasts of the wooden spoon, and greenwood workers from across Minnesota and the US for a 3-day festival of carving, friendship, and food. milanvillageartsschool.org/

Prairie Arts Chorale, region-wide group, $4,125 for 5 fall concerts in 2017. The theme for the concerts will be "Made in America", featuring outstanding choral works by American composers. There will be concerts in Bunde, Marshall, Wabasso, Granite Falls, and Spicer. prairieartschorale.org/

Redwood County, $3,276 for local artist Dona Larkin to create a wall mural in the Children’s Advocacy Center in Redwood Falls. The mural’s purpose is to enhance the welcoming feeling of advocacy for children and families who may be affected by traumatic experiences in our SW Region. The Children’s Advocacy Center strives to provide a comfortable and child friendly environment for abused children. The open house for the mural will be held on September 7, 2017. www.co.redwood.mn.us/

Rhythm of the River, Jackson, $5,000 for their 11th annual "Rhythm of the River" music festival. This year it will be held on July 7 & 8, for more details, see SMAC Calendar on page 10. Two stages will allow for continuous activity and a diversity of musical and artistic styles. There will be regional artisans booths and children’s activities including art projects, a children's music stage, and book readings. Families are encouraged to attend the free multigenerational festival together to promote songwriters and creativity in SW Minnesota. www.rhythmotheriver.org/

The Spicer Beautification Committee, $5,000 for their 2017 and 2018 Music in the Park series, which brings together talented musicians, an appreciative audience, and eager food vendors on six consecutive Sunday afternoons in July and August on the shores of beautiful Green Lake in the downtown Spicer park. See details on the SMAC Calendar on page 11.

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.

The City of Montevideo, $20,000 to create a public art piece that will be done on 1930’s era tractor which was donated to the city of Montevideo. The sculpture will be located on the corner of South First Street and County Road 42. Minnesota artist Karl Unnasch will design six stained glass panels on the tractor, after gathering stories from the community. An LED lighting system will be set up inside the tractor for illumination. The dedication that will be open to the public is planned to be in August of 2017. www.montvideomn.org/

If you are interested in attending events mentioned in these grants and want more details, please consult the SMAC calendar on our website, which can be found at swmnarts.org/news-events/, to the right of the page. Stay up to date with arts events and opportunities in our area!

Grants awarded continued on page 10
RURAL ARTS & CULTURE SUMMIT SCHOLARSHIPS provided early registration fees, lodging (up to $75 per night), stipend for participants that had to take time off work, and mileage reimbursement for SMAC-Region attendees at the June 2017 Rural Arts & Culture Summit in Morris, MN. The following received scholarships this year:

Joyce Aakre, Dassel
Big Stone Arts Council, Ortonville
Lauren Carlson, Dawson
Elisabeth Fondell, Dawson
Mary Gillespie, Granite Falls
Jessica Gorman, Granite Falls
Georgette Jones, Watson
Diane Ladner, Granite Falls
Tammy Makram, Luverne
Michael Murray, Ghent
Anne O'Keefe-Jackson, Morton
Sunny Ruthchild, Walnut Grove
Scott Tedrick, Granite Falls
Louella Voigt, Luverne
Kari Weber, New London
Tom Wirt, Hutchinson

Kristen Allen, New London
Duane and Pam Blake, Tyler
Craig and Lynn Edwards, New London
Luanne Fondell, Dawson
Mark and Rosemary Glesener, Bird Island
Gwen Hood, New London
Kerry Kolke-Bonk, Appleton
Khour Lor, Tracy
Mariah Martinez, Bird Island
Naomi Noeldner, New London
Janet Olney, Willmar
Bob Schwoch, Lynd
Jean Trumbo, New London
Scott Wallace, Hendricks
Catherine Wellman, Fairfax
Nicole Zempel, Granite Falls

JULY SMAC EVENTS

Events listed here indicate 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.

July 1, Somali Independence Day Performance, Willmar Community Center, 624 N Hwy 71, Willmar. Dalmar Yare, Somali Singer, will perform at the Willmar Somali Independence Day celebration. He will be singing at the downtown street party (Litchfield Avenue between 4th and 6th Streets SW) from 11 am – 5 pm and at the Willmar Community Center, 7 – 9 pm.

July 1, Rooster Ruckus, 1 pm, Dassel History Center, 901 First St. N, Dassel. Unveiling of Rooster Ruckus artwork by local artists. Pieces will be auctioned September 29. dassel.com/history-center/

July 4, SMAC office closed.

July 5, 12, 19, & August 2, Musical Talent at Central Park Market, 5-7 pm, CW Reishus Park (Lake Park), Cottonwood. Every Wednesday through August 2 enjoy live musical talent at Cottonwood’s Central Park Market, where you can also pick up food to support fundraisers and shop local produce and crafts. Jerry Ostensio will perform on July 5 & 19, DJ Cal on July 12, Pete & Ross on July 26, and Quarter to 4:30 on August 2. www.facebook.com/CentralParkMarketinCottonwood/

July 5, Prairie Winds Concert Band, 7:30-9:30 pm, Rice Park, 2nd St SW & Kandiyohi Ave, Willmar. www.prairiewindsconcertband.com/index.htm

July 6, SMAC Art Project and Art Legacy Project Grantwriting Workshop, 5-7 pm. 114 N 3rd St, Marshall.

July 7 & 8, Rhythm of the River Festival, 5:30-11 pm on July 7 and 10 am – 11 pm on July 8, Ashley Park, State St Riverside Dr., Jackson. The 11th Annual musical festival has two stages featuring a diversity of musical styles. Local and regional artisans will set up booths in the park grounds during the festival. There will be food vendors and children’s activities including art projects, a children’s music stage, and book readings. Families are encouraged to attend the free multigenerational festival together to promote songwriters and creativity in SW Minnesota. www.facebook.com/RhythmOfTheRiver/, rhythmoftheriver@yahoo.com.

July 7-8, International Festival, 6-8 pm, Government Center Lawn, 10th St, Worthington. Festival will include performance by Culture Share: Tonantzin Tlalli Guadalupe (Azteca Dance Group).

July 8, 15, 22, & 29, 7:30 am– 12 pm, Music at the Market, Marshall Area YMCA Parking Lot, 200 S A St, Marshall. Marshall Farmer’s Market will host 14 performances by 8 different performance artists or groups over the July to October market season, every Saturday. www.facebook.com/MarshallFarmersMarket/

July 8, Riverside Market and Muse, 9am-4:30 pm, Riverfront in downtown Granite Falls. Every 2nd Saturday during the
**VOICES**

summer months, local artists, vendors, and musicians will promote the arts for the community during the Riverside Market through arts classes, demonstrations, and performances. This month: “Blues for Kids” (free harmonicas and lessons at 12:30 pm), a performance by Joey Filipovich from 11:30 am -2:30 pm, and a performance by The Outta Towners from 2:30-4:30 pm. [www.facebook.com/GFRR.GraniteFalls](http://www.facebook.com/GFRR.GraniteFalls)

July 9, 16, 23 & 30, Music in the Park Series, 4-6 pm, Downtown City Park (Pirrotta Park), 159 Lake Ave N, Spicer. Concerts on the deck of the downtown city park during Sundays in July and August. July 9 features the Big Al Trio, July 16 is 1060 West Addison Blues: A Tribute to the Blues Brothers, July 23 is the New London/Spicer Community Band, and July 30 is The Great Times Band. 320-796-5562, [www.spicer.govoffice.com](http://www.spicer.govoffice.com)

July 13-15, International Festival, July 13 6:30 pm, July 14 5:30 pm & July 15 11 am, The Center for Active Living, 211 11 St, Worthington. The festival strives to provide a variety of ethnic food, information booths, activities, and arts entertainment. On July 13 there is “Immigrant Conversations” and ethnic desserts, the drama Where is Home, based on letters by German immigrant farmers, and “Current Stories” to hear from Asian, African, and Hispanic immigrants. July 14 & 15 will include many forms of entertainment such as children’s crafts and face painting, youth talent showcases, and displays of art and culture like a Native Fashion show, Native American Hoop dancer, Irish dancers, African drum and dance, Guatemalan music, Siengkane Lao Minnesota Dancers, Scandinavian music, Anyuak dancers, Afro-Cuban music and more! [www.facebook.com/worthingtoninternationalfestival](http://www.facebook.com/worthingtoninternationalfestival) or [www.worthingtoninternationalfestival.org](http://www.worthingtoninternationalfestival.org), (507) 372-2919.

July 14 & 15, RiverSong Music Festival, July 14 from 5-10 pm, July 15 from 11am - 10 pm, Masonic West River Park, Les Kouba Dr, Hutchinson. Hear music by artists and bands from all over the nation. RiverSong welcomes a huge 90’s sensation, The Gin Blossoms on Friday and a MN favorite, The Fabulous Armadillos will headline Saturday night with their Eagles Tribute “Let it to the Limit.” Multiple stages, food vendors, beer & wine, free parking, camping, fun activities, and more! Details at: [www.riversongfestival.org](http://www.riversongfestival.org)

July 19, SMAC Grant Application Deadline: Individual Artist, Round I. Applications due by 4:30 pm.

July 20, Edie Barrett Artist Reception, 5-7 pm, SMAC Gallery, 114 N 3rd St, Marshall. Please join us for a reception for SMAC’s current gallery exhibit by Edie Barrett of Ortonville. Edie will display her delicate nest sculptures and large canvas painted photography. She will also do some readings of her work. Learn more on page 4.

July 21-23, Peter Pan, Jr., 7 pm on July 21 & 22, 2 pm on July 23, Dawson-Boyd School Auditorium, 848 Chestnut, Dawson. Junior version of the musical involving students K -11. [sites.google.com/a/dwby.k12.mn.us/dawson-boyd-schools/home-1](http://sites.google.com/a/dwby.k12.mn.us/dawson-boyd-schools/home-1), 320-769-2955.

July 26, SMAC Grant Application Deadline: Art Projects/Art Legacy Projects, Round I. Applications due by 4:30 pm.

July 26 & 27 Live Mural Painting from 12-5 pm on July 26 & 27, and performances by Acoustic Smoke at 3, 5, & 7 pm on July 26, Jackson County Fair Grounds, 78748 550th Ave, Jackson. Artist Kip Davis will be painting a mural sign live. Acoustic Smoke is based out of Bemidji MN and perform everything from blues to rock to folk to gospel. Performances will be on the free stage. [jacksoncountyfairmn.com/](http://jacksoncountyfairmn.com/), [jacksoncountyfair@rconnect.com](mailto:jacksoncountyfair@rconnect.com), 507-849-7222

July 26, Prairie Dance Alliance Dance Camp Showcase, 6 pm, SMSU Fine Arts Theatre, 1501 State St, Marshall. Come see the performances from PDA’s 3 day intensive dance camp. The camp is open to dancers aged 6-18. Classes are offered for ballet, jazz, modern, lyrical dance, and other specialized dance options. The instructors are professional dancers and instructors from across the nation who come to Marshall to share their talents with area dance students. [www.prairiedancealliance.org/](http://www.prairiedancealliance.org/), [www.facebook.com/PrairieDanceAlliance/](http://www.facebook.com/PrairieDanceAlliance/), (507) 929-5855.


July 27-30 & August 2-6, Disney’s Beauty and the Beast, 7:30 pm July 27-29 & August 2-5, 2 pm July 30 & August 5-6, Lake Benton Opera House, 118 E Benton St, Lake Benton. The classic story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under a spell. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. A great opportunity for family theatre at its best. 507-368-4620, [www.lakebentonoperahouse.org](http://www.lakebentonoperahouse.org), [www.facebook.com/lakebentonoperahouse](http://www.facebook.com/lakebentonoperahouse).

July 29 & 30, Minnesota Pottery Festival, July 29 10 am - 5 pm, July 30 12 - 4 pm, Clay Coyote Gallery & Pottery, 17614 240th St, Hutchinson. The sixth annual festival will host 30 potters from across the country, providing a venue for high quality clay artists to educate and engage the public through demonstrations, friendly competition in the "Pottery Olympics", designated "kids’ tents" with instructors, and more. [www.mnpotteryfestival.com](http://www.mnpotteryfestival.com)
Has your membership expired? If your address label shows that your membership has expired, please use the form at the bottom of this page to renew your membership now. VOICES will no longer be sent out by mail, so please visit www.swmnarts.org/news-events/voices-newsletter/ to subscribe via email and to see current and past issues.

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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.