In the SMAC Art Gallery: Poetry by Saara Myrene Raappana with Visual Response by Rebekah Wilkins-Pepiton

About the Project
In *A Story of America Goes Walking*, poet Saara Myrene Raappana and artist Rebekah Wilkins-Pepiton wrestle with Henry David Thoreau’s 1862 essay “Walking”, traveling from Thoreau’s New England pond to the forests of the U.S. Midwest and on to the Chinese southwest, exploring the myths of America. Whether told by kids playing make-believe, the map-like curves of the human heart, or women waiting in a hospital room in Chengdu, the only way to figure out which stories are true is to walk through them.

In the gallery show, the dialogue continues between word and image. Each piece takes the poet’s handwritten words and combines them with the prints that serve to illustrate the pages of the book. The result is a series of mixed media collage pieces that explore materiality and texture as a way to further interrogate Thoreau.

About the Poet
Saara Myrene Raappana wrote the chapbooks *A Story of America Goes Walking* (in collaboration with artist Rebekah Wilkins-Pepiton, Shechem Press, 2016) and *Milk Tooth, Levee, Fever* (Dancing Girl Press, 2015). She was born and raised in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in southern China, is a founding editor of *Cellpoems*, and works as communications director for Motionpoems. She’s received grants and scholarships from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council and the Sewanee Writers’ Conference. She likes ice fishing, train rides, reading poems to rooms full of strangers, and making up names for extant, imprecisely labelled birds. www.saaramyrene.com

About the Visual Artist
Rebekah Wilkins-Pepiton says, “My work explores our current, collective, and ongoing relationship with the natural world. More specifically, I take up the potent effect(s) this relationship has on human-to-human connections. Toward this end, my practice involves the illumination of naturally existing phenomena such as a quartz inclusion in a granite boulder, poppies in a minefield, or an ant trapped in water mold, considering them to be visual metaphors for the human condition. I combine a variety of printmaking methods and often work in collaboration with writers and other artists to flesh out the fullest potential of these discoveries and to create unified works where text and image exist in dialogue. I am based in Spokane, WA, where I teach visual art at Central Valley High School and serve on the Spokane Arts Commission.” www.bekawp.com

The public is invited to visit the SMAC gallery for the opening artists’ reception with Saara Myrene Raappana from 5-7 pm on March 16, with light refreshments and live readings from Raappana. There will be a second opportunity to hear Raappana read and an artist talk with Rebekah Wilkins-Pepiton at the SMAC gallery on April 20, 2017 from 7-8 pm. The exhibit will be on display March 17 through April 28 during regular gallery hours: M-F 8 am-12 pm and 1-4:30 pm.

In This Issue
Upcoming grant deadlines & workshops .......... 2
Grant process series.................................... 2
SMAC grants awarded .................................. 3
Artist opportunities ...................................... 6
New SMAC board member............................ 6
Minnesota state arts board grants awarded...... 6
Arts Event Calendar and Area Galleries............. 7
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.

March 1, 2017:
Arts in the Schools, Round III
(Earliest project start date: April 15, 2017)

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

March 15, 2017:
Art Projects/Art Legacy Projects, Round III
(Earliest project start date: May 15, 2017)

March 29, 2017
Art Study Opportunity for Youth
(Earliest project start date: May 15, 2017)

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

April 14, 2017
2017 Prairie Disciple Award Nomination

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

The “SMAC Grant Process” Series, Part 2

Last time, we explained the first three steps of the grant process including developing an idea, researching your grant options, and attending a workshop. Here’s what’s next:

4. Fill out your application. SMAC grant applications are completed online. To begin, go to SMAC’s website, www.swmnarts.org, and click the “LOG IN” button in the black “Grants” box on the homepage. You will also find an “APPLY NOW” button on the page for each grant program. If you’re a first-time applicant, follow the instructions to create an account.

Once you log in, click the Apply button, which will bring up a list of available grant applications. Choose the application you need, then get started filling it out. Here are some tips for working on your application:

• Make sure to read all the instructions found throughout the application. Some questions may be necessary for you even though they are not marked required, such as questions about your fiscal agent.

• Try to be as clear and concise as possible, while still answering the questions fully.

• If you want to work on your application offline, save a copy of the question list from the SMAC website. You can type your answers into the Word document and then copy and paste them into your online application.

• Prepare in advance the items that you are going to upload. These may include your budget, equipment bids, resumes, work samples, or links.

• Save your draft often.

• Contact us if you have questions or need technical help while you’re filling out your application. We’re here for you!

5. Submit your application. When you’re finished answering the questions and uploading your supporting documents, submit your application by clicking the button on the bottom of your screen. Remember that all applications are due by 4:30 pm on the day of the deadline, and the online system will timestamp your application when it is submitted.

Continued on page 3
SW MN Arts Council awards $95,987 in grants to area arts organizations

**SMAC Grant process, continued**

6. **Review by SMAC staff.** SMAC staff will go through your grant application, checking that your project and expenses are eligible and making sure that you submitted all the required materials. If you submit your application in advance of the deadline, SMAC staff may have time to notify you of any issues, allowing you to edit your application and resubmit it before the deadline. **Come back next month for information about the grant review process.**

**“Friends of SMAC” Update**

Here’s a highlight from February when Frida went to the current exhibit at Marshall Area Fine Arts Council, “*A Marriage of Line and Texture*” by Nick and Nicole Fischer. Here Frida stands in front of a piece by Nicole, an acrylic painting on burlap. The exhibit is up until March 10, 2017, and there will be a reception on March 10 from 6-8 pm.

In 2016 MAFAC received an Art Project grant for their 2016-2017 Exhibit program, as well as an Operating Support grant in 2016 and 2017 to help make events such as this possible.

**Look for another “Friends of SMAC” highlight next month!**

Calumet Players, Pipestone, $2,425 for their production of the musical *Oklahoma*, which will be performed at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center in June of 2017. [http://pipestoneminnesota.com/performingartscenter/calumetplayers/](http://pipestoneminnesota.com/performingartscenter/calumetplayers/)

Crow River Drumline Association, Hutchinson, $4,820 for a program expansion, which will now include both marching and concert percussion ensembles for students ages 12-18 and a drumline created for individuals with special needs, called Phoenix Phlyers, for ages 10-21. [http://www.phoenixdrumline.org/](http://www.phoenixdrumline.org/)

Cultural Awareness Organization (CAO), Worthington, $5,000 to support the inclusion of the arts at the Worthington International Festival, which will take place July 14-15, 2017. The Festival’s components include folk and traditional artist performances, food vendors, artisan booths, ethnic cultural education booths, and activities for children. CAO’s goal will be to focus on showcasing culturally authentic, well-qualified Minnesota-based artists who represent various areas of the world. [http://www.worthingtoninternationalfestival.org/](http://www.worthingtoninternationalfestival.org/)

Dassel Area Historical Society, Dassel, $1,783 for their Rooster Ruckus project, which will provide artists with 24" x 24" wooden rooster cut-outs to be embellished as the artist chooses. These will be displayed in Dassel from July 1 through September 4, and will then be auctioned off during Dassel’s annual Red Rooster Day celebration. [http://dassel.com/history-center/](http://dassel.com/history-center/)

**ART PROJECT GRANTS**: provides 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.

**Buffalo Ridge Chorale**, Hendricks, $4,310 for two concerts: *A Sense of Place* in June at the Danebod Lutheran Church in Tyler with soloist Anna DeGraff, and *Voices and More* in October at the St. John Cantius Catholic Church in Wilno where the Chorale will be accompanied by the pipe organ for the first time. [http://www.buffaloridgechorale.org/home.html](http://www.buffaloridgechorale.org/home.html)

**Buffalo Ridge Chorale, “The Immigrants’ Trek: A Readers’ Theater Musical” in October, 2016.**

Performers at the 2016 Worthington International Festival put on by the Cultural Awareness Organization.

Area Arts Organizations Awards continued on page 4
Awards continued

**Dassel-Cokato Arts Association**, Dassel, $3,000 for bringing the show *Singing for the Cows: Homesteading a Dream* to the Dassel History Center and Ergot Museum on March 11, 2017. *Singing for the Cows* is a one-woman show that compiles stories from four generations of an American farm family including over 20 characters and 13 songs accompanied by period photographs [http://pac.dc.k12.mn.us/](http://pac.dc.k12.mn.us/).


**Friends of the Orchestra**, Marshall, $4,955 for Southwest Minnesota Orchestra's Annual Children's Concert in April of 2017 at the Schwan Community Center for the Performing Arts. The Student Concerto Competition winner, a high school student from the SW Minnesota region that has shown identifiable progress, will be featured as well as the music and entertainment skills of Christopher Kaufman. [http://www.southwestminnesot orchestra.org/](http://www.southwestminnesotaorchestra.org/).

**Friends of the Orchestra**, Marshall, $4,920 for Southwest Minnesota Orchestra's two performances of *Building Minnesota: The Celebration of Emmanu el Masqueray*. Masqueray is known for some of the most spectacular architectural designs in Minnesota, most notably the Cathedral of St. Paul, as well as Holy Redeemer Church in Marshall; this concert will be performed in both locations in March of 2017. [http://www.southwestminnesotaorchestra.org/](http://www.southwestminnesotaorchestra.org/).

**Granite Falls Riverfront Revitalization**, Granite Falls, $4,000 for their Riverside Market and Muse project, which was started in 2015 and promotes an open air market with public art, theatre, and music in downtown Granite Falls along the riverfront. Local musicians and artists are encouraged to display and perform. Several workshops and performances are scheduled. Riverside Market and Muse is held on the second Saturday of each month from May through September. [https://granitefallsriverfrontrevitalization.wordpress.com/](https://granitefallsriverfrontrevitalization.wordpress.com/).

**Hutchinson Center for the Arts in Hutchinson (HCA)**, Hutchinson, $1,550 for supporting their 2017 season of visual arts exhibits, which will include eleven Minnesota artists offering six exhibitions, two demonstrations, and one workshop, all to be hosted at HCA. [http://www.hutchinsonarts.org/](http://www.hutchinsonarts.org/).

**Marshall Fine Arts Council (MAFAC)**, Marshall, $4,615 for their 2017-2018 performance series, featuring four performances including: The Anderson Brothers Jazz Combo, Main Street Souvenirs with Scott Kirby, J. Mark McVey, and the Derick Nelson Family. MAFAC strives to provide different genres of musical performances each season. [http://www.mafac.net/](http://www.mafac.net/).

**Minnesota Pottery Festival**, Hutchinson, $4,995 for promotion of their sixth annual festival to broaden its reach and impact as well as to ensure that the festival activities run smoothly. The festival will be held on the last weekend in July of 2017 and will host 30 potters from across the country. The festival includes potters' tents that provide a venue for high quality clay artists to educate and engage the public by raising the public's appreciation and understanding of pottery, demonstrations, friendly competition in the "Pottery Olympics", designated "kids' tents" with instructors, a hosted dinner for the potters, and more! [http://www.mnpotteryfestival.com/](http://www.mnpotteryfestival.com/).
New London Music Festival, New London, $5,000 for its annual festival taking place on the third Saturday in August. The intent of the festival is to bring the public top quality musicians with varied musical styles, in an intimate setting along the shaded hillside and surrounding waters. [https://newlondonmusicfestival.com/](https://newlondonmusicfestival.com/)

Prairie Dance Alliance (PDA), Marshall, $5,000 for a three day intensive dance camp for dancers aged 6-18. Classes are offered in ballet, jazz, modern, and lyrical dance in the morning sessions as well as specialized classes in the afternoon. The instructors are professional dancers and dance instructors from across the nation who come to Marshall to share their talents with area dance students. [http://www.prairiedancealliance.org/](http://www.prairiedancealliance.org/)

RiverSong Music Festival, Hutchinson, $5,000 for their festival in July of 2017 at Masonic West River Park in Hutchinson. The festival will feature around 15 artists on two stages performing a variety of Americana, roots, bluegrass, Cajun, country, salsa, folk and others. There are also be performers scheduled specifically for children as well as children's activities, food and beverage vendors, and onsite camping. [http://www.riversongfestival.org/](http://www.riversongfestival.org/)

Willmar Area Arts Council, Willmar, $5,000 for its 10th fine arts festival, happening in the fall, called Celebrate Art! Celebrate Coffee! The festival includes a juried art show and sale, artist demonstrations, free hands-on make-and-take activities for children of all ages, a food court and plenty of coffee! [http://www.celebrateartcelebratecoffee.com/](http://www.celebrateartcelebratecoffee.com/)

Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra, Willmar, $2,639 for two performances in March of their concert Once Upon a Time, one for the general public and a condensed version for 3rd graders and orchestra students in Willmar. The performance will include classic arrangements as well as selections from Disney's Frozen. [http://www.willmarorchestra.com/](http://www.willmarorchestra.com/)

Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra, Willmar, $3,167 for their Young Artist Concert in April, featuring Rimsky-Korsakov's "Procession of the Nobles", Tchaikovsky's "Symphony No. 2", and selections from the Young Artist Competition Winners. [http://www.willmarorchestra.com/](http://www.willmarorchestra.com/)

Winsted Arts Council, Winsted, $4,963 for its winter and spring 2017 programming, which will be expanding ballroom dance classes for adults and a children's drama class by offering it to a wider range of ages. Musical talent such as Irish musicians Dervish and Minneapolis jazz duo Lyons & Aaron will also be performing. [http://winstedarts council.org/](http://winstedarts council.org/)

Worthington Area Symphony Orchestra, Worthington, $5,000 for their spring concert in May. The 7th anniversary concert is titled A Cultural Celebration and will open with the American and Mexican National Anthems. The mayor and the Mexican Consulate will both give speeches and the high school orchestra students will participate, in the hopes to connect community more through music. [http://worthingtonareasympohonyorchestra.weebly.com/](http://worthingtonareasympohonyorchestra.weebly.com/)

**ART LEGACY PROJECT GRANT:** provides an organization 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.

Willmar Area Arts Council, Willmar, $9,850 for the creation of art on ten public traffic signal boxes for First Street in Willmar. Artists have created images that will be applied to vinyl wraps and put on the traffic boxes. The boxes are meant to brings art into public awareness and inspire a sense of pleasure and pride in the community. [http://www.celebrateartcelebratecoffee.com/](http://www.celebrateartcelebratecoffee.com/)
Artist Opportunities

Visit our website at http://swmnarts.org/category/opportunities/ to learn more about these topics:

- McKnight Media Artist Fellowship
- McKnight Visual Artist Fellowship
- Rimon: The MN Jewish Arts Council Project Support Grant
- Minnesota State Arts Board Festival Support Grant
- Minnesota State Arts Board Arts Access Grant
- Minnesota Pottery Festival opportunity for potters and media intern
- Hutchinson Center for the Arts seeking proposals for their 2018 Exhibition Season

Congratulations to MN State Arts Board Grant Recipients from the SMAC region!

**MN State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grants**: Project grants for artists at all stages of their careers, to support artistic development, nurture artistic creativity, and recognize the contributions individual artists make to the creative environment of the state of Minnesota.

**$10,000 to Brendan J. Stermer of Montevideo.** Stermer will produce Interesting People Reading Poetry, a podcast that will feature regional artists and local celebrities reading and discussing their favorite poems. A live broadcast is planned for the final episode in the Twin Cities.

**$10,000 to Kari CL Weber of New London.** Weber will create a series of landscape paintings that call attention to Minnesota’s rural communities and agricultural spaces. The work will be exhibited at the Great River Gallery in Little Falls, Kaddatz Gallery in Fergus Falls, and at the Studio Hop that takes place in Willmar, Spicer, and New London.

**$10,000 to Andrew J. Nordin of New London.** Nordin will research and create paintings at the threshold of abstraction and representation, focusing on rural Minnesota architecture. The work will be exhibited at the Gallery Saint Germain in Saint Cloud.

**$10,000 to Rory E. Wakemup of Morton.** Wakemup will create alter egos with Native American youth that will combine his studio art practice with public performance and engagement. He is on a mission to wake people up to their inner ingenuousness and join him in what he calls "Funktavism," fun activism.

New Lincoln County SMAC Board representative

Southwest Minnesota Arts Council welcomes Pam Blake of Tyler as their new board representative for Lincoln County. Pam was a K-12 art teacher for 28 years. While teaching, she was involved in the South Dakota Arts Educators Association and she also received numerous artist-in-schools grants from SMAC and the South Dakota Arts Council. Over 30 years ago she helped start the Southwest Minnesota Weaver’s Guild and has acted as president at different times. She has been active in the Tyler Arts Council and involved in putting on the yearly Art Fair at the Lincoln County Fairground during Aebleskiver Days. Pam is also a visual artist and received a SMAC Individual Developing Artist grant in 2015 for continuing to develop her fused glass artwork.

The SMAC board is also seeking a representative for Pipestone County. To learn about responsibilities and to fill out an application, go to http://swmnarts.org/about/become-a-board-member/
March Arts Events

March 1 and recurring every Wednesday, Society for Preservation of Old Timey Skills (SPOTS), 11:30 am - 1 pm, Jackson Center for the Arts, 309 2nd St, Jackson. Time and space to visit, work on your art and crafts projects, and share your talent with others. This is not a class, so no cost and no need to register. Share common interests and learn from each other. Bring your handiwork and join! Any questions contact the Center: 507-849-7415, jacksoncenterforthearts@gmail.com, www.jacksoncenterforthearts.com

*March 1, SMAC Grant Application Deadline: Arts in the Schools Round III (added round), Arts Organizational Development and Legacy Project Planning, Arts Organization Start-Up, Applications due by 4:30 pm.

March 2, Bookmaking with Tamara Isfeld, 3:30-5:30 pm, K.K. Berge Gallery (Granite Area Arts Council), 807 Prentice St, Granite Falls. During the workshop you will make beautiful pages for a journal or photo book. This will be done with watercolor, markers and colored pencil. The cover will also be made with handmade paper designs. All classes require preregistration, call 320-564-4240. For more information, visit: www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil/

March 2, Southwest Minnesota State University Chorale Farewell Concert: Requiem by John Rutter, 7:30 pm, First Lutheran Church, 100 Church St, Marshall. For more details call 507-537-7103.

March 3-5, Green Camel Gathering, 4 pm check in on Friday, Danebod Folk School, 140 Danebod Court, Tyler. 10th Annual Green Camel Gathering for fiber artists. Preregistration required, contact Jill at 507-829-8893 or jill.maisch73@gmail.com.

March 3, Artist Reception: 2017 Student Show, 5-7 pm, Nobles County Art Center, 407 12th St, Worthington. Annual Student Show for area students hosted by the Worthington District 518 art teachers. It showcases the best artwork of the area students. This show runs until the 31st of March. Contact: 507-372-8245, noblearts@vastbb.net

*March 3, Dervish: Magical Music from Ireland, 7:30 pm, Blue Note Bar & Ballroom, 320 3rd St S, Winsted. Presented by Winsted Arts Council, Dervish has six members which includes some of Ireland’s finest traditional musicians, fronted by one of the country’s best-known singers, Cathy Jordan. For more info: 320-485-3330, winstedartscouncil@gmail.com, www.winstedartscouncil.org.

March 3, West Central Concert Series Presents Russian Quattro, 7:30 pm, Willmar Education and Arts Center (WEAC), 611 5th St, Willmar. Russian Quattro features two violins and two cellos. A bevy of classical favorites and memorable pops tunes will make for a charming evening of music. For tickets and more information: 320-584-9227, www.westcentralconcertseries.org/, WCConcertS@gmail.com.

March 3-4, MACT Fest, Schwan Performing Art Center, 400 Tiger Dr, Marshall. Marshall Area Stage Company will host the “Little MACT Fest on the Prairie” in Marshall. This is the 23rd biennial festival of performances by Minnesota amateur community theatres. The event includes afternoon and evening performances by 10 community theatres, morning workshops are offered at Southwest MN State University, just across Highway 23 from the high school. Audiences will see theatre companies set up, perform and strike their shows, followed by comments by three adjudicators. Performances start at 2 pm on Friday and 1 pm on Saturday. Awards will be presented Sunday morning at 9:30 am. The public is welcome, workshops are $10, and performance sessions of two to three plays are $15. A festival package covering all events is available. For more info: www.mact.net, contact: bob.schwoch@smsu.edu

*March 4, 11, 18, & April 1, Winsted Drama Class for grades K-2, 9-10 am, Winsted Arts Council, 141 Main Ave W, Winsted. Amy Ohlemacher-Lonetti leads your little one in stretching imagination and creativity while building self confidence. 4 class sessions. To register and for more information: 320-485-3330, winstedartscouncil@gmail.com, www.winstedartscouncil.org.

March 4, Chip Carving with Joe Hauger, 9 am-4 pm, KK Berge Gallery (Granite Area Arts Council), 807 Prentice St, Granite Falls. All classes require preregistration, call 320-564-4240. For more information, visit: www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil/

March 4, Introduction to Acrylic Painting with Violet Dauk, 9 am-4 pm, 3rd floor of Barn Theatre, 321 4th St SW, Willmar. This class starts at the very beginning. Students will learn about materials, basic color theory and color mixing, as well as textures and techniques. The class will use those techniques in a finished painting. Pre-registration required. Contact the Arts Council to register: 320 235-8560 or willmararts@gmail.com, www.willmarareaarts Council.org

March 4, Dennis Curley & Friends: A Tribute to John Denver, 7 pm, Memorial Auditorium, 714 13th St, Worthington. This musical evening celebrates Denver’s songs, focusing on the hits and fan favorites. For tickets and more information: 507-376-9101, fota@frontiernet.net, FriendsoftheAuditorium.com

March 4, Letho & Wright Concert, 7:30 pm, The Barn Theatre, 321 4th St SW Downtown, Willmar. Celtic rock trio from Minneapolis. For tickets and more information: www.thebarntheatre.com, 320-235-9500.

March 4, Ring of Kerry: Music of Ireland, 7:30 pm, Prairie Arts Center, 506 6th St, Madison. "Ring of Kerry" will be performing music of Ireland along with a team of Irish dancers. (320) 598-7623, www.prairieartscen ter.com

*March 4, 11, 18, April 1, 8, 22, 29 & May 6, Winsted Kids on Stage Drama Camp for grades 3-6, 10:30 am-12 pm, Winsted Arts Council, 141 Main Ave W, Winsted. Amy Ohlemacher-Lonetti leads this class for older kids! Theater skills and self-confidence are interwoven in this 8 class camp that culminates in a performance! To register and for more information: 320-485-3330, winstedarts council@gmail.com, winstedarts council.org.

*March 5-6, Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra's Once Upon a Time, March 5 at 3 pm, March 6 at 10 am, WEAC, 611 SW 5th St, Willmar. Sunday’s concert benefits the Willmar Area Food Shelf. Monday’s concert is a special condensed version for 3rd graders and orchestra students in Willmar. The performances will include classic arrangements as well as selections from Disney’s Frozen. For more information: bob@whitneymusic.com, (320) 214-9433, www.willmar orchestra.com

March 6 & 20, Willmar After School Kids Art Club, 3:45 -5 pm, Willmar Area Arts Council, 321 4th St SW, Willmar. 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, $3 per session, please preregister (or direct questions) by contacting Willmar Arts Council at 320-235-8560, willmararts@gmail.com, www.willmarareaarts Council.org

March 6 and recurring on Mondays, Beginning Guitar Lessons, 4-5 pm, Jackson Center for the Arts, 309 2nd St, Jackson. Must bring your own guitar. For more information contact the Center at 507-849-7415, jacksoncenterforthearts@gmail.com, www.jacksoncenterforthearts.com

March 7, Franky and Vinny, 7:30 pm, Montevideo Fine Arts Center, 418 Chippewa St, Montevideo. Put on by Minnesota Valley Community Concert Association. Contact Beth at 269-584-1191 for more information.

March 9, High School Artist Reception, 4-6 pm, Hutchinson Center for the Arts, 15 Franklin St SW, Hutchinson. Annual Youth Arts (High School) public reception. Exhibit runs from February 23rd through March 10. Info at 320-587-7278 or www.hutchinsonarts.org.

*March 9, Willmar 6-8th Grade Orchestra Winter Concert, 7 pm, WEAC, 611 5th St SW, Willmar. The 7th & 8th grade Willmar orchestra were able to travel to MNSOTA Mid-Level Orchestra Festival, and will perform this concert using the same music literature from the festival. For more info, contact Michelle at suterm@willmar.k12.mn.us

*March 10, Nick and Nicole Fischer Artist Reception, 6-8 pm, Marshall Area Fine Arts, 109 N 3rd St, Marshall. A Marriage of Line and Texture focuses on color, light, and tradition though Nicole’s work of acrylic on burlap and Nick’s work with pastels. Exhibit runs through March 10. More information at 507-532-5463 or www.mafac.net

March 10, Nancy Altain Artist Reception, 6:30-8:30 pm, K.K. Berge Gallery, 807 Prentice St, Granite Falls. Nancy Altain from Clara City will be exhibiting her stained glass work Feb 16th to March 30th. Artist reception and talk. More information at 320-564-4240 or www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil/


March 11, Alcohol Ink Flowers on Ink Tiles with Melanie Gabbert-Gatchell, 10am-12 pm, K.K. Berge Gallery (Granite Area Arts Council), 807 Prentice St, Granite Falls. $25 includes instruction and supplies. All classes require preregistration to reserve space and purchase supplies. More info at 320-564-4240 or www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil/
*March 11, 18 & 25 Learn to Dance with Victor Albrecht, 6 pm, Winsted Arts Center, 141 Main Ave W, Winsted. 3 Saturdays in March, there is Country Western instruction a 6 pm, Ballroom Dance Standard Intermediate at 7 pm, and Ballroom Dance Standard for beginners at 8 pm. Open practice for students at 9 pm on dance nights. Must register, contact 320-485-3330, winstedarts council@gmail.com, or register at winstedarts council.org/learn-to-dance-with-victor-albrecht-2/.

*March 11, Singing for the Cows, 7 pm, Dassel History Center and Ergot Museum, 901 1st St, Dassel. Singing for the Cows: Homesteading a Dream is a one woman show that represents stories from four generations of an American farm family including over 20 characters and 13 songs accompanied by period photographs. For tickets: 320-286-4120 or www.pac.dc.k12.mn.us/.

*March 12, Acoustic Eidolon Concert, 4 pm, Schwan Community Center for Performing Arts, 400 Tiger Dr, Marshall. Joe Scott and Hannah Alkire are an internationally acclaimed duo. Joe performs on a gisjto, and Hannah is a classically trained and award winning cellist is also known for her beautiful singing voice. Their repertoire includes many genres including Celtic, Latin, Folk and Pops. 507-532-5463, mafac.arts@gmail.com, www.mafac.net

March 14, Doodling with Jammie Niemeyer, 6:30-8:30 pm, K.K. Berge Gallery (Granite Area Arts Council), 807 Prentice St, Granite Falls. Jammie will teach the calming art of doodling (Zentangle). Participants will choose from 3 doodles. Jammie will help students make the outline and teach the basic designs to use in the outline. All classes require preregistration, call 320-564-4240. For more information, visit: www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil/

March 14, Jenn Bostic Concert, 7:30 pm, BARC Auditorium, 1012 45th Ave, Windom. Nashville-based singer/songwriter who grew up in Waconia, MN. www.barcwindom.com

*March 14, Prairie Wings Concert Band, 7:30 pm, WEAC, 611 5th St SW, Willmar. With the WHS bands. Contact: Dennis@DennisBenson.com, www.prairiewindsconcertband.com

*March 15, SMAC Grant Application Deadline: Art Projects/Art Legacy Projects, Round III, Applications due by 4:30 pm.

*March 16, SMAC Gallery Artist Reception with Saara Myrene Raapanna: A Story of America Goes Walking, 5-7 pm, Southwest Minnesota Arts Council, 114 N 3rd St, Marshall. Join us to listen to the poetry of Saara Myrene Raapanna and enjoy the corresponding visuals of Rebekah Wilkins-Pepiton. See page 3 for more details.

March 16 & 30, Decorative Ceramic Bowls with Tamara Isfeld, 6:30-8:30 pm, K.K. Berge Gallery (Granite Area Arts Council), 807 Prentice St, Granite Falls. Two sessions, in the first you will form the bowl. The second session will be cleaning and glazing the bowl. All classes require preregistration to reserve space and purchase supplies. More information at 320-564-4240 or www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil/

March 16-19, Willmar Children’s Theatre presents Dogs: A Tail-Waggin Musical, March 16-18 at 7:30 pm, March 19 at 2 pm, The Barn Theatre, 321 4th St SW, Willmar. Directed by Students from Dream Technical Academy, this is an hour-long, tail-wagging musical about everybody’s best friend! Each dog has a special story to tell in song. Information and tickets at www.thebarntheatre.com or (320)235-9500.

March 18, Introduction to Linoleum Block Printing with Bradley Hall, 10am-5 pm, K.K. Berge Gallery (Granite Area Arts Council), 807 Prentice St, Granite Falls. This class will have students carve and print a linoleum block. Once their artwork is ready to print, the class will print at the Bradley Hall studio on a tabletop press. All classes require preregistration to reserve space and purchase supplies. Info: 320-564-4240, www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil/

*March 18, Distant Drums, 1 pm, Hutchinson High School, 1200 Roberts St SW, Hutchinson. Presented by the Crow River Drumline Association, this is the home show of the Phoenix Drumline and the new Phoenix Phlyers drumline from Hutchinson. Contact and information: www.phoenixdrumline.org/, 320-455-2552.

March 18, Broadway Meets Lake Benton, 2 pm & 7:30 pm, Lake Benton Opera House, 118 E Benton St, Lake Benton. Around 20 gifted singers choose their favorite songs from their favorite musicals and perform! 507-368-4620, www.lakebentonoperahouse.org

March 21, Piano Conversations, 7 pm, Redwood Valley Performing Arts Center, 100 George Ramseth Dr, Redwood Falls. Concert with Julian Gargiulo. 507-637-8598, www.concertassociation.net/redwoodfallsmn/

*March 22 & 25, Southwest Minnesota Orchestra’s Building Minnesota: The Centennial Celebration of Emmanuel Masaqueray, March 22, 7:30 pm at Holy Redeemer Church, 503 W Lyon St, Marshall. March 25, 2 pm at Holy Cathedral of Saint Paul, 239 Selby Ave, St Paul. SMO featuring the Saint-Saens Symphony #3 with guest artist and cathedral organist Lawrence Lawyer. www.southwestminnesotaoorchestra.org
March 23, Marshall Frame Shop Drawing Group, 6:30-8:30 pm, Marshall Frame Shop, 113 N 3rd St, Marshall. Marshall Frame Shop is hosting a Drawing Group the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm. Bring your supplies and an object to add to the still life. See more details on page 7.

March 23, Watercolor Basics with Tamara Isfeld, 6:30-8:30 pm, K.K. Berge Gallery (Granite Area Arts Council), 807 Prentice St, Granite Falls. Artist Tamara Isfeld will lead the class through the process of watercolor basics. All classes require preregistration to reserve space and purchase supplies. More information at 320-564-4240 or www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil

March 24-26, 31 & April 1-2, Green Earth Players Present Dixie Swim Club, March 24-25, 31, & April 1 at 7:30 pm, March 26 & April 2 at 2 pm, GEP Building, 401 W Edgehill St, Luverne. Dixie Swim Club, A Jones Hope Wooteh Comedy, Directed by Sue Sandbulte. www.facebook.com/GreenEarthPlayers


March 26, Monroe Concerting Concert, 2 pm, Yellow Medicine East High School Auditorium, 450 - 9th Ave, Granite Falls. Bluegrass music. 320-564-4240, www.facebook.com/GraniteAreaArtsCouncil


*March 28, SMAC Board Meeting, 7 pm, SMAC Office, 114 N 3rd St, Marshall.

*March 29, Grant Application Deadline: Art Study Opportunity for Youth, Applications due by 4:30 pm.

March 31 & April 1-2, Green Earth Players Present Dixie Swim Club, March 31, & April 1 at 7:30 pm, April 2 at 2 pm, GEP Building, 401 W Edgehill St, Luverne. A Jones Hope Wooteh comedy, directed by Sue Sandbulte. www.facebook.com/GreenEarthPlayers

EARLY APRIL EVENTS

*April 1, SMAC Grant Application Deadline: Arts Organizational Development, Legacy Project Planning, & Arts Organization Start-Up, applications due by 4:30 pm.

*April 1, SMAC Grant Review Panel: Art Project/Art Legacy Project, Round III, 9 am, SMAC office, 114 N 3rd St, Marshall.

April 1, Tripwire Concert, 7:30 pm, The Barn Theatre, 321 4th St SW, Willmar. Part of the “Live it Up Downtown” series. 320-235-9500, www.thebarntheatre.com

GALLERIES

*SMAC Art Gallery. 114 N 3rd St, Marshall. March 16 Through April 28: Saara Myrene Raappana & Rebekah Wilkins-Pepiton, A Story of America Goes Walking, Poetry with visual response. Opening artist reception with Saara Myrene Raappana on March 16, from 5-7 pm. A second reading and artist talk with both artists on April 20, 7-8 pm. Normal Gallery Hours: M–F 8 am–1 pm and 1-4:30 pm.


Brandenburg Gallery. 213 E Luverne St, Luverne. Gallery Hours: M-F 8 am-5 pm, Sat. 10 am- 5 pm. Information at 507-283-1884.

The Founders Gallery. 2nd floor in Founders Hall at Southwest State University, 1501 State St, Marshall. Gallery Hours: Monday – Friday 8 am – 5 pm, Saturday 10 am – 5 pm. Information at 507-537-6266.

Greenwater Garage & Gallery. 101 Main St S, New London. GreenWaterGarage.com. Info at kristin@greenwatergarage.com

*Hutchinson Center for the Arts. 15 Franklin St SW, Hutchinson. Through March 9: Annual Youth Arts Exhibit, High School. Artist reception March 9 from 4-6 pm. Gallery Hours: M-TH 10 am-5 pm. Information at 320-587-7278 or www.hutchinsonArts.org.
Jackson Center for the Arts Gallery. 309 2nd St, Jackson. “Youth Art Month” exhibit: United Through Art, where local schools take over the gallery with an evolving show. Gallery Hours: M, W, F: 2-5 pm, T, Th: 10 am-5 pm, Sat. 10 am-1 pm. Info at 507-849-7415 or www.jacksoncenterforthearts.com.


Milan Village Arts School. Junction of MN Highway 7/59 and MN Highway 40, Milan. For information on upcoming classes, call 320-734-4807 or visit milanvillageartsschool.org.

Nobles County Art Center. 407 12th St, Worthington. Through March 31: Annual Student Show for Area Students, hosted by the Worthington District 518 art teachers. Opening reception on March 3 from 5-7 pm. Gallery Hours: M-F 12-2:30 pm. Info at 507-372-8245, noblearts@vastbb.net or visit www.facebook.com/Nobles-County-Art-Center-704581523007243.


Redwood Falls Public Library Gallery. 509 S Lincoln St, Redwood Falls. Library Hours: M-TH 10 am-8 pm, Fri. 10 am– 5 pm, Saturday 10 am-2 pm. Info at 507-627-8650 or www.redwoodfallslibrary.org.


Robert Remick Gallery/Cottonwood County Historical Society. 812 Fourth Ave, Windom. Through March 25: Give it Your Best Shot: Focus on Cottonwood County Reflections, photography exhibit. The exhibit features photographs of “Reflections” taken in Cottonwood County by local photographers. Gallery Hours: M-F 8 am- 4 pm, Sat. 10 am- 4 pm. For more info, call 507-831-1134 or email cchs@windomnet.com.


*Willmar Education and Arts Center (WEAC). 611 5th St SW, Willmar. Gallery hours are M-F 8 am- 4 pm, and during events. Info at 320-235-8560 or willmarareaartscouncil.org.

Do you or your organization have a performance, exhibit, class, or other arts event coming up?

Use our event submission form at www.swmnarts.org or email us at info@swmnarts.org to get your event posted on SMAC's area arts events calendar online and in our newsletter.

Memberships & Donations Received
January 21, 2016 – February 17, 2017

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

Name/Organization__________________________________________________________
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**LEVELS OF PARTNERSHIPS:**

- $500.00 + Benefactor
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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.**