



LRAC AWARDS FALL LEGACY GRANTS

FUNDED THROUGH A MINNESOTA STATE LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION

The Lake Region Arts Council, Fergus Fall, MN announces the results of the Fall Legacy Grant Round held in November 2023. \$21,960 was awarded to four Legacy Individual Artist Grants, and \$97,997 for seventeen Legacy Organization Grants. The available amount to be awarded was \$125,020 between the two funding pools, and \$175,670 was requested. This Lake Region Arts Council Grant Program is made possible by the voters of Minnesota, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage fund.

Legacy Organization Grant Program Awardees

Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County - \$3,240, Clay County

Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County (HCSCC) will use the grant to support a fiber arts exhibit and programming in partnership with the Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection (ERHCC) to be displayed at the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead, MN, March 25 through June 16, 2024. The exhibit will explore the needlework of women, how they used their embroidery to conform to the social constructs of femininity while also to express their individuality and creativity and to make political/social statements.



Detail from “Summer Dreams” embroidery by Susan Curtis.

Fergus Falls A Center for the Arts - \$9,500, Otter Tail County

A Center for the Arts will use grant funds to share with their community and patrons the artistic talents of Artrageous, a troupe of multi-talented Live performance artists, world-class singers, and recording artists, highly trained dancers, and audience motivators, and veteran musicians hailing from the high desert of New Mexico. The performance will take place on April 12, 2024.



Members of Artrageous create a live visual art piece.

CornerStone - \$12,450, Becker County

Having recently renovated the stage upstairs at the CornerStone Community and Youth Center, the organization will use grant funds to purchase equipment, including spotlights, a lighting console, an electric drum set, and more. This equipment is will allow the organization to provide a high quality visual and performing art experience in the facility.

City of Pelican Rapids - \$11,200, Otter Tail County

The City of Pelican Rapids will use grant funds to create and install a mural in downtown Pelican Rapids to emphasize the multiple ways our diverse community utilizes, appreciates, and conserves our local river, designed by local elementary students, under the direction of a local lead mural artist, Paul Johnson.



Detail from “Welcome to Pelican Rapids” mural by local elementary students, 2022.

Ulen-Hitterdal School - \$4,360, Clay County

Ulen-Hitterdal School will hold a 4-day visual art residency for K-6 students and 7-12 art students with glass fusing artist Jolene Juhl. Juhl will lead students on an appropriate level glass fusing project, and all students will create their own art piece(s) to take home. Additionally, Juhl will conduct a public artist talk and demonstration the evening of Thursday, April 25, from 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.



Fused glass art by Jolene Juhl.

Grant County Prairie Wind Players - \$5,070, Grant County

The Grant County Prairie Wind Players will use grant funding to present Broadway-level musical theatre in west central Minnesota by producing the musical "Return to the Forbidden Planet" during the Barrett Old Settlers Reunion June 20-24, 2024. They hope that this production will “engage an underutilized age group of actors and [their] musical-loving audiences.”

Alexandria Area Arts Association - \$11,920, Douglas County

Alexandria Area Arts Association will produce a student show and performance for the public of the stage play 'On The Verge' at Andria Theatre, Alexandria and in Barrett, Henning and Battle Lake, directed by Sharon Thalmann. Performances at the different venues will take place in April and May 2024.

Central Lakes Symphony Orchestra - \$3,860, Douglas County

Central Lakes Symphony Orchestra (CLSO) will use grant funds to empower and educate local Alexandria students in the process of using visual art to inspire music composition, and vice versa, merging music and visual expression. Students will create visual art inspired by the live orchestra, which will be displayed at the Art and Music concert scheduled for March 24, 2024 at 2 pm.



CLSO will partner with local Alexandria students for their “Art and Music” concert in March, 2024.

Kicks Band of Fargo Moorhead - \$8,200, Clay County

Kicks Band of Fargo Moorhead will provide the region access to original musical compositions, and encourage and support the creation of new big band music through the recording of original works created by local composers and an ORIGINALS concert, designed to encourage concertgoers to seek local jazz as part of their variety of music to be held on March 2, 2024.



Kicks Band will perform original work at their concert in March, 2024.

Art of the Lakes - \$9,510, Otter Tail County

Art of the Lakes will use the grant to expand their programming beyond visual arts to include performing arts as well as other art forms. This will include producing a youth production of Seussical Jr. with a director, choreographer, and vocal director supported through the grant, as well as bringing in touring musician Monroe Wright III for a concert on February 15, 2024 and two touring shows from the Andria Theatre.



Monroe Wright III will perform in Battle Lake in February, 2024.

Otter Cove Children's Museum - \$1,500, Otter Tail County

Otter Cove Children's Museum will bring Megan Flød Johnson of Now.Make.Art. to host Storytime Adventures, an interactive storytime that includes process art and play stations designed specifically for ages 5 and under that focus on expanding sensory skills, building motor skills, and creating connection between families.



Children creating in the Maker Shop at Otter Cove Children's Museum.

City of Moorhead- Celtic Festival - \$3,500, Clay County

The City of Moorhead Celtic Festival will use grant funds to secure six different musical and performing acts specializing in the arts and activities of Celtic culture for their annual Celtic Festival, to take place Saturday, March 16, 2024 from 10 am to 3 pm at the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead, MN. Two separate stages will accommodate the variety of artists who will share their talents with the community.



Irish Dancers will be one of the performers at the annual Celtic Festival in Moorhead.

Central Square - \$7,200, Pope County

Central Square will present two musical performances featuring diverse musical styles and traditions in April and May 2024. Alice Wallace is a nationally recognized Americana musician whose song "The Blue" has been noted by Rolling Stone magazine as one of the 10 best Americana songs to hear. Minnesota artist Maud Hixson will present a show that honors the legacy of female songwriters from the flapper, swing, and bebop eras of music.



MN Artist Maud Hixson will perform at Central Square in Glenwood.

Henning Landmark Center - \$1,667, Otter Tail County

Henning Landmark Center will use grant funds to purchase a 44" wide large format digital printer to create high quality reproductions of artwork produced by regional artists for exhibition or artist promotion.

Fergus Falls Civic Orchestra - \$500, Otter Tail County

Fergus Falls Civic Orchestra will bring Dr. Patrick Miles, professor emeritus from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and retired director of the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra to provide outreach to the middle school, high school, and the community, and guest conduct Beethoven's Egmont Overture at a concert scheduled for April 28, 2024.

Historic Holmes Theatre - \$2,250, Becker County

The Historic Holmes Theatre will produce the community theatre production "Holmes Spun 3" and pay for artistic staff and related expenses. The original Holmes Spun Theatre (HST) show written by Mary Otto and Lynn Hummel, debuted in 2021. The 2024 version of HST continues that same tradition and brings the community up to date with the culture of Detroit Lakes for the past 20 years. Performances will take place in April, 2024.



HISTORIC HOLMES
THEATRE

The Historic Holmes Theatre will present
"Holmes Spun 3" in April, 2024.

Moorhead Area Public Schools - \$2,070, Clay County

Moorhead Area Public Schools will use funds to produce an exterior cross stitch installation of the school’s mascot created by all 600 grade 6 students to celebrate the 150th year anniversary of Moorhead Public Schools. Students will learn about the art of cross stitching and apply these skills to their class grid. Upon installation, there will be a community event celebrating the 150th year of Moorhead Public Schools showcasing the unveiling of the Spuddy installation.

Legacy Individual Artist Grant Program Awardees

Blayze Buseth - \$5,960, Otter Tail County

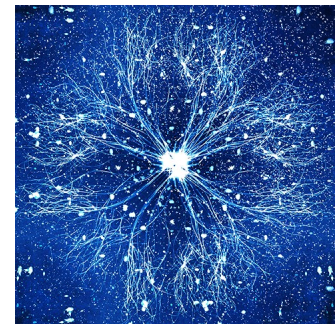
Buseth will use the grant to explore Artificial Intelligence (AI) and pottery, sharing the potential for generating creative content. He plans to create 5 to 10 new vases with the help of AI using text prompts. From AI generated images he will create the physically real vessels. The project will culminate in an exhibit at the Kaddatz Gallery in Fergus Falls in November, 2024, featuring the completed (5-10) ceramic vessels and 10 of the AI made images.



“Breath and Life Vase”, Carved Stoneware, 2023 by Blayze Buseth.

Kristi Swee Kuder - \$5,850, Otter Tail County

Kuder will develop a new series of pieces incorporating combining her use of wire with her love for natural fibers with the addition of wax to create 3-dimensional works that express the ambiguous state of mental illness as experienced through her relationship with family and friends. She will also share her fiber arts knowledge & experience with local teenagers through a series of 4 after-school sessions at the Creative Arts Center in Battle Lake.



“Where Stars Are Born”, Digitally manipulated Cyanotype Print, 2022 by Kristi Kuder.

Whitney Walters - \$5,100, Becker County

Walters will use grant funds to support time and resources to write (and submit for publication) new essays that will be included in her creative nonfiction book exploring skills, objects, and traits passed on (or not) from generation to generation. Beyond writing for the book, she will host a community workshop in June 2024 at the Detroit Lakes Public Library to engage with readers and writers, and will blog each week about her writing progress to demystify the process.

Carissa Baez - \$5,050, Otter Tail County

Baez will create a public mural to be on display near the Riverwalk in Fergus Falls, at on the exterior of Strong Self Mental Health, drawing attention towards mental health access in the community. An unveiling event will be held in Fall of 2024 which will include a short audio video explaining the process, with other original art on display and musical entertainment provided by The North Skies, comprised of Matt and Elizabeth Danielson, a warm adventurous duo from Fergus Falls Minnesota.



“Scandalous Fish”, acrylic, 2007, by Carissa Baez

Twice a year, LRAC awards Legacy Arts & Cultural Heritage Grants to provide art access, art education, and arts cultural heritage to the nine county region.

LRAC Legacy Grant instructional videos for grant writing assistance will be available online for the upcoming Spring Legacy Grant programs for Individuals and Arts Organizations and may be watched at any time.

The Spring Legacy Grant Round will open Monday, January 22, 2024. Applications are due Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 5:00 PM. The Grant Review will take place over one-two days (depending on application volume) on April 16 and 23, 2024. Projects may begin in mid-May 2024.

The LRAC Legacy Arts and Cultural Heritage Grants are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Lake Region Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage fund.

For more information: contact:

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LRAC is a nonprofit art organization that provides grants, resources, and services to the nine county region; Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse and Wilkin counties.

Their mission is to encourage and support the arts in West Central Minnesota.

