LRAC News Brief

Lake Region Arts Council, largest arts funder in the region, announces open Board positions in Becker, Douglas, Pope and Traverse Counties.

Serving on the LRAC Board is a wonderful opportunity to become more familiar with the arts in our region and to become an active arts supporter. The perfect opportunity for anyone who loves the arts and wants to help enrich and support an active arts environment in West Central MN.

Terms are for three years and would start July 1, 2019. Main duties of a Board member are to review grant applications, oversee the general operation of LRAC and to do long range strategic planning. Meetings are the third Tuesday of the month, starting at 6:30 pm at the LRAC offices in Fergus Falls. Board members are reimbursed for mileage.

Obtain an application by emailing the LRAC office at LRAC4@LRACgrants.org

Application deadline is June 15, 2019.

Click Here to view a video on being an LRAC Board member

Cultural and Heritage Events

Somali Independence Day Festival
Sunday, June 30, 2019
1:30 - 8:00 PM
Moorhead, MN

Somali Week is the Minnesota Somali community’s largest celebration of the year. Consisting of the Somali Independence Day Festival, Xasuuso (Remember) 1960 and a soccer tournament, Somali Week is a week-long event from June 30, 2019 to July 6, 2019 hosted in various locations across the Twin Cities. The theme of Somali Week 2018 was Promoting Diversity through Unity and Inclusion. Over the years, this event has grown from one block with 5,000 – 8,000 participants, to three blocks with a diverse crowd of over
Ka Joog is a nationally-recognized Somali American nonprofit organization tailored towards enriching the lives of Somali American youth by utilizing the positive elements of education, mentoring, employment, and the arts. Ka Joog’s mission is to create a better world by providing community-based, culturally specific programs and services to Somali youth and their families.

Established in 2007 by a group of Somali young adults, Ka Joog focuses its efforts on encouraging Somali youth to “ka joog” or “stay away” from negative influences such as drugs, violence, radicalization, and other behaviors that can be detrimental to their development and future. Instead, Ka Joog directs youth towards higher education, civic involvement, and a volunteer commitment to the community. Ka Joog helps Somali youth understand their options and make the right choices, through programs offering mentoring, tutoring, and job readiness training. Ka Joog also provides positive outlets through the arts and encourages youth to share their talents with others.

Ka Joog has received several local and national awards for its accomplishments, including, but not limited to, Somali-American Community Appreciation Award, the Youth Leadership of the Year Award by the City of Minneapolis, and the U.S. Congressional Records Award in honor of “...its contributions to the Somali community of Minnesota through art, education, and political action.”

Featured Event

2019 ART DE TOUR
A Free Studio Tour
Across the Lakes Area
June 14 & 15, 2019
9:00 am - 7:00 pm

The Alexandria Art Guild presents the first ever Art de Tour, a showcase of local talent. No admission here, just meander at your leisure throughout the lakes area as you visit their studios, shop direct from the artists, and enjoy a refreshment along the way.

Join us in supporting local art! The Alexandria Art Guild is a non-profit organization of visual artists and supporters interested in the advancement and promotion of visual art in our community. Are you an artist, or perhaps a friend of the arts who wants to see more art events in our city? Become a member or supporting member and join this dynamic and dedicated team who share the same vision.

Email info@alexart.org or visit our website at www.alexart.org for more information about how you can be involved today.

Participating Artists

Naomi (Noni) Bjorklund-Katherine Bockelmann-Shirlee Daulton
Donna Dean-Erin Frederiksen-Linda Gaugert
Kathy Grunde-Ruth Hanson-Stormy Hegg
Barbara Johnson-Steve King-Leanne Larson
Dennis Morrow-Rhea Northington-Jean Ranstrom
Dorothy Reiner-Bill Seykora-Merodie Seykora
Sandra Daulton Shaughnessy-Julie Smith-Kate Smith
Phil Smith-Jon (JT) Thompson-Jana Tonsfeldt
Melissa Werpy
Featured Artist

Falcon Gott: Photographer & Filmmaker

Falcon Gott is part of the Sapotaweyak Cree Nation in Manitoba Canada, but currently resides in Moorhead Minnesota. Through photography and filmmaking, he enjoys creating stories that focus on the Native American culture. Specifically, stories that focus on contemporary issues, and the solutions to those issues to bring about mental and spiritual healing to an individual and/or to a community. Subjects range from students pursuing higher education, to established artists using their skills to bring forth an opportunity for others to learn about the Native American culture. He says, "I hope to continue this journey, as it's a great opportunity to meet and connect with amazing people."

LRAC Gallery Exhibits

Main Gallery

"LRAC Fellowship Visual Artists Exhibit"

Exhibit dates: May 1 - June 28, 2019
Gallery hours, M-F, 9-5
137 S. Mill St., Fergus Falls, MN

Each year LRAC awards one $5,000 Fellowship to an outstanding Artist in our region to acknowledge their high level of artistic achievement and contribution to the Arts. The "LRAC Fellowship Visual Artists Exhibit" features the work of 6 past recipients of the LRAC Fellowship Award: Sean Scott, Kristi Kuder, Mary Williams, Jay McDougall, Scott Gunvaldson, and Zhimin Guan.

Photo credit: "Classic Bust" by Mary Williams

LRAC Solo Gallery

Grace Clark:
Photographer, Sculptor & Social Practice Artist

Exhibit dates: June 3 thru July 31, 2019
Gallery hours, M-F, 9-5
137 S. Mill St., Fergus Falls, MN
Grace Clark is an artist whose work explores conditions of the human experience, concepts of compartmentalization, how the built and natural worlds collide, idealization of objects, and emphasizes the endearing humor and irony within these spaces. She received her BFA with an emphasis in photography from Minnesota State University Moorhead. Grace has participated in an investigative life/art project focused on living and working throughout the country from within her hand-built teardrop camper, is scheduled for an A-Z West residency, and has worked with the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Arts and artists such as James Turrell, Laurie Anderson, Jenny Holzer, and Gregory Crewdson, while exhibiting her work nationally.

Photo credit: From Fergus Falls Daily journal: "Song Writing Station" built for friend by Grace Clark

Click here for Grace Clark’s Website

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**LRAC Grant Announcements**

**LRAC 2019 Spring Legacy Grant Awarded**

$147,231 was awarded to 3 Individual, 1 Local Government and 10 Organization Grants

Click on the link below for the full announcement.

Watch for the official announcements in the coming months for:
- 2019 Career Development Grant for individuals, $7,200
- 2019 Fellowship Awardee, (Literary and Performance)

Click Here for the 2019 Spring Legacy Grant Announcement

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**LRAC 2020 Grant Calendar/Changes**

It's hard to believe that the new LRAC Grant Year is starting July 1, 2019.

**IMPORTANT CHANGES:**

- **5:00 pm deadline time**
  - Grant Deadlines will be at 5:00 pm
- **Individual Grant Writing Webinars new week day**
  - Scheduled for **Thursdays** this year at 6:00 pm
- **Copy Feature for previous applications**
  - Returning applicants may copy previous grants
- **Streamline applications**
  - Drop down options to simplify the process

Watch for future updates on the new FY2020 Grant Guidelines coming in July 2019.
LRAC Individual Grants

LRAC 2020 Grants
Our New Year Starts July 1, 2019!

The first LRAC Grant will be the Artist Quick Start Grant, awarding six $750 grants to individuals in the LRAC region.

Open to all disciplines: dance, literary, performance, visual, and everything in between...

Artist Quick Start Grant will cover training, classes, supplies, equipment, marketing, arts related travel and additional expenses.

What to know more? We are here to help you! Contact the LRAC office to make an appointment to talk "one to one" about your potential project. Your options are either an in person, a phone call or a GotoMeeting appointment. Email LRAC at LRAC4@LRACgrants.org to set up your time!

Important Dates:
- Grant Deadline: Tuesday, August 6, 2019, 5:00 pm
- Grant Review: Tuesday, September 17, 2019
- Grant Start Date: After October 17, 2019

LRAC Organization Grants

LRAC Fall Grant Round Preview

Now's the time to start planning for your next round of grant application. Check out the deadline dates for the Fall Grant Rounds.

Fall Project Grants for Organizations
- Grant Writing Webinar, Tuesday, July 30, 2019
- Grant Deadline, Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 5:00 pm
- Grant Review, Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Fall Legacy Organization Grants
- Grant Writing Webinar, Tuesday, August 20, 2019
- Grant Deadline, Tuesday, October 1, 2019, 5:00 pm
- Grant Review, Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Other Opportunities

Minnesota State Arts Board
FY 2020 Artist Initiative

The Artist Initiative grant program is designed to support and assist professional Minnesota artists at various stages in their careers by encouraging artistic development, nurturing artistic creativity, and recognizing the contributions of individual artists to the creative environment of the state of Minnesota.

There is one more deadline for the FY 2020 Artist Initiative grant application, depending on the discipline:

- **Visual Arts: Friday, June 28, 2019**

MSAB Artist Initiative Grant

FY 2020 Arts Access

Arts Access is a grant program designed to encourage strategic, long-term engagement between arts organizations and traditionally under served communities. Grant funds may be used by an arts organization to collaborate with a community to create and/or increase access to meaningful art experiences.

Grant Range is $5,000 - $75,000 and the applicant may request up to 90 percent of the project costs; a 10 percent match is required.

- **Deadline is Friday, June 21, 2019**

MSAB Arts Access Grant

Designing Program Evaluation for Grant Funding

Join the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits for an intensive workshop on designing program evaluation for grant funding. The session will be delivered in workshop style – combining presentation, activities and group consulting/problem-solving. Participants should come prepared to discuss their own evaluation needs and questions.

Participants will walk away with a preliminary evaluation plan for their organization and a list of helpful resources, tools, and strategies.

Fee: $30 members, $65 non member, Registration is required

- **June 5, 1 - 3 pm, West Central Initiative, Fergus Falls**

Click Here for Information and Registration

LRAC Executive Director

Maxine Adams

Please contact the LRAC office for more information: 218.739.5780 or LRAC4@LRACgrants.org