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**Central MN Arts Board Awards Arts Legacy funds for Artist In Residencies**

At the November meeting, the Central Minnesota Arts Board (CMAB) awarded \$5,024 in Arts Legacy funds to two area schools for Artists In Residencies.

Artist in Residencies (AIR) are designed to enhance education through the arts with supportive grants to schools and nonprofit organizations. The intention of any residency proposal must be to increase interaction between students, community members and professional artists.

**ECFE Buffalo Hanover Montrose Schools**, \$2,735, Preschool Drawing Lesson residency March 14-May 8, 2014 conducted by artist Mary Ellen Gutknecht. Using small steps, the artist will teach concepts of lines, how to recognize elements of circles and dots, opposites, and additional subject directed by student and teacher interest. The residency will culminate in a class art show and family shows of favorite drawings to encourage success and pride in work.

**Eden Valley Watkins Elementary**, \$2,289, artists Willicey Tynes, Dan Mondloch, Laura Ruprecht, and Melissa Gohman will work with 2nd graders to build observation skills using a Descriptive Review protocols critical to both science and art. Students will view slides of the River's Edge Convention Center mural, Life on the Mississippi, and learn about "behind the scenes" creation and research that went into the project. Students will then take a nature-based public art field trip where they will apply observation strategies and create art related to these sites.

The Central Minnesota Arts Board supports collaborative and innovative arts opportunities through partnerships and financial investments in Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright counties as one of eleven Regional Arts Councils designated by the Minnesota State Arts Board. We work with community partners to increase access to the unique cultural assets of Minnesota.

For more information about the Central MN Arts Board visit [www.centralmnartsboard.org](http://www.centralmnartsboard.org) or call the office at 320-968-4290 or toll free at 1-866-345-7140.