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**\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE \*\***

**CMAB awards Community Arts Support Grants to nineteen area arts organizations**

The Central Minnesota Arts Board (CMAB), at their March 12, 2014 meeting, awarded nineteen Community Arts Support Grants totaling \$114,372.

The Community Arts Support Grant program provides funds equaling up to 15% of the last completed fiscal year's annual operating expenses or \$10,000, to nonprofit arts organizations located in Benton, Sherburne, Stearns or Wright County. Grants are awarded to organizations that demonstrate efficient management and programming of high artistic quality while enhancing arts opportunities within the communities they serve. These funds may be used for administrative, operating and capital expenditures.

Award recipients:

1. Buffalo Art Guild, \$468
2. Buffalo Community Orchestra, \$6,258
3. Buffalo Community Theater, \$8,619
4. Chamber Music Society of St. Cloud, \$10,000
5. Command Performance Choirs, \$3,143
6. Elk River Arts Alliance, \$10,000
7. Elk River Community Theatre, \$2,532
8. Great Northern Theatre Company, \$3,520
9. Great River Chorale, \$4,991
10. Land of Lakes Choirboys, \$10,000
11. Minnesota Center Chorale, \$5,064
12. Minnesota Dance Ensemble, \$2,524
13. North Ballet Youth Company, \$4,400
14. SOAR Regional Arts, \$6,750
15. St Cloud Municipal Band, \$2,200
16. St Cloud Symphony Orchestra, \$10,000
17. Visual Arts Minnesota, \$8,000
18. Youth Chorale of Central MN, \$10,000
19. Youth Theatre Workshop, \$5,903

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.