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

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

At the November meeting, the Central Minnesota Arts Board (CMAB) awarded \$5,394 in Arts Legacy funds to three 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.

**Apollo High School**, \$788, Figure Drawing residency with artist Mickey Cunningham December 17, 2014 for Advanced Placement Art Students held at the Paramount Visual Arts Center to experience the art of live model drawing, lecture, and a critique session. The residency will offer students an intensive workshop experience that will assist them in preparing portfolios to submit to The College Board.

**Benton Stearns Education District**, \$1,606, Harvest Past, Growing Future residency that will combine Art and Social Science with artist Sarah Drake December 2-5, 2014 for groups of 4-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Family, friends, staff and community will be invited to see an exhibition of the student work at the Sauk Rapids city hall.

**Talahi Community School**, \$3,000, Artistic Masks residency with artist Malia Burkhart December 1 – 5, 2014 for fifth grade students. The residency consists of an introduction to working with clay to create the masks, using paint and cloth to decorate them and the finished mask brought to life in a short skit performed for parents.

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. The CMAB works 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.