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

### **Central MN Arts Board awards Project Grants to area organizations**

At their September 10th meeting, the Central Minnesota Arts Board (CMAB) awarded \$81,271 in support of eighteen regional arts projects. Three criteria are used in evaluating applications: Artistic quality and merit; ability of the organization to carry out the proposal; and the needs of the community.

Organizations may apply for up to \$7,000 with a 30% match requirement for any one project or combined projects totaling no more than \$7,000 in any one grant round. Funding for these CMAB Grants is provided through an appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the state's general fund, and its Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund created by the Voters of Minnesota.

1. **Buffalo Community Orchestra**, \$4,368, Music-Made in the USA concert focused on orchestra music written by Americans presented October 24, 2015 at Buffalo High School Performing Arts Center.
2. **Buffalo Community Theater**, \$7,000, Meshuggah-Nuns the musical comedy October 16-18 and 23-25, 2015 at Discovery Auditorium in Buffalo.
3. **Buffalo Schools Community Education**, \$2,630, Special Arts Series and Fair that will engage disabled children and adults in a series of six classes followed by an Art Fair where the creations will be shown and displayed. The classes will be held at Discovery Center School in Buffalo, MN October 2015 through May 2016.
4. **Chamber Music Society of St. Cloud**, \$7,000, WindSync Concert November 21, 2015 at Calvary Community Church in St. Cloud and Community Outreach in area schools, the Whitney Senior Center and a Family Concert.
5. **City of Sartell**, \$840, Rotating Art Project that will display the artwork of local artists on a quarterly basis at Sartell City Hall October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. The grant will assist in funding artist stipends and the City's contract with Paramount Visual Arts Gallery to coordinate the art rotation.
6. **College of Saint Benedict**, \$6,115, Teatro Hugo & Ines performance and residency March 30, 2016 through April 30, 2016 at the College of Saint Benedict.
7. **Delano Area Council for Arts and Culture**, \$1,800, Old-Fashioned Christmas in Downtown Delano a free, family friendly, intergenerational holiday event with activities that include an Art Walk, music, drama, literary events and more December 5, 2015.
8. **Great River Chorale**, \$2,791, Made in Minnesota: Music of the Season concert that will feature holiday music by Minnesota composers with guests the Cantabile Girls Choirs, Charles Echols, organist, and Br. Paul-Vincent Niebauer, OSB, narrator at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Cloud December 4 and 6, 2015.
9. **Great River Educational Arts Theatre**, \$7,000, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs with a cast of over 40 youth volunteer actors October 15-25, 2015 at the Paramount Theatre, St. Cloud, MN.
10. **Helping Hands Outreach**, \$3,203, Helping Hands Arts Programming Events to increase access to arts programming for older adults, adults with disabilities, their caregivers and residents of rural Stearns County. The program includes a Health & Arts Fair October 8, 2015 from 1- 4:00 p.m. at the American Legion Club in Holdingford and three concert series November 6 and 10, 2015 and December 15, 2015 at the Paramount Theatre in St. Cloud.
11. **Kimball Community Education**, \$2,800, Kimball Area Arts Education Project to create a position to implement an arts education program October 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

12. **Rockford Area Schools**, \$2,450, Copper Street Brass Concert and Residency that will include working with 5-7<sup>th</sup> grade music students, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade band students, rehearsal with the 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade band and a public performance with the high school band February 29, 2016 at the Rockford High School Auditorium.
13. **Sinclair Lewis Foundation**, \$7,000, Sinclair Lewis 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Writers Conference and Celebration consisting of four sessions that include a panel discussion and small group presentations followed by an anniversary celebration that will include a catered supper, a performance by Don Shelby portraying Mark Twain and the Sutter Brothers performance of poetry, music and songs October 10, 2015 at Sauk Centre High School Fine Arts Auditorium.
14. **St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra**, \$7,000, The Essence concert October 25, 2015 at St. Cloud State University Ritsche Auditorium. The concert will begin the symphony's year-long 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration with music focused on honoring orchestra musicians; past and present, the audience and the community.
15. **The St. John's Boys' Choir**, \$3,518, A Ceremony of Carols with seasonal selections performed by three SJBC choirs, a special alumni chorus, and orchestra. The featured work will be Benjamin Britten's choral masterpiece performed with harp by candlelight December 18, 2015 at Saint John's Abbey in Collegeville.
16. **Visual Arts Minnesota**, \$5,110, 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Essential Art Exhibition and Celebration. The juried exhibit will be held January 22 through February 28, 2016 with a reception and celebration January 22, 2016.
17. **Youth Chorale of Central MN**, \$3,646, A Choral Community celebration of diverse vocal ensembles that consists of community, church, college, and children's choirs November 1, 2015 at St. Cloud State University Ritsche Auditorium, St. Cloud.
18. **North Star Family Theatre**, \$7,000, A Christmas Carol musical theatre performance December 4 through December 13, 2015 at the Historic Little Theatre in Elk River Minnesota. The production will include artistic staff, 80 performers of all ages and 90 volunteers.

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.

Visit <http://www.aroundthecloud.org> Arts & Events Click & Go Guide to see a full listing of these arts events and more.

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.