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**** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ****

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

At the April 13, 2017 meeting, the Central Minnesota Arts Board (CMAB) awarded \$9,545 in Arts Legacy funds to four area organizations in support of Artist Residencies.

The Artist in Residency (AIR) program is 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.

1. **CentraCare Pediatric Weight Management** \$2,250, Pediatric Weight Management pilot program with performance artist Brittni Cleland to incorporate creative movement with pediatrician, dietitian and social work services for children with obesity and their families, June – September 2017 at CentraCare Lifestyle Health at St. Cloud YMCA in St. Cloud, MN.
2. **Paramount Center For the Arts**, \$1,396, Dance for all residency with certified dance therapist Brittni Cleland, to provide children living with autism instruction in movement strategies that encourage brain patterning, physical coordination and social engagement through dance, June 19-22, 2017 at the Paramount Theater in St. Cloud, MN.
3. **Sauk Rapids Rice High School**, \$2,608, Abstraction: Apart from the concrete residency; artist Heidi Jeub working with Sauk Rapids Rice High School art students will explore abstract art through exercises and the application of formal principles of art beginning October 2017 in Sauk Rapids, MN.
4. **SOAR Regional Arts**, \$3,290, Summer 2017 Teen Intensive two-week day camp for ages 13 -19 to produce the musical Legally Blonde, Jr. with Instructor Shinah Brashears held June 19-30, 2017 at STMA's Middle School West Auditorium in Albertville, MN.

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 visit www.centralmnartsboard.org or call 320-968-4290, toll free at 1-866-345-7140.