CMAB
Central MN Arts Board
Fiscal Year 2019
ANNUAL REPORT
Serving Benton, Sherburne, Stearns & Wright Counties
Established in 1979 as a non-profit arts organization, the Central Minnesota Arts Board increases access to the arts by providing grant opportunities and services throughout Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright counties as one of eleven Regional Arts Councils in Minnesota.

We fund grant proposals and provide professional development services to arts and community organizations, schools, government units and individuals. We also strive to enhance the appreciation of the positive and essential economic and social roles the arts play in our lives.

The Central MN Arts Board (CMAB) just concluded our 40th year as the state designated Regional Arts Council serving Benton, Sherburne, Stearns and Wright counties. Between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019, the CMAB invested $670,449 in grants and awards in support of the arts throughout the four counties!

Thanks to the Arts Legacy Fund, MN Legislative appropriation and McKnight Foundation, new projects are happening, ongoing events and festivals are growing and improving and artists, creative and makers are supporting in learning, sharing and producing work from Elk River to Sauk Centre, Buffalo to Holdingford, and most other locations throughout the region.

The CMAB receives many stories each year of lives transformed by the arts. Children with differing abilities finding new ways to engage through the arts, people with dementia recognizing music from their past and tapping their toes for the first time in years and connecting with caregivers in ways that are visibly powerful.

The arts bring people together at community concerts, theatre and maker spaces. They help us forget our day-to-day struggles.

The arts have a profound impact on our economy. The CreativeMN Report in 2017 identified almost $46 million in annual economic impact of artists and nonprofit arts & culture organizations JUST WITHIN the four counties served by the CMAB. The arts entertain us and help us heal. They are an essential part of our cultural heritage.

The CMAB looks back on a successful year and forward to continued investments in the arts in 2020. We are grateful and proud to be your partner and supporter.

Leslie LeCuyer
Executive Director

Funding is generously provided by:

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Monticello School District received a FY19 Project Grant to hire artist Allison Hunsley to make her mark in her local community while helping to re-imagine downtown Monticello and educate young artists. Clay Sawatzke, Monticello Schools, Sue Seeger, Director of MontiArts and the Monticello City Ambassadors attended the mural dedication. Sawatzke wrote the grant for the mural and Seeger assisted with coordinating the workshops between students and the artist Allison.
**FY19 FUNDING DISTRIBUTED TO INDIVIDUALS BY COUNTY**

The programs listed are funded by the McKnight Foundation and through a legislative appropriation from the State’s general fund.

### Benton
- **Artist Career Development**: $6,000
- **Artist Learning Grant**: $326
- **Student Scholarship**: $1,500
- **Teaching Artist Grant**: $8,991

### Sherburne
- **Artist Career Development**: $8,358
- **Artist Learning Grant**: $498
- **Individual Artist Award**: $10,500
- **Student Art Scholarship**: $4,500

### Stearns
- **Artist Learning Grant**: $2,620
- **Individual Artist Award**: $14,000
- **Student Art Scholarship**: $6,000

### Wright
- **Artist Career Development**: $3,000
- **Artist Learning Grant**: $1,799
- **Student Art Scholarship**: $12,000

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**FUNDING SOURCE**
- **McKnight**: $56,092
- **State**: $24,000

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**DAN MONDLOCH - VISUAL ARTIST**

FY19 Individual Artist Award Recipient

“This award allowed me to have some much needed time to create work in the field, plein air, among some very talented artists and mentors. That experience provided artistic growth in terms of technique and perspective already, and no doubt has changed the direction of my career in general.”

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**SUSAN DEAN - BISON MOSAIC SKULL SERIES**

FY19 Artist Career Development Recipient

The highlight of this activity is simple and doesn’t need many words. I am humbled, enthusiastic, and scared. Humbled that people in the arts world see value in my work and my accomplishments. Enough so to include my work into their galleries under the classification as ‘artist’. Enthusiastic and motivated to move forward with more studio work and producing more art.”
FY19 FUNDING TO ORGANIZATIONS BY COUNTY

The programs listed are funded through a legislative appropriation from the Arts & Cultural Legacy fund and the State’s general fund.

**BENTON**
Population: 39,214

- Artist In Residence: $7,000
- Project Grants: $61,906

**$68,906**

**SHERBURNE**
Population: 90,158

- Artist In Residence: $3,500
- Community Arts Support: $12,480
- Organizational Development: $1,000
- Project Grants: $7,000

**$23,980**

The Arts and Cultural Heritage Legacy Fund consists of the three categories: Arts Access, Arts Education and Cultural Heritage.

**FUNDING SOURCE**

- Cultural Heritage: $12,854
- Arts Education: $52,142
- Arts Access: $419,000
- State: $105,816

**Total Investment of $589,812**
STEARNS
Population: 152,092
Artist In Residencies $17,012
Community Arts Support $63,894
Project Grants $261,900
Public Art Grants $19,750

$362,556

WRIGHT
Population: 128,470
Artist In Residencies $7,000
Community Arts Support $25,630
Project Grants $83,490
Public Art Grant $18,250

$134,370

IMPACT OF A PROJECT GRANT
College of Saint Benedict received a $7,000 Project Grant for We Shall Overcome: A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a multicultural choir made up of students from the Boys and Girls club, Higher Ground Church, campus students, faculty and staff, and patrons from Greater Saint Cloud.

Through the choir experience, we were able to not only represent the talent and presence of Gospel in our community but were able to connect community members who were less knowledgeable with those who were, creating community and providing an educational opportunity. Those who participated were able to have a better understanding of the Greater Saint Cloud community, the CSB/SJU campus community, and were able to add to their definition of gospel.

Mary Hinton, President of the College of Saint Benedict, wrote an opinion piece on the work of the community choir.

“There is much to be grateful for and proud of, regarding the performance. The music was extraordinarily soul-uplifting, the engagement with and by the audience was unmatched and the message of love, protest and reconciliation has lingered in my spirit...There is hope in a choir, made up of people who may not normally share time together, making themselves vulnerable sharing their voices and perspectives to uplift a community. What I saw on the stage, what I heard in the music, what I experienced with the Bennies and Johnnies with whom I was sitting, was hope. I pray that each of us has a moment when we see and feel and share hope with someone else. I am grateful to be a part of a community that exudes hope in all it does.”

We Shall Overcome: A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr
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Foley, MN 56329  
Office: 320-968-4290  
Toll Free: 1-866-825-1471

www.centralmnartsboard.org  
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