

**** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ****

Central MN Arts Board Awards Artist Career Development Grants

At the November 14, 2019 meeting, the Central Minnesota Arts Board (CMAB) awarded \$29,992 in Artist Career Development grants. The CMAB Artist Career Development program provides funds of up to \$4,000 in support of projects, training opportunities, purchases and other activities that assist artists in making the next step in their artistic careers. Funding for this program is provided through the McKnight Foundation.

Three criteria are used to evaluate applications: Artistic quality and merit, Professional need and Ability to complete the proposal. An applicant must receive an average score of 15 points (50%) or higher to be considered for funding.

The following artists were awarded:

- **Amy Coppersmith**, Sherburne County, received \$4,000 for the purchase of a camera, adapter and lenses to capture details necessary for photographic composites.
- **Micki Blenkush**, Stearns County, received \$1,992 to support the publication and promotion of her book through a book launch and reading events.
- **Brendon Bushman**, Stearns County, received \$4,000 for the purchase of an English horn and preparation for a public recital performance as an extension of his skills as a professional classical musician.
- **David Glenn**, Stearns County, received \$4,000 for the purchase a ball mill to grind and perfect "True" Celadon glazes under the mentorship of Janel Jacobson. Results will be published for other studio artists to study.
- **Desi Murphy**, Stearns County, received \$4,000 for the purchase of new studio equipment to increase the production process and gallery display materials for a more professional appearance and efficient use of gallery space.
- **DJR Glass**, Wright County, received \$4,000 for supplies and display equipment for the MN Landscape Arboretum 2020 Flower Show in Chaska, MN.
- **Steven Lemke**, Stearns County, received \$4,000 for digital fabrication tools for contemporary sculpture that would increase the quantity and quality of sculptural output and ability to integrate it into a new body of work.
- **Scarlette Revolver**, Stearns County, received \$4,000 to contract a marketing team for the promotion of her dance studio and for bookkeeping support to allow for more creative and performance time.

The Central Minnesota Arts Board (CMAB) strives to enhance appreciation of the essential economic and social roles the arts play in Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright counties by providing grants and professional development services to arts and community organizations, schools, government units and individuals.

For more information about the Central MN Arts Board visit www.centralmnartsboard.org or call the office at 320-968-4290 or toll free at 1-866-825-1471.