



# ArtsNews!

February 2024

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## LRAC Executive Director Announces Retirement

Dear LRAC friends,

With a combination of excitement for the future and nostalgia, I am officially announcing that I will be retiring as the Lake Region Arts Council Executive Director on July 1, 2024.

I have always said that being the Executive Director of LRAC was the perfect job and I still feel that way. I love being a part of an organization that helps so many people in so many different ways and I am incredibly grateful to work with truly amazing coworkers, board members, and arts connected friends. Believe me, I gave retiring a lot of thought before I made my decision.

I thought about what I learned during COVID, and that was, we are not guaranteed the future. I really want to spend more time with my husband and my family. I also thought about wanting to go on new adventures and try new things. I do love what I do, but 20 plus years is a long time! I am ready to step out and see what life has to offer. I always encourage my grandkids to live in a large world, to travel, see things, and meet new people. That's pretty good

advice for me too.

I want to assure everyone that the LRAC Board, Great Outcomes Consulting, and I have been working for the last year to make sure the transition of leadership is smooth, efficient and that our work will continue without disruption. I want to thank the LRAC Executive Committee, Mary Beth Gilsdorf, Jon Solinger, Jenny Nellis, Marit Salvesson, past LRAC Board member Jeff Merrick and Leann Wolf, consultant, for their many hours of strategic planning to make sure the transition goes well.

Watch for more emails from LRAC detailing when we will open the position and the application process. We hope to have the new director identified by June.

We will be inviting everyone to our LRAC Annual Meeting in July to celebrate my retirement and welcome the new director. The date and location are to be determined. I hope you will join us for a very special evening.

With gratitude and respect,  
**Maxine Adams**



# Sit-n-Stitch at New York Mills Cultural Center

**Location:** New York Mills Cultural Center • 24 North Main Avenue • New York Mills, MN

**When:** Wednesday, February 7, 5:00 PM • Thursday, February 29, 7:00 PM

**FEE:** FREE and Open to the public. Bring your own project.

All are welcome at this weekly fiber arts gathering offering time and space for some fiber fun on Thursdays from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the beautiful Cultural Center Gallery space.

Bring your own projects, get advice, or use our supplies to start a new project. Crochet, knit, weave, sew, stitch, needlepoint, felt—do whatever you like! Beginners and experienced fiber artists are all welcome. Regular attendees will teach beginners or help you figure out a stitching pattern. Yarn, needles, hooks, and project bags are provided for free to those who need them!

Sit 'n' Stitch is open to all and free to attend.



[Click Here for More Information](#)

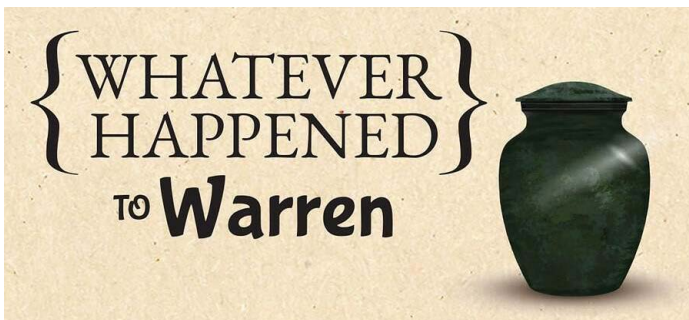


# The Andria Theatre presents: **Whatever Happened to Warren**

Location: Andria Theatre • 618 Broadway • Alexandria, MN

Wednesday, February 14 & Thursday, February 15, 2024 • 11:00 AM

FEE: Main Stage Tickets \$15



Their peaceful living arrangement is threatened on several fronts. LO-raine must keep her son, Miles, from finding out they are there. Doris and Midge's families think this is a small private nursing facility so that charade must be kept up. And if that weren't enough, a mysterious package arrives on their doorstep, the content of which becomes a can of worms. A private investigator is constantly scratching at their door, and they are on the cusp of being exposed at any moment. Their trusted yard man, Bernie, bails them out on more than one occasion.

There is never a dull moment in this poignant comedy about aging and friendship and family.

LO-raine, a mid to late 70's widow with crippling arthritis in her legs uses a walker to get around. She has a large home and has taken in two life-long friends, Midge who has early Alzheimer and Doris who is confined to a wheelchair, because their families were about to put them in old folks' homes. They are pooling their resources to help each other continue to live independently as long as possible.

[Click Here for More Information](#)





The Historic Homes Theatre presents:  
**The Adventures of  
Peter Pan & Wendy**

Location: Historic Holmes Theatre  
806 Summit Avenue • Detroit Lakes, MN  
Thursday, February 29, 2024 • 7:30 PM 9:00 PM  
FEE: Tickets Adults - \$20 Students - \$10

Fairy tale stories come to life on ice on the Holmes stage - yes they're really skating on the stage! The incredible professional skaters and sensational music and storyline bring the room to life and draw the audience into the magic by fusing theater, music, and the art of figure skating.

Enter a world of enchantment and grace as Fairy Tales on Ice takes center stage. Marvel at the mesmerizing performances of beloved characters like Peter Pan, Wendy, and Tinkerbell gliding effortlessly across

the ice, weaving magical tales of love, bravery, and dreams come true. With stunning costumes, dazzling routines, and a sprinkle of fairy dust, this show promises to captivate audiences of all ages, making it a perfect family outing filled with wonder and joy. Audiences rave over this captivating show – there is nothing out there like it!

[Click Here for More Information](#)





# Chalsey Falk

Graphic Design Artist

[Click Here to see Chalsey's work](#)

Founded by Chalsey Falk, Full Mood Studio is a design studio that serves business owners, creative agencies, and non-profit organizations. Chalsey has 10 years of corporate graphic design, advertising and marketing experience, and loves to work with health, wellness, and creative businesses that are looking to serve and support their community.

Originally from the Fargo/Moorhead Ms. Falk received a BFA from the University of Wisconsin-Stout in Graphic Design and Interactive Media with a Minor in Spanish. She has volunteered for 8 years on AIGA boards (Association of Professional Designers) in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and San Diego. She now lives in Barrett, MN and volunteers with the Alexan-

dria Art Guild and the Alexandria Arts Collaborative. She loves getting involved with community initiatives in the Central Lakes Area.

After the Covid Pandemic, Chalsey decided that Minnesota is where her roots are. She loves living on a lake with views of the river with mainly birds as neighbors. She is passionate about lifting artists and entrepreneurs up. Creating a safe space for creative cultivation, confidence boosting, and business advice. Chalsey now divides her time between murals, branding, illustration, networking, hiking, camping, traveling, and getting involved in local and virtual communities.



## LRAC Board Member Spotlight

# Karan Ouren

## Otter Tail County



Karan Ouren is a mixed media/acrylics visual artist who sells her work from coast to coast. She is a two-time recipient of the LRAC Career Development Grant, and will bring the perspective of an artist going through the grant process to the LRAC Board.

In addition to two years of Technical College, Karan earned a license and certification as a Chemical Dependency Counselor, worked at treatment centers in Texas and Minnesota, and has experience teaching homeschool and workshops.

As an LRAC board member, Ms. Ouren looks forward to the opportunity to be more involved with a different side of the arts, contribute her experience as an artist, and be on a team that works together to help artists accomplish their artistic goals.

[See all LRAC Board Members](#)



LRAC Main Gallery:

## Artist Collaboration Exhibit-Featuring Dar Eckert & Kristi Kuder



Exhibit opens: Jan. 8, 2024

Reception: Tuesday, Jan. 16th from 5:30 pm - 7 pm

Exhibit closes: March 14, 2024

Gallery hours, Mon-Thursday, 9am to 3pm

Location: 137 S. Mill St., Fergus Falls, MN

[Click here to see Kristi Kuder's Work](#)

[Click here to see Dar Eckert's Work](#)

Two regional artists, Kristi Kuder and Dar Eckert have used their vision and talents to transform the LRAC Main Gallery space into a unique visual experience. Their fresh perspective use the space, lighting and street presence of the Gallery, in a new way. We hope you will enjoy visiting the Gallery and seeing the efforts of the collaborating artist.

*"This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through the Lake Region Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage fund."*



## Maxine Adams

LRAC Executive Director

Please contact the LRAC office for more information:

218.739.5780 or LRAC4@LRACgrants.org

LRAC4.org

Serving the LRAC region: Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse, and Wilkin counties.

