

Featured in this issue: LRAC Needs Assessment Survey, LRAC Help for Artists Workshop, Artist Javier Lara-Ruis, LRAC Grant Webinars, Upcoming Grants, MSAB Grants

## LRAC March Art Headlines

### LRAC News Briefs

#### Take the LRAC Needs Assessment Survey and you might win \$200!

Everyone could use some extra money and taking the survey is easy as answering 16 short questions.

Your answers to the Needs Assessment Survey will help us understand what you value most and help us learn about your ideas for improvement.



Deadline to take survey is March 15, 2018 at 4 pm Central Standard time. Winner will be drawn at random and notified by email. Need not complete survey to win. LRAC Board members, employees and their immediate family members are not eligible to win.

**Must be a resident of Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse or Wilkin Counties.**

**Take the survey today by clicking here:**

[TAKE SURVEY](#)

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### Featured Event

#### Help for Artists Workshop, March 24, 2018

You don't have a website of your own? Need to reach a larger audience?

This workshop could be just just right for you.

[www.mnartists.org](http://www.mnartists.org) hosts a database of information and artwork from more than 15,000 MN artists and arts organizations. Participants will learn how to build a profile on mnartists.org Both the workshop and participation in mnartist.org. is free. Having a profile on mnartists.org is an easy way to have an online presence and have your work available to thousands of online visitors.



Date: Sat. March 24, 2018

Time: 9:30 am -1:30 pm

Location: Lake Country Services Coop, 1001 E Mt Faith Ave, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Workshop Schedule

9:30 registration, coffee, rolls

10:00-12, martist.org "How to Build a Online Profile"  
12-12:30 lunch  
12:30-1:30 individual help sessions with martist.org

Register here: [March 24 workshop](#)

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## Featured Artist

### Javier Lara-Ruiz

A former resident of Wheaton, MN, Javier is influenced by his heritage - Mexican Aztec and Dakota Sioux. Many of the themes he works with reflect contemporary indigenous issues. "I strive to research as much as possible to gain a greater awareness of Native culture and to share my understanding of it."

Javier is currently in the LRAC Artist Cohort Program and a former participant in the LRAC Artist Mentor Program.

The Contemporary Native American Exhibit at the LRAC McKnight Gallery, of which Lara-Ruiz is a part, closes Friday, March 2, 2018.



"I am Raramuri"  
Acrylic

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## Featured LRAC Service

### LRAC Tip Sheets and Training Webinars

LRAC now has a library of tip sheets and webinars/videos on how to write a grant. Coming soon will be videos on grants available through the Minnesota State Arts Board and a video "Explaining the New Evaluation Section" of LRAC grants.

For a complete list of tip sheets and videos, please visit [www.LRAC4.org](http://www.LRAC4.org), and check out the Tip Sheets and Webinar page under the **GRANTS** menu.



Betsy Ostenson,  
LRAC Grants Manager

[LRAC Grant Writing Webinars](#)

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## LRAC Gallery Exhibits

### Main Gallery

"6A Regional High School Art Exhibit"

March 12 - April 28, 2018

M-F, 9-5

Reception in April 28, 11 am-12:30 pm

The Lake Region Arts Council is proud to exhibit selected art work from this year's High School 6A Minnesota State Visual Arts Exhibition and Competition. This is a yearly completion that showcases the best art work from high school students throughout the state. Students compete at a regional and then state level. Entries are judged on the quality of the art work and the student's artist statement. Regional winners will go on to compete at the State 6A statewide competition.



"Human Bog"  
Noel Runge

**Solo Gallery**

**Amy Schmidt - Watercolors**

LRAC 2018 Solo Gallery Exhibit - March 1 - March 28

This talented artist, previously a potter, has been working in earnest with watercolors since 2015. She studied art at Minnesota State University in Moorhead. "I love the qualities of watercolor painting. I choose to paint things I find beautiful, or challenging, or both."



Watercolor by Amy  
Schmidt

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**LRAC Grants**

**Rolling into Spring 2018**

***Watch for the upcoming Grant Announcements!***

It will be a busy Spring for the LRAC Board with Grant Review each month running February through June 2018.

The Operating Support Grant Round was completed in February with \$42,500 awarded to 10 arts organizations in the region. The full announcement will be posted in the April Newsletter.



**Upcoming LRAC Board Grant Reviews**

- Spring Project Grant Round, \$18,835 to be awarded in March 2018
- Spring Legacy Grant Round, \$106,015 to be awarded in April 2018

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## Looking Ahead to Spring

### Opportunities for Individuals in the LRAC Region

LRAC will be awarding over \$16,819 in 2018 through three grant programs to individuals in the nine counties. These LRAC grant programs are funded by The McKnight Foundation.

Now's the time to move forward with your artistic career. These grants designed to promote "You", providing financial assistance for your next leap forward!



#### 2018 Grant Awards

- **Career Development Grant**, up to \$1,200 each, **Deadline April 3, 2018**
- **Fellowship Grant**, \$5,000 to one musician or visual artist, Deadline May 8, 2018
- **Artist Quick Start Grant**, six \$750 grants, Deadline Aug 7, 2018

#### *First up: Career Development Grant, open to all disciplines*

**Apply for up to \$1,200** to take a class, to study with a mentor, to learn a new technique, to purchase equipment, to purchase supplies, to create new work, to increase marketing, to establish a web presence, to travel for classes, or a combination of these concepts.

1. Pull together your resume/bio, your best work samples or performances in electronic format such as word docs, pdfs, jpgs, and websites.
2. Brainstorm about how this grant could make a difference for you professionally in the coming year!
3. Plan how you would spend the funds researching specific details for the budget.
4. Apply online through the **LRAC online grant system**, answering three key questions.
  1. *How would you spend the grant money?*
  2. *What is your artist statement as an artist, musician, dancer, writer, etc.?*
  3. *How would the grant impact your artistic career?*

#### Here are the next steps:

- Read the **Career Development Grant Guidelines**
- Check out the **Career Development Tip Sheet**
- Watch the **Career Development Grant Writing Webinar**

#### *Next month: LRAC Fellowship Grant: open to the Music and Visual Arts this year*

**Questions? - Contact the LRAC office**

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## MN State Arts Board

Looking ahead to 2018

### 2019 MSAB Festival Support

Minnesota Festival Support is a grant program designed to provide meaningful arts experiences to Minnesotans through festivals that celebrate the arts, build community, and expose communities to diverse art forms including folk and traditional arts.

#### **Application deadline**

FY 2019 application deadline is March 23, 2018.  
Funds must be expended between September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019.



### 2019 MSAB Artist Initiative (two grant rounds)

The Artist Initiative grant program is designed to support and assist professional Minnesota artists at various stages in their careers by encouraging artistic development, nurturing artistic creativity, and recognizing the contributions of individual artists to the creative environment of the state of Minnesota.

Grants will be awarded for projects that will enhance or expand the applicant's artistic skills or process, and advance the applicant's career by helping the artist generate greater visibility with and exposure to potential audiences.

Those considering a first time application are urged to review the program's overview and application instructions, and speak with program officer Sherrie Fernandez-Williams prior to beginning an application. She can be reached at (651) 215-1626, toll-free at (800) 866-2787, or via e-mail at [sherrie.fernandez-williams@arts.state.mn.us](mailto:sherrie.fernandez-williams@arts.state.mn.us).

#### **Application deadlines**

FY 2019 application deadline is **May 4, 2018** for *literary arts and performance arts*.

FY 2019 application deadline is **June 29, 2018** for *visual arts*.

Check out the MSAB website for details on the funds expenditure timeline.

[MSAB Website](#)