

## LRAC Awards \$20,720 in Art Grants in the Spring Project Grant Round

The Lake Region Arts Council, Fergus Fall, MN announces the results of the Spring Project Grant Round held on March 21, 2017. \$20,720 was awarded to fourteen projects to be held throughout the LRAC nine county region. From American ballads to contemporary musicals, from award winning quilts to exceptional photography, there will be something inspiring for everyone.



### **Evansville Arts Coalition** -Douglas County

EAC was awarded seven grants to fund their monthly Friday Night Concerts during their 2017 Season.

**May**, \$240 to present regional singer/songwriter Patty Kakac. Her songs tell stories pertinent to life in West Central Minnesota. Patty brings the special voice of the storyteller to her songs.

**June**, \$280, to present well known West Central Minnesota musician Kevin Klimek. He is a fingerstyle guitarist that plays the bass line, rhythm line, and lead line simultaneously. He is a band leader and lead guitarist for Connie Lee, a country music star in Alexandria MN.

**July**, \$710, to present "Skally Line" featuring Fred Keller on mandolin and Tom Cornish on guitar and fiddle. Skally Line chose their name based on a historical railroad that ran between St Paul and Duluth. It ran through a number of small towns along the way. They base their songwriting on the sort of music that would fit with that area. This group has unusual music and storytelling.

**August**, \$330, to present singer/songwriter Jim Burt. He is originally from Southern California and has recorded several CDs. He provides a unique voice combining traditional country with smooth pop rock and crooning vocals. He has been performing around Minnesota since 2003.

**September**, \$500, to present "Folk N Blues" featuring Adam Hammer and Dave Cofel. Folk n Blues brings a variety to the music schedule for the Evansville Art Center. Their high energy performances will set them apart from the usual programming. They will also play Saturday afternoon at the Evansville Assisted Living Facility.

**October**, \$400, to present "Broken Fiddle", a four person ensemble. Broken Fiddle varies in the number of musicians involved beyond the typical EAC concert of one or two performers. Their combination of blues, rock, bluegrass, and country covers a broad spectrum of the music scene. Their unusual instrumentation makes them a favorite and our audiences asked to have them back.

**November**, \$230, to present Peggy Weise, vocalist, accompanied by Jewett Benson, guitarist. This duo presents music from the American Songbook and other standards from pop and country genres.



### **Henning Landmark Center** - \$2,420, Otter Tail County

As a follow up to the Blacksmithing events, the Landmark Center hosted in 2016, three Minnesota Metal Smiths, Jeffrey Olson, Jerry Hobbs, and Tony Roed, will return to teach techniques in Knife Making and Blacksmithing. This two day artist residency will include forge welding with gas & coal forge, metal hardening,, heat treating, hammering, riveting, and finishing, during two days.



**Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County** - \$3,000, Clay County  
HCSCC will be showcasing the traveling Quilt National 2015 exhibition of art quilts at the museum in the Hjemkomst Center July 1 through Oct. 10, 2017. What makes this year's exhibition especially noteworthy is that it is the largest of three collections touring – 30 of the finest modern art quilts judged from over 800 submissions worldwide. The exhibit will coincide with fall programming of the Quilters' Guild of North Dakota in Moorhead-Fargo in September.



**Lakes Chamber Music Society** - \$1,080, Douglas County  
LCMS will present a professional chamber music concert performance of Oliver Messiaen's "Quartet for the End of Time" at the Alexandria United Methodist Church on August 20. This work has particular significance in the world of modern chamber music. It was composed by Messiaen during his incarceration in a WWII concentration camp. He wrote the piece to be performed by fellow professional musician prisoners on cello, violin, and clarinet and he played the piano part himself. The world premier was presented to an audience of 5000 in the prison camp and it united prisoner and guard, Jew and Catholic alike.



**Legacy of the Lakes Museum** - \$3,000, Douglas County  
LOLM will bring the photography exhibit "Touch the Sky: Prairie Photographs by Jim Brandenburg" for the 2017 museum season (May - October). The exhibit, organized by the Bell Museum of Natural History at the University of Minnesota, is the product of renowned photographer Jim Brandenburg's tribute to the American prairie. The exhibit includes an educational component with hands-on related artifacts and a video.

**New Rivers Press** - \$2,800, Clay County

NRP will be printing, marketing, and distributing of Diane Jarvenpa's book, "The Way She Told Her Story". Jarvenpa's "The Way She Told Her Story" is a collection of poems that illuminates the lives of Finnish-American immigrants, especially women. Written by a Minnesota author, and largely set in Finland and Minnesota, the collection, which is both stark and beautiful, provides another square in the quilt of this region's literary and ethnic history.



**Prairie Wind Players Community Theatre**- \$2,730, Grant County

PWP will be reviving their summer musical tradition with the production of "Little Shop of Horrors" on August 17-20, 2017. The grant funds will be for the artistic staff, featuring PWP and West Central Area School alumni with a strong background in theatre production. "Little Shop of Horrors" is a horror comedy, rock musical, by composer Alan Menken and writer Howard Ashman, about a hapless florist shop worker who raises a plant that feeds on human blood and flesh. The music is in the style of early 1960s rock and roll, doo-wop and early Motown, includes several well-known tunes, including the title song, "Skid Row (Downtown)", "Somewhere That's Green", and "Suddenly, Seymour".



**University of Minnesota, Morris, Theatre Department** - \$3,000, Stevens County

UMM Theatre Department will be presenting the contemporary musical, "Spring Awakening" on November 1-4, 2017. The grant will be applied to the royalty expenses to produce the show. Based on German playwright Frank Wedekind's 1891 seminal work of modern dramatic literature, "Spring Awakening" is a rock musical that tells the coming of age story of a number of young adults from a small German town. The musical, with music by Duncan Sheik and book and lyrics by Steven Sater, was originally produced on Broadway in 2006, winning 8 Tony Awards. UMM plans to host a series of workshops and discussions regarding the history of the play, as well as musical theatre. Another important related activity will be a staged reading of the original Wedekind play.



Twice a year, LRAC awards Project Grants to art organizations and public entities such as schools, community education, colleges, libraries and museums to bring new and exciting art programming to their communities. Applicants may apply for up to \$3,000 per grant and up to \$5,000 per year in funding. Multiple grant applications are permitted.

There will be a Project Grant Writing workshop on Tuesday, July 18 from 3 to 5 pm at the LRAC office in Fergus Falls. The workshop is free and registration is available at <http://www.lrac4.org/services/workshops.asp>. If you are unable to attend the workshop, please contact the LRAC office for an individual session.

The next LRAC Project Grant will award \$12,336 in the Fall Project Grant. The *deadline for the grant application is midnight, Tuesday, September 12, 2017*. The Fall Project Grant Review will be October 17, 2017 and project may start after this date. The LRAC Project Grant Guidelines and a link to the LRAC online grant application are available at the LRAC website: [LRAC4.org](http://LRAC4.org).

For more information: contact Betsy Ostenson, Grant Manager, Lake Region Arts Council, 133 Mill Street S, Fergus Falls, MN 56537-2562, **Phone:** 218-739-5780 or 800-262-2787 **Email:** LRAC4@LRACgrants.org **Website:** LRAC4.org.

*LRAC is a nonprofit art organization that provides grants, resources, and services to the nine county region; Becker, Clay, Douglas, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse and Wilkin counties. Their mission is to encourage and support the arts in West Central Minnesota.*