



LRAC Art Headlines



LRAC News Brief

How Do We Adapt in 2021?

I think we can all agree, 2020 was a tough year. Some of the challenges we faced will still be present in 2021.

The impact of COVID 19 on artists and arts organizations has been captured through the efforts of the [Jerome Foundation](#), the [MN Council of Non-Profits](#), the [MN State Arts Board](#), [Springboard for the Arts](#), the Lake Region Arts Council, and many others.



Changes in 2021?

LRAC will consider these findings to direct our work for 2021 and beyond. Some of the changes we will be considering:

- Provide increased Operating Support to help arts organizations survive until they can safely return to having open events for audiences.
- Expanding Operating Support Grants for 2 years of funding instead of one year.
- Adding an Artist of Color Cohort to the existing LRAC Cohort Program.
- Re-evaluating the LRAC Gallery space. How can the space better serve the needs of regional artists?

LRAC welcomes your comments and questions to help us plan for the future.

Maxine Adams
Executive Director
Lake Region Arts Council

[Click here to share ideas or comments with LRAC](#)



MSAB Grant Recipients

**Creative Support for
Individuals (2nd Round):
2021 LRAC Region Awardees**

This grant is designed to help Minnesota artists and culture bearers adapt to changes in their working environment caused by the global pandemic. Grantees will be able to use funds to sustain their practice and stay relevant and connected to audiences, participants, students, or communities now and in the future.



Michael P. Burgraff - Fergus Falls - \$5,993

Burgraff will produce an online presence through a website giving Minnesotans' an opportunity to explore his craft and product while providing a virtual educational component.

Ann M. DuHamel - Morris - \$6,000

DuHamel will create videos of new solo piano works written for her by Minnesotan composers Jocelyn Hagen and Edie Hill.

Ashley A. Kunz - Moorhead - \$6,000

Kunz will explore ways to connect with her community through art installations, classes, and online platforms.

Shirley A. McGregor - Callaway - \$5,967

McGregor will rent space for studio and classroom for art classes. She will create a Facebook and Instagram following. She will utilize Pinterest, Etsy, eBay, online marketplaces, local art shows and pow-wows to sell her art.

Raymond Rea - Moorhead - \$5,120

Rea plans to provide S8 cameras and film to transgender people in rural areas as a way of adapting creative work on rural transgender experiences to the changing environment.

Naomi R. Schliesman - Fergus Falls - \$4,656

Schliesman will build a website that will host her portfolio, achievements, videos, collaborations, and exhibitions, along with exploring new mediums to create a new body of work that can be posted on her website for 2021.

[Click here for a complete list of grantees](#)



Featured Artist

**Joanne Cress:
Visual Artist, Teacher &
Arts Mentorship Program Mentor**

Joanne Cress is listed in “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers”, a publication where our country’s best teachers are recognized by students in the top 10% of their class. This life-long artist and art educator holds a Master’s Degree in art education from the University of Minnesota. She is honored by her peers and loved by her students as an exceptional instructor. Joanne has instructed students of all ages throughout several states - rural Indiana, urban Washington, D.C., at the University of Hawaii, rural and suburban Minnesota, and finally in west central Minnesota, where she started her own private art school. While remaining active in both the art community and as a mentor to art students, her work in various mediums continues to receive awards in numerous juried



art exhibits.

Joanne's philosophy about teaching goes well beyond the classroom. "The visual arts are about problem solving and are vital in a school program if we are to teach the whole child. A creative mind is essential in an ever-changing world."



Artist Opportunity

National Endowment for the Arts: Creative Writing Fellowships

The National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowships program offers \$25,000 grants in prose (fiction and creative nonfiction) and poetry to published creative writers that enable recipients to set aside time for writing, research, travel, and general career advancement. Applications are reviewed through an anonymous process in which the criteria for review are the artistic excellence and artistic merit of the submitted manuscript. Through this program, the Arts Endowment seeks to sustain and nurture a diverse range of creative writers at various stages of their careers and to continue to expand the portfolio of American art.



Applications must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov, the federal government's online application system. The Grants.gov system must receive your validated and accepted application no later than 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on March 10, 2021. Late applications are not accepted.

Expect notification of awards and rejections no earlier than December 2021. Our support of a project may begin any time between January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023, and extend for up to two years.

The program operates on a two-year cycle with fellowships in prose and poetry available in alternating years. For FY 2022, which is covered by these guidelines, fellowships in prose (fiction and nonfiction) are available. Fellowships in poetry will be offered in FY 2023 and guidelines will be available in January 2022. You may apply only once each year.

[Click here for more information](#)



Featured 2020 Artist Cohort Winner

Nancy XiáORong Valentine: Visual Artist & 2020 Artist Cohort Recipient

Nancy XiáORong Valentine is a self-taught water-medium artist from Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Though often referred to as "the creative kid" throughout her lifetime, it wasn't until 2016 that she officially launched her creative career.



With nothing but natural artistic inclination, self-determination and children's craft-quality watercolor supplies as the only tools in her bag, Valentine signed a lease with the Kaddatz Artist Lofts and began to pursue painting. In the spring of 2017, Valentine was awarded a Career Development Grant from

the Lakes Region Arts Council which allowed her the means to acquire professional grade materials and the freedom to create with conviction.

Much of Valentine's artistry draws technical inspiration from her Chinese heritage and focuses on abstract themes of beauty, hope and resilience. She strives to reveal hidden connections to her audience through organic impressionistic design using mediums such as watercolor, gouache, Chinese and India inks on paper.

Valentine believes that artistry and arts advocacy work in tandem and stays heavily involved in the Otter Tail County, MN creative community. In 2020, Valentine was named a Blandin Community Leadership Institute Cohort Member, Lake Region Arts Council Cohort Artist, and currently serves as the Vice President of the Kaddatz Galleries Board of Directors.

[Click here for Nancy's Website](#)



LRAC Gallery Exhibits

Main Gallery

LRAC galleries will be closed to the public until further notice.

LRAC Solo Gallery

LRAC galleries will be closed to the public until further notice.



LRAC Grant Announcements

Next Up: LRAC Operating Support Grant

Watch for the Full Announcement in the March 2021 Arts News Newsletter



LRAC Individual Grants

LRAC Individual Grant Opportunities Open to Individuals in 2021

Start planning your next career exploration or community project with one or more of these LRAC grant programs.

Spring Legacy Grant: \$30,891 to be awarded, Increasing access to the Arts for the public and expanding artistic careers

- Grant Round Opens: Monday, January 18, 2021
- **Grant Deadline: Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 5:00 pm**
- Grant Review: Tuesday, April 20, 2021
- Grant Start Date: After May 21, 2021



Career Development Grant: up to \$1,200 per grant, to expand your work

- Grant Round Opens: Monday, February 15, 2021
- **Grant Deadline: Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 5:00 pm**
- Grant Review: Tuesday, May 18, 2021
- Grant Start Date: After June 19, 2021

Fellowship Grant-Literary and Performance Arts: one \$5,000 award

- Grant Round Opens: Monday, March 15, 2021
- **Grant Deadline: Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 5:00 pm**
- Grant Review: Tuesday, June 15, 2021
- Grant Start Date: After July 1, 2021



LRAC Organization Grants

LRAC Operating Support Grant Planning for 2021

Time to Wrap Up your Operating Support Grant



New This Year: Arts organizations with **ONE full year of non profit status** and active arts programming are now eligible to apply for the 2021 Operating Support grant. This is a change from the previous three years eligibility requirement. The LRAC Board is invested in supporting new arts organizations as soon as possible with their financial needs.

Now Available: Operating Support Grant Writing Webinar and Written Instructions: Learn all about applying for the 2021 Grant by watching or reading these tools.

2021 Operating Support Grant Important Dates:

- **Grant Deadline: Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 5:00 pm**
- Grant Review: Tuesday, February 16, 2021
- Grant Start Date: After March 17, 2021

[Click Here Operating Support Webinar and Instructions Links](#)

LRAC Spring Project Grant Looking ahead to a Brighter Future \$25,285 to be awarded



UPDATE: LRAC Board will be accepting Project Grants from **public entities** and arts organizations for the Spring Project Grant Round! *Schools, Colleges, Libraries, Museums, City Arts Council and other government entities may apply for the Spring Project Grant again.*

Why not think positive and plan a great arts events for next summer or fall. These events could be in person or virtual The public needs artistic engagement now more than ever!

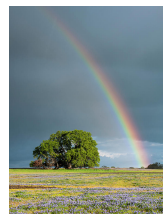
Check out the Project Grant Writing Webinar and Grant Writing Instructions to walk you through the application process. We're here to help!

2021 Spring Project Grant Important Dates:

- **Grant Deadline: Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 5:00 pm**
 - Grant Review: Tuesday, March 16, 2021
 - Grant Start Date: After April 17, 2021
-

LRAC Legacy Grant

Looking ahead to a Brighter Future
\$132,600 to be awarded



UPDATE: LRAC Board will be accepting Legacy Grants from **public entities, non profit** and arts organizations for the Spring Legacy Grant Round! *Schools, Colleges, Libraries, Museums, City Arts Council, Cities, and non profit organizations may apply for the Spring Legacy Grant again.*

The public needs artistic engagement now more than ever!

Check out the Legacy Grant Writing Webinar and Grant Writing Instructions to walk you through the application process. We're here to help!

2021 Spring Legacy Grant Important Dates:

- Grant Round Opens: Monday, January 18, 2021
- **Grant Deadline: Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 5:00 pm**
- Grant Review: Tuesday, April 20, 2021
- Grant Start Date: After May 21, 2021

[Click Here Grant Webinars and Instructions](#)

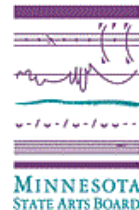


Other Opportunities

FY22 MSAB Operating Support Grant

Open to Arts Organizations over \$174,000

Operating Support provides general support to high quality, established arts organizations that produce, present, or exhibit works of art; to organizations that provide a broad range of services to artists; and to community arts schools and conservatories that make arts learning available to Minnesotans of all ages and abilities.



Important Information:

- Deadline will be January 22, 2021
- Minimum amount awarded \$15,000

Be sure to verify eligibility status to determine which agency to apply to: LRAC or MSAB.



New Round of McKnight Fellowships are Open this Year

Each year, the McKnight Foundation offers a wide range of Fellowships, awarding \$25,000 grants to individuals. Each program is managed by the non profit organization that specializes in the each discipline.



Currently, there are fourteen different McKnight Fellowship programs with applications deadlines cycling through out the coming year.

[Click here to learn more about the McKnight Fellowships](#)

The McKnight Fellowship in Playwriting recognizes and supports mid-career playwrights living and working in Minnesota who demonstrate a sustained body of work, commitment, and artistic excellence. The fellowship, which runs July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022, includes: a \$25,000 stipend, an additional \$2,500 to support a play development workshop and other professional expenses, and \$1,400 in travel funds.



An information session about the application and fellowship will be held on Wednesday, December 16 at 12:00 p.m. CST on Zoom. Contact them for information.

Applications for the 2021-22 McKnight Fellowship in Playwriting is due **Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. CST**

[Click here for the Playwrights' Center Fellowship](#)

The MacPhail Center for Music
Four Fellowships for all music disciplines



The McKnight Fellowships for Musicians are intended to recognize and support mid-career musicians living and working in Minnesota who demonstrate a sustained level of accomplishment, commitment, artistic excellence, a distinctive musical voice, and a significant performing career over a period of time. The McKnight Fellowships for Musicians are committed to honoring the breadth of Minnesota musicians of all genres; aesthetically, geographically, and culturally.

Applications for the 2021-22 McKnight MacPhail Music Fellowship are due **Monday, January 25, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. CST**

[Click here for the MacPhail Center Fellowship](#)

Minnesota Center for Book Arts



The application period for the 2021 McKnight Fellowships for Book Artists will be open December 1, 2020–March 1, 2021.

In partnership with the McKnight Foundation, MCBA is thrilled to recognize and support mid-career book artists living and working in Minnesota with these transformative fellowships. MCBA administers two Fellowship awards annually, allowing Minnesota book artists to set aside time for study, reflection, opportunities, new projects, experimentation, and exploration.

Fellowship benefits include:

- An unrestricted \$25,000 award
- Funding for professional digital documentation of artwork
- MCBA Artist Collective membership during fellowship year
- Two studio visits from a national critic/curator/artist
- Featured participation in a public artist panel at Open Book
- Travel honorarium to attend one conference during the fellowship year
- Opportunity to attend an artist residency program

The program is designed to award Minnesota book artists whose work is of exceptional artistic merit, who have created a substantial body of work over a sustained period of time, and are at a stage in their career that is beyond emerging.

[Click here to learn more from the MNBook Arts](#)



LRAC Executive Director

Maxine Adams

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.

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