



ArtsNews!

August 2023

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Announcing New LRAC Board Members

Welcome Karen Pifher, Alan Davis, Erika Frikken, Paul V. Johnson

At the Lake Region Arts Council meeting July 18, the Board approved the nominations of:

Alan Davis, Clay Co. to serve a three year term

Paul V. Johnson, Otter Tail Co. to serve a one year term as a representative for Wilkin Co.

Karen Pifher, Becker Co. to serve a three year term and

Erika Frikken, Grant Co. to serve a three year term

Alan Davis, Professor Emeritus at Minnesota State University/Moorhead and Senior Editor Emeritus at New Rivers Press, grew up in southern Louisiana and earned a Ph.D. at the University of Denver. His three collections of stories, each a prize-winner, are "So Bravely Vegetative", "Alone with the Owl", and "Rumors from the Lost World".

Paul Johnson is a native Minnesotan and received his education from Minnesota State University, Moorhead. He is an artist, performer, musician and writer, was previously employed for 13 years as a corporate artist at Banner Health System in Fargo, N.D., and is currently the principal behind Paul Johnson Design & Illustration.

Karen Pifher is the founder of Creating Community Consulting, a private organization focused on building



healthy communities. She loves organizational development, has extensive board experience, and has led arts-based developments, including murals and a makerspace development in Frazee.

Erika Frikken is a business owner, artist, performer, musician, writer, and has an Associates Degree in Graphic Design. She has been on the Fergus Falls Chamber of Commerce board, an educator at both Otter Cove Children's Museum and the Kaddatz Galleries.

We welcome these new Board members and thank them for their time, energy and talent..

Maxine Adams
Executive Director
Lake Region Arts Council

[Click here to learn more about LRAC Board members](#)

Andria Theatre presents: Disney Beauty and the Beast

Location: Andria Theatre • 618 Broadway St • Alexandria, MN

August 2 - August 5, 2023 • 7:00 - 9:00p.m.

August 9 - August 12, 2023 • 7:00 - 9:00pm • Fee: \$10-\$20



Student Theatre Project - Summer Show

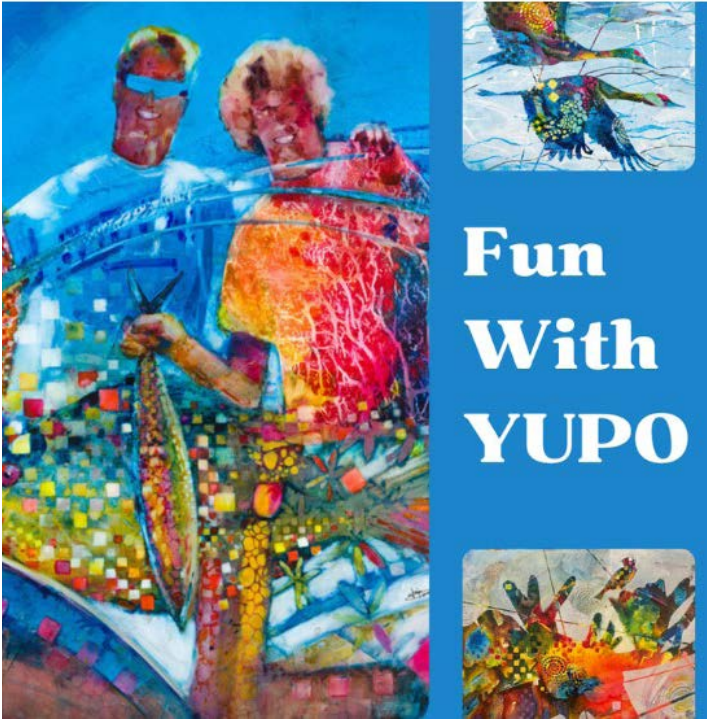
Based on the original Broadway production that ran for over thirteen years and was nominated for nine Tony Awards, and the Academy Award-winning motion picture, Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. is a fantastic adaptation of the story of transformation and tolerance. Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. features some of the most popular songs ever written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice.

The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed to his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity.

With many fun supporting roles allowing students to play objects inside the castle, this "tale as old as time" is filled with spectacular costume and set opportunities.



[Click Here for Tickets](#)



Fun With YUPO

Art of the Lakes presents: Fun with YUPO

Location: Glendalough State Park
25287 Whitetail Lane • Battle Lake
Thursday, August 17 and
Friday, August 18, 2023
9:00am - 4:00pm

This workshop is for anyone interested in exploring the unique characteristics of YUPO. YUPO is a smooth inorganic (plastic) surface that accepts paint in a very different way than paper. Because the paint sits on the surface instead of being absorbed, it flows, mixes and can give a very fluid abstract “liquid” look to washes that can be very appealing (and frustrating, if you are trying to “control” it.) The surface also allows colors to be more intense, giving a stained glass look that is amazing, and makes lifting easy, allowing a push-pull method of composition similar to working with opaque paints.

This workshop is intended to give you a variety of ways to approach the unique characteristics of YUPO. We will take advantage of the abstract, flowing ‘liquid’ look of wet in wet application and experiment with stamping, texturing, lifting and even texturing with foam rollers. We will talk about design and how to go from the crazy accidental abstraction of YUPO to finished work. We will also talk about “taming” YUPO to do representational work, flattening washes, graded washes etc.

Come if you are a beginner and want to have fun playing with paint, if you are an accomplished watercolorist who wants to explore a new surface, or anyone in between who wants to expand their horizons and try something new.

I turn to YUPO when I want to “play” with watercolor and just have fun. The participant can expect to finish at least a couple completed or nearly completed paintings in the two days.

[Click Here for
More Information](#)



A Center for the Arts presents:

Satisfaction - A Rolling Stones Tribute



Location:

Kirkbride Park (behind the tower • 1515 North Union Avenue • Fergus Falls, MN

Sunday, August 27, 2023 • 6:00 - 8:30 pm

Tickets: Adult: \$20.00 • Student: \$10.00

A tribute to the iconic rock & roll group, The Rolling Stones. This highly ranked production has over 22 years touring experience with over 4,000 performances worldwide to it's credit.

Join us up at the Kirkbride (behind the Tower)! Food Trucks on site! Bring your own chairs.

AC4TA / A CENTER FOR
THE ARTS

[Click Here for Tickets](#)



John House

Visual Artist & Wood Carver

Born in 1956 in St. Paul, Minnesota, John showed both artistic talent and a love for nature at a very early age. He drew in pencil and charcoal and anything he could get his hands on, and dabbled with the oil paints that his folks bought him in elementary school. John's passion for fur, fin and feather overshadowed his artistic pursuits in high school, but the unpleasantness of an accounting major in college forced him to rethink the direction his life was taking.

After a short stint as a fishing guide in Canada, John married his high school sweetheart and took up knife and chisel, deciding that he was a professional decoy carver after having carved the grand total of one decoy. It was difficult at first, but drawing from his years of duck hunting experience, eventually his talent came through and the public began to take notice. In 1985 he entered his first carving contest and won first place with Canvasbacks. Three more national contests followed, all with blue ribbons, culminating in his first win at the Ward World Championships in 1992.

However, John's first passion of drawing and painting returned to him, and slowly began to blend flat art into his repertoire. He began to enter painting contests sponsored by the Minnesota DNR (known as Stamp contests), becoming the first and only artist to win all four of Minnesota's Stamp contests, the Minnesota Grand Slam. In addition, he has illustrated three books and has been on Field and Stream Radio and ESPN Outdoors.com

John has been a full-time, professional artist for over 30 years now, being largely self-taught with the exception of a year of training at The Atelier in St. Paul, Mn. He currently has 12 paintings in print and has some very exciting upcoming work. John occasionally teaches art to a few students, and speaks to the Art and Design students every year at the local college in Alexandria. He remains excited about the endless possibilities that can be created with brush and paint.

[Click Here for More About John House](#)



LRAC Board Member Spotlight

Jana Tonsfeldt Alexandria



The LRAC Board consists of 2 representatives from each of the nine counties in the LRAC region. For the next year, we will be featuring Board members in the LRAC newsletters so that you can get to know the wonderful people who volunteer to represent their Counties.

Jana Tonsfeldt is a retired elementary teacher with a Master's degree from the University of MN in Elementary Education. After retiring, she went full time into art, taking classes, and joining art clubs & galleries. A

life-long learner, Jana is interested in all phases and areas of the arts.

Although more involved in the visual arts, she also loves music, poetry, and most areas of creativity. Ms. Tonsfeldt enjoys visiting with and learning from other artists, and will contribute her experiences in the arts field as a member of the LRAC board.

[See all LRAC Board Members](#)





LRAC Main Gallery: **Guest Juror Brian Frink Exhibit**

Artwork credit: "You Know It's Not the Same," Hannah Maki

Exhibit opens: July 5, 2023
Reception: Tuesday, Sept. 26th, 5:30-7 pm
Exhibit closes: Sept. 26th, 2023
Gallery hours, Mon-Thursday, 9 am to 3 pm
Location: 137 S. Mill St., Fergus Falls, MN

**Visit our virtual
Guest Juror Exhibit**

Juried by Guest Artist Brian Frink, this exhibit is always very popular with regional artists and gallery guests.

Brian Frink received his BFA in 1978 from Illinois State University in Normal Illinois. Frink received his MFA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1989. He was an urban pioneer in the nascent artist neighborhood of Williamsburg, Brooklyn from 1979-1984.

He taught at Minnesota State University-Mankato for 32 years, and was chair of the art department for six years.

"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.

