



## LRAC Art Headlines



### LRAC News Brief

#### LRAC Announces Changes to FY21 Grants

##### Covid 19 and Funding Cut Responses

The Lake Region Arts Council (LRAC) has had to make several significant decisions because of the impact of the COVID 19 virus and the downturn in Minnesota's economy. The need for support by the artists and arts organizations in our region has increased dramatically, at the same time that State funding to the MN State Arts Board and Regional Arts Council's is being cut.



To make sure LRAC can carry out our mission "To encourage and support the vitality of the arts in West Central Minnesota", we will be concentrating our resources in Fiscal Year 2021, starting July 1, 2020 (FY21), in ways to best support the artists and arts organizations in our region. LRAC is grateful for the conversations with our regional arts partners and artists. Their input, concerns and encouragement has guided our planning for the challenging year ahead.

These changes include:

- Limiting eligible organizational applicants to only nonprofit arts organizations that have at least 60% of their programming focused on the arts and have been in existence for at least one year. For FY21, colleges, universities, K-12 school districts/community education departments, cultural heritage groups, historical societies, local governments, and nonprofit organizations who do not have arts as a primary focus, such as senior centers, will not be eligible to apply for LRAC organization grants. If a non-eligible organization would like to do arts programming, they are encouraged to contact the LRAC office about how to partner with an arts organization or artists to submit an eligible application.
- Allowing grantees to postpone/reschedule events if necessary because of COVID 19 impacts.
- Current FY 19 and FY20 LRAC non-Operating Support grantees can convert final 20% grant payments to operating support expenses.
- FY21 Project grants will no longer require a 20% match.
- FY21 Legacy grants reviews, all applicants will be offered an opportunity to present, either in person or virtually, to the LRAC Board at the Legacy Grant Review. Request for \$10,000 or more will be required to make a presentation.
- For Project and Legacy Grants, the grant review criteria are Merit and artistic quality of the project, Need for the project, and Ability of the applicant to accomplish the project. In FY21, the number one priority is shifting from Merit and artistic quality to the Need for the project.
- To protect the health and safety of all participating, LRAC grant reviews and Board meetings will be held virtually using GoToMeeting as long as necessary. LRAC staff will continue to work from home, scheduling appointments by phone or virtually. The Galleries

and office will remain closed to the public.

· The Arts Mentorship meetings for students and mentors scheduled for summer of 2020 have been rescheduled to summer 2021. No new Arts Mentorship applications will be taken until the spring of 2022.

· LRAC will be offering a new program for arts organizations and artists to help them explore using the internet to connect to audiences. This will include technical support.

Finally, we are still uncertain about how much State funding will be available to us for our new fiscal year that starts July 1, 2020. We have been told that it will be at least 15% less and maybe as much as 40% less. It all depends on the next State budget forecast. We will make every effort to maintain our grant funding at last year's level. We are grateful for the support and patience of our artists and organizational partners as we work through these challenges together.

As always, if you have questions, comments or suggestions, please contact us by email: [lrac4@lracgrants.org](mailto:lrac4@lracgrants.org) or by phone 218.739.5780.

Maxine Adams  
Executive Director  
Lake Region Arts Council



## LRAC Staff Contact Information

### Reaching LRAC Staff During COVID 19

The LRAC staff will continue to work from home, but you may now reach us directly at our new cell phone numbers. We will also continue to take phone messages at our LRAC main office number: 218-739-5780 or email us at [LRAC4@LRACgrants.org](mailto:LRAC4@LRACgrants.org).



**Rebecca Davis:** Administrative Assistant, Arts Mentorship Program Coordinator and Artist Cohort Program Coordinator may be reached at 218.517.9761

**Betsy Ostenson:** Grants Manager, may be reached at 218.517.9760.

To protect the health and safety of all participating, LRAC grant reviews and Board meetings will be held virtually using GoToMeeting as long as necessary. The Galleries and office will remain closed to the public.



## LRAC 2020 Arts Mentorship Program Scholarship Announcement

### Announcing the 2020 Arts Mentorship Program Scholarship Recipients and Mentors!

The Lake Region Arts Council is pleased to announce the fourteen students selected to receive 2020 Arts Mentorship Program scholarships worth over \$600 each. The goal of this program is to enhance each student's artistic creativity, skill, and personal growth. Due to Covid-19, this year's mentorship is postponed until next summer/2021, and students will study their chosen art discipline one-on-one with a practicing, professional artist/mentor between June 1, 2021 and September 15, 2021. Each mentor is a college level faculty member and/or an expert in their chosen arts field. This program is funded by an



appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature and the Arts & Cultural Heritage (Legacy) Fund.

Applications were received from the six LRAC region counties. Professional artists and educators reviewed/auditioned students on Saturday, March 2, 2020 at Underwood High School. The 2020 recipients and their mentors are:

### **Student - City - Discipline - Mentor**

Henry Berberi - Morris - Jazz Saxophone - Dr. Matthew Patnode  
Veronika Dagen - Lake Park - Visual Art- Jim Park  
Anna Erickson - Dalton - Visual Art - Joanne Cress  
Kimberly Johnson - Hawley - Visual Art - Jescia Hoffman-Hopper  
Brett Keppers - Glenwood - Visual Art - Faythe Mills  
Tasha Koehl - Morris - Piano - Ann DuHamel  
Haven Morrow - Fergus Falls - Visual Art - Joanne Cress  
Cori Olson - Elbow Lake - Dance - Molly Johnston  
Pierce Richards - Morris - Literary - Michael Lackey  
Alexyss Samuelson - Hawley - Photography - Jackie Henning  
Luke Schroeder - Fergus Falls - Piano - Christian Heaford  
Summer Steckler - Fergus Falls - Visual Art - Marcella Rose  
Rachel Steen - Morris - Theater - Lindsey Ryding  
David Varga - Morris - Jazz Saxophone- Jonathan Campbell

[Click here for more info about the Arts Mentorship Program](#)

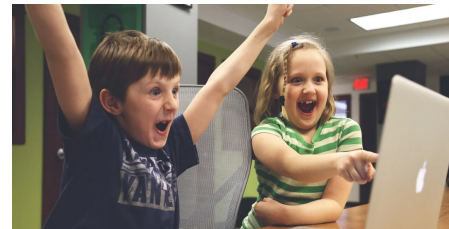


## **Virtual/Online Performances, Activities and Events for All Ages**

### **Find Them On the LRAC Arts Calendar:**

**Links to Virtual Tours and Online performances and activities - for all ages!**

Visit the LRAC Arts Calendar for access to virtual gallery tours, online performances, or participate in virtual/online classes and workshops!



[Click here to visit the LRAC Arts Calendar](#)



## **Featured Virtual Event**

### **"Summer Artz Academy" @ Kaddatz Galleries (for Grades K-4 & 5-8)**

Summer Artz Academy is going VIRTUAL and will be offered real-time via Zoom during the week of August 3-7!



## **The Wonderful World of Watercolor with Teaching Artist Chanda Kraft**

Learn how to make your own watercolor nature journal, a variety of basic watercolor painting techniques and unique ways to create textures through daily paintings and projects using watercolor paints.

Section 2  
Grades 5-8

## **Explore 2D and 3D Art Elements with Teaching Artist Naomi RaMona Schliesman**

Students will explore different art movements and different ways of using a variety of materials in this series of classes, and will gain an understanding of new skill sets, vocabulary and technical skills in the process of making drawings, abstract paintings in acrylic, landscape watercolors, collage work and mixed media sculptures.

[Click Here to Register](#)



## **Featured Virtual and In-Person Event**

### **The 61st Midwestern Invitational Exhibit: "In Your Own Skin" @ The Rourke Gallery & Art Museum - Virtual & Live by Appointment Only**

**Exhibit on Display June 18 - September 6, 2020**

You can visit this exhibit in person by making an appointment or you can experience it virtually! The show is hung in the museum, but is also on the Rourke's website.

With COVID-19 still a very real threat, organizers knew inviting hundreds to the museum wasn't feasible — but inviting that many or more to an online celebration was not only possible, but responsible, though a very different experience.

"It's definitely strange," says Jonathan Rutter, Executive Director and curator. "The 'Midwesterns' have been evolving over the years, and this is definitely a more pronounced pivot."

The online galleries should make viewing the art easier, though the socializing is a big part of the "Midwestern" experience and will be missed. This year is particularly notable as the Rourke celebrates its 60th anniversary.

*This activity is funded in part by a grant from the Lake Region Arts Council/LRAC through a Minnesota state legislative appropriation.*

[Click here to view exhibit virtually](#)

[Click here to make an appointment](#)



## **Featured Artist**

**THE 61st**  
MIDWESTERN  
INVITATIONAL  
Exhibition of Fine Art

*on the theme*

IN YOUR OWN SKIN



Chanda Kraft | Artist, 2020 | 18x18



## Jescia Hoffman-Hopper: Visual Artist, Teacher & Arts Mentorship Program Mentor

Jescia Hoffman-Hopper is an Adjunct Professor at Minnesota State University, Moorhead and also teaches at Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton Middle School in Minnesota, where she works to build a rigorous, holistic art curriculum that integrates technology, collaboration and choice-based art experiences.



Outside of teaching, Jescia is Vice-President of the Board of Directors for Fargo Moorhead Visual Artists, and serves as the chair of its Education Committee, which creates exhibition, professional development, and enrichment opportunities for regional art educators and the public. She frequently exhibits her work throughout North Dakota and Minnesota and recently completed a series of murals commissioned by the Fargo Brewing Company.

Ms. Hoffman-Hopper earned the Outstanding Master's Thesis Award from the United States Society for Education through Art (USSEA), which recognizes exceptional thesis work that promotes "pluralistic perspectives, deepens human and cultural understanding, and builds respect for diverse learners." An article resulting from that work, "Digitizing the Easel: Student Perspectives on Tutorial Videos in the Art Room," appears in the July 2016 issue of Art Education Journal.

[Click Here for Jescia'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

### NEW GRANT YEAR HAS BEGUN!!

Here are a few highlights:

- New Deadline Day: **THURSDAY at 5:00 pm**
- New Written Grant Instructions for first time applicants.
- New Recorded Grant Writing Webinars, no live trainings.



Now's the time to start planning your grant application. Looking ahead to these deadlines:

- **August 6;** Artist Quick Start Grant (individuals)
- **September 3;** Fall Project Grant (arts organizations)

- **October 1;** Fall Legacy Grant (individuals & arts organizations)

[Click Here to Learn More!](#)



## LRAC Individual Grants

### LRAC Artist Quick Start Grant Six \$750 Grants to be Awarded

Time is running out to apply for the LRAC Artist Quick Start Grant. This grant will pay \$750 to assist you with your artistic career. This program is open to all arts disciplines.



#### Artist Quick Start Important Dates:

- Grant Deadline: **Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 5:0 pm**
- Grant Review: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 6:30 pm
- Grant Start Date: Projects may start after October 17, 2020

[Click Here to APPLY!](#)

## LRAC Fall Legacy Individual Grant \$12,300 to be Awarded\*

Legacy Individual Grant is the "give back" grant which includes a public component requirement along with the artistic growth of the individual applicant.

What to know more? We are here to help you! Contact the LRAC office to make an appointment to talk "one to one" about your potential project.



#### Legacy Individual Grant Important Dates:

- Grant Round Opens: Monday, August 10, 2020
- Grant Deadline: **Thursday**, October 1, 2020, 5:00 pm
- Grant Review: Tuesday, November 17, 2020
- Grant Start Date: After December 20, 2020 \*(contingent on available funds)



## LRAC Organization Grants

### LRAC Fall Project Grant for Arts Organizations \$12,870 to be Awarded\*

The LRAC Fall Project Grant is accepting applications from non profit arts organizations. Apply for up to \$3,000 per project. Multiple Project Grant applications are acceptable in this round with a maximum of \$5,000 awarded [er grantee each grant year.



**New This Year:**

- No 20% match requirement
- Open to **arts organizations only** for Fall Project Grant round.

### Fall Project Grant Important Dates

- Grant Round Opens, Monday July 27, 2020
- **Grant Deadline, [Thursday, September 3, 2020, 5:00 pm](#)**
- Grant Review, Tuesday, October 20, 2020
- Grant Start Date, after November 21, 2020 (contingent on available funding)

## LRAC Fall Legacy Organization Grant

**\$49,300 to be Awarded\***

The LRAC Fall Legacy Organization Grant is accepting applications from non profit arts organizations.



- No Maximum and no Match requirement
- Support Artistic Programming and Education to provide Access to the Arts in the LRAC region.
- Open to Arts organizations only for the Fall Grant Round

### Fall Legacy Organization Grant Important Dates:

- Grant Round Opens: Monday, August 10, 2020
- Grant Deadline: **Thursday, October 1, 2020, 5:00 pm**
- Grant Review: Tuesday, November 17, 2020
- Grant Start Date: After December 20, 2020 \*(contingent on available funds)



## Other Opportunities

### Minnesota State Arts Board

#### New FY21 Grant Programs Announcement

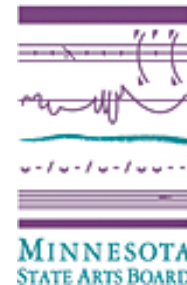
The ways that Minnesotans can participate in the arts, and the ways that artists and arts organizations can create, present, and teach the arts, has changed drastically due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To help artists and arts organizations sustain core activities and adapt to a new environment, the Arts Board will redirect its grant making this year, to provide more flexible support.

The Arts Board will continue to offer its current Operating Support program, and will also offer three new programs:

- **MN CARES Act grants** can be used to support salaried staff positions, fees for contracted artists or other self-employed workers, and facilities costs.
- **Creative Support for Individuals grants** will help artists and culture bearers to sustain their practices and stay connected to their audiences, participants, students, or communities.
- **Creative Support for Organizations grants** will help arts organizations support core activities and stay connected to their audiences, participants, students, or communities now and in the future.

Summaries of the new programs are available at the link below. More specific details, applications materials, and application deadlines will be posted soon.





## LRAC Executive Director

**Maxine Adams**

Please contact the LRAC office for more information:  
218.739.5780 or [LRAC4@LRACgrants.org](mailto:LRAC4@LRACgrants.org)  
[LRAC4.org](http://LRAC4.org)

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

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