



MINUTES
Grant Review Meeting
Tuesday, 14 May 2024, via Zoom

PANELISTS PRESENT: Kevin Dobbe, David Kassler, Ivete Martinez, Annette Nawls, Gretchen Ramlo, Amy Wightkin

STAFF PRESENT: Anastasia Shartin, Karen Miller

9:00am Ms. Shartin, Executive Director, called the meeting to order by welcoming the SEMARC Arts Advisory Panel and representatives of the Southeastern Minnesota arts community who came to observe our process.

Audience members included applicants Melissa Bernhard, Northfield Public Library; Julie Fakler, South Central Minnesota Studio ArTour; Denise Hansen, Faribault Parks & Recreation; Julie Hanson, Rochester Pops Orchestra; Jamey Helgeson, LIFE Mower County; Kallianne Morrison, Rochester Art Center; Kelli Podracky, Northfield Union of Youth; and Maryam Reitman, John Marshall Band Boosters.

The Chair outlined the Grant Review procedure as follows.

Welcome to SEMARC's first Grant Review Panel Meeting run via Zoom. Thank you in advance for your patience over any technical issues we may have. As a reminder, observers must keep their microphones off. If anyone disrupts the meeting, I will kick that person out of the meeting.

Today we will be reviewing a total of 30 grant applications. Panelists will discuss each for 5 minutes. Karen will give us a warning when there is one-minute remaining. About half-way through the list, we will take a 10-minute break.

The merit of an application will be discussed considering only the written proposal and submitted materials and all comments will be focused on the three review criteria only. The review criteria are:

- 1) Artistic merit and quality of the project;
- 2) Demand or need for the project by the applicant or by the constituents served;
- 3) Ability of the applicant to accomplish the project they describe.

Any comments or questions during the discussion period must be tied to one of the three criteria, stating the criterion before making comments. Comments may be opinionated, but please choose your words carefully to provide constructive criticism to help applicants improve their future projects and proposals.

Do not compare proposals. Each application must be reviewed on its own merits. And, do not bring outside information into the discussion, which should be focused on the contents of the application.

Each panelist will submit their final scores through the on-line grant interface within 30 minutes after the meeting has ended. Scores will be given in each of the three review criteria by assigning numbers from 5 to 1, with 5 being excellent, 4 very good, 3 good, 2 fair, and 1 poor.!

Once final scores are submitted, staff will weight each of the raw numbers by multiplying them by the following factors: artistic merit and quality is multiplied by 3; demand or need is multiplied by 2; and ability is multiplied by 1 (remains the same). Staff will then add the total number of points for each proposal and divide that number by the number of panelists scoring the application. The list will be sorted from highest average score to lowest average score. Starting at the top of the list, staff will prepare a final list of proposals based on funding available and present this to the Board at the March 19 meeting for their approval. Awards will be announced on March 20.

Do not discuss the application outside of this forum until after the awards have been announced.

If there are no questions, we are ready to begin. I will introduce each application and then open the timed 5-minute discussion of each. Prior to each discussion, I will ask if anyone on the panel has a conflict of interest with that application. If you do, you will be sent to a breakout room for the duration of the discussion.

LEGACY GRANTS FOR NON-ARTS GROUPS

Applicant	County	Request	Recused
Austin Public Library	Mower	\$2,500	Ramlo
Faribault Community Education	Rice	\$5,000	
Faribault Parks & Recreation	Rice	\$5,000	
FiftyNorth	Rice	\$4,810	
Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center	Winona	\$5,000	
John Marshall Band Boosters	Olmsted	\$5,000	Martinez
LIFE Mower County	Mower	\$5,000	Ramlo, Wightkin
Mantorville Economic Development Authority	Dodge	\$5,000	Martinez
Northfield Public Library	Rice	\$5,000	
Northfield Public Schools	Rice	\$5,000	
Northfield Union of Youth	Rice	\$5,000	
Project FINE	Winona	\$5,000	
Somali American Social Service Association	Olmsted	\$5,000	
Southeast Service Cooperative	Olmsted	\$5,000	
Winona Dakota Unity Alliance	Winona	\$5,000	
Winona Parks & Recreation	Winona	\$5,000	
World Revival Ministry	Olmsted	\$5,000	Nawls

PROGRAMMING GRANTS FOR ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

Applicant	County	Request	Recused
Albert Lea Community Theatre	Freeborn	\$5,000	
Cannon Arts Board	Goodhue	\$3,270	
Dreamery Rural Arts Initiative	Fillmore	\$5,000	
Greater Rochester Arts and Cultural Trust	Olmsted	\$5,000	
History Alive Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$5,000	
I Cantanti Chamber Choirs	Rice	\$5,000	
Med City Arts Festival	Olmsted	\$5,000	Martinez
Minnesota State Fiddlers Association	Goodhue	\$5,000	
Music Lessons for All	Olmsted	\$3,735	Martinez
Owatonna Symphony Orchestra	Steele	\$4,975	
River Arts Alliance	Winona	\$4,470	
Rochester Pops Orchestra	Olmsted	\$5,000	
South Central Minnesota Studio ArTour	Rice	\$5,000	

The grant review adjourned at 12:00pm.