southeastern minnesota arts council

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, 21 May 2024, Hybrid

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kjel Alkire, Andi Arnold, Sophia Chai, Steve Dietz

DIRECTORS ON ZOOM: Rob Hardy, Kara Maloney, Elisha Marin, Jon Swanson

STAFF PRESENT: Anastasia Shartin, Karen Miller

10:01am Dir. Alkire, Board President, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Agenda
Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Chai seconded approval of this meeting's agenda, as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes
Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Maloney seconded approval of the minutes from the 16 April 2024 Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Communications Plan
Presented by Jacque VanRavenhorst, SEMAC Communications Manager.

Treasurer's Report
Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Chai seconded approval of the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report
- See attached.

Open/Continuous Grants
Since the last Board Meeting, ED Shartin authorized the following.
- $500 Opportunity Grant to **Paradise Center for the Arts**, Rice County, for *Accessibility Specialist.*

Grants Committee Report
- Due to time constraints, report postponed to June meeting.

New Business

- Approval of Grants

Legacy Grants for Arts and Non-Arts Organizations

Score	Applicant	County	Request	Recused
28.83	Winona Dakota Unity Alliance	Winona	$5,000	
28.50	Rochester Repertory Theatre Company	Olmsted	$10,000	
28.20	Austin Culture & Arts Commission	Mower	$10,000	
28.00	Northfield Union of Youth	Rice	$5,000	
27.80	Lanesboro Arts	Fillmore	$10,000	Maloney
27.80	Resounding Voices	Olmsted	$10,000	
27.67	Project FINE	Winona	$5,000	
27.25	Minnesota Marine Art Museum	Winona	$10,000	Swanson
27.17	John Marshall Band Boosters	Olmsted	$5,000	
26.83	Mantorville Economic Development Authority	Dodge	$5,000	
26.80	Rochester Public Music	Olmsted	$10,000	
26.80	Sing Out Loud	Olmsted	$10,000	
26.80	Theatre du Mississippi	Winona	$10,000	
26.75	Frozen River Film Festival	Winona	$10,000	
26.40	Winona Symphony Orchestra	Winona	$10,000	
26.33	Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center	Winona	$5,000	
26.17	Faribault Parks & Recreation	Rice	$5,000	
26.00	Anderson Center at Tower View	Goodhue	$10,000	
26.00	Faribault Community Education	Rice	$5,000	
26.00	Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras	Olmsted	$10,000	
25.80	MacPhail Center for Music – Austin	Mower	$10,000	
25.80	Southeast Minnesota Bluegrass Association	Houston	$10,000	
25.60	Calliope Theatre Company	Olmsted	$10,000	
25.50	Mainspring	Houston	$10,000	
25.50	Northfield Public Schools	Rice	$5,000	
25.40	Mantorville Art Guild	Dodge	$10,000	
25.17	Northfield Public Library	Rice	$5,000	
25.00	Sandbar Storytelling Festival	Winona	$10,000	
25.00	Winona Parks & Recreation	Winona	$5,000	
24.80	Austin Symphony Orchestra	Mower	$10,000	
24.33	FiftyNorth	Rice	$4,810	
24.20	Rochester New Music Ensemble	Olmsted	$10,000	
23.80	Ameriikan Poijat Finnish Brass Band	Rice	$8,940	
23.17	Somali American Social Service Association	Olmsted	$5,000	
22.40	Austin Public Library	Mower	$2,500	

- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Winona Dakota Unity Alliance. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Rochester Repertory Theatre Company. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Austin Culture & Arts Commission. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Hardy moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Northfield Union of Youth. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Lanesboro Arts. <u>Motion passed with one abstention</u>.**

- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Resounding Voices. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Maloney moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Project FINE. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Minnesota Marine Art Museum. Motion passed with one abstention.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $5,000 to John Marshall Band Boosters. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Mantorville Economic Development Authority. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Rochester Public Music. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Maloney seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Sing Out Loud. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Theatre du Mississippi. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Swanson seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Frozen River Film Festival. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Swanson seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Winona Symphony Orchestra. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Hardy moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Faribault Parks & Recreation. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Anderson Center at Tower View. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Hardy moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Faribault Community Education. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $10,000 to MacPhail Center for Music - Austin. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Southeast Minnesota Bluegrass Association. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Calliope Theatre Company. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Maloney seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Mainspring. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Hardy moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Northfield Public Schools. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Swanson seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Mantorville Art Guild. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Hardy moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Northfield Public Library. Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Dir. Swanson moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Sandbar Storytelling Festival. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Swanson moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Winona Parks & Recreation. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Austin Symphony Orchestra. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Hardy moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to FiftyNorth. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $10,000 to Rochester New Music Ensemble. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Hardy seconded the motion to award $8,910 to Ameriikan Poijat Finnish Brass Band. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $6,000 to Somali American Social Service Association. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Austin Public Library. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**

Programming Grants for Arts Organizations

Score	Applicant	County	Request	Recused
28.60	Med City Arts Festival	Olmsted	$5,000	Marin
28.17	Greater Rochester Arts and Cultural Trust	Olmsted	$5,000	
27.33	Rochester Pops Orchestra	Olmsted	$5,000	
27.17	Minnesota State Fiddlers Association	Goodhue	$5,000	
26.67	Dreamery Rural Arts Initiative	Fillmore	$5,000	
26.67	River Arts Alliance	Winona	$4,470	
25.83	Owatonna Symphony Orchestra	Steele	$4,975	
25.50	History Alive Lanesboro	Fillmore	$5,000	Maloney
25.50	South Central Minnesota Studio ArTour	Rice	$5,000	
25.00	I Cantanti Chamber Choirs	Rice	$5,000	
24.67	Cannon Arts Board	Goodhue	$3,270	
24.40	Music Lessons for All	Olmsted	$3,735	Chai
22.83	Albert Lea Community Theatre	Freeborn	$5,000	

- **Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Maloney seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Med City Arts Festival. <u>Motion passed with one abstention</u>.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Greater Rochester Arts and Cultural Trust. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Rochester Pops Orchestra. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Minnesota State Fiddlers Association. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Dreamery Rural Arts Initiative. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**
- **Dir. Swanson moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $4,470 to River Arts Alliance. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.**

- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $4,975 to Owatonna Symphony Orchestra. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $5,000 to History Alive Lanesboro. Motion passed with one abstention.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $5,000 to South Central Minnesota Studio ArTour. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Hardy moved and Dir. Swanson seconded the motion to award $5,000 to I Cantanti Chamber Choirs. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $3,270 to Cannon Arts Board. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $3,735 to Music Lessons for All. Motion passed with one abstention.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Dietz seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Albert Lea Community Theatre. Motion passed unanimously.**

Small Towns/Rural Areas Grants

Score	Applicant	County	Request	Recused
26.60	Peterson Committee for the Arts	Fillmore	$5,000	
26.40	Chatfield Brass Band	Fillmore	$4,755	
25.75	Mantorville Theatre Company	Dodge	$4,325	
25.60	Saint Charles Public Schools	Winona	$5,000	
25.50	Lanesboro Community Theatre	Fillmore	$5,000	Maloney
25.25	Zumbrota Area Arts Council	Goodhue	$5,000	
25.00	Chatfield Center for the Arts	Fillmore	$5,000	
23.60	Friends of the Bohemian Brick Hall	Freeborn	$5,000	
22.20	Pine Area People for the Arts	Goodhue	$5,000	
21.75	Lake City Area Arts	Wabasha	$4,850	Alkire

- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Peterson Committee for the Arts. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Dietz seconded the motion to award $4,7550 to Chatfield Brass Band. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $4,325 to Mantorville Theatre Company. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Swanson moved and Dir. Dietz seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Saint Charles Public Schools. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Lanesboro Community Theatre. Motion passed with one abstention.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Hardy seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Zumbrota Area Arts Council. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Chatfield Center for the Arts. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Friends of the Bohemian Brick Hall. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to award $5,000 to Pine Area People for the Arts. Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Dir. Dietz moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to award $4,850 to Lake City Area Arts. <u>Motion passed with one abstention</u>.**

Since the last Board meeting, SEMAC awarded grants to 59 organizations representing eleven counties for a total of $387,630 in funding. This includes 35 Legacy grants for $276,250, thirteen Programming grants for $61,450, ten Small Towns/Rural Areas grants for $48,930, and one $500 Opportunity Grant.

County	Grants	Total Awarded
Dodge	3	$19,325
Fillmore	7	$39,755
Freeborn	2	$10,000
Goodhue	5	$28,270
Houston	2	$20,000
Mower	4	$32,500
Olmsted	13	$98,735
Rice	10	$48,750
Steele	1	$5,975
Wabasha	1	$4,850
Winona	11	$79,470
	59	**$387,630**

- **Panel Candidate Taliesin Nyala (résumé attached)**
  Dir. Alkire moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the appointment of Tali Nyala as a literary arts panelist on the SEMAC Arts Advisory Panel. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u>.

Dir. Alkire moved and Dir. Marin seconded the motion to adjourn.

The Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 12:05pm.

Executive Director Report for Board Meeting May 21, 2024

Grantmaking:

- Organizational Grants –Panel review meetings were held via Zoom May 14 and 15. List of applications proposed for funding will be presented to the Board for a vote.
- Karen and I have been meeting to review eligibility requirements, guidelines, and disallowed expenses in an effort to streamline information about our grant programs on the website and to reflect this work in grant applications.

MSAB/McKnight/MCA/FRACM:

- April 11 and 12 – FRACM meeting in Alexandria, including a workshop session with McKnight staff and Fellowship Administrators
- April 22 – FRACM Policy Manual Committee meeting (Zoom)
- May 10 – FRACM business meeting (Zoom)
- May 11 – Updates to our FY2025 plans submitted to MSAB (requirement of our fiscal agent agreement)
- MCA is asking each RAC to support an Economic Impact Study by collecting audience surveys. SEMAC is to collect 400 by the end of the year. MCA is contributing $2,000 to each RAC to support this work.
- FRACM has contracted with Exposed Brick Theatre to conduct an EDI Audit of all RACs. This includes demographic information gathered by staff; meetings with staff; surveys to grant applicants; focus groups with applicants, grantees, and other community groups; surveys to Board members (mid-July); and focus groups with Board members (January 2025). Final report from Exposed Brick anticipated Spring 2025.
- Legacy ACHF supplemental funds will be given to each RAC in FY2025 due to State budget surplus. SEMAC will receive an additional $148,169. Therefore, in FY2025, we can anticipate $191,991 from the General Fund and $1,304,904 from the ACHF for a total of $1,496,895 from the State.

Networking (April 10 – May 17, 2024):

- April 17 – Red Wing, **Goodhue County** – met with Shantel Dow, Executive Director, Sheldon Theatre
- April 18 – 20 – Rochester, **Olmsted County** – attended several screenings of the Rochester International Film Festival
- April 22 – Rochester, **Olmsted County** – met with Dr. Paul Scanlon, former head of Mayo's art program and current Board member of the Rochester Art Center
- April 23 – Rochester, **Olmsted County** – met with Nicole Nfonoyim-Hara, writer and founder of Griot Arts
- April 26 – Winona, **Winona County** – met with Tali Nyala, grant recipient and Panel applicant
- April 26 – Winona, **Winona County** – Bluff Country Studio Arts Tour; visited Jovey Rockey's shop/studio and the studio of John Rumpel and Anne Scott Plummer
- April 27 – Faribault, **Rice County** – attended Somali Songs concert at Paradise Center for the Arts
- April 28 – Rochester, **Olmsted County** – attended Family Day event for "Dreaming Our Futures" exhibition at Rochester Art Center
- April 30 – Northfield, **Rice County** – attended "Dia de los ninos/dia de los libros" event at Community Action Center of Northfield
- May 8 – Rochester, **Olmsted County** – met with Misha Johnson, Executive Director of the Rochester Civic Theatre

- May 8 – Rochester, **Olmsted County** – met with Naura Anderson, owner of Threshold Arts (storefront on Broadway and the Chateau Theater)
- May 9 – Rochester, **Olmsted County** – attended Women of Wellness conference at the Rochester Art Center, keynote speaker Anne Labovitz
- May 16 – Winona, **Winona County** – Minnesota Marine Art Museum Annual Report Meeting

Communications:

- May e-newsletter sent to over 900 recipients
- E-mail signatures and business cards redesigned, and in the process of finalizing exterior signage for new office building

Other:

- April 23 – Caledonia, **Houston County** – led artist grant-writing workshop at Mainspring (last workshop this Spring will be at Freeborn County Arts Initiative in Albert Lea, May 30)
- May 7 – Attended Minnesota Book Awards event at the Ordway in St. Paul, featuring music by Elisha Marin and the Page Turners (they were great!)
- May 9 – Owatonna, **Steele County** – Artist Development Workshop on Art and Technology with Joshua T. Berglan and Cedric Briand
- Weekly meetings with John Skillings, financial trainer with Propel for Non-profits
- Finalizing plans for Introduction to IDI presentation on June 11 for Panel and Board to be held at Rochester Art Center with a tour of “Dreaming Our Futures” scheduled for our group after the meeting and box lunch.