



2015 Statewide Arts Conference and Governor's Awards for the Arts Ceremony



Conference attendees participating in the morning session



Conference and Awards reception



Governor Jack Dalrymple and First Lady Betsy Dalrymple



Beth Gigante Klingenstein, NDCA Executive Director, welcomes everyone

Quartet, under the direction of Dr. Matt Patnode; poetry

The 2015 Statewide Arts Conference and the Governor's Awards for the Arts, recently held at the North Dakota Heritage Center, provided a compelling testament to the positive impact of the arts in North Dakota. The Arts Conference focused on ways that we can all work, alone and collaboratively, to best strengthen the arts in our communities and state. It was geared toward directors and staff of all agencies and organizations dealing with the arts, as well as artists, arts volunteers, and arts advocates. The conference provided time to come

together and discuss how we can work collaboratively to strengthen the arts in our communities and our state as well as promote the economic impact of the arts.

After the Conference and Awards reception, Governor Jack Dalrymple and First Lady Betsy Dalrymple presented the 2015 Governor's Awards for the Arts to the following recipients: Keith Bear of New Town; Linda Christman of Bismarck; and Chuck Suchy of Mandan in Individual Achievement; and Marilyn Johnson of Bismarck; and Annette Rorvig of McVille in Arts in Education. The ceremony was very well attended and took place in the Russell Reid Auditorium located in the North Dakota Heritage Center. It was a lovely evening with performances from the NDSU Gold Star Saxophone



NDSU Quartet



David "White Thunder" Trottier presented opening and closing remarks



(Left to Right) Keith Bear, Marilyn Johnson, Linda Christman, Governor Jack Dalrymple, First Lady Betsy Dalrymple, Annette Rorvig and Chuck Suchy

recitations from the 2015 North Dakota State Poetry Out Loud first and second place winners, J'Kobe Wallace and Zach Howatt; and all the recipients expressed their gratitude and spoke about their life in the arts. The evening ended with two very special performances by Chuck Suchy and Keith Bear.



Governor's Award for the Arts pendant created by Nelda Shrupp

The Governor's Awards for the Arts were established as a way of recognizing individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the arts throughout the state. This event is sponsored by the Office of the Governor, NDCA, and Arts North Dakota.

~ All photos courtesy of Poppy Mills, NDDOT.

NDCA Selected to Participate in Bush Foundation's Community Creativity Cohort

The North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA) was recently awarded a major grant from the Bush Foundation to advance efforts to meaningfully engage people in the arts and integrate the arts into public life. NDCA is one of 16 organizations from across Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota selected to participate in the Bush Foundation's Community Creativity Cohort. (continued on page 3)



This newsletter is a publication of the North Dakota Council on the Arts and is published three times per year.

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AND GRAPHIC DESIGN**
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NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The North Dakota Council on the Arts is the state agency responsible for the support and development of the arts throughout North Dakota, and is funded by the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.



From the Top

*Dr. Beth Gigante Klingenstein, Executive Director
North Dakota Council on the Arts*

The Vote Is In!

In my last newsletter article I mentioned that I was just about to present the Governor's recommendation for the NDCA biennial budget to the legislators. Now the vote is in, and I can present a summary of how we arrived at the final results. The whole process was fascinating and I enjoyed meeting members of the various committees, although I held my breath more than once during the last few months!

First, the Governor's recommendation for our budget was quite generous. He included all but two of the items we requested and he actually raised one item: our request for an ongoing increase to our grants line was raised from \$200,000 to \$300,000. Thank you, Governor Dalrymple!

The items approved by the Governor were then presented to the House Appropriations HR Division. I feel we made an excellent presentation, including viewing a video spotlighting the impact of the arts and the NDCA. If you have yet to see the video, please visit <http://www.nd.gov/arts/about-us>.

Our presentation notwithstanding, the House HR Division voted to remove two items completely, to reduce our request for an inflationary increase from \$26,783 to \$16,000, and to reduce the grants increase to \$150,000. This recommendation was then sent to the full House Appropriations Committee, whose members concurred with the reductions, except for one big thing. They voted to remove the final \$150,000 from our grants increase, leaving the increase at \$0.

The bill then went to the Senate Appropriations Committee. Again, I feel that our presentation was strong and well received. The Senate voted to add \$10,000 to the inflationary increase and \$200,000 in grants increase above the House recommendation.

Because the House and Senate committees disagreed, a Conference Committee comprised of three senators and three representatives was appointed. Numerous Conference Committee meetings took place, starting with total disagreement but eventually ending up with an agreement to increase our grants line by \$125,000 and to allocate \$26,000 in inflationary increases. This amended budget was then approved by both the full House and full Senate, the day before the adjourned for the entire session.

Here is what I take away from this whole process: I do believe that NDCA made a strong case to both the House and the Senate about the value of what we do for the citizens of ND. Within the committees to whom we spoke, there was strong support, but there were also influences from outside of the committees that impacted the various votes. I am pleased that our funding went up, but disappointed that our modest requests were not granted in full, considering the important work we do for the citizens of our state and the exceptionally small percentage of the state's general fund allotted to the arts.

I am extremely grateful to the senators and representatives who spoke so eloquently on our behalf during the various meetings. I am also extremely grateful to Arts North Dakota (AND) for the advocacy work they did; to all of you who responded to AND's efforts by sending letters, e-mails, or phone calls to your legislators in support of our budget request; and to Bismarck Mayor Mike Seminary, Judge Robert Wefald, Wayne Beyer, and Amber Ray Bernhardt, who each spoke at one of our budget hearings. I heard from many legislators about the importance of those communications.

And now, it is time to start strategizing for our next biennial request. I believe that every supporter of the arts must work hard during the next two years, not just when the legislators meet, if we want to realize a positive vote for our next biennial budget request. A positive outcome will benefit students, elders, artists, arts organizations, communities, and citizens across the state. We have some ideas on how to proceed; feel free to offer us your own ideas, and stay tuned!

NDCA receives \$100,000 Bush Foundation Grant

(continued from page 1) The organizations selected to participate in the Cohort will each receive an unrestricted grant of \$100,000. In addition, the Cohort will work with the Bush Foundation over the next six months to articulate the challenges and opportunities associated with their work, particularly around efforts to engage the community, build and support leadership, and advance racial and economic equity. The insights from this effort will help inform the Foundation's future work in the arts.

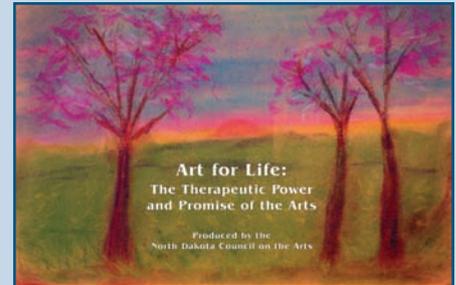
"The North Dakota Council on the Arts has a long history of creative work in the area of folk and traditional arts," states board chairman David "White Thunder" Trottier, "and it is one of the first in the country to systematically work in the nexus between folk arts, arts, and health. We look forward to working with the Bush Foundation to offer creative solutions to address shared challenges and advance opportunities in our communities."

NDCA Folklorist Troyd Geist explains, "With this support, we will be able to broaden our impact by expanding both statewide and regionally the Art for Life Program, which seeks to improve the emotional and physical health of elders in care facilities. It is very humbling and gratifying to have this work recognized by the Bush Foundation."

The Community Creativity Cohort will meet twice over the next six months. Each meeting will feature guest presenters who will inspire and inform the Cohort on issues related to community engagement, leadership development and equity. The organizations that participate in the Cohort will also share lessons learned from their experience working on these issues in their own communities.

"The arts can inspire communities to think bigger and differently about how to address tough challenges. But organizations that work in the arts wrestle with tough challenges of their own," said Bush Foundation Strategy and Learning Vice President Allison Barmann. "The Community Creativity Cohort will help us better understand both the challenges and opportunities these organizations face. This knowledge will strengthen our ability to support efforts to engage people in the arts and integrate the arts into public life."

The Foundation worked with Laura Zabel, Executive Director of Springboard for the Arts and a 2014 Bush Fellow, to design the Cohort experience. The Cohort is a one-time program designed by the Foundation to both recognize and learn from these exemplary organizations.



The National Endowment for the Arts Awards \$698,000 for the Arts in North Dakota

Through its grant-making to thousands of nonprofits each year, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) promotes opportunities for people in communities across America to experience the arts and exercise their creativity. In the second major grant announcement of fiscal year 2015, the NEA will award \$698,000 through a state partnership agreement with the North Dakota Council on the Arts for programs that benefit state residents.

The state partnership agreements allow the NEA to extend its reach to every community in America; translating national leadership into local, state and regional benefit. The NEA will make 1,023 awards totaling \$74.3 million nationwide in this funding round.

NEA Chairman Jane Chu said, "The NEA is committed to advancing learning, fueling creativity, and celebrating the arts in cities and towns across the United States including in North Dakota. Funding these new projects represents a significant investment in local communities and the creative vitality of North Dakota."

The NEA funds cover a number of grant programs within the state of North Dakota, including programs designed for education, for folk and traditional arts, to offer support for arts organizations, to bring artists to rural and urban communities, for professional development of artists within the state, and for special projects.

Upon receiving notice of the NEA funding, Beth Gigante Klingenstein, the Executive Director of the North Dakota Council on the Arts, spoke of the agency's gratitude. "The arts in North Dakota are funded through numerous sources – community funds, private donations, local businesses, state funding, and funding from the NEA. All of these sources of funding are crucial to the success of the arts in our state, and we greatly appreciate the support received from the NEA." For more information on projects included in the NEA grant announcement, go to <http://arts.gov>.

State News

2015 Poetry Out Loud State Finals

NDCA is pleased to announce J'Kobe Wallace of Minot High School, Magic City Campus, as the 2015 State Champion and first place winner of the North Dakota State Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest. Zach Howatt of Northern Cass High School received second place honors. Placing third was Meaghan Cronin of Wahpeton High School. Due to scheduling conflicts, North Dakota will be represented by second place winner Zach Howatt, who will advance to the National Finals in Washington, DC on April 28-29, 2015, where a total of \$50,000 in cash and school stipends will be awarded. This year's North Dakota Poetry



Rebecca Engelman, Lieutenant Governor Drew Wrigley, J'Kobe Wallace, and Beth Klingenstein



Top three winners



Emcee, Shadd Piehl



POL Trophies

Out Loud State Finals competition took place on Monday, March 2, at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck, ND. Provided in partnership with The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the Poetry Foundation, and North Dakota Council on the Arts, Poetry Out Loud is a national arts education program that encourages the mastery of great poetry by offering educational materials and a dynamic competition to high schools across the country. Poetry Out Loud uses a pyramid structure. Beginning at the classroom level, winners advance to the school-wide competition, then to the state competition, and ultimately to the National Finals in Washington, DC. Emcee Shadd Piehl, Lt. Governor Drew

Wrigley, and Poetry Out Loud Coordinator Rebecca Engelman, presented the awards to the participants. All participating contestants received a \$20 book store gift card and a certificate of participation. Each lead teacher received a book of poetry for his or her classroom. First place winner J'Kobe Wallace received a trophy, medallion, \$200, plus an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, DC. His school also received a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books and the honor of displaying the POL Traveling Trophy. Second place winner Zach Howatt received a trophy, medallion, \$100, plus \$200 for his school library. Third place winner Meaghan Cronin received a trophy, medallion, and an additional \$50 gift card.



2015 POL participants



Trio Apollo

The North Dakota state competition judges were: Nita K. Ritzke, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Humanities, University of Mary; Donna Stack, Former Associate Professor of Communications, University of Mary; Bill Thomas, Director of Radio, Prairie Public; and Michael Tomanek, Assistant Professor of English, Bismarck State College. The accuracy judge was Brenna Daugherty Gerhardt, Executive Director, North Dakota Humanities Council. Shadd Piehl, Academic Dean, Rasmussen College; and Associate State Poet Laureate was the event Emcee. Shadd entertained the audience with a selection of his poems and music. Live entertainment during the event was provided by Trio Apollo of Bismarck.

For further information visit www.poetryoutloud.org, or contact Rebecca Engelman at (701) 328-7593 or via e-mail at rengelman@nd.gov.

~ All photos courtesy of Poppy Mills, NDDOT.

Picture Writing & Image-Making workshops in June

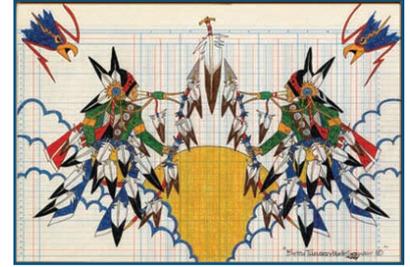
Picture Writing: Fostering Literacy Through Art workshop takes place June 9-12, 2015, at the ND Heritage Center in Bismarck, ND. *Picturing Writing* is an innovative, proven approach to literacy learning designed to engage students with diverse learning styles. This art-and-literature-based approach to writing offers students the opportunity to become proficient in two languages: the language of pictures and the language of words. As students move back and forth between the two, they gain access to ideas, language, and forms of expression otherwise unavailable.

Image-Making Within the Writing Process: Integrated Curriculum Poetry Unit takes place June 15 - 17, 2015, at the ND Heritage Center. *Image-Making Within the Writing Process*, an extension of *Picture Writing*, is an innovative, proven approach to literacy learning that utilizes collage made from hand-painted papers to help students develop their thinking skills as well as access descriptive language. This hands-on process is designed to engage students with diverse learning styles while addressing many English Language Arts Standards. To learn more or to register for either workshop please visit www.nd.gov/arts/resources-services/arts-in-education/professional-development-opportunities.

North Dakota artist's works on exhibit at the Capitol



The North Dakota Council on the Arts, along with the offices of Governor Jack Dalrymple, First Lady Betsy Dalrymple, and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, is currently exhibiting the works of Bismarck artist Wallace "Butch" Thunder Hawk, Jr. at the Capitol Building in Bismarck during the months of April, May and June. Thunder Hawk's works are on display in the Governor's ground floor and first floor offices, the First Lady's fourth floor office, and the Attorney General's first floor office.



This is part of an ongoing program between the NDCA, the offices of the Governor and First Lady, and the Attorney General's office. Artists looking to represent their region with art work placed in the Capitol can submit a brief resume along with photographs or slides of their work to the North Dakota Council on the Arts, 1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 6, Bismarck, ND 58503. Artists are selected for quarterly display.



Butch Thunder Hawk is an enrolled member of Standing Rock Lakota/Dakota Nation, Fort Yates, ND. Currently he is a Tribal Arts Instructor at United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, North Dakota. He has a B.S. Degree in Physical Education from Dickinson State College, and he also majored in Graphic Design at California College of Arts in Oakland California.

Based on his reputable knowledge of tribal arts, he was commissioned by Harvard University-Peabody Museum to create a Horse Memorial Effigy for display and permanent collection. Butch was also contracted by Nelson Atkins Museum, Kansas City, to reproduce a replica of Horse Memorial Effigy for permanent collection. He has also served as visiting Curator and Student Mentor at Peabody Museum-Harvard University and received a Harvard Fellowship in 2005. As a co-curated, he assisted in design work for the Lewis and Clark Exhibit and

Wiyohpiyata [Ledge Art Exhibit] at the Peabody Museum-Harvard University.

He was contracted by James Monroe House Museum to produce two major art pieces for their Native American Section in Charlottesville, Virginia; and he was contracted by Thomas Jefferson House Foundation, Charlottesville, to also reproduce 20 traditional Native American art pieces. All works are replicas of those President Jefferson received from Lewis and Clark.

Butch Thunder Hawk has received a Fine Arts Fellowship from Dickinson State University, has worked with The North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame, and provided a major art piece to them to assist in fundraising. For more information you can e-mail Butch Thunder Hawk at bthawk10@yahoo.com.



NDCA publishes *Guide to North Dakota Art and Cultural Destinations*



Not only is North Dakota known for its natural beauty and abundant resources, it is also a haven for creative spirits...a place where the arts flourish. Across the state, artists thrive in both urban and rural settings, and arts organizations offer numerous arts activities open to the public.

The *Guide to North Dakota Art and Cultural Destinations* was created with the traveler in mind and provides a comprehensive listing of arts organizations, cultural centers, galleries, and artist studios that you may easily access and add to your vacation plans. Designed to take you through the different regions of the state while highlighting the various travel opportunities each has to offer, you will find this to be a valuable tool in your cultural tour of North Dakota.

If you would like copies of the *Art and Cultural Destinations* guide, or for more information, e-mail amschmid@nd.gov.

Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre to Receive National Theatre Award



Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre (GGFCT) of Grand Forks, North Dakota is being honored with the Special Recognition Award from the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT). The award will be presented during AACTFest 2015, the national community theatre festival, in Grand Rapids Michigan June 23-27, 2015.

The AACT Special Recognition Award is presented to persons or organizations whose contributions to community theatre are far reaching and of a special nature. Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre does what other community theatres do, brings amateur theatre artists together to create live theatre for their community, but it also goes a step above. For the last four years, the GGFCT has found ways to open dialogue with community members about issues that pertain to the Greater Grand Forks area. In 2012, the theatre employed a playwright to go into the seventh and eighth grade English classes at the Grand Forks Air Force Base and engage students in writing material that eventually became a play about their parents' deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan titled *Deployed*.

Other projects have involved a monologue writing workshop for girls and women ages 9 - 55, and having girls ages 11 - 17 interview women over the age of 70 about their lives. The stories, snippets of history, were performed multiple times for various groups in the area. In addition to a regular season including shows specifically chosen to encourage discussions of topical issues, GGFCT is also creating new theatre woven from the very fabric of their community.

The American Association of Community Theatre (AACT) provides networking, resources, and support to suit the needs of those involved in community theatre. AACT represents the interests of more than 7,000 theatres across the United States and its territories, as well as theatre companies with the armed services overseas.

For more information, visit the GGFCT's web site at <http://www.ggfct.com>.



Two North Dakota students win National Medals from the 2015 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards program is the largest, longest-running scholarship and recognition program for creative teens. It is presented annually by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers with generous support from their title sponsor, Scholastic Inc. Partnering with national organizations such as the National Writing Project and the National Art Education Association, the Alliance has a proven track record of identifying creative leaders and providing students with strong artistic and literary skills recognition, publication and exhibition opportunities, and scholarships.

From an initial pool of 303,000 submissions 2,200 works of art and writing earned a National Medal. These students and their educators will be honored at the National Awards Ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City on June 11, 2015. Artwork from award-winning students will be featured in an exhibition at Parsons The New School for Design and the Pratt Manhattan Gallery. A selection of students receiving Awards for writing will also have their work published in the annual anthology *The Best Teen Writing of 2014*.

More than ever, schools and educators need the support of our nation's leaders to encourage creative thought in students. The two 2015 North Dakota recipients are: Sophie Glessner, grade 11, from Fargo, received a Silver Medal in Short Story for her work titled *That's How Summer Passed*; and Zach Howatt, grade 10, from Argusville, received a Gold American Visions Medal in Drawing and Illustration for his work titled *Daughter of Man*.

For more information and a complete list of the students who won, visit <http://www.artandwriting.org>.

Theatre B Selected to Participate in Bush Foundation's Community Creativity Cohort



In addition to the NDCA, Theatre B of Fargo is one of 16 organizations from across Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota selected to participate in the Bush Foundation's Community Creativity Cohort. They will also receive an unrestricted grant of \$100,000 thru the Cohort program.

"This is such an honor for Theatre B," said Theatre B Executive Director Carrie Wintersteen. "It's a testament to the passion and craft of our Ensemble and guest artists, as well as to the mission that Theatre B has been advancing for almost thirteen years."

"Our vision is to elevate artists and celebrate the theatrical art form," said Wintersteen. "Through advanced training for artists, greater emphasis on local stories and local storytellers, development of new work, and lasting collaborations to serve our neighbors, Theatre B will mature as a professional theatre company woven tightly into the fabric of our community."

"We are so grateful for the support from our audiences, our donors, business partners, government agencies, and foundations. If I have learned anything in my 13 years with Theatre B, it is this: Do good work. Serve the community. Tell your story. Support will come. This award from the Bush Foundation invites us to step forward boldly and trust in our vision."

Theatre B produces a four-show main stage season, presenting some of the newest, most innovative plays available for the Fargo-Moorhead region. The season spans from fall through spring, with each show running at least four or five weeks. This performance schedule is unique in the region. Theatre B's long runs allow artists to bring the stories fully to life and gives an ever growing audience greater access to the distinctly intimate venue, which is located in the renovated storefront at 716 Main Avenue in downtown Fargo.

Since 2003, the ensemble and guest artists of Theatre B have brought to life a wide variety of the latest award-winning plays and bold, untested new works. Theatre B currently has four main program areas: Main Stage; B Emerging Artist Training (B.E.A.T.); Incubator Series for New Work; and Community Collaborations.

For more information on the Creative Community Cohort and a full list of selected organizations, visit <http://www.bushfoundation.org/2015-community-creativity-cohort>. For more information on Theatre B visit <http://theatreb.org>.

North Dakota student among the 2015 YoungArts winners

YoungArts announced that, out of more than 11,000 applications received this application cycle, 786 YoungArts Winners were awarded in the visual, literary, design and performing arts. These young artists represent some of our nation's very best in: cinematic arts, dance, design arts, jazz, music, photography, theater, visual arts, voice and writing.

Nils Aardahl of Bismarck, ND, was awarded in Jazz Double Bass in the Merit winners group. The National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) was established in 1981 by Lin and Ted Arison to identify and support the next generation of artists in the visual, literary, design and performing arts; assist them at critical junctures in their educational and professional development; and raise appreciation for the arts in American society. YoungArts applicants range from 15-18 year old (or grades 10-12).

YoungArts provides these emerging artists with life-changing experiences and validation by renowned mentors, access to significant scholarships, national recognition, and other opportunities throughout their careers to help ensure that the nation's most outstanding emerging artists are encouraged to pursue careers in the arts. To date, YoungArts has honored more than 20,000 alumni, including Doug Aitken, Josh Groban, Jenji Kohan, Desmond Richardson, and Kerry Washington, with over \$12 million in monetary awards. YoungArts has also facilitated in excess of \$60 million in college scholarship opportunities in the past two years and enabled its participants to work with master teachers who are among the most distinguished artists in the world, such as Marina Abramović, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Plácido Domingo, Zaha Hadid, Robert Redford, and Bruce Weber.

For more information visit <http://www.youngarts.org/our-program>.

Two North Dakota Symphonies selected to participate in intensive training program for Orchestras



The Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra and the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra are two of eight orchestras selected to participate in ArtsLab, a five-month leadership and strategy



program designed to ensure that small and mid-sized orchestras in our region have the skills, ideas, and networks needed to flourish. Led by national and local experts, the intensive training program will explore concepts around relevancy in the marketplace, leadership development, financial and resource development models, and organizational infrastructure.

ArtsLab is a program of Arts Midwest, a U.S. Regional Arts Organization that fosters connections among artists, organizations, and communities across the Midwest. Through performing, visual, and literary arts and leadership development programs, Arts Midwest is committed to delivering high-quality arts experiences and encouraging new, cross-sector collaborations.

David Fraher, president & CEO of Arts Midwest, says, "We are looking forward to working with orchestras across Minnesota and North Dakota to support their ongoing leadership development. We continue to be inspired by the important work that these institutions are doing to engage their communities in the arts and we anticipate that ArtsLab will only foster more exceptional conversations, new approaches, and innovative artistic experiences that make both urban and rural communities stronger and more connected."

Beginning in May 2015, eight orchestras will participate in retreats and shared learning opportunities: Bemidji Symphony Orchestra; Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra; Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra; Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra; Mankato Symphony Orchestra; Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra; Rochester Symphony Orchestra; and St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra.

"We believe the arts can inspire people to think bigger and differently about how to address tough challenges and advance new opportunities in their community. That is why we are proud to support ArtsLab in its effort to build the leadership capacity of artists and arts organizations," said Bush Foundation Strategy and Learning Vice President Allison Barmann. Support for ArtsLab is generously provided by Bush Foundation, The McKnight Foundation, F. R. Bigelow Foundation, Mardag Foundation, and The Saint Paul Foundation.

ArtsLab was launched in 1999 by six major foundations seeking to learn better approaches to building leadership and management skills in community-based arts organizations. The project was renewed in 2008 and offered capacity-building education and support to sixteen arts organizations in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metropolitan area and northwestern Minnesota. A third cycle of the program offered similar support to organizations in urban and rural Minnesota and North Dakota from 2012 to 2014. All cycles have been highly rated by independent evaluators for their positive impact on organizational stability, community engagement, and the development of strong, adaptive leadership.

More information about ArtsLab is available at artslab.artsmidwest.org. Questions about the program may also be directed to Sharon Rodning Bash at sharon@artsmidwest.org.

NDCA to transition to new online grant system

NDCA will be transitioning to a new online grant system in June of 2015. If you are planning to apply for a Professional Development, Special Projects or Teacher Incentive grant for an activity taking place in July or August of 2015, please contact NDCA at (701) 328-7590 to notify us of your intent to apply.

Arrangements will be made to accommodate activity deadlines during this transition.

NDCA Launches New Agency Web Site



The North Dakota Council on the Arts is excited to announce the launch of our newly designed web site, which went live in mid-March. The new site is located at the same web address: www.nd.gov/arts.

The site's home page welcomes visitors with bold colors, a fresh design, and moving images with featured content focused on the Council's mission to promote, preserve, and perpetuate the arts in North Dakota.

The new site is divided into four main sections: Grants, News, Programs, and Resources/Services. The web site will be updated on a regular basis, with news, events, and new content. NDCA encourages

visitors of our site to also sign up for our electronic (*e-Prairie Arts*) and hard copy (*Prairie Arts*) newsletters as another way to help us stay connected.

If you experience any problems or broken links using the new web site, e-mail Amy Schmidt at amschmid@nd.gov. Also, if you would take a brief moment to e-mail Amy and share your thoughts about the new web site, we'd appreciate hearing how the experience was and how we can continue to improve it.

NDCA Trails & Rails 2015 Summer Residency schedule

Through its participation in the National Park Service and Amtrak's Trails & Rails Program, NDCA cultivates audiences and opportunities for local performing artists while simultaneously introducing travelers to the state's cultural and geographic diversity. The program operates on Amtrak trains around the country but is unique in North Dakota where the NDCA makes it an artist residency and books storytellers, singers, dancers, musicians, and other folk and traditional artists for performances on the Empire Builder line. The NDCA was recognized for its efforts in 2013 when it received the National Park Service's first-ever National Trails & Rails Partnership Award.

This year's schedule is as follows: Chuck Suchy, June 11-12; Lowell Larsen, Paul Larsen, and John Lardinois Sr., June 13-14; Keith Bear, June 18-19, 27-28, July 9-10, 18-19, 23-24; Gerald Schlag, June 20-21, July 4-5, 30-31; Lowell Larsen and Gene Putnam, June 25-26; and James "Cubby" LaRocque, August 1-2, 6-7. For more information contact Troyd Geist, NDCA Folklorist at tgeist@nd.gov.

CHARISM Neighborhood Center provides arts opportunities to the underserved

In support of their efforts to provide arts programming in their community, CHARISM Neighborhood Center applied for and was awarded a \$2,000 Community Arts Access grant by NDCA.

The grant provided funds to CHARISM for an arts project beginning in March with its Eastwood STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Club for New American elementary students. The project involved teaching from a highly skilled photographer and a theatrical-reading professional, both North Dakota residents. Photographer Robb Siverson taught students basic photography skills. Students then learned about poetry styles and write poems based on their own photographs. Theatrical-reading professional Roger Kalinowski taught students elements of theatrical reading to use with their poetry. Students' photographs, poems, and learned knowledge were displayed for their families at Eastwood's New Neighbor Night on April 25, and are being compiled into a book with a copy for each student.

The CHARISM Eastwood STEM Club, a 21st Century Learning program, is designed to provide outreach for a specific underserved population. This Community Arts Access project provided more arts awareness for New American elementary students, in addition to the mentorship, basic skills, and STEM education that are the core of the STEM Club.

"At CHARISM, we believe the arts are a language that all children speak," says Julie Gunkelman, Executive Director. "Engaging our diverse group of after-school youth in a digital photography and theatrical reading experience provides a wonderful avenue for self-expression, and our students love it!"

CHARISM is celebrating its 21-year anniversary in 2015! It all started when CHARISM was created in 1994 by five local churches and Community Homes, a subsidized housing complex located near McCormick Park, to provide programming to low-income families in the neighborhood. As refugee families began settling in this neighborhood during the mid- to late-1990s, the needs of the community shifted and CHARISM also began to offer programs to serve these New American families.

NDAGA seeking 2016-2017 exhibition proposals

North Dakota Art Gallery Association (NDAGA) in Minot is seeking proposals for solo or group exhibitions for 2016-2017. This competition is open to all artists working in any media. Deadline for entries is August 31, 2015. For entry information and more details, see the prospectus form available at <http://www.ndaga.org/uf/2015%20Prospectus.pdf>.

Annual Square Foot Show call for entries

Bismarck Art & Galleries Association (BAGA) announces a call for artists for the 4th Annual Square Foot Show, which takes place August 4-28, 2015. Canvases are currently available at BAGA located at 422 E. Front Avenue in Bismarck, ND. The registration deadline to enter is June 26, 2015. For more information and the prospectus, visit <http://www.bismarck-art.org/uf/Entry%20Form.pdf>. Contact BAGA at (701) 223-5986 or baga@midconetwork.com with any questions.

Americas 2015 All Media

The Northwest Art Center in Minot announces a call for artists for the Americas 2015 All Media show. The deadline for submitting entries is June 1, 2015 (postmark). Works in any medium, traditional or experimental, qualify. For more information visit http://www.minotstateu.edu/nac/pdf/am_2015.pdf.

2015 Picture Yourself in Theodore Roosevelt National Park

The 2015 Picture Yourself in Theodore Roosevelt National Park photo contest runs through August 31, 2015. Photos must depict any natural, cultural, or historic subject within the park. Photographers may submit up to two photos between April 18 and August 31.

For more information visit <http://www.trnha.org/pictureyourselfintrnp.html>.

Pekin Days Art Show call for entries

The Nelson County Arts Council's Pekin Days Art Show takes place June 24-28, 2015. The show is open to all artists 18 years and older. This is a juried exhibition and all work must be for sale. The juror is Greg Vettel, who will also attend the artist reception on Wednesday, June 24 at 6:30pm.

The deadline to enter the Pekin Days Art Show is June 6, 2015. For more information and prospectus visit http://www.nelsoncountyarts.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/PDAS_2015.pdf.

2015 Rural Arts and Culture Summit

The 2015 Rural Arts and Culture Summit will take place Tuesday, June 2 through Thursday, June 4, 2015, at the Center for Small Towns, University of Minnesota-Morris. This year's theme, *From the Ground Up: Cultivating Creative People and Places*, will highlight arts-based strategies for rural community and economic development. The Summit will explore the important role of art and culture in shaping the rural narrative, improving quality of life, and influencing migration patterns to small towns. In addition, attendees will learn innovative ways to support artists and arts organizations in their communities, particularly through cross-sector partnerships that help them tap into their community's cultural assets as they address major challenges or opportunities.

In addition to featuring keynote speaker Theresa Secord, a traditional Penobscot basketweaver who founded the Maine Indian Basketmaker's Alliance (MIBA) in 1993, this year's Summit will convene a special panel conversation of national leaders and practitioners about the role of arts and culture in the rural narrative, which will be facilitated by Dave Peters, the director of Minnesota Public Radio's Ground Level Project. This conversation will take place at 9:30am on Thursday, June 4th, the second day of the Summit.

Registration for both days is \$125, a single day is \$90. To register and for more information, including the Summit schedule, location details, and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.ruralartsandculturesummit.com.

New North Dakota online Artist directory

Artists of ND, a free online artist directory and arts events calendar is now available. Artists of ND's goal is simple: linking you with artists, events, and helpful tips in order to build a thriving creative community in North Dakota. This site is organized into Featured Artists, the Artist Directory, Calendar, Town Square, Tips, and Updates. NDCA encourages all North Dakota artists and arts organizations to visit www.artistsofnd.com to enter their information on this free online resource.

Summer and fall art activities abundant in North Dakota

Enjoy all of the art events North Dakota has to offer during the beautiful summer and fall months - from the various arts in the parks events, outdoor music, theater and art shows, summer art classes, and so much more.

Some summer events include: Summer Concert Series in Medora; Art Camps, and Pekin Art Show in Pekin; Capitol Shakespeare, Urban Harvest, Downtown Street Fair, Sleepy Hollow Theatre & Arts Park productions, and Capitol A' Fair in Bismarck; Buggies-n-Blues, and Bandshell Concerts in Mandan; Street Fairs, Trollwood productions, RiverArts, Art & Wine Walks, and FM Studio Crawl in Fargo; Blues on the Red, Art & Wine Walks, and Grand Cities Art Fest in Grand Forks; New York Kammermusiker and Oktoberfest in Jamestown; Ukrainian Festival in Dickinson; and Arts in the Parks and Norsk Høstfest in Minot. You may also want to visit the museums, galleries and art studios; indoor dance, music and theatre productions; and participate in music, dance, literary and visual art classes offered by many arts organizations. For more information on statewide art events, visit <http://www.nd.gov/arts/resources-services/calendar>.

Help NDCA increase our Facebook fans while promoting your images/events as well!

NDCA is looking for images to share on our Facebook page. We would like to update our "cover" photo once every few weeks. Please submit your images of visual, performing, and literary artwork; artistic events and exhibits; artist residencies; or anything else that expresses the joy, value, and importance that the arts have in our state, along with a brief description to comserv@nd.gov. NDCA cannot guarantee that all images provided will be used. This promotion is open to North Dakota images/events only, although some exceptions may apply. If you have questions, please e-mail comserv@nd.gov or call (701) 328-7594.

"LIKE" NDCA at <https://www.facebook.com/NDCouncilontheArts> 

Call for NDCA Panelists

The North Dakota Council on the Arts is looking for people who are interested in serving as panelists for various grant programs. These programs include Institutional Support, Community Arts Access, Artist in Residence, Presenter Support, and Individual Artist Fellowship grants. The advice of panelists plays a central role in reviewing applications for funding and in discussing policy issues about the needs of the arts. Panels are composed of individuals who represent a broad range of artistic and cultural viewpoints, as well as geographic and ethnic diversity. Panelists may be either arts experts – experienced in a specific art form – or a layperson who is knowledgeable about the arts but not engaged in the arts as a profession. For more information, visit <http://www.nd.gov/arts/get-involved-advocacy/become-a-panelist>.

e-Prairie Arts - Sign up Today

e-Prairie Arts is an electronic newsletter that supplements the three annual printed issues of *Prairie Arts*. Distributed via e-mail, each edition contains statewide and national news, opportunities for artists and arts administrators, calendar information, links to informative web sites, and much more.

To receive *e-Prairie Arts*, send an e-mail to amschmid@nd.gov.

Join Us on

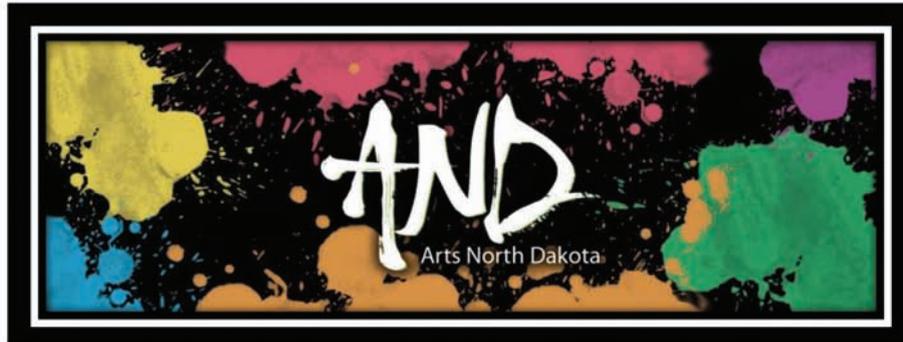
"Like" the North Dakota Council on the Arts on Facebook! Visit www.facebook.com/NDCouncilontheArts; or click on the Facebook link at www.nd.gov/arts.

Be sure to "Like" Art=Work as well! To learn more about Art=Work visit

www.ndcpd.org/artequalswork; or connect on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ArtEqualsWork.

Support the arts in North Dakota

Arts North Dakota (AND) would love to add you to its list of sponsoring members! This young arts advocacy organization is building its membership and needs your support. For as little as \$20 you will join a statewide network of people interested in supporting the arts in North Dakota. Why is it important to have this group? NDCA is not allowed to act as a lobbyist; its voice is limited to educating and sharing information about the agency with legislators. We need those within state government to understand the importance of the arts and the large number of citizens the arts regularly affect. AND can play that role, but can only be effective if it has the financial ability to operate and the ability to show that it represents artists, arts organization, patrons, and arts educators from throughout the state. The membership form is available on the AND web site, www.artsnd.org, and below. Please join me in showing your support by mailing your membership and donation today; we will all benefit! ~ Jan Webb, State Arts Advocate, AND



What will your AND dollars do?

1. Give support to a powerful, united voice for the arts and promote the value of arts education, artists, and arts programs.
2. Support a statewide network that shares information among the participants and develops a statewide conference, professional development, a governors awards for the arts, and other programs.
3. Provides a call to action about pending legislation - both state and national.
4. Provides funding of the expenses of a designated lobbyist during the ND legislative session.

Membership Application			
First Name:		Last Name:	
Phone #:		Email:	
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate
Organization:			

Supporting	Organization	Corporate
\$20	\$50	\$100

Dues: _____

Donation: _____

Total: _____

Make checks payable to Arts North Dakota and send to:
 Arts North Dakota --- ATTN: State Arts Advocate --- 6960 Crested Butte Road --- Bismarck, ND 58503
 By providing your email, you are opting-in to receive the AND newsletter. You may opt-out at any time.

National News

The NEA celebrates 50 years ~ tell them your story!



This year, 2015, is the 50th anniversary of the signing of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, which created the National Endowment for the Arts and the National

Endowment for the Humanities.

To better recount the story of the NEA and the arts in America, the NEA wants to share your stories of how the arts have influenced your life. Talk about how the arts are part of your day, how the arts have inspired you to do something unique, how they have made a difference among you and your family, as well as in the communities and neighborhoods in which you live.

If there is a specific NEA grant that has had an impact on you and your community, let the NEA know. Simply complete this form available at <http://arts.gov/form/tell-us-your-story>.

Starting September 29th (the date in 1965 that the Act was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson) the NEA will begin posting stories on their web site and promoting them across their social media platforms. To learn more visit <http://arts.gov/form/tell-us-your-story>.



ADA celebrates 25 years

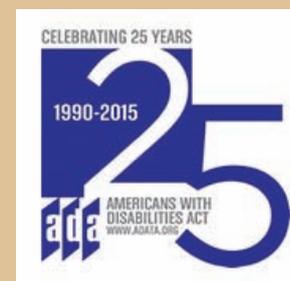
Celebrate the progress of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and help commemorate its 25th ADA anniversary with the ADA National Network and its ten regional ADA Centers located throughout the United States.

Celebrate and share in your museums, galleries, studios, theatres, art event centers, workplaces, schools and communities, and online in social media and web sites.

Become a part of the nationwide celebration, sign the PLEDGE ON! to ADA25, explore the ADA Anniversary Tool Kit, and show your commitment to the ADA throughout the year and annually for the ADA Anniversary - July 26.

The goal is to get 2,500 signatures for the 25th ADA Anniversary. Sign and PLEDGE ON! to ADA25 by visiting <http://adaanniversary.org/pledgeon>.

To learn more about how you can participate in the ADA's 25th Anniversary, visit <http://adaanniversary.org>.



Surprising Findings in Three New NEA Reports on the Arts

Three reports from the National Endowment for the Arts reveal new findings about the impact of arts and cultural industries on GDP, as well as how and why Americans participate in certain arts activities. All of the data for the three reports is from 2012, so for the first time the NEA can show a comprehensive view of a single year in the life of the arts and cultural sector from three different angles: supply, demand, and motivations for consumer behavior. The new information will help arts providers and others more effectively understand and develop strategies to engage individuals and communities in the arts. "The implications from this research are significant," said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. "The findings show that there is great diversity in how people engage in the arts, and this gives us a framework to use our creativity to innovate new ways to reach these audiences." To learn more visit <http://arts.gov/news/2015/surprising-findings-three-new-nea-reports-arts>.

PCAH Produces Final Evaluation Report for Phase One of Turnaround Arts Initiative

In January, the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH) released the results of an independent study that shows substantial gains in student achievement at schools participating in its Turnaround Arts initiative. The eight schools in the pilot phase of the initiative—showing increases in reading and math scores, as well as an increase in attendance and a decrease in suspensions—demonstrate that the program's use of the arts is having a measurable impact on low-performing schools by increasing student engagement and narrowing the achievement gap. Get the full report at <https://www.giarts.org/sites/default/files/Turnaround-Arts-Initiative-Final-Evaluation-Report.pdf>.

~ April 14, 2015, Grantmakers in the Arts

May is National Chamber Music Month

Chamber Music America has designated May as National Chamber Music Month — a celebration of the many styles of small ensemble music performed and presented in the U.S. today. Goals of the designation are to raise public awareness of the chamber music field nationally and help ensembles and presenters attract audiences and media attention in their own communities. To learn more visit <http://www.chamber-music.org/2015-national-chamber-music-month>.

Americans for the Arts 2015 Annual Convention

Mark your calendar for June 12–14, 2015, to attend the Americans for the Arts (AFTA) convention in Chicago, IL. Power and Empowerment will be the focal point of this year's convention, steering the plenaries, pre-conferences, sessions, and the overall experience of this professional development opportunity for administrators, leaders, artists, activists, patrons, and planners. Chicago is home to some of our nation's most iconic public art, architecture, theater, and cultural events.

Sign up to receive updates or head over to AFTA's Annual Convention Facebook page for the latest news about the 2015 Annual Convention at <https://www.facebook.com/americans4artsconvention>; or to learn more and to register visit <http://convention.artsusa.org>.

Arts Midwest Conference in Kansas City

A program of Arts Midwest, the Arts Midwest Conference is the preeminent booking and educational conference for the Midwest performing arts industry. Attended by nearly 1,000 performing artists, managers, and agents; performing arts presenters/venues; and arts administrators from throughout the United States and beyond, the four-day conference is filled with opportunities to network, learn, and experience live performing arts. This year the conference takes place in Kansas City, September 9-12, 2015.

Access some of the best performing artists in the nation at the high-energy Marketplace, where the business of booking happens. Much of what Midwest audiences will see on stages in the 2015—2016 performing arts season will be discussed at the Marketplace.

Promote your or your artists' work and make new contacts that fit your audience or community.

Discover innovative ideas, leadership development, and skill-building opportunities at the professional development sessions. The conference will offer something for all attendees, whether you're interested in the details of the industry or in big-picture questions about our evolving performing arts field.

The Arts Midwest Conference serves the 15 states represented by Arts Midwest and their sister regional arts organization, Mid-America Arts Alliance. To learn more about the conference, visit <https://www.artsmidwest.org/programs/conference/about>.

Start planning your events now, October is National Arts and Humanities Month



National Arts and Humanities Month (NAHM) is a coast-to-coast collective celebration of culture in America. Each year since 1993, NAHM has helped give millions of Americans the opportunity to explore new facets of the arts and humanities in their lives and has encouraged them to begin a lifelong habit of active participation.

National Arts and Humanities Month's four primary goals are to: create a national, state and local focus on the arts and humanities through the media; encourage the active participation of individuals, as well as arts, humanities and other interested organizations nationwide; provide an opportunity for federal, state and local business, government and civic leaders to declare their support for the arts and humanities; and establish a highly visible vehicle for raising public awareness about the arts and humanities.

In towns and communities across America, arts organizations are planning and developing events, celebrations and innovative programming to highlight National Arts and Humanities Month. Throughout the month of October, special events will capture the spirit that the arts and humanities bring to everyday life. In particular, cultural organizations are being asked to do the following: participate in the month-long celebration with an already-scheduled activity or a new event, large or small, that will be free and open to the public. Events could include a free performance, lecture or reading; a behind-the-scenes tour, a workshop, a concert or a festival. An open house is a great way to invite the community to join with your organization in celebrating the month. You may also want to obtain a proclamation from your elected officials and submit articles and opinion editorials to newspapers and magazines about the value of the arts and humanities.

To learn more about how you can participate in Arts and Humanities Month visit <http://www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/National-Arts-and-Humanities-Month.php>.

National Design Competition for Commemorative Work in prominent Washington D.C. location

The Peace Corps Commemorative Foundation (PCCF) announces an open, two-stage, national design competition to select an artistically exceptional design concept for a permanent commemorative work in Washington, D.C. The commemorative work will honor the American ideals expressed and embodied in Peace Corps service. The competition provides designers from all across the United States an opportunity to create a compelling, truly unique commemorative work of public art that is bold and inspirational.

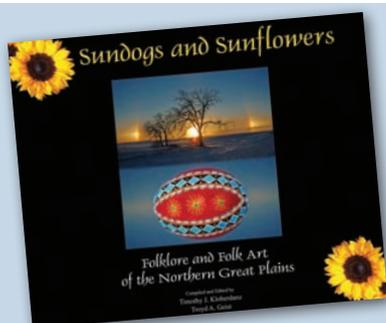
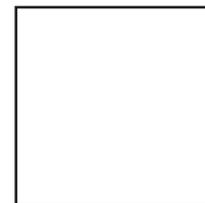
The challenge of striving for a more peaceful world will never cease to exist. Fundamental American aspirations motivated creation of the Peace Corps and are expressed through the individual service of Peace Corps volunteers. This commemorative work is to be an enduring reminder of the American belief, manifested in Peace Corps service, that ordinary people from different parts of the world, living and working together in mutual respect and trust, can transcend differences between them and lay the groundwork for a better and more peaceful world. The site for the commemorative work is a prominent parcel of federal parkland located near the U.S. Capitol Building and Capitol Grounds, the National Mall, and Washington's historic Union Station.

Stage I of the design competition began Monday March 9, 2015, with the launch of the design competition web site, www.PeaceCorpsDesign.net. The deadline for Stage I registration and design concept submissions is Friday, June 12, 2015.

The competition is open to artists, landscape architects and architects competing as individuals, teams or firms. To learn more about the commemorative work and the design competition, to pre-register (without obligation), or to sign up for updates, visit <https://www.peacecorpsdesign.net>.

Prairie Arts

North Dakota Council on the Arts
1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 6
Bismarck, North Dakota 58503-0649



CDs and publications available at NDCA

The recently published *Sundogs and Sunflowers: Folklore and Folk Art of the Northern Great Plains*, is one of several books and CDs available from the NDCA that highlight North Dakota's diverse cultural traditions. To purchase, call (701) 328-7590 or mail orders to: North Dakota Council on the Arts, 1600 E. Century Avenue, Suite 6, Bismarck, ND 58503-0649. For mail orders, add 6 percent tax and \$3 for shipping/handling.

CDs and Recordings

Each CD is \$15.95 (with the exception of *Sundogs and Sunflowers*)

- *Spirit Woods*, Traditional Stories and Songs of Forests and Trees
- *Achikadidi*, Traditional Ma'di Music of Southern Sudan and Northern Uganda
- *Un de' che cha pi: The Way We Are*, by Mary Louise Defender Wilson
- *Faerie Harp*, by Debi Rogers and Sue Bicknell
- *At the Fiddler's Knee*, by Dick and Lisa Barrett
- *My Relatives Say*, Traditional Dakotah Stories as told by Mary Louise Defender Wilson
- *The Elders Speak: Dakotah and Ojibway Stories of the Land*, told by Gourd Woman and Eagle Heart
- *Morning Star Whispered*, Traditional Stories and Flute Music, by Keith Bear
- *Sundogs and Sunflowers: Folklore and Folk Art of the Northern Great Plains*, by Timothy J. Kloberdanz and Troyd A. Geist. \$14.84

Publications

- *Sundogs and Sunflowers: Folklore and Folk Art of the Northern Great Plains*, by Timothy J. Kloberdanz and Troyd A. Geist. \$34.95 (shipping \$4.25)
- *Faces of Identity, Hands of Skill: Folk Arts in North Dakota*, by Troyd A. Geist. \$15.95
- *From the Wellspring: Faith, Soil, Tradition – Folk Arts From Ukrainian Culture in North Dakota*, by Troyd A. Geist. \$15.95
- *Iron Spirits*. Editors Nicholas Curchin Vrooman, project director, and Patrice Avon Marvin. \$10.95
- *Prairie Patterns: Folk Arts in North Dakota*, by Christopher Martin. \$25
- *Sister Rosalia's Lace*, by Christopher Martin. \$3
- *Art for Life: The Therapeutic Power and Promise of the Arts* (free)