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Eight-Year History of Metro ADA Access Improvement Grant Projects

Since 2010, **66** Twin Cities arts groups have been awarded grants to undertake **119** projects aimed specifically at increasing access to the arts for people with disabilities, thanks to funding from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, which voters approved in 2008. Through January 2017, the ADA Access Improvement Grants for Metro Arts Organization program has awarded **\$1,380,320** – administered by VSA Minnesota for the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council. The next grant deadline is **May 1, 2017**.

The purpose of this grant is to enable nonprofit arts organizations in the seven-county Twin Cities area to make improvements to their programs, projects, equipment, or facilities that will enhance access to the arts for people with disabilities. Such activities must advance the mission of the arts group, have the potential for significant or long-term impact in involving more people with disabilities as participants or patrons in arts programs, and report measurable outcomes.

Sixty-six organization recipients have included 70 grants in Minneapolis, 31 in St. Paul, 4 in Eagan, 2 in Hopkins, 2 in Fridley, and 1 each in Burnsville, Lakeville, Maple Grove, Osseo, Roseville, Spring Lake Park, Stillwater, St. Louis Park, Victoria and White Bear Lake. Eleven groups have received two grants each, two have received three grants each, five have received four, two have received five grants, and three have received six (one each year), and 43 have received one grant each. A further summary is at the end of the list.

<u>Arts Organization</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Grant Round</u>
Alive & Kickin Provide a unique senior citizen musical theatre experience for people with disabilities by providing tickets and ADA accessible transportation. Create a similar musical program specifically for persons of disabilities while partnering with Heritage Park Health & Wellness Center partners with a goal of bringing 300 individuals with disabilities to the performance in June 2016 as well as +100 people participating in a monthly musical program designed to educate and inspire.	Minneapolis	15,000	Round 13
American Association of Woodturners Create curriculum materials and guidelines for instructors to assist blind and low vision woodturners. Research, consultation, instructor training, and a pilot class to test and refine the curriculum and make available electronically at no cost.	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 6
Artability (People Incorporated)	St. Paul	\$7,400	Round 10
Artability (People Incorporated) Engage more Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals with mental illnesses in Artability workshops by hiring ASL Interpreters for 37 workshops in 2014.	St. Paul	\$7,500	Round 15

Provide art supplies, instructors and ASL interpreters to increase access to its free art-making workshops for Deaf Mental Health Services (DMHS) artists in 2017.

ArtReach St. Croix **Stillwater** **\$7,000** **Round 12**
 Improve accessibility, visibility and safety at its entrances by providing a new railing for front steps and walkway, new sidewalk to replace broken stone walkway (concrete stamped with poetry), lighting along the walkway and two sets of stairs in front, lighting at end of wheelchair accessible entrance to help people navigate curb cut, cones for designating disability parking spot during openings and events.

Art Shanty Projects **Minneapolis** **\$5,500** **Round 12**
 Expand audience outreach and adhere to the commitment of increased cultural vitality through the arts.

Art Speaks (RISE) **Spring Lake Park** **\$9,330** **Round 4**
 Pay an art instructor & provide art and exhibit supplies for Art Speaks program.

The Arts' Nest **Minneapolis** **\$12,500** **Round 15**
 The Arts' Nest will remodel a current storage room on the main level of Phoenix Theater into both a wheelchair accessible single occupant restroom and an accessible dressing room space for performers.

Caponi Art Park **Eagan** **\$8,500** **Round 4**

Caponi Art Park and Learning Center **Eagan** **\$2,625** **Round 9**

Caponi Art Park **Eagan** **\$8,740** **Round 12**

Purchase a six-passenger golf cart to provide transportation within the hilly Caponi Art Park.

Purchase an ADA-compliant portable toilet.

Hire an accessibility and community engagement consultant to help update the Art Park's ADA Access Plan and address opportunities that come from a new facility being built in 2014, the Art Park's expanding programs and the changing needs of its audience.

Improve the experience of visiting the Art Park for people with disabilities by providing trained staff and addressing the organization's top priorities for making the park grounds more physically accessible.

Cedar Cultural Center **Minneapolis** **\$20,000** **Round 3**

Cedar Cultural Center **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 6**

Cedar Cultural Center **Minneapolis** **\$8,073** **Round 8**

Cedar Cultural Center **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 10**

Cedar Cultural Center **Minneapolis** **15,000** **Round 13**

Build a designated accessible single unit restroom that is complete and usable this spring to accommodate audience members with disabilities.

Provide music and dance performances and artist demonstrations for Courage Center persons with disabilities.

Provide music programming for Courage Center, WorkAbilities and Interact constituents.

Send staff to the Kennedy Center's LEAD Conference.

Provide music programming for Courage Center, WorkAbilities and Interact constituents.

Implement SightCompass, a digital descriptive App that provides detailed access to spaces for those with vision loss, hearing loss, deafblind, dyslexia, or anxiety disorders.

Improve accessibility of its website.

Redesign and reconstruct its outdoor property into a fully accessible public gathering space (Cedar POPS).

Chameleon Theatre Circle, Inc. **Burnsville** **\$9,329** **Round 4**

Provide Audio Description and ASL Interpretation & Large Print Playbills for one performance of each production in its season; 4 Public Readings and The New Play Festival;

Accessibility Coordinator & Accessibility Consultant.

More time in the venue to hang lights for ASL Interpreters.

Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 1
A lift between its main-floor shop and a mezzanine for glass and jewelry classes.			
Circus Juventas	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 2
Circus Juventas	St. Paul	\$8,015	Round 5
Circus Juventas	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 9
Circus Juventas	St. Paul	13,500	Round 13
Build special equipment for its <i>Out of the Chair</i> program, and underwrite an eight-week class for six individuals to test that equipment.			
Refine and promote its “Wings” program to make circus performing arts classes and performance opportunities available to children and youth with physical and developmental disabilities (staff, special equipment, outreach activities and class fee subsidies).			
Automatic opening doors for the main entrance.			
Complete the development of and launch a new “Out the Chair” circus performing arts program for people with physical disabilities. The program features “esprit” aerial acts utilizing harnesses and rigging to suspend the performer and minimize or eliminate dependence on arms or legs for performing. Now being piloted, the program will be offered as a regular class to the public later in 2014.			
Coffee House Press	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 8
Coffee House Press	Minneapolis	4,288	Round 14
Make its books accessible to all readers via text files that can be read by a variety of devices.			
Format its remaining 2016 titles, its 2017 titles, and select backlist for use with screen reading software. They will be added to 80 titles already released online for readers with vision loss. They will collect feedback on reader experience, deepen community relationships, improve the project as it moves forward, and hold trainings for the board and staff.			
Community Involvement Endowment, Inc.	Victoria	\$15,000	Round 12
Provide an ADA Access Path into a Community Park, onto a Band Shell and into the viewing area in front of the facility.			
Cross Community Players, Inc.	Maple Grove	\$1,146	Round 12
Support access improvement for its summer production, for ASL and AD interpreters, purchase Braille programs, rent AD equipment, provide appropriate publicity and communication to ASL and AD patrons, and introduce the position of Accessibility Coordinator as a mentorship under the present ADA Coordinator. Two performances will have ASL and AD services as well as transportation for patrons as needed.			
DanceWorks Repertory Ensemble	Lakeville	\$4,937	Round 1
Adaptive dance program for young people with physical or learning disabilities to participate.			
Eagan Art House / Parks & Rec	Eagan	\$20,000	Round 4
A 20’ x 15’ addition to house kilns and storage for pottery studio.			
Adaptive/accessible pottery wheel, glaze bucket dolly, adjustable height tables and accompanying stools.			
EDIT The World	Minneapolis	7,500	Round 13
Collaborate with The Arc Greater Twin Cities to support young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their siblings to share their unique stories with photography, visual arts and an art gallery.			
Film Society of MSP	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 12
Equip its theaters with assistive listening technology as part of an ADA access improvement plan.			
History Theatre	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 1

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History Theatre	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 8
History Theatre	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 10
History Theatre	St. Paul	15,000	Round 13
<p>Enhance access services for patrons including bariatric seating, accessible seating (moveable), headsets and microphones for the hearing enhancement system. Also support trainers to work with teaching artists and staff members to teach advanced practices for working with students dealing with mental illness. New knowledge and skills will enhance the theatre's successful residency program partnership with Vail Place, a Minnesota mental health resource in the clubhouse model.</p> <p>Audio enhancement and audio description equipment.</p> <p>Hire additional ASL interpreters and Deaf/Blind tactile interpreters.</p> <p>A consultant to advise / train the organization on accessibility-related planning, building advisory committees, customer service, website design and marketing.</p> <p>A portable sound system for outreach and discussions off-site.</p> <p>Audio description equipment.</p> <p>Advanced training of the Accessibility Coordinator and hire consultants to train staff and volunteers.</p> <p>Produce two videos to introduce patrons to its accessibility services.</p> <p>Contract with a consultant to help evaluate its current access plan and facilitate a planning process to establish new access improvement goals and priorities for the next three years.</p> <p>Buy media ads to highlight access services and microphones for post-show discussions.</p>			
Illusion Theater & School	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 2
Illusion Theater & School	Minneapolis	\$12,060	Round 15
<p>A new Assisted Listening System.</p> <p>Increase AD/ASL interpretation at matinees.</p> <p>Survey/research/ focus group to determine potential deaf/hard of hearing and sight impaired audiences, and to identify Illusion's long-term AD/ASL needs.</p> <p>Adapt the front row of its theater to create additional accessible seating for people in wheelchairs, crutches and walkers. This will entail labor costs to remove current seating, purchase removable chairs, and repair the floor.</p> <p>Also conduct focus groups with current and prospective theatre patrons who are hearing impaired to create connections and understand ways to improve their experience at Illusion, leading to increased attendance by that community.</p>			
Interact Center for Visual & Performing Arts	Minneapolis	\$13,875	Round 2
Interact Center for Visual & Performing Arts	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 7
Interact Center for Visual & Performing Arts	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 11
Interact Center for Visual & Performing Arts	St. Paul	11,415	Round 14
<p>Furniture, lighting and equipment for artists with disabilities to work.</p> <p><i>Dis/Cover the Arts</i> ticket reductions to grow audiences of people with disabilities by removing barriers.</p> <p><i>Dis/Cover the Arts</i> coordinator will expand Interact's capacity to grow audiences of people with disabilities by removing barriers and engaging in pro-active community outreach, better fulfilling its mission to "create art that challenges perceptions of disability."</p> <p>Install automatic door opener panels on the restroom doors of their new facility, as well as sound dampening panels in its studio and backstage areas.</p>			
Juxtaposition Arts	Minneapolis	\$20,000	Round 3
<p>Correct a steep slope, widen the front doorway to allow wheelchair entry, widen all interior doorways, retrofit restrooms for ADA compliance, install Braille signage at exterior doors and restrooms.</p>			
Kairos Alive!	Minneapolis	\$2,648	Round 9
Kairos Alive!	Minneapolis	6,895	Round 13

Upgrade its communication technology – higher quality wireless microphone systems for better amplification, still cameras and photo printers to reinforce artistic experiences – and expand its accessible musical instruments with new hand drums to make its national award-winning arts engagement programs more accessible to people of all ages with physical and cognitive disabilities.

Pay for audio microphone and speaker systems to make interactive participatory arts experiences accessible to participants with disabilities, including those who are hard of hearing and have mobility impairments, and physical and cognitive disabilities.

Lakeshore Players **White Bear Lake** **\$5,865** **Round 6**
Buy 8 Assistive Listening Devices, speakers and other equipment needed to upgrade the theater’s sound system.

Lee Carlson Center (Bridgeview Art Program) **Fridley** **\$15,000** **Round 8**
Lee Carlson Center (Bridgeview Art Program) **Fridley** **\$15,000** **Round 10**
To overcome space limitations and create a more professional art studio environment for Bridgeview artists. Enhance its studio/gallery space and add technology for design & reproduction of art.

Loft Literary Center **Minneapolis** **\$13,923** **Round 8**
Install assistive listening technology& capital improvements for its offices, Resource Library, writers’ studios and classrooms.

Mentoring Peace Through Art **Hopkins** **\$13,195** **Round 4**
Buy technology and power equipment to enable people with disabilities to participate in programs.

Midway Contemporary Art **Minneapolis** **15,000** **Round 14**
Install an accessible/family bathroom and make other accessibility improvements, including fixing surfaces at its entrance and library and acoustics in its public presentation space.

Milkweed Editions **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 12**
Develop free poetry audiobooks for the visually impaired. Distribute titles through new partnerships with vision loss centers and similarly affiliated organizations.

Minneapolis Musical Theatre **Minneapolis** **\$5,000** **Round 1**
Provide free tickets to persons with disabilities.

Minnesota Center for Book Arts **Minneapolis** **\$9,525** **Round 6**
Physical improvements to make its facility more accessible to persons with disabilities. Expand outreach to new patrons, and involve persons with disabilities to update MCBA’s ADA plan.

Minnesota Chorale **Minneapolis** **\$10,000** **Round 3**
In “Join the Dance!” pair dancers recruited from Courage Center with MN Chorale singers to develop works that widen the artistry of performers with physical disabilities.

Minnesota Fringe Festival **Minneapolis** **\$3,520** **Round 6**
Minnesota Fringe Festival **Minneapolis** **\$12,140** **Round 10**
A Deaf Ambassador program to engage deaf/hard-of-hearing people in its ASL offerings & to expand deaf audiences.
Undertake a three-year plan to incorporate accessibility training into its producer workshops to make ASL interpreting and audio description a more vital and core part of artists’ production process.

Mixed Blood Theatre Co. **Minneapolis** **\$11,718** **Round 2**
Mixed Blood Theatre Co. **Minneapolis** **\$10,000** **Round 4**
Mixed Blood Theatre Co. **Minneapolis** **\$10,000** **Round 5**

Mixed Blood Theatre Co.	Minneapolis	15,000	Round 14
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Facility improvements to improve accessibility for artists, audiences, and employees with mobility impairments.
 A transportation assistance fund to provide transfer to and from performances.
 Install an accessible water cooler in the theatre lobby.
 Facilitate hiring artists with disabilities.
 Buy audio description equipment.
 Provide captioning for all performances.
 Maintain a transportation assistance fund for patrons with a disability.
 Purchase a portable wheelchair lift.
 Hire and sustain a supertitle operator and a staff member to organize its disability advisory committee, and provide improved supertitle and audio description equipment.

Mixed Precipitation	Minneapolis	\$11,225	Round 4
Mixed Precipitation	Minneapolis	\$7,560	Round 6
Mixed Precipitation	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 7
Mixed Precipitation	Minneapolis	\$7,120	Round 9

Expand outreach efforts and staff development for its summer picnic operettas in community gardens.
 Improve staff training in access strategies, support building an Access Advisory Panel, improve access services, and cultivate relationships with disability social and service organizations.
 Support relationship-building through the Access Advisory Panel.
 Send staff to the LEAD conference.
 Rent bathroom facilities and undertake capital improvements in key sites.
 Bring a production directly to a facility serving people with disabilities.
 Invest in audience-building strategies to engage people with disabilities by: 1) equipping its Access Advisory Panel with tools and resources to promote the Picnic Operetta to their communities; 2) providing accessibility accommodations at, and improved communications about, its regular performances in green spaces throughout the Twin Cities Metro; and 3) developing future audiences with events serving people with disabilities.

Nimbus Theatre	Minneapolis	\$17,700	Round 3
Nimbus Theatre	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 15

Install accessible lobby bathrooms in its new performance space.
 Make the entrance to their new theater building fully accessible.

Northern Clay Center	Minneapolis	\$4,544	Round 2
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Buy a rehabilitation pottery wheel.
 Install a secondary automatic door opener to be used with an interior entrance to its classrooms.

The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 2
The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University	St. Paul	\$10,000	Round 4
The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 5
The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 8
The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 9
The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 12

Create accessible entrances to the theater and dressing rooms.
 Add a wheelchair ramp to the northwest door accessing the lobby at the designated drop-off site.
 Move the ticket office closer to the main wheelchair entrance.
 Add an accessible restroom to the main lobby.
 Create additional wheelchair accessible seating on both sides of The O'Shaughnessy auditorium and re-pour the concrete floor of the lobby to create an ADA-compliant ramp to reach the new accessible seating areas.

Remodel seating on the main floor of the theatre, doubling current wheelchair accessibility. Add wheelchair seating platforms to both sides of the theater accessible from newly repoured concrete ramps on both the north and south sides of the lobby. Add moveable seating to the existing wheelchair platform, increasing total wheelchair accessibility from 6 to 16.

Add two motorized doors to interior ramps and crash bars to all main floor doors, change door hardware to lower opening/closing poundage and install kick plates.

Park Square Theatre	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 1
Park Square Theatre	St. Paul	\$10,000	Round 4
Park Square Theatre	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 8
Park Square Theatre	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 10
Park Square Theatre	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 12
Park Square Theatre	St. Paul	15,000	Round 14

Create elevator access to the mezzanine level of its auditorium, allowing for additional wheelchair seating and making its control booths accessible for staff.

Add open captioning services.

Invest in a second charging station and full set of audio devices.

Add sensory tours and ASL interpreted discussions.

Provide three sensitivity trainings for staff and volunteers.

Provide wheelchair access seating, FM Assisted Listening and Audio Description equipment, and signage for wayfinding to its new thrust stage.

Expand Open Captioning services from one performance per production to 2-4 performances per production for an expanded season of 19 projects on two stages. This will build audiences and train staff/contractors to operate Caption View software in order to economically and efficiently continue a program of expanded OC shows.

Connect with the ASL/deaf/hard of hearing communities in three ways: 1) continue training local operators for open captioning; 2) partially fund the second year of increased OC performances; and 3) work with its first deaf actress in a show about ASL.

Support its service to the Deaf and hard of hearing by 1) purchasing equipment for Open Captioning; 2) creating welcome signs and videos to affirm/inform those using access services; 3) retrofit the Proscenium lobby to show video; and 4) continue training front-of-house staff in basic American Sign Language signs to supplement use of volunteer ASL ushers.

Patrick's Cabaret	Minneapolis	\$20,000	Round 4
Patrick's Cabaret	Minneapolis	\$12,000	Round 12

Build five new ADA-accessible bathrooms.

Infuse all levels of its organization with accessibility and representation from the disability community, anticipating a growth in representation and opportunity within Patrick's Cabaret by providing one ASL interpreter and one audio describer to translate one performance a month, working with an accessibility consultant throughout its website redesign, and providing additional funding and support for one guest curator from the disability community to take part in a curator mentorship program.

Penumbra Theatre	St. Paul	\$2,625	Round 10
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Install an assistive listening system with ten receivers for patrons to use with headphones or an induction loop (which will work directly with certain hearing aids).

Pillsbury House Theatre	Minneapolis	\$15,800	Round 4
Pillsbury House Theatre,	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 6
Pillsbury House Theatre,	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 10

Install automatic switches on the entrance doors.

Engage a contractor to conduct a thorough accessibility audit, prioritize projects and develop a plan to make the stage floor accessible to people with mobility impairments.
 Train staff in Universal Design, conduct focus groups of participants with disabilities, and improve online communications to better meet the needs of disabled patrons and increase their attendance.
 Increase participation among artists with disabilities in a growing corps of community-engaged artists designing and implementing creative place-making projects that unleash the creativity of underserved communities.
 Commission two projects by artists representing disability communities and increase ongoing capacity to engage artists with disabilities.

Rosetown Playhouse	Roseville	\$1,161.17	Round 2
Purchase two Personal PA hearing assistance devices that will work with the theatre's sound systems.			
Sabes JCC	St. Louis Park	\$11,000	Round 12
Purchase assisted listening devices for its theater.			
Sample Night Live!	St. Paul	\$15,000	Round 1
Provide ASL interpreting, discounted ticketing, an accessibility concierge, additional audio enhancement equipment, more marketing hours and community liaison to communicate services to disability communities, and create and maintain ongoing relationships with differing communities.			
The Show	St. Paul	\$11,115	Round 11
This nonprofit art gallery in Lowertown, which promotes artists with disabilities, will fund a webmaster, slat boards to display art at a lower level for artists and guests who use wheelchairs, and (in collaboration with the St. Paul Art Collective) an artists' coordinator to work with artists with disabilities to display and sell art at CHS Field, home of the St. Paul Saints.			
Simply Artable (formerly ArtEscape)	Minneapolis	\$9,000	Round 6
Simply ArtAble	Minneapolis	\$13,073	Round 8
Make façade and equipment improvements including automatic doors and restroom modifications. Increase visibility and programming to better serve those with special needs, mental and physical disabilities.			
The Soap Factory	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 1
The Soap Factory	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 5
A new accessible entrance to its galleries with an auto-opener. Install a lift from the basement to the main floor of the galleries.			
Somali Museum of Minnesota	Minneapolis	10,883	Round 14
To address its visual and auditory accessibility, create a digital museum tour featuring video content with audio description and subtitling/transcripts for 24 pieces in its collection, and install wall-mounted artifact labels.			
Soo Visual Arts Center (SooVAC)	Minneapolis	\$15,000	Round 11
Create a permanent accessible entrance ramp from the parking lot to the main entrance of its new gallery space at 2909 Bryant Ave. S. to ensure accessibility for patrons unable to climb stairs.			
Southern Theater	Minneapolis	15,000	Round 13
Fast-track accessibility for people with disabilities in its 100+-year-old building, both crafting its long-term plan and making short-term improvements in the meantime. This includes improvements to the front door, assistive listening device equipment and resources for the artists in its exhibition season, and crafting the schematic for its capital campaign, which includes improvements to the building for full ADA accessibility.			
Springboard for the Arts	St. Paul	14,119	Round 14

Adapt and expand its 12-part Work of Art professional development Toolkit to be accessible to deaf artists. Work with artists in the deaf community to assess, adapt and expand the workshops and video components to address learning styles specific to the deaf community. Artists and examples will feature artists with disabilities. The completed Toolkit will be available in digital, print and Braille formats.

Stages Theatre Company **Hopkins** **\$8,000** **Round 6**
 Add open-captioning to several of its productions.
 Add a “sensory-friendly” performance for families of autistic children.

SteppingStone Theatre for Youth Development **St. Paul** **\$3,075** **Round 4**
SteppingStone Theatre **St. Paul** **\$8,458** **Round 8**
 Replace its problematic assisted listening technology with new multi-channel transmitters and receivers.
 Add power openers and signage to its accessible restrooms and auditorium entrance.

Take-Up Productions (Trylon Cinema) **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 15**
 Renovate its movie theater with a new entryway and street façade that enables easy access for patrons with disabilities, and three additional wheelchair accessible spaces in the 100-seat theater.

Ten Thousand Things Theater **Minneapolis** **\$7,400** **Round 4**
 Create and implement a stronger ADA access plan.

Textile Center of Minnesota **Minneapolis** **\$4,500** **Round 1**
 Upgrade its sound system (transmitter, portable receivers, headsets) & promote through print and electronic communications and facility signage.

Theater Latte Da **Minneapolis** **\$5,124** **Round 6**
 Work with an accessibility consultant to train its staff and Board, and convene an Advisory Council of individuals with disabilities to meet twice annually.
 Create a captioned and audio described video for its website that explains the theater and its disability services.

TU Dance **St. Paul** **\$20,000** **Round 3**
 Build an exterior access ramp for the new TU Dance Center.

20% Theatre Company Twin Cities **Minneapolis** **11,000** **Round 13**
 Improve accessibility for its ASL-using audience and create an ongoing, more integrated approach to interpreting theatre by engaging four interpreters (2 deaf and 2 hearing interpreters) for every production, and involving those interpreters throughout the creative process.

Upstream Arts, Inc. **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 2**
Upstream Arts, Inc. **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 6**
Upstream Arts, Inc. **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 8**
Upstream Arts, Inc. **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 10**
Upstream Arts Inc **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 12**
Upstream Arts, Inc. **Minneapolis** **15,000** **Round 14**

Host trainings for its teaching artists, led by disability service providers and Special Education teachers.
 Host a week-long intensive training on American Sign Language.
 Support specialized trainings and curriculum development to increase its organizational capacity and the capacity of its teaching artists to teach individuals with visual impairments, students in Early Childhood Special Education, older youth and adults with disabilities.
 Use new assistive technologies within its programs.
 Support a series of specialized trainings and curriculum development sessions – led by experts from the disability and arts community – to increase both its organizational capacity and the capacity of its teaching

artists to provide accessible instruction in the arts to individuals of all abilities that draws on emerging trends and best practices within Special Education.

Conduct a series of specialized trainings and curriculum development sessions -- led by experts from the disability and arts community -- to increase both its organizational capacity and the capacity of its teaching artists to provide accessible instruction to two age groups that are historically underserved in the arts: children with disabilities ages birth to five and their families, and aging individuals with developmental disabilities. Hold specialized trainings and curriculum development sessions, led by experts from the disability community, to increase its organizational capacity and the capacity of its teaching artists to provide accessible instruction to individuals with disabilities in the shifting contexts in which they receive education and social services, and to address the diversity of individuals with disabilities in these contexts.

Walking Shadow Theatre Co. **Minneapolis** **\$7,500** **Round 12**
 Increase opportunities for patrons who are Deaf and for patrons who are blind or have low vision, and increase outreach to make the community aware of those opportunities. This includes additional accessible performances, a disability advisory council and a part-time outreach coordinator.

Yellow Tree Theatre **Osseo** **\$2,840** **Round 10**
 Provide ASL interpretation for the four productions in its 2014-15 season, install and implement an ADA compliant assisted listening device system that will be easily accessible to patrons, and allocate staff time to promote these accessible options as well as reach out to a new audience.

Young Dance	Minneapolis	\$9,496	Round 2
Young Dance	Minneapolis	\$6,376	Round 5
Young Dance	Minneapolis	\$3,744	Round 7
Young Dance	Minneapolis	\$4,745	Round 10
Young Dance	Minneapolis	\$5,260	Round 15

Build physically integrated dance into the organization’s fabric through its *All Abilities Dancing* initiative. Do outreach, teacher training, curriculum development, and hire an ASL interpreter for all classes, rehearsals, and performances.
 Send three representatives of its All Abilities Dance program to the AXIS Summer Dance Intensive in CA, to participate in an integrated dance workshop, gain tools for facilitating mixed ability groups and build connections with other artists and organizations creating integrated dance work.
 Bring Dwayne Schueneman, founder of REVolutions Dance and a professional dancer who uses a wheelchair, to Minneapolis for a week of workshops. The week will culminate in free public performances by the workshop participants and Mr. Schueneman.
 Create and perform “Wild Swans,” a performance featuring an integrated cast of dancers, with and without disabilities, in which each dance performer offers unique possibilities to contribute to the story, which will continue to build Young Dance as an integrated dance organization.
 Conduct an Invitation to Belonging Summer Institute, a one-week intensive workshop for teens and adults with and without disabilities, investigating the role the arts have in creating and sustaining inclusive communities.

Zenon Dance Co. & School **Minneapolis** **\$15,000** **Round 3**
 Create and implement an audience development plan targeting the Twin Cities’ deaf/hard of hearing community.

ADA Access Improvement Grant Funding Summary:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Awarded</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Applied</u>
2010	\$190,231	17	24
2011	\$250,554	19	26
2012	\$162,985	16	20

2013	\$195,015	15	19
2014	\$162,143	16	20
2015	\$184,001	16	17
2016	\$199,600	16	29
2017	\$67,320	6	8 (June 1 grant panel will award \$87,680)
*Subtotal	\$1,380,320	119	163

(*2 funded grantees returned a portion of their grants; 2 returned their entire grant unspent; 10 grants were awarded partial funding. About 80% of applicants have been funded.)