

GRANTS FOR MINNESOTA ARTISTS WITH DISABILITIES

Selected opportunities

VSA Minnesota, www.vsamn.org, 612-332-3888, 800-801-3883, access@vsamn.org, Dec. 2017

MINNESOTA: <http://vsamn.org/artists-disabilities/emerging-artist-grant/>

For 20 years, VSA Minnesota has awarded grants to **Emerging Artists with Disabilities** who live in Minnesota in order to assist them to create more art – visual art, writing, performances, multi-media, etc. Funds are provided by the Jerome Foundation, which also offers other Emerging Artist Grants in various disciplines (Dance, video, travel & study, etc., not related to disability) to artists in Minnesota or New York City. VSA Minnesota currently awards six grants of \$2,000 each year. Art samples and resumes are reviewed by grant panels. **Deadline:** Dec. 1, 2017. (Pending funding, a new grant program will be unveiled in summer or fall of 2018.)

VSA: <http://www.kennedy-center.org/education/home.html?detailheader=Access>

VSA (based in the Education Department of the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC) offers a variety of participatory arts programs on local, national, and international levels. VSA affiliates in many states also provide programming for students, schools, artists and arts organizations. Among programs for younger adults or students are:

- [International Young Soloists Award Program](#) (age 25 and under); **Deadline:** Feb. 7, 2018.
- [Playwright Discovery Program](#) (middle and high-school students); **Deadline:** Jan. 17, 2018.
- [VSA/Volkswagen Group of America Exhibition Program](#) (ages 16-25)

INTERNSHIPS: <http://www.kennedy-center.org/accessibility/career.cfm>

Rosemary Kennedy Internship Initiative is for young adults with disabilities; other grants include the Experiential Education Initiative (EEI) Internship; Kennedy Center Internships and Fellowships; Greater Washington Internship Coalition internships.

MINNESOTA STATE ARTS BOARD GRANTS: <http://www.arts.state.mn.us/grants/artists.htm>

The Minnesota State Arts Board (MSAB) offers a variety of grants to artists and arts organizations. None are disability-specific. Contact program officer, general 651-215-1600, 800-866-2787, or, for technical questions, Tom Miller, 651-215-1611, apply@arts.state.mn.us. State opportunities include **(2018 deadlines in bold)**:

Artist Initiative — (Literary or Performing Arts: **May 4, 2018**; Visual Arts: **June 29, 2018**)

Project grants for artists at all stages of their careers support artistic development, nurture artistic creativity, and recognize the contributions individual artists make to the creative environment of Minnesota. \$2,000–\$10,000. MSAB program officer: Sherrie Fernandez-Williams, 651-215-1626, Sherrie.Fernandez-Williams@arts.state.mn.us.

- Arts Learning — (**Feb. 16, 2018**) Project grants for organizations or individuals provide opportunities for lifelong learners to acquire knowledge and understanding of and skills in the arts. \$5,000–\$150,000. Financial forms or required financial documents: Natalie Kennedy-Schuck, 651-215-1617; ArtsLearning@state.mn.us.
- Arts Tour Minnesota — (**July 13, 2018**) Project grants to organizations or individuals support touring performances, exhibitions, and other related arts activities throughout the state. \$10,000–\$150,000. Questions: ArtsTourMinnesota@state.mn.us; or Rina Rossi, 651-215-1612.
- Cultural Community Partnership — (**Sept. 21, 2018**) Project grants enhance the careers of individual artists of color. Artists, at any stage in their careers, can apply for grants to help support collaborative projects. \$1,000–\$8,000. MSAB program officer: Sherrie Fernandez-Williams, 651-215-1626, Sherrie.Fernandez-Williams@arts.state.mn.us.

- Folk and Traditional Arts — (**May 25, 2018**) Project grants to individuals or organizations support the artistic traditions and customs practiced within community and/or cultural groups by identifying, documenting, preserving, presenting, and honoring Minnesota's folk arts and traditions. \$5,000–\$75,000. MSAB contact: Rina Rossi, 651-215-1612.

MINNESOTA'S REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL GRANTS:

Regional Arts Councils (RAC) offer a variety of grants to artists and arts organizations. None are disability-specific. The Forum of Regional Arts Councils is a consortium of 11 regional arts councils, providing improvement through implementation of best practices in programming, management and leadership development, and information for Minnesota artists and organizations. The current RAC Forum president is Leslie LeCuyer (Central Minnesota Arts Board). Regional opportunities include:

Region 1

[Northwest Minnesota Arts Council](#) - 109 S. Minnesota St. Warren, 56762; 218-745-6733; Director: Mara Lunde Hanel, mara@nwrdc.org, 218-745-9111 (direct).

Counties: Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau

Region 2

[Region 2 Arts Council](#) – 426 Bemidji Ave., Bemidji 56601; 218-751-5447, 800-275-5447, staff@r2arts.org; Director: Terri Widman, terriwidman@r2arts.org; Program Coordinators: Laura Dehler-Seter, ldehlerseter@r2arts.org; Holly Alcott.

Counties: Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, Mahnomen

Region 3

[Arrowhead Regional Arts Council](#) – Marshall Professional Building, 1301 Rice Lake Rd, #120, Duluth 55811; 218-722-0952, 800-569-8134, info@aracouncil.org; Director: Bob DeArmond; Staff: Erin Turner, Operations Manager; Ashley Kolka, Grants Manager; Steve Wick, Office Coordinator.

Counties: Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Saint Louis

Region 4

[Lake Region Arts Council](#) – 133 S Mill St, Fergus Falls 56537; 218-739-5780, 800-262-2787, LRAC4@LRACgrants.org; Director: Maxine Adams; Grants Manager: Betsy Ostenson; Executive Assistant: Connie Payson.

Counties: Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse, Wilkin

Region 5

[Five Wings Arts Council](#) – 121 4th St. NE, Staples 56479 (mailing: PO Box 118); 218-895-5660, 877-654-2166; Director: Mark Turner, mark.fwac@arvig.net; Grants Coordinator: Vicki Chepulis, vicki.fwac@arvig.net.

Counties: Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, Wadena

Regions 6E, 6W, 8

[Southwest Minnesota Arts Council](#) –

114 N. 3rd St., Marshall 56258 (mailing: PO Box 55); 507-537-1471, 800-622-5284,

info@swmnarts.org; Director: Greta Murray, greta@swmnarts.org; Office Assistant: Helen

Devereaux, helen@swmnarts.org; Administrative Assistant: Caroline Koska, caroline@swmnarts.org;

Program Assistant: Nicole DeBoer, nicole@swmnarts.org.

Counties: Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lincoln, Lac qui Parle, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Swift, Yellow Medicine

Region 7E

[East Central Regional Arts Council](#) – 112 Main Avenue S., Braham 55006 (mailing: PO Box 294); 320-396-2337; Director: Mary Minnick-Daniels, director@ecrac.org; Grant Program Specialist: Matt Mathiasen, matt@ecrac.org.

Counties: Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine

Region 7W

[Central Minnesota Arts Board](#) –220 4th Ave. N., Foley 56329 (mailing: PO Box 458); 320-968-4290, 866-345-7140; Director: Leslie LeCuyer, leslie@centralmnartsboard.org; Finance/Grant Compliance

Officer: Beth Byker, beth@centralmnartsboard.org; Media Specialist: Melissa Marudas, media@centralmnartsboard.org; Program Officer: Heather Allen, heather@centralmnartsboard.org.
Counties: Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, Wright

Region 9

[Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council](#) – 105 22nd Ave. NE, Suite A, Waseca 56093; 507-833-8721, 800-298-1254, plrac@hickorytech.net; Director: Brenda Byron; Program Manager: Cindy Lewer; Administrative Assistant: Pam Trumbull.

Counties: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan

Region 10

[Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council](#) – 2778 D Commerce Drive NW, Rochester 55901; 507-281-4848; Director: Robin Pearson, director@semac.org; Administrative Assistant & Grants Manager: Karen Miller, staff@semac.org.

Counties: Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Olmsted, Mower, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, Winona

Region 11

[Metropolitan Regional Arts Council](#) – 2324 University Ave. W. #114, St. Paul 55114; 651-645-0402, mrac@mrac.org; or Greg Nielsen, 651-523-6381, greg@mrac.org; Kelly Affeldt, 651-523-6388, kelly@mrac.org. Counties: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Washington.

Artist grants: Next Step Fund: up to \$5000 for career advancement (**Deadline:** March 19, 2018).

Organization grants: Arts Activities Support (**Deadline:** April 9, 2018), Community Arts (**Deadline:** Jan. 8, 2018), Arts Learning (**Deadline:** Feb. 5, 2018), Capital, Organizational Development, Management Consulting Fund (**Deadline:** last business day of the month) & Management Training Funds (**Deadline:** at least 2 weeks before proposed training).

JEROME FOUNDATION grants for Emerging Artists –

(as noted above) [VSA Minnesota](#) awards six \$2,000 grants to Emerging Artists with Disabilities who live in Minnesota. All arts media are included: writing, visual art, performance, music composition, multi-media, video, etc. **Deadline:** Dec. 1, 2017. Awards announced by March 1, 2018. Pending funding, the next deadline would be early fall 2018.

Visual Artists: [Jerome Foundation Fellowships for Emerging Artists](#): administered by the **Minneapolis College of Art & Design**, Kerry Morgan, program director, gallery@mcad.edu or 612-874-3667. Five \$12,000 grants are awarded. The 2017/18 fellowship recipients selected out of a pool of 249 applicants are: Alyssa Baguss, Josette Ghiseline, Sarah Kusa, Joshua McGarvey, and Lela Pierce, all from the Twin Cities. **Deadline:** announced in April 2018.

Playwrights: [Playwrights' Center Jerome Fellowships](#) awarded annually provide emerging American playwrights with funds and services to aid in the development of their craft. Fellows receive an \$18,000 stipend in addition to \$2,000 in development support. Fellows spend a year-long residency in Minnesota, working in an individualized and hands-on way with Playwrights' Center artistic staff. Current Fellows are: Mia Chung, Jessica Huang, Tim J. Lord, Tori Sampson. **Deadline:** January 11, 2018. Questions: Julia Brown, juliab@pwcenter.org.

Film/Video Artists: [Minnesota Film, Video, and Digital Production Grant](#) applications; **Deadline:** was 8-24-17.

Emerging Artists: [2018 Travel and Study Grants](#) (**Deadline:** Dec. 7, 2017) are open to emerging artists who create new work and to Minnesota-based executive and program administrators working for not-for-profit arts organizations. This program alternates eligibility cycles, awarding funds in Music, Theater and Visual Arts in odd years and Literature, Dance, and Film and Video in even years. \$1,500 is available for short-term travel of 3-6 days; up to \$5,000 for trips 7 days or longer.

Book Arts: [MCBA / Jerome Foundation Book Arts Fellowships](#) provide project funding, studio and equipment use, artistic support from **Minnesota Center for Book Arts** staff and artists, as well as a one-year MCBA membership. Up to \$5,000 is available for each of 3 grants. Current recipients (Cathy Ryan, printmaker and book artist; Ioana Stoian, artist; Peng Wu, paper maker and social practice artist; and Jammo Xu, installation artist) will give public presentations relating to their work on February 13, 2018 at 6:00 in MCBA's studios. **Deadline:** not yet announced.

Book Arts: [MCBA/Jerome Foundation Book Arts Mentorships](#) enable 6 recipients to embark on a year-long study of new artistic disciplines and one-on-one work with master artist mentors to develop their individual projects, culminating in an exhibition in the **Minnesota Center for Book Arts** main gallery. Eligible arts include Literary arts, (poetry, spoken word, fiction, creative nonfiction), Visual arts (drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, mixed media, new media), Music (composing), Film/video (filmmakers, animation), Theater (playwriting), Dance (choreography). Artists selected for the Book Arts Mentorships receive: \$2,000 to buy materials and supplement other project costs, Three months of basic book arts training at MCBA, Free tuition to up to three MCBA workshops, Studio and equipment use, and a One-year free membership to MCBA. Current recipients are: Visual artist Julie Reneé Benda; Sound and performance artist Bethany Lacktorin; Poet Daniel Holland; Dance maker and director Laura Holway; Sculptor Emmett Ramstad; and Poet Sagirah Shahid. Their projects will be on display until Feb. 11, 2018. **Deadline:** not yet announced.

Book Arts: The **Minnesota Center for Book Arts** offers, in addition to its Jerome grants, an [MCBA Artist-in-Residence \(AIR\) program](#) of residencies from two weeks to three months to assist selected artists in the creation and promotion of their work with financial and community resources, space, and access to equipment. **Deadline:** for MCBA's Spring 2018 artist residency applications: Nov. 1, 2017.

Emerging Artists/Groups: **Northern Lights.mn** administers **Jerome-funded [Art\(ists\) On the Verge](#)** commissions. This is an intensive, mentor-based fellowship program for five Minnesota-based, emerging artists or artist groups working experimentally at the intersection of art, technology, and digital culture with a focus on network-based practices that are interactive and/or participatory. New commissions will take place from March 2018 to April 2019. Links to past AOV programs and fellows' work can be found [here](#). Optional info sessions are December 6 and January 4, at 6:00 PM at 147 Holden St, Minneapolis. Co-directors are Mike Hoyt, Steve Dietz and Piotr Szyhalski. Find out more about application criteria and read the call [here](#). **Deadline:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018, 9:00 PM.

Ceramic Artists: **Northern Clay Center** in Minneapolis administers several grants and fellowships for ceramic and clay artists. <https://www.northernclaycenter.org/artist-services/artist-fellowships>
Three **Jerome Ceramic Artist Project Grants** are available for Minnesota emerging artists. **Deadline:** Friday, February 16, 2018, 5:00.
Two mid-career **McKnight Artist Fellowships for Ceramic Artists** from Minnesota are awarded annually; **Deadline:** Friday, May 25, 2018, 5:00.
One to three **Warren MacKenzie Advancement Awards** are awarded annually for emerging ceramic artists/students. **Deadline:** Friday, April 13, 2018, 5:00.

The [Jerome Foundation General Program Grant](#) is available to not-for-profit arts organizations and to fiscal sponsors applying on behalf of artists for the creation, development, and production of new works by emerging artists in New York City and Minnesota. This grant program is evolving.

Playwrights: The **Playwrights' Center** administers [McKnight Fellowships in Playwriting](#) that recognize playwrights whose work demonstrates exceptional artistic merit and excellence in the field, and whose primary residence is in Minnesota. The fellowship includes a \$25,000 stipend, \$2,500 to support a play development workshop and other professional expenses, \$1,400 in travel funds.

Current McKnight Fellows in Playwriting are Rachel Jendrzewski and Benjamin Benne. Questions: Julia Brown, juliab@pwcenter.org. **Deadline:** January 11, 2018.

Theatre Artists: The **Playwrights' Center** administers [McKnight Theater Artist Fellowships](#) that recognize theater artists other than playwrights whose work demonstrates exceptional artistic merit and whose primary residence is in Minnesota. The \$25,000 fellowships are intended to significantly advance recipients' art and careers. Professional artists who have been continuous residents of Minnesota since September 1, 2015 are eligible to apply. Fellows must maintain residence in Minnesota during the fellowship year. Full-time students at any level are not eligible. Current McKnight Theater Artist Fellows are Bart Buch, Katharine Horowitz and Regina Marie Williams. Information sessions are February 13 and March 13 from 5:30 to 6:30 PM at the Playwrights' Center. Questions: Julia Brown, juliab@pwcenter.org. **Deadline:** April 12, 2018.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT grants – There are few federal government grants for individuals, and those that are available are awarded for very specific purposes, such as helping students pay for their college education or funding scientific research and development. <https://www.disability.gov/federal-government-grants-for-individuals/>

Federal grants are not the same as **benefits**, such as Social Security disability benefits (<http://www.ssa.gov/applyfordisability/>). To find out which government benefits you may be eligible to receive, use the Benefit Finder on Benefits.gov (http://www.benefits.gov/benefits/benefit-finder/#benefits&qc=cat_1).

EMERGENCY GRANTS: <http://www.womenarts.org/funding-resources/emergencyfunds/>
Emergency grants for artists in all disciplines needing help with rent, medical, illness, disability, a natural disaster, or an extraordinary professional crisis.

Grants.gov has information about more than 1,000 grant programs that visitors can apply for grants on its website (<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/home.html;jsessionid=1YvZS8hRYvfnHt22K1hpLX1fRW34MrHTmq19Pns57nTpQWY1dqgc>).

LOANS & GRANTS: <http://www.sba.gov/content/hiring-people-with-disabilities>
Various programs offer **Loans & Grants** to encourage the recruitment and hiring of people with disabilities. ... Do's and Don'ts of Hiring Persons With Disabilities.

FOUNDATIONS: Private and nonprofit organizations can help you find grants from non-government sources, but most foundation grants go to nonprofit organizations. The Foundation Center (<http://foundationcenter.org/>) has information on more than 108,000 foundations, corporate donors and grantmaking public charities in the U.S. Subscriptions are available to the Center's Foundation Directory.

OHIO: <http://www.oac.state.oh.us/grantsprogs/guidelines/ADAP.asp>
The **Artists with Disabilities Access Program (ADAP)** provides support to individual artists with disabilities as well as organizations that serve individual artists with disabilities to engage in activities that will help them advance their artistic practice, develop their career, or move to a higher level of artistic development. Funds are available for a variety of activities, materials and services. Emerging artists may request up to \$500. Professional artists may request up to \$1,000.

MUSICIANS: http://www.ehow.com/list_6068489_grants-artists-disabilities.html
The American Federation of Musicians created the **Lester Petrillo Fund for Disabled Musicians** to assist disabled musicians with grants for emergency assistance. Applicants must be either physically

or mentally disabled and a member of The American Federation of Musicians: 1501 Broadway, Suite 600, New York, NY 10036; 212-869-1330, www.afm.org.

CALIFORNIA: http://www.ehow.com/list_6068489_grants-artists-disabilities.html

The **California Arts Council's Arts Program Grants** provide opportunities for people with disabilities to increase their participation in the arts in. Applicants are required to be residents of California. Both artists with disabilities and artistic organizations that promote increased recognition of artists with disabilities are eligible to apply for grants. Grant funds can be used for costs associating with seminars and conferences, art materials and equipment, and production studio time. Applicants can receive awards from \$500 to \$1,000. Contact: The National Arts and Disability Center, Semel Institute, 760 Westwood Plaza, Suite 67-455, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1759; 310-825-5054, www.nadc.ucla.edu