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LowellArts Announces \$43,500 in MACC Minigrants for Fiscal Year 2024.

LOWELL, MI – Through the Michigan Arts & Culture Council (MACC) Minigrant Program, LowellArts granted awards of **\$34,500** for **ARTS PROJECTS** to sixteen local arts and cultural organizations and **\$9,000** for **PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** to six organizations and five artists.

LowellArts serves as one of the regional regranting agencies for the MACC for the counties of Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo and Osceola.

For the Fiscal Year 2024 LowellArts received thirty grant applications for **ARTS PROJECTS**, with a total of **\$107,326** in requests and **\$34,500** awarded. Organizations could request up to \$4,000 for locally developed, high quality arts and cultural projects, which are special opportunities to address local arts and cultural needs and increase public access to arts and culture. These grants support a broad range of artistic expression from all cultures through projects which preserve, produce or present traditional or contemporary arts and culture and arts education.

The following twenty-two organizations received ARTS PROJECTS awards:

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	GRANT AWARD
Big Rapids Festival of the Arts	Mecosta	\$1,880
Croton Township Library	Newaygo	\$ 546
Cultivate Arts and Education	Kent	\$1,880
DisArt	Kent	\$1,880
Earful of Fiddle Music and Dance Camp	Mecosta	\$1,540
Genevieve and Donald's Gilmore Foundation	Barry	\$1,880
Grand Rapids Swing Dance	Kent	\$1,880
Grand River Watershed Arts and Music Council	Kent	\$1,680
Hope Network – Big Rapids	Mecosta	\$1,540
Lake County Historical Society	Lake	\$1,680
Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District	Mecosta	\$1,540
Newaygo Area District Library	Newaygo	\$1,680
Project ESME	Kent	\$1,680
Rockford Community Orchestra	Kent	\$1,260
San Juan Diego Academy	Kent	\$1,128
Sparta Area Schools	Kent	\$1,128
Sparta Community Works	Kent	\$1,540
The Vagrancy	Kent	\$1,529
Vox GR	Kent	\$1,880
West Michigan Bluegrass Festival	Kent	\$1,680

West Michigan Flute Association	Kent	\$1,529
Wyoming Public Schools	Kent	\$1,540

In addition, LowellArts received eighteen grant application for **PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**, with a total of **\$24,230** in requests and **\$9,000** awarded. Organizations and professional artists could ask for up to \$1,500 to support a variety of nonprofit organizational and individual needs, which strengthen the capacity of the organization or artist. These dollars can be used to attend conferences, workshops, seminars or to hire short-term consultants.

The following twelve organizations / artists received PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT awards:

ORGANIZATION / ARTIST	COUNTY	GRANT AWARD
Alby Blazo – Artist	Kent	\$ 680
Arts Rockford	Kent	\$ 773
Danielle Wyckoff – Artist	Kent	\$ 826
DisArt	Kent	\$ 675
Grand Rapids Cable Access Center	Kent	\$ 773
Grand Rapids Women’s Chorus	Kent	\$1,050
Lowell Area Historical Museum	Kent	\$ 425
Lowell Area Schools	Kent	\$ 675
Mandy Cano Villalobos – Artist	Kent	\$ 762
Shannon Pinkster – Artist	Barry	\$ 261
Vox GR	Kent	\$1,050
West Michigan Center for Arts and Technology	Kent	\$1,050

LowellArts administers these grants through a regranting program through the Michigan Arts & Culture Council. The State of Michigan Minigrant Program is a partnership between the MACC and fifteen regional re-granting agencies throughout the state.

LowellArts Mission: Connecting Artists and Audiences through the Visual and Performing Arts. **LowellArts stated purpose is:** to encourage the understanding, appreciation, and importance of the arts in the schools and communities we serve, and to provide expression and enjoyment of the arts to all segments of these communities. **LowellArts is a 501(c)3 designated nonprofit organization.** The purpose of a nonprofit is to provide programs and services identified by its community and defined by the nonprofit’s mission. LowellArts believes that the arts are an integral part of our quality of life and an important asset for the community it serves.